



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: IX	Department: Social Science	Sub: History
Chapter-2 Question Bank:2	Topic: SOCIALISM IN EUROPE AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION	Year: 2023-24

1	<p>What were the different notions of the Liberals, the Radicals and the Conservatives regarding the formation of the Government in Russia?</p> <p>Ans:</p> <p>Liberals</p> <p>Liberals wanted a nation which tolerated all religions and opposed the uncontrolled power of dynastic rulers. They wanted to safeguard the Rights of individuals. They argued for a representative, elected Parliamentary government. However, they were not 'democrats.' They did not believe in Universal Adult Franchise. They felt men of property mainly should have the vote and did not want voting right for the women.</p> <p>Radicals</p> <p>Radicals wanted a nation in which the Government was based on the majority of a country's population. Many supported Women's Suffragette Movements. Unlike Liberals, they opposed the privileges of great landowners and wealthy factory owners. They were not against the existence of private property but disliked concentration of property in the hands of a few.</p> <p>Conservatives</p> <p>Conservatives were opposed to Radicals and Liberals. After the French Revolution, however, even Conservatives had opened their minds to the need for change. Earlier, in the eighteenth century, Conservatives had been generally opposed to the idea of change. By the nineteenth century, they accepted that some change was needed but believed that the past had to be respected and change had to be brought about through a slow process.</p>
2	<p>Explain the views of different Socialists and Philosophers regarding the basis of a Socialist society?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Explain the views of Karl Marx on Capitalism (Ans: Last Point only)</p> <p>Ans:</p> <p>Different Socialists had different visions of the future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some believed in the idea of Cooperatives. Eg. Robert Owen, sought to build a Cooperative community called New Harmony in Indiana (USA).• Other Socialists felt that Cooperatives could not be built on a wide scale only through individual initiative, they demanded that Governments should encourage Cooperatives. In France, for instance, Louis Blanc wanted the Government to encourage Cooperatives. These Cooperatives were to be associations of people who produced goods together and divided the profits according to the work done by members.• Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels added other ideas. Marx argued that industrial society was 'capitalist'. Capitalists owned the capital invested in factories, and the profit of Capitalists was produced by workers. The conditions of workers could not improve as long as this

	<p>profit was accumulated by private Capitalists. Workers had to overthrow Capitalism and the rule of private property. Marx believed that to free themselves from Capitalist exploitation, workers had to construct a Socialist society where all property was socially controlled. This would be a Communist society, the natural society of the future.</p>
3	<p>Explain the Economic and Social condition of Russia before 1905 Ans: Agrarian Economy: At the beginning of the twentieth century, about 85 per cent of the Russian empire’s population earned their living from agriculture. Cultivators produced for the market as well as for their own needs and Russia was a major exporter of grain. Industry: Main industrial areas were St. Petersburg and Moscow. Craftsmen undertook much of the production. Many factories were set up, when Russia’s railway network was extended. Most industry was the private property of industrialists. Government supervised large factories to ensure minimum wages and limited hours of work. But factory inspectors could not prevent rules being broken. Condition of Workers: Workers lived a life of misery. In craft units and small workshops, the working day was sometimes 15 hours, compared with 10 or 12 hours in factories. Living conditions of workers were poor. Workers were a divided social group. For eg: Metalworkers considered themselves aristocrats among other workers. Despite divisions, workers united to strike when they disagreed with employers about dismissals or work conditions. Peasants and Nobility: In the countryside, peasants cultivated most of the land. But the nobility, the Crown and the Church owned large properties. Like workers, peasants too were divided and they had no respect for the nobility. Nobles got their power and position through their services to the Tsar. Unlike the peasants of France where the peasants respected nobles and fought for them, in Russia, peasants wanted the land of the nobles to be given to them. Frequently, they refused to pay rent and even murdered landlords. Russian peasants were different from other European peasants in another way. They pooled their land together periodically and their commune (mir) divided it according to the needs of individual families.</p>
4	<p>What led to the division of the Russian Socialists Democratic Workers Party (RSDWP) and how was it divided? Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Political parties were illegal in Russia before 1914. The Russian Social Democratic Workers Party was founded by Socialists who respected Marx’s ideas. RSDWP was divided over the strategy of organisation. It was divided in to Bolsheviks and Mensheviks. • Bolsheviks under Vladimir Lenin thought that in a repressive society like the Tsarist Russia the party should be disciplined and should control the number and the quality of the members. • Mensheviks under Alexander Kerensky thought that the party should be open to all.
5	<p>Explain the major causes that were responsible for the Russian Revolution of 1905? OR Which event came to be known as ‘Bloody Sunday’? (Ans: Last point only) Ans:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russia was under the autocratic rule of the Tsars. The Tsar Nicholas II was an inefficient ruler and not subject to the Parliament. • Both Liberals and Socialists worked with peasants and workers to demand a Constitution. They were supported by the nationalists and in the Muslim-dominated areas by the Jadidists who wanted modernized Islam to lead their societies. • The year 1904 was a bad time for the Russian workers. Prices of essential goods rose quickly. The membership of workers' associations increased. When four workers were dismissed at the Putilov Iron Works, over 110,000 workers in St Petersburg went on strike. They demanded a reduction in the working day to eight hours, an increase in wages and improvement in working conditions. • The incident, known as Bloody Sunday, started a series of events that came to known as the 1905 Revolution. It relates to the event when a mass of peaceful workers and their families, led by Father Gapon were fired upon by the police and Cossacks when they were on their way to the Winter Palace to present a petition to the Tsar. Over 100 workers were killed and about 300 wounded. Strikes took place all over the country and universities closed down. Lawyers, doctors, engineers and other middle-class workers established the Union of Unions and demanded a Constituent Assembly that led to the creation of the Duma or the Russian Parliament.
6	<p>Analyse the impact of First World War on Russia Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 1914, the First World War broke out between two European alliances – Germany, Austria and Turkey (the Central powers) and France, Britain and Russia (Allies). • Russian army lost badly in Germany and Austria between 1914 and 1916. There were over 7 million casualties by 1917. As they retreated, the Russian army destroyed crops and buildings and the destruction led to over 3 million refugees in Russia. The situation discredited the government and the Tsar. • The war also had a severe impact on industry. Russia's own industries were few in number and the country was cut off from other suppliers of industrial goods. • By 1916, railway lines began to break down. Able-bodied men were called up to the war. As a result, there were labour shortages and small workshops producing essentials were shut down. • Large supplies of grain were sent to feed the army. For the people in the cities, bread and flour became scarce. By the winter of 1916, riots at bread shops were common.
7	<p>“Petrograd had led the February Revolution that brought down the Monarchy in February 1917.” Explain. Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Winter of 1917, conditions in the capital, Petrograd, were miserable. The workers' quarters and factories were located on the right bank of the River Neva. On the left bank were the fashionable areas, the Winter Palace, and official buildings, including the Palace where the Duma met. • In February 1917, food shortages were deeply felt in the workers' quarters. The winter was very cold – there had been exceptional frost and heavy snow. On 22 February, a lockout took place at a factory on the right bank. The next day, workers in fifty factories called a strike in sympathy. In many factories, women led the way to strikes. This came to

	<p>be called the International Women's Day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the fashionable quarters and official buildings were surrounded by workers, the government imposed a curfew. The government called out the Cavalry and Police to keep an eye on the workers. On Sunday, 25th February, the government suspended the Duma. On the next day the streets were full of people raising slogans about bread, wages, better hours and democracy. The government tried to control the situation with the Cavalry but the Cavalry refused to fire the people. By the evening, (Feb 26th) Soldiers and Striking Workers had gathered to form a 'Soviet' or 'Council' called as the Petrograd Soviet in the same building as the Duma met. Under the advice of the Military commanders Tsar abdicated on 2nd March. Soviet leaders and Duma leaders formed a Provisional Government to run the country. Russia's future was hence to be decided by a Constituent Assembly, elected on the basis of Universal Adult Suffrage.
8	<p>Explain the Lenin's 'April Theses'.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Describe the major demands of Bolshevik during 1917.</p> <p>Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In April 1917, the Bolshevik leader Vladimir Lenin returned to Russia from his exile and felt that it was time for Soviets to take over power. He declared that war be ended, land be transferred to the peasants and banks be nationalized. These three demands were Lenin's 'April Theses'.
9	<p>What is meant by 'October Revolution'? Describe its major events.</p> <p>Ans:</p> <p>The taking over of the Government in Russia by the Socialists under the leadership of Lenin and subsequent establishment of the world's first Communist regime is called the 'October Revolution'.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the conflict between the Provisional Government and the Bolsheviks grew, Lenin feared the Provisional Government would set up a dictatorship, so he began discussions for an uprising against the government. Bolshevik supporters in the army, soviets and factories were brought together. On 16 October 1917, Lenin persuaded the Petrograd Soviet and the Bolshevik Party to agree to a 'Socialist Seizure of Power'. A Military Revolutionary Committee was appointed by the Soviet under Leon Trotskii to organize the seizure. Sensing trouble, Prime Minister Kerenskii had left the city to summon troops. Military men seized the buildings of two Bolshevik newspapers, troops were sent to take over telephone and telegraph offices and protect the Winter Palace. As an immediate response, the Military Revolutionary Committee ordered its supporters to seize government offices and arrest ministers. Late in the day, the ship Aurora shelled the Winter Palace. By nightfall, the city was under the Committee's control and the ministers had surrendered. At a meeting of the All Russian Congress of Soviets in Petrograd, the majority approved the Bolshevik action. By December, the Bolsheviks controlled the Moscow-

	Petrograd area.
10	<p>What were the main changes brought about by the Bolsheviks immediately after the October Revolution?</p> <p>Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most industry and banks were nationalized in November 1917. Land was declared social property and peasants were allowed to seize the land of the nobility. • In cities, Bolsheviks enforced the partition of large houses according to family requirements. They banned the use of the old titles of aristocracy. New uniforms were designed for the army and officials. • The Bolshevik Party was renamed the Russian Communist Party (Bolshevik). Despite opposition, the Bolsheviks made peace with Germany. • In January 1918, the Constituent Assembly rejected Bolshevik measures and Lenin dismissed the Assembly. • In the years that followed, the Bolsheviks became the only party to participate in the elections to the All Russian Congress of Soviets, which became the Parliament of the country. Russia became a One-party state. Trade unions were kept under Party control. The secret police (called the Cheka first, and later OGPU and NKVD) punished those who criticized the Bolsheviks.
11	<p>What were the factors responsible for the Civil War which broke out in Russia after the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917?</p> <p>Ans:</p> <p>The Civil War in Russia between the ‘Reds’(Bolsheviks), the ‘Whites’(pro-Tsarists) and the ‘Greens’ (Socialist Revolutionaries) happened because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When the Bolsheviks ordered land redistribution, the Russian army began to break up. Soldiers, mostly peasants, wished to go home for the redistribution and deserted. • Non-Bolshevik socialists, liberals and supporters of autocracy condemned the Bolshevik uprising. Their leaders moved to South Russia and organized troops to fight the Bolsheviks the(‘reds’). During 1918 and 1919, the ‘greens’ (Socialist Revolutionaries) and the ‘whites’ (pro-Tsarists) controlled most of the Russian empire. They were supported by the French, American, British and Japanese troops – all those forces who were worried at the growth of Socialism in Russia. • As these troops and the Bolsheviks fought a civil war, looting, banditry (armed robbery) and famine became common. Supporters of private property among the ‘whites’ took harsh steps with peasants who had seized land. Such actions led to the loss of popular support for the non-Bolsheviks. • By January 1920, the Bolsheviks controlled most of the former Russian empire. They succeeded due to cooperation with non-Russian nationalities and Muslim jadidists.
12	<p>Explain how a Socialist society was established in Russia</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Analyze the Positive and Negative aspects of the Bolshevik Government on Soviet Union and its people.</p> <p>Ans:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the Civil war, the Bolsheviks kept industries and banks nationalized. They permitted peasants to cultivate the land that had been socialized. A process of Centralized Planning was introduced. • Officials assessed how the economy could work and set targets for a five-year period. On this basis they made the Five-Year Plans. The government fixed all prices to promote industrial growth during the first two 'Plans'. Industrial production increased. • New factory cities came into being. An extended schooling system developed, and arrangements were made for factory workers and peasants to enter universities. Crèches were established in factories for the children of women workers. Cheap public health care was provided. Model living quarters were set up for workers. • However, rapid construction led to poor working conditions. Workers lived hard lives. For eg: in living quarters, in the wintertime, at 40 degrees below, people had to climb down from the fourth floor and dash across the street in order to go to the toilet.
13	<p>Explain the Collectivization Policy of Stalin</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>What were the major changes introduced in Agriculture by Stalin?</p> <p>Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 1927- 1928, the towns in Soviet Russia were facing an acute problem of grain supplies. As an emergency step, Collectivisation policy was introduced by Stalin in Russia. Under this policy land was taken away from the Peasants. Kulaks (the name for well-to-do peasants) was eliminated and large State controlled farms or Collective farms (kolkhoz) was established. • After 1917 land had been given to peasants but they were small sized farms that could not be modernised. To develop modern farms, it was necessary to eliminate Kulaks. • From 1929 the government forced all peasants to cultivate in Collective farms. Peasants worked on the land and profits were shared. • Though Collectivisation programme was introduced to solve the acute problem of grain supplies, the production did not increase immediately. • Those who resisted Collectivisation were severely punished. Many were deported and exiled.
14	<p>Explain the impact t of Russian Revolution on the world?</p> <p>Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communist parties were formed in many countries, like the Communist Party of Great Britain. • Bolsheviks encouraged the Colonial people to follow their experiment to fight against Imperialism. • Many Non-Russians from outside the USSR, participated in the Conference of the People of East and the Bolshevik-founded Comintern (an International Union of Pro-Bolshevik Socialist Parties). • Some received education in USSR's Communist University of Workers of the East.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• By the time of the outbreak of the Second World War, the USSR had given Socialism a global face.
15	<p>“By the 1950s it was acknowledged within the country that the style of government in the USSR was not in keeping with the ideals of the Russian Revolution”. Justify.</p> <p>Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• By the 1950s it was acknowledged within the country that the style of government in the USSR was not in keeping with the ideals of the Russian Revolution. In the World Socialist movement too, it was recognised that all was not well in the Soviet Union.• A backward country had become a great power. Its Industries and Agriculture had developed and the poor were being fed.• But it had denied the essential freedoms to its citizens and carried out its developmental projects through repressive policies. By the end of the twentieth century, the international reputation of the USSR as a Socialist country had declined though it was recognised that socialist ideals still enjoyed respect among its people.