Credit, Markets, And The Agrarian Economy Of Colonial India

Sugata Bose

The economy of India is characterised as a developing market economy. It is the world's fifth-largest economy by nominal GDP and the third-largest by purchasing power parity (PPP). According to the IMF, on a per capita income basis, India ranked 142nd by GDP (nominal) and 119th by GDP (PPP) per capita in 2018. From independence in 1947 until 1991, successive governments promoted protectionist economic policies with extensive state intervention and regulation; the end of the Cold War and an acute The Indian economy is the world's twelfth largest according to market exchange rates. It is also the fourth largest economy by purchasing power parity (PPP) basis. The economy was an agrarian one by the time the British arrived which worked with the commercial, manufacturing and credit networks. With the decline of the Mughal Empire, the Maratha Empire administered parts of western, central south and north India. In the 1740's the budget of the Maratha Empire was `100 million. Colonial period. With the British East India Company's rule, there were changes in various taxes from property to revenue. This led to mass impoverishment, destitution of farmers and famines. India is the world's largest silk consumer and the second largest silk producer. The theme of credit, markets and the agrarian economy began to take scholarly form in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century within the large problematique of the character and extent of social transformation under colonial rule. The yardstick that was supposed to gauge the quantity and quality of this change was the loss of peasant lands to moneylenders:the topic of numerous reports of commissions of enquiry in the late nineteenth century, this concern found expression in the shape of an early 'research monograph' in S.S. Thorburn's "Mussalmans and Money-lenders in the"
Land, law, and credit in colonial India generated a huge (and ongoing) discussion: debates preceding policy choices; later commentary within the colonial administration; nationalist criticisms from the late 19th century onwards; and current research linking present-day economic outcomes to colonial era choices. Fears of agrarian unrest, and the evident failure of the Permanent Settlement to promote agricultural growth. This led to the passing of the Bengal Rent Act of 1859. In the 1859 Act criteria were laid down for the identification of "occupancy tenants" who would, in principle, have security of tenure, and protection from arbitrary rent increases.