

Q.No.8

Make a précis of the following passage and suggest a suitable title.

(20 Marks)

John Lock reflects the new situation in England more than ever when he goes on to argue that the reason men come together to live in society, with laws, is for the preservation of their property. Since men are driven into society, it follows that the power of that society 'can never be suffered to extend further than the common good'. And this common good can only be determined by standing laws, statutes, that all are aware of and agree to, and not by extemporary degrees of, say, an absolute sovereign. Moreover, these laws must be administered 'by indifferent and upright judges'. Only in this way can the people (and rulers) know where they are. In an important amendment to the idea of absolute monarchy, Lock said that the king can never suspend the law. Finally Lock gave voice to the main anxiety of the rising commercial classes in England (a fear of something which they saw happening in France, in state intervention in trade), that no power can take from a man his property without his consent. 'A soldier may be commanded by a superior in all things, save the disposal of his property'. In the same way a man has property in his own person, meaning that a man's labor is his property too. The most important consequence of this, Lock says is that people can be taxed only with their consent. (We recognize this now in the doctrine 'No taxation without representation'.)

PMS : 2021 Précie

Title: Locke's concept of society.

According to John Locke, man made laws in society to protect their property. Society preserves the welfare of masses through common and carefully formulated laws. These laws must be protected by honest judges to ensure merit in society. The idea of monarchy in which king cannot overturn laws must be abolished. Contrary to France, Locke gave the notion that property of a common man cannot be snatched in England without his consent. Doctrine of taxation with representation came into being by imposing consent based tax on man's hardwork which was considered his property.

Total : 248 words

Précie : 92 words