

29. Write about the collectivisation programme of Stalin.

Ans. By 1927-1928, the towns in Soviet Russia were facing an acute problem of grain supplies.

- The govt. fixed prices at which grain must be

sold, but the peasants refused.

- Stalin, who headed the party after the death of Lenin, believed that rich peasants and traders in the countryside were hoarding stocks in the hope of higher prices, because of which in 1928, party members forced the grain-producing areas, supervising enforced grain collections, and raiding 'kulaks'.
- As shortages continued, the decision was taken to collectivise farms.
- These small-sized peasant farms could not be modernised. To develop modern farms, and run them along individual industrial lines with machinery, it was necessary to 'eliminate kulaks', take away land from peasants, and establish state-controlled large farms. This was the reason Stalin introduced the collectivisation programme.
- The party forced all peasants to cultivate in collective farms (kolkhoz). The bulk of land and implements were transferred to the ownership of collective farms.
- Peasants worked on the land, and the kolkhoz profit was shared.
- Enraged peasants resisted the authorities