



**SUBJECT: SST (History)**

**Chapter 8, Eighteenth-Century Political Formations**

**Why did the Marathas want to expand beyond the Deccan?**

**Answer :**

Marathas wanted to expand beyond the Deccan because of the following reasons:

1. They wanted to clip away the authority of the Mughal Empire.
2. Maratha king to be recognised as the overlord of the entire Deccan peninsula.
3. To possess the right to collect Chauth and sardeshmukhi in the entire region.

**8. What were the policies adopted by Asaf Jah to Strengthen his position?**

**Answer :**

After being the actual ruler of the Deccan, Asaf Jah began to adopt some policies in order to strengthen his position :

- He brought skilled soldiers and administrators from northern India who welcomed the new opportunities in the south.
- He appointed mansabdars and granted jagirs.
- He ruled independently without Mughal interference. The Mughal emperor merely confirmed the decisions already taken by Asaf Jah.

**9. Do you think merchants and bankers today have the kind of influence they had in the eighteenth century?**

**Answer :** During the 18th-century merchants were more influential than the bankers. They used to provide more loan opportunities at higher interest rates. But now, with the spread of education people prefer banks which provide loans and other financial assistance at cheaper rates. Bankers also provide subsidy on the interest rate. They have different scopes of loans for different purposes. So they are more influential today than the merchants.