

**G.D.GOENKA PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**Subject: S.St**

**(History)**

**Topic: Early Kingdoms**

**Date:25-10-2021 (Monday)**

**Grade VI**

**This material is not to be printed.**

**TAXATION**

- Large armies required more money. Therefore, kings began to collect taxes on a regular basis and for this they appointed officers to collect taxes from people.
- Most people were farmers. So agriculture was the main source of revenue. The farmers gave one-sixth of their produce to the King and this was called 'Bhagya' or share of the produce.
- During this time, the farmers began to produce more from their land. This was because of two factors;
  1. The iron plough came to be used on a larger scale. It was an improvement over the wooden plough.
  2. The practice of transplanting paddy, i.e. growing saplings separately and then planting them in the fields became common. This ensured that many more plants survived and hence more grains were produced.

Increased production meant that the king got a greater share of the revenue.

There were other sources of revenue. Craftsmen such as carpenters, potters and weavers paid taxes, either in cash or kind or by offering free service to the king. There were also taxes on buying and selling of goods.

**TRADE**

Trade got a boost during this period due to introduction of money. Until this time, trade had been carried through barter. Now, coins of silver and copper began to be used. This led to an increase in trade.



**Inland trade was brisk. Goods were sent far and wide .Bimbisara, the king of Magadha, built roads and bridges, throughout his empire. This encouraged trade .Besides land routes, trade was carried out through sea routes .The main articles were silk, muslin, perfumes and ivory.**

## **TOWNS**

**Villages that grew in size became towns. Towns also grew around centres of trade and craft. Sometimes, artisans and craftsmen came together to work as a group. These places developed into towns. Ujjayini, Vaishali, Ayodhya, Kaushambi, Tamralipti and Champa were some important towns in this period.**