

Q. The Policy of Subsidiary Alliance made British stronger at the cost of Indian rulers rendering their sovereignty. Explain (in 200 words).

Subsidiary Alliance was the policy of political and territorial expansionism deployed by Lord Wellesley in 1798 to bring Indian rulers their economic and political sovereignty.

The Subsidiary alliance had detrimental effects on Indian rulers through following ways-

1. They were not free to consult any rulers without British agreement, thus losing their sovereignty.
2. British subsidiary troops were maintained and paid for by Indian rulers in their territory causing financial burden on the rulers and causing financial crisis. The lack of wealth crippled the welfare activities of the rulers towards their people making them unpopular.
3. The territory of the rulers could be annexed if they failed to pay for the maintenance of the troops.
4. No Western powers other than British to be recognized in India and a British resident was stationed at ruler's territory.

British increased their military might to keep the rising western dangers at bay and also prevented unity amongst Indian rulers by controlling their



**PLUTUS IAS**

**UPSC**

Argasia Education PVT. Ltd. ( GST NO-09AAPCA1478E1ZH)

Address: Basement C59 Noida, opposite to Priyagold  
Building gate, Sector 2, Pocket I, Noida, Uttar Pradesh 201301,  
CONTACT NO- 8448440231

foreign policy, thereby securing its rule.

Thus, the Subsidiary Alliance made British the de facto ruler of India at the expense of Indian rulers' sovereignty who were reduced to mere puppets at the hands of British.

(199 words).

IS IAS

#1/2/15  
Nirehya  
Deepak