

PART - II

SECTION - I

Question: 03

Analyze Alauddin Khilji's economic reforms and measures, its impacts on the state and society.

① INTRODUCTION.

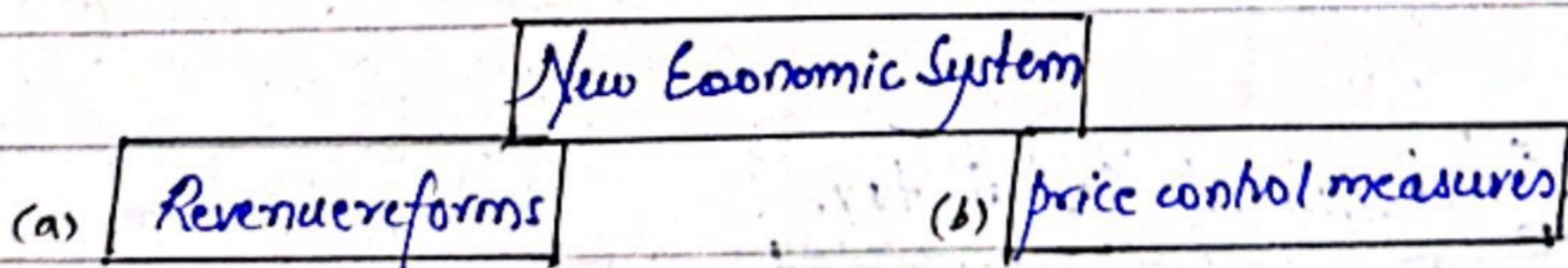
Alauddin made a very "bureaucratic economic system" where everything was controlled by state. He brought reforms not only in the revenue system but also introduced measures to ensure price control. To modern day economists Alauddin's economic reforms and measures is an enigma but to historians, it worked well for the prosperity of the general public.

== "Alauddin's price system was unique and remarkable achievement. Nothing like this had been accomplished before or it will be possible again."

(Farisha)

② Economic reforms and measures introduced by Alauddin.

Alauddin Khilji wanted to strengthen the economic system for the public welfare, political stability and strategic defense. He introduced new revenue rules and regulations and price control measures.



== "He wanted to fix price of commodities to help poor" ==
(Ghulam Sarwar)

(a)

Revenue reforms

He adopted the following reforms to reorganize the revenue system.

- ① Elimination of corrupt practices.
- ② Assessment of Revenue
- ③ Measurement of land
- ④ Imposition of Certain tax.
- ⑤ Appointment of new officers
- ⑥ Direct control of land by governors
- ⑦ Collection of revenue in kind; not in cash.

① Elimination of corrupt practices

He increased revenue by rooting out the corrupt practices of Hindu class. He introduced strict rules and regulations for their accountability.

② Assessment of land.

He introduced system of land survey and assessment on cultivated land and fixed revenue on production of land i.e 50 pc for government.

③ Measurement of land.

Previously, Revenue system was based on "Hukme-Hasil", revenue assessed according to produce. He introduced Hukme Masahat to first measure land and calculate produce. Non irrigated land was exempted from revenue collection.

④ Imposition of Certain tax.

He introduced Grazing and House tax. Instead of chauthvi, military collected land revenue. It was imposed on certain areas like Rajputana and Oab - Ruhail Khand.

⑤ Appointment of new officers.

He appointed new officers in revenue department on merit basis - He dismissed corrupt officers and injected fresh blood in administration.

⑥ Direct control of land by governors.

He gave direct control of land to governors, this land distribution was based on Hakum-e-Masabat.

⑦ Collection of revenue in kind and not in cash.

He collected revenue in kind to help people and give them relief during famine and drought.

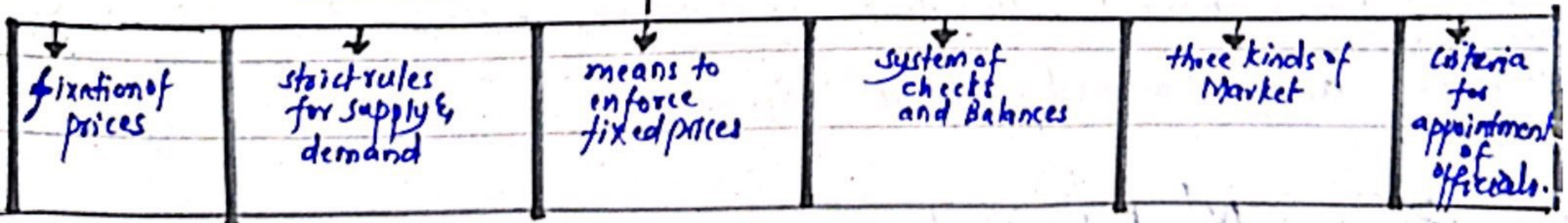
(b)

Price Control Measures.

He took following measures to ensure price control system in the state.

“ Such a price system needed a strong sultan for its successful operation ”
(Dr. K-S Lal)

Price Control Policy



① Fixation of Prices

He fixed prices according to production level called 'Barawari' means bringing out. Nikhah Sult an made effort to know different prices of different places before fixing official price.

② Strict rules of Supply and Demand.

• Land revenue in kind	• Made royal state granaries to curb hoarding
• Registered Caravan	• Given loan of 20 lac tinke to Multan Merchant for settlement
• Eliminated Middleman (Brokers) between sale - purchase of items.	• Collection of produce by Revenue officer
	• Ensure uninterrupted flow of necessities to cities

③ Means to Enforce fixed prices.

- Made regulations to control fixed prices on all the things e.g cloth, goods and cattles.
- Made strict measures against Hoarders and Black marketers. For instance, Merchant were not allowed to accumulate more than necessity nor consumer to purchase in excess.
- Government seek measures to ensure that price remain fix during famine.

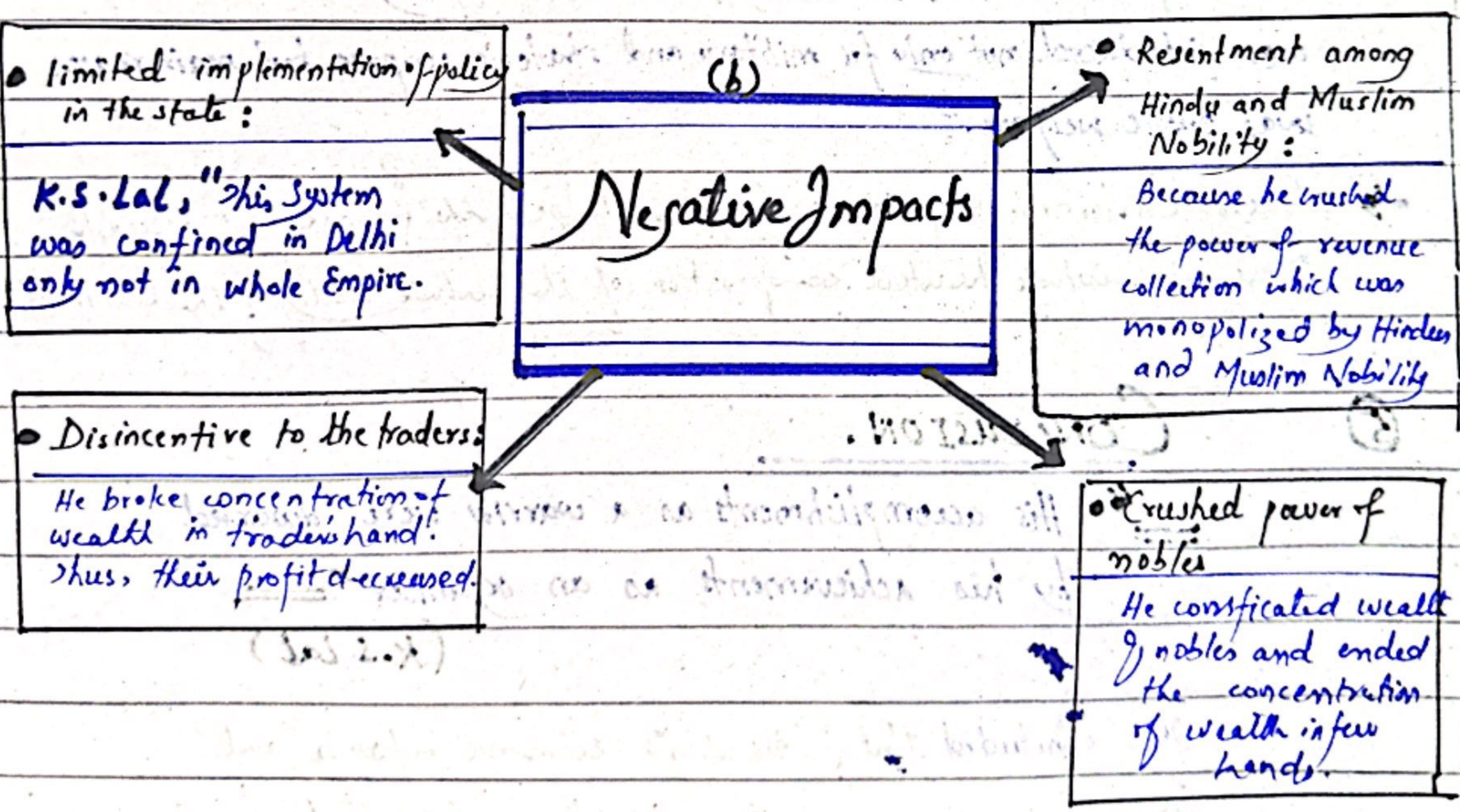
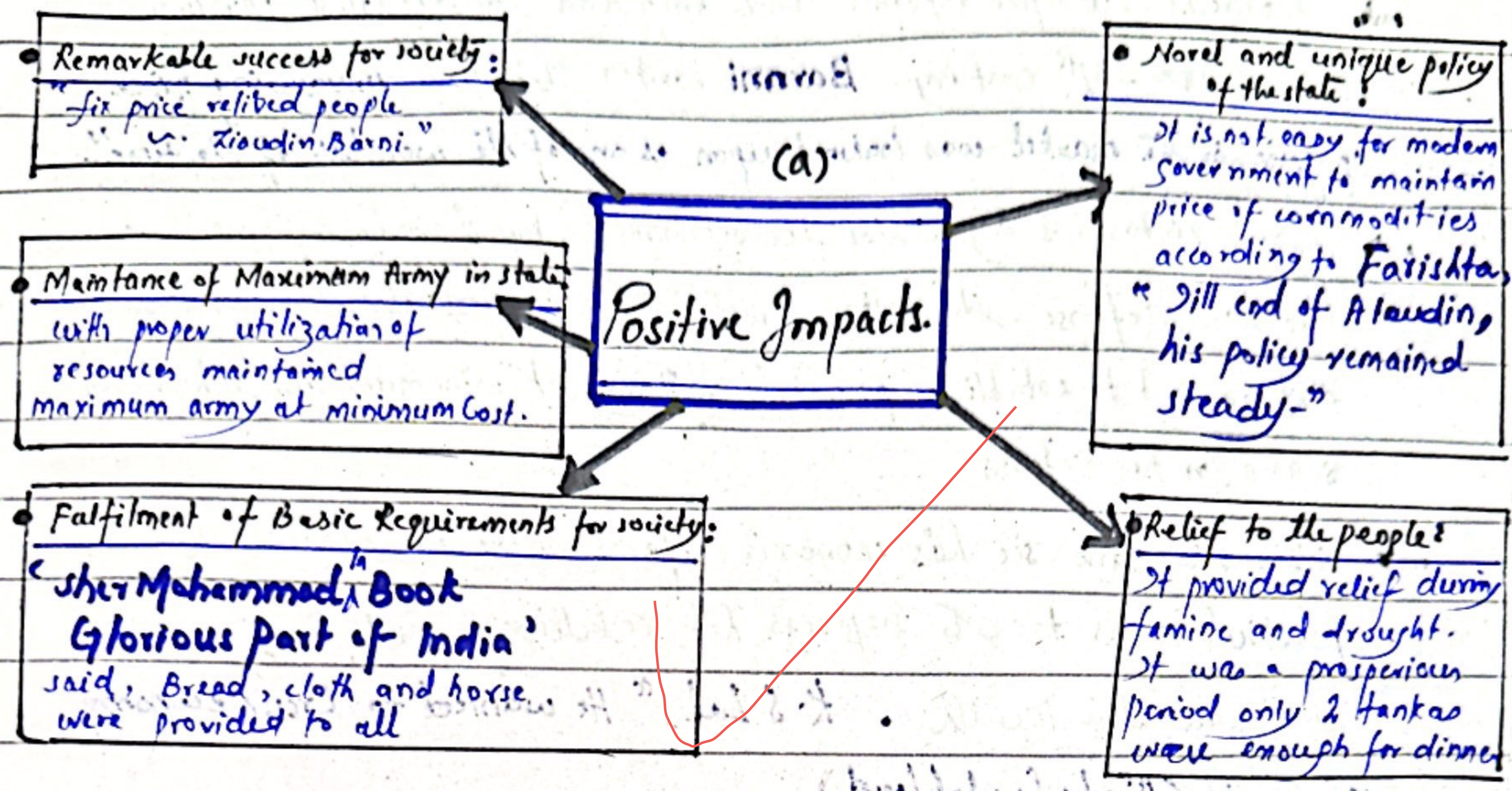
④ System of checks and balances.

He introduced price control department called 'Diwane Risakat' to control sale. He also appointed spies to check officers of this department and inform sultan about their report.

⑤ Market kinds

- General Market: Bazaar Ham for whole sale; wheat/grain
 - cloth Market: Sare e Adl for cloth/oil/fruits/sugar
 - cattle Market: for horses/cows/slaves/maids
- 3 horses reserved only for Army not to be sold.

③ Impacts of Allaudin's economic reforms and measures on the state and society



④ Critical Analysis

- Alauddin's Economic reforms and measures consolidated Muslim rule in 13th - 14th century. **Barani** writes that the "unvarying price of grain in the market was looked upon as one of the wonders of the time".
- Some historians argue that his economic reforms main purpose was strategic defense. The Sultan period was confronted with mongol threat and wanted to establish permanent ^{Large} ~~Army~~ at minimum cost which was reason for his reforms.
- Other historians see his economic reforms were to achieve his political aims to suppress his rebellions and confiscate their wealth. **K.S Lal**, "He wanted to crush economy of people (Hindu feudal lord)." ~~and~~
- Overall, it would be more appropriate to ~~say that~~ quote the sayings of historian **Ameer Hassan**, "Price control policy and revenue reforms were introduced not only for military and strategic purpose but main reason was public welfare."
- Thus, Environment of law and order helped the ^{state} markets to flourish. There was whole hearted co-operation of the whole body of the community.

⑤ CONCLUSION.

“His accomplishments as a warrior were dwarfed by his achievements as an organiser”
(K.S Lal)

It is concluded that, Alauddin's economic reforms and measures were need of that time to consolidate his Empire. Indeed, his reforms had some unfavorable impacts on the society ~~at~~ but ~~his~~ the achievements of his economic reforms outweighs the negative impact. Because reforms brought prosperity and stability in the state.