

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.298
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2017**

Decision on Paika Bidroha

298. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of **HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any decision to announce Paika Bidroha as first war of independence; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(DR. SATYA PAL SINGH)**

(a) & (b): 'Paika Bidroha' is one of the earliest resistance movements bravely put up by the people against the British colonial rule in India. This uprising was set off in March 1817 and continued until May 1825. Other than the 'Paikas', ordinary peasants, land-holders, salt-makers etc. had all risen in unison against the British during this period making it a popular movement. Later, in 1857, we see a movement or uprising of similar nature though on a much larger scale. Therefore, from a historical point of view it can be said that the 'Paika Bidroha' had set an example for the classes as well as the masses in India to follow later on as and when circumstances so warranted. Therefore, considering that this is one of the beginnings of popular uprisings against the British in India, it has been decided to include it as a 'case-study' in the Class VIII history textbook of NCERT, which deals with the 1857 event.
