
Chapter – 09 Civics

A Shirt in the Market

- This deals with steps involved in marking a shirt.
 - **A Cotton Farmer in Kurnool:**
 - (i) A small farmer grows cotton on his small piece of land. Once the harvesting is done, cotton balls are collected.
 - (ii) These are taken to the local trader as the farmer had borrowed money from the trader to buy seeds, fertilisers, etc. for cultivation.
 - (iii) Even though the market price is high, the trader buys it at a meagre price from the farmer.
 - **The Cloth Market of Erode:**
 - (i) The bi-weekly market of Erode in Tamil Nadu is one of the biggest cloth markets in the world.
 - (ii) Cloth made by weavers from all over comes here for sale.
 - (iii) Instructions about the type of cloth to be made is given in advance.
 - (iv) The weavers get yarn from the merchants and supply them the cloth.
 - (v) It saves money of the weavers as they do not have to buy yarn. Likewise, the problem of selling the cloth is also taken care of.
 - (vi) Since weavers do not know the price of the cloth, they are at a loss and get very small amount.
 - **The Garment Exporting Factory near Delhi:**
 - (i) Erode merchants sent the cloth to garments export centre in Delhi.
 - (ii) The garments factory makes shirts to be sold to the chain of business from the US and Europe.
 - (iii) They set standard of quality and time.
 - (iv) Faced with pressure the garment centre tries to extract maximum work from their workers at the lowest cost.
 - (v) Most hired workers are temporary and get low salary.
 - **The Shirt in the US:**
 - (i) The shirts sent from garments export centres are sold in dollars in the US.
 - (ii) The shirts sold at Rs 200 by the garment export centre sell at Rs 1,200 in the US.
 - (iii) Thus, a chain of markets links the producers of cotton to the buyers at the supermarket.
 - **Market and Equality:**
 - (i) Foreign businessman made huge profits in the market.
 - (ii) Garment manufacturers only make moderate profits.
 - (iii) Weavers at Erode market and small farmers don't make huge profit.
 - (iv) Poor people have no option but to depend on the rich.
 - (v) Poor are exploited in the market.
 - (vi) Laws should be made to protect the interest of weavers and small farmers.
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