

Question: Briefly explain the merits and demerits of price control policy of Ala-ud-Din Khaliji.

ANSWER:

Introduction:

K. Ali has rightly written in his book "A new history of Indo-Pak" that Ala-ud-Din Khaliji was a ambitious man. Because Ala-ud-Din Khaliji wanted to maintain a strong army due to Mongol threat, for this purpose, he introduced the price control policy. And his this price control policy had profound impacts on Delhi sultanate in during 14 century. Moreover, this policy control policy had been some positive and negative impacts on the sultanate.

During to expenditure of Deccan, the shahi treasury was full of money which could provide an ample of opportunity to Ala-ud-Din to execute his price control policy. Additionally this money circulation had helped the Ala-ud-Din Khaliji in grabbing attention of the mass.

Merits of price control policy of Ala-ud-Din Khalji

1) Fixed rate of grains :

The rates of grains were fixed and violation of this shahi order could be considered a serious crime in Alauddin darbar. Moreover, no one ever dared to violate this order of Alauddin.

2) Royal granaries :

Royal granaries were introduced where excessive grains of the seasons stored. And these grains would be provided when people needed.

3) Rates of different ^{animals} got fixed :

Different animals were fixed by the Alauddin Khalji. For instance; a milch cow ~~cost~~ on price fixed 4 Tankas and milch buffalo sold on 6 Tankas. Moreover, Grade one horse should be sold on 120 Tankas as per the Alauddin darbar orders.

4) Market officers :

Two main market officers had been bestowed duties. These market officer included : Shahan-i-Mandi ; Diwan-i-Fiyasat

Market officer
under Administration
of Alauddin

Shahman-i-Mandi

Diwan-i-Riyasat

Control the
price of grains
and food products

Control the price
of clothes etc

De-merits of price control policy of Ala-ud-Din Khaliji

1) Less productions

Due to fixed price of grains and other items, people had started to produce or to grow less wheat, rice and other essentials. Moreover, less production always created shortage in market during Ala-ud-Din era.

2) Storing the items :

During Ala-ud-Din era and particularly under his price control time, those who

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had money would buy different item on fixed price. And then, they stored these items to sale whenever market became under shortage.

Corruption under patronage of officers

In many time, Corruption was seen in Ala-ud-Din top hierarchy. These corrupt incumbents had badly hurt Ala-ud-Din price control policy.

Conclusion

No doubt, Ala-ud-Din price control policy brought many change in Delhi's sultanate but at same time, some negative impacts were also present in this price control policy. Additⁿ the poor class could not benefit from this reforms of Ala-ud-Din in true sense.