

## Current Affairs of the Day

### Paika rebellion to be in history textbooks

1. The 1817 Paika rebellion of Odisha could not be called the first war of Independence, but considering it as a beginning of a popular uprising against the British, it would be included as a case study in the Class 8 NCERT history textbook.



2. The 'Paika Bidroha', which was set off in March 1817 and continued until May 1825, had set an example for the classes as well as the masses in India to follow later on.
3. Accordingly, considering that this is one of the beginnings of popular uprisings against the British in India, it has been decided to include it as a case study in the Class VIII history textbook of NCERT.

### How exactly did colonialism trigger discontent in Odisha?

1. Colonialism formally entered Odisha in September 1803. Colonel Harcourt marched virtually unchallenged from Madras to Puri and faced only feeble Maratha opposition onward to Cuttack.
2. Over the next several years, as the British went about introducing new revenue settlements in Odisha, several of the original Odia proprietors faced ruin, and the land was transferred to ruthless Bengali absentee landlords, often for a pittance.
3. The British changed the currency system, demanding revenue payments in rupees, which increased pressure on dispossessed, marginal tribals. These sections had to cope with greater demands from landlords who now had to pay taxes in silver.
4. As silver became costlier during the closing years of the 18th century and the early years of the 19th century, the poorest sections of the tribals and



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untouchable castes struggled to pay more cowries and/or grain to match the higher price of the metal.

5. The British control over salt — which had pre-1803-4 origins, but was extended to coastal Orissa in 1814 — also meant increased hardship for the people in the hills. There is evidence of raids on boats of salt agents near Puri during this period.

### **What happened during the rebellion of the Paikas?**

1. In 1817, some 400 Kondhs descended from the Ghumusar area to rise in revolt against the British. Bakshi Jagabandhu Bidyadhar Mohapatra Bharamarbar Rai led an army of Paikas to join the uprising of the Kondhs.
2. The Paikas set fire to government buildings killed policemen and looted the treasury and the British salt agent's ship docked on the Chilika.
3. They then proceeded to Khurda and killed several British officials. Over the next few months, the Paikas fought bloody battles at several places, but the colonial army gradually crushed the revolt.
4. Bakshi Jagabandhu escaped to the jungles and stayed out of reach of the British until 1825 when he finally surrendered under negotiated terms.

<b>MCQs</b>	<p><i>Q. Paika Rebellion from 1817-1825 against the British took place in the state of</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Odisha</li> <li>b. Karnataka</li> <li>c. Kerala</li> <li>d. Assam</li> </ol>
<b>MAINS DAWP</b>	<p><i>Q. Compare and contrast the aims, methods and impacts of the Green revolution with the White revolution in India.</i></p>





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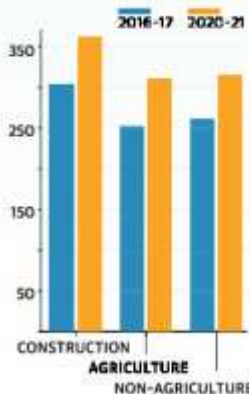
## How States fare in wages for rural workers

The wages of rural workers engaged in construction, agriculture, and non-agriculture (those who are not cultivators or agricultural labourers) have risen considerably in nominal terms over the last five years. However, there are stark differences across the States. In Kerala, for instance, workers receive the highest wages, more than twice of India's average, followed by J&K and Tamil Nadu. In States which have the highest Gross Value Added (rupee value of goods and services produced in the economy after deducting the cost of inputs and raw materials), the wages are among the lowest. By **The Hindu Data Team**

**1** Wages for all three types of workers were the lowest in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh

**2** Wages for all three types of workers were the highest in Kerala, J.K. and T.N.

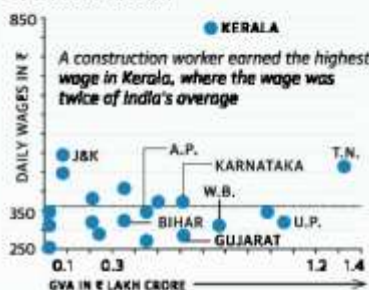
**AVERAGE WAGES IN INDIA** | The chart shows average daily wages for rural construction, agriculture and non-agriculture workers in 2016-17 and 2020-21. Over five years, wages for construction workers rose 19% in nominal terms



During the same period, wages for general agriculture and non-agriculture workers grew 23% and 21%, respectively

### WAGES OF CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

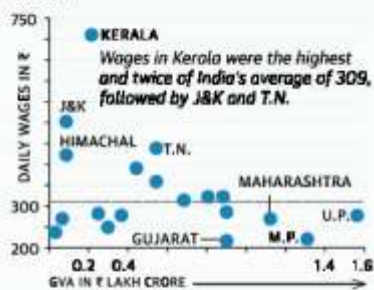
The chart plots State-wise wages earned by a rural construction worker against the GVA by the construction sector.



In Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, and Gujarat, three States with the highest GVA from the construction sector, the wages were lower than they were in Bihar and Assam

### WAGES OF AGRICULTURE WORKERS

The chart plots State-wise wages earned by general agriculture workers against the GVA by the agriculture sector.



In M.P. and Gujarat, two States with the highest GVA from the agriculture sector, wages earned by an agriculture worker were the lowest in the country

### WAGES OF NON-AGRICULTURE WORKERS

The chart plots State-wise wages earned by a rural non-agriculture worker against the gross value added by the industrial sector. Rural workers earned the highest in Kerala where the wage was double India's average followed by J&K and T.N

SOURCE: HANDBOOK OF STATISTICS ON INDIAN STATES

