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# ANSWER SHEET

## FULL TEST III

### (MODERN INDIA)

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Time Allowed: 180 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 250

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There are EIGHT questions in this paper.  
Candidate has to attempt FIVE questions in all.

Question Nos. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, THREE are to be attempted choosing at least ONE question from each section.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.

Attempts of questions shall be counted in sequential order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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Comments for improvement after evaluation

## SECTION A

Q.1 Answer the following in about 150 words each: 10x5=50

Q.1 (a) "The underlying object of Birsa Movement was internal purification with Birsa as a religious leader and desire to remove the alien government." Explain. [10 Marks]

The Birsa movement <sup>(1897)</sup> had a religio-political character under the leadership of charismatic leader Birsa Munda in the Chota Nagpur region.

### Birsa as a Religious Leader

- (i) Birsa dubbed the British rule under Queen Victoria as Queen Mandodari's rule - wife of Ravana
- (ii) Birsa conducted pilgrimages of the local people to traditional tribal dieties
- (iii) Birsa was hailed as a religious leader and given a status of a semi-divine
- (iv) The targets were the Christian proselyting missionaries and Hindu temples of the outsiders - 'suds' and 'dikus'
- (v) Aim was to establish 'Birsa Raj'

## Desire to Remove Alien Government

- (i) The tribals understood the political sources of oppression - the British Raj accompanied by its structure of administration and law courts
- (ii) Their target was to drive out the 'unholy trinity' of oppressors - British, zamindars and money-lenders
- (iii) The fight was for their traditional 'fatherland'
- (iv) The unjust forest laws, breakdown of customary rules and traditional social order had incensed them to action
- (v) They wanted to go back to the 'golden age' - when they enjoyed uninterrupted autonomy

It was on these issues that Birsa Munda led his people to fight against the alien rule.

Q.1 (b) "It was in this almost unrecognizable form that the Ilbert Bill was finally enacted....it was primarily a failure of the Viceroy." Comment. [10 Marks]

The Ilbert Bill was introduced in 1883 by law member CP Ilbert during tenure of Viceroy Lord Ripon.

### Provisions of Ilbert Bill

- (i) It attempted to introduce parity between Indian judges and British judges in the mofussil towns
- (ii) It allowed Indian judges to preside over civil and criminal cases concerning British persons

### Response of British

- (i) Both official and non-official Britishers opposed the bill vehemently
- (ii) Flawed arguments such as 'effeminacy', 'lack of integrity', 'lack of respect for women' of

the Indians were blamed to deny them from judging on Englishmen and women

### Final Unrecognizable Form

- Finally, provisions of the bill were severely watered down.
- It provided a mix of European and Indian judges in matters involving Europeans

### Failure of Viceroy

- Despite liberal and reformist zeal of Lord Ripon, he buckled under conservative pressure
- After <sup>progressive</sup> steps like local self-government, amendment to act, etc, this measure was considered a stepback

Hence, it was primarily failure of the viceroy who succumbed to the white pressure.

Q.1 (c) Briefly discuss the political attitude of the Indian business community in the first half of 19th century towards nationalism vis-a-vis imperialism. [10 Marks]

The political attitude of the Indian business community often vacillated along the sides of nationalism and imperialism, but broad contours could be identified.

Attitude towards Nationalism

vis-a-vis Imperialism

- (i) In the beginning, the business remained aloof from nationalist politics
- (ii) Since they depended on government for preferable tariffs, exchange rates, exports, hence they didn't want to anger authorities
- (iii) They even condemned many movements for ex. Anti-non-cooperation movement was supported by Punshottan Das Thakur Das
- (iv) They also suspected congress influence on labour and workers may promote strikes

But, their attitudes changed during the later period:

(i) Towards 1920s and 1930s, business leaders realised advantages of siding with Congress

(ii) They actively contributed to funds of Congress during Civil Disobedience movement

(iii) During Quit India movement, strikes were allowed to go on purely political demands

(iv) When it became amply clear that Congress would have a major stake in future government, business leaders found it pragmatic to take its side

Hence Indian business leaders were gradually drawn into the nationalist movement despite their initial aloofness.

Q.1 (d) "The hey-day of the British power in India was also the high noon of 'Laissez faire' economic doctrine". Comment. [10 Marks]

The second-half of the 19th century especially has been described as hey-day of British power in India and also high noon of 'Laissez Faire' economic doctrine.

### Laissez-Faire Doctrine

- (i) Officially British policy was of free trade and no interference in the Indian economy
- (ii) Morris D. Morris described the British Raj as a "night-watchman" - who just supervised but did not control the economy
- (iii) But as recent historiography has established, it was a case of "non-market pressures exerted by the government"
- (iv) As Atk Bagchi has noted, there was no customs duties on imported products while Indian exports were

changed the same in Britain

(vi) The Fowler Committee artificially fixed low exchange rate to facilitate imports and discourage exports.

Key-Point for British

(vii) Hence Indian economy was geared towards benefit of the Mother Country - Britain

(viii) While cotton piece goods from Lancashire and Birmingham steel flooded Indian market, Indian goods remained uncompetitive

(ix) This resulted in deindustrialisation and poverty in India

(x) India served as a market for finished goods and supplier of raw materials

As observed by Sashi Tharoor, it was through this "laissez-faire" policy that UK's industrial revolution was sustained on India's deindustrialisation.

Q.1 (e) "Champaran Satyagraha is a watershed in the freedom struggle in India." Elucidate. [10 Marks]

The Champaran Satyagraha (1917) was Gandhiji's fight against the oppressive indigo planters who forced peasants to grow indigo on the basis of the tinkathia system.

Why was it a watershed in freedom struggle?

- (i) The movement proved Gandhiji's mass appeal and his ability to forge unity
- (ii) It proved efficacy of 'satyagraha' and non-violence in achieving one's aims
- (iii) It proved that mass movement, even in a limited space can yield results as opposed to 'class movements'
- (iv) Local Congress leaders like Vallabhai Patel could realise Gandhiji's ability to arouse masses, hence

Gandhiji became ideal to lead congress

(v) The movement was successful in safeguarding peasant's rights by passing of the Champaran Agricultural Act

(vi) Champaran became a nationalist legend and in all future movements, it showed enthusiastic participation

(vii) Champaran movement launched Gandhiji into national leadership by establishing his credentials of ~~attain~~ being able to combine aim of swaraj but through non-violent means

Therefore, Champaran Satyagrah was a watershed in Indian national movement.

Q.4 (a) Examine the causes for the rise and progress of revolutionary movement in various phases in India between A.D. 1905-1931. [20 Marks]

Revolutionary movements during 1905-1931 became a common feature, with most prominent ones in Bengal, UP and Punjab regions.

Swadeshi Phase - [1905-11]

- (i) The period was marked in revolutionary activities in Bengal region
- (ii) It was primarily due to failure of moderates and constructive swadeshi to achieve aim of annulling partition of Bengal in 1905
- (iii) The  Surat Split of Congress in 1907 also alienated extremists who later relied on revolutionary activities
- (iv) Was marked by a physical culture movement - by opening gymnasiums, a bomb-making unit at Manikata, assassination attempts at officials like Presidency Magistrate Kingsford

(v) Repression, arrests and executions gradually led to decline of the movement

World War-I phase [1911-21]

(i) This time, both Bengal and Punjab were prominent

(ii) The Ghadar movement with its head Lala Hardayal in San Francisco attempted to raise mutiny in British India Army

(iii) Propaganda was carried out in Punjab for a violent mass movement and overthrow of Government

(iv) An ~~and~~ unsuccessful attempt to assassinate Lord Hardinge was carried out by Ras Behari Bose

(v) Taking advantage of war, an ~~all~~ alignment with Germany was attempted to import arms and fight against British

(vi) Jatin Mukherjee brought arms to fight against British police in Balasore but was defeated

## Post Non-cooperation Movement - [1921-31]

- (i) Due to abrupt withdrawal of the movement, many young leaders were disenchanted and took to revolutionary action
- (ii) The regions mainly affected were Punjab and United Provinces
- (iii) The Hindustan Republican Army <sup>(HRA)</sup> under Ram Prasad Bismil conducted Kahori robbery to fund a people's war
- (iv) Under Bhagat Singh, HRA became Hindustan Socialist Republican Army to stop any "exploitation of man by man"
- (v) Assassinations continued such as killing of Saunders due to lathi-charge and death of Lala Lajpat Rai
- (vi) Bombs were hurled on Central Legislative Assembly in protest against Public Safety Bill, to make the "deaf hear"

Despite the grit and perseverance of revolutionaries, repressive action from government was time and again successful in muzzling them.

Q.4 (b) Do you think that the British conquered India "in a fit of absent minded-ness"? Critically discuss. [20 Marks]

British historian Lord Seely has argued that British conquered India in a "fit of absent minded-ness" as there was no conscious policy to conquer India.

Yes - India was conquered in a "fit of absent minded-ness"

(i) PJ Marshall has argued there was no consistent policy for governing India by British until the 1784 Pitt's India Act

(ii) PJ Marshall and AG Hopkins argue that lack of communication, lack of knowledge about India in British official circles existed prior to 1784

(iii) Hence, it were the men on spot - the servants of East India Company and their 'sub-imperialism', which led to capture of India

(vi) It is only after the private traders made fortunes and returned to England as 'nabobs' that the government paid attention to the Indian 'territories'

(v) Also, the need to secure trading operations and the need to establish peace and stable frontiers drove the English into a road of conquest

(vi) Therefore, it was the emergencies of trade and commerce, infighting among native rulers, which led to the acquisition of an empire

### Counter-Views

(i) On the other hand, many evidence point that British were not merely responding to the crisis but also creating opportunities to take on such conquest, as observed by Eugene Ischik

(ii) Policies of Governors-General Cornwallis and Wellesley were clearly geared towards acquiring more territories under direct or indirect rule

(iii) Right from Battle of Plassey, English had consciously conspired to take indirect control of Bengal

(iv) The English interfered into local politics of Marathas, Carnatic, Hyderabad with the same aim

(v) Parliament was aware of such activities as it renewed charter of the company, imposed annual payment of ₹400,000 from 1767 for its Indian territories

Here, as observed by Shrikanth Bondyopadhyay, India was not acquired by a fit of absent mindedness but rather at the cognisance of a very small number of people, without national awareness.

Q.4 (c) What was the nature of environmental movements that have emerged in independent India?  
Discuss. [10 Marks]

Since Indian Independence in 1947, several environmental movements have occurred with varying nature.

### Nature of Environmental Movements

- ① Community based movements - such as Chipko Movement in Garhwal hills led by Sunderlal Bahuguna against felling of trees
- ② Movements against displacement and deforestation such as Narmada Bachao Andolan under Medha Patkar
- ③ Tribal movements such as opposition of Vedanta Aluminium ~~mine~~ mining in Niyamgiri mountains by Dongria Kondh tribes

④ Anti-nuclear protests - Protests against Kudankulam plant in TN or the Jaitapur plant in Maharashtra

⑤ Apporestation movements to regenerate forests and ecological recovery such as community forests in Meghalaya

Therefore, environmental movements since independence have a varied character and nature.

## SECTION B

Q.5 Answer the following in about 150 words each: 10x5=50

Q.5 (a) "If the prosperity and happiness of a nation be the criterion of wisdom and success, Lord Cornwallis's permanent settlement of 1793 is the wisest and most successful measure which the British nation had adopted in India". Critically examine this perspective of R.C. Dutt. [10 Marks]

The statement by R.C. Dutt highlights the prevalent support of the moderate nationalists <sup>for</sup> the permanent settlement of 1793.

### Permanent Settlement - The Good

- ① Fixed revenues permanently - forever - hence no scope of corruption while collection
- ② Zamindars could use growth in income to invest in agriculture and subsequent extension
- ③ Peasant rights would be safeguarded through written 'patta'
- ④ State would get regular revenue and fixed revenue
- ⑤ By promoting agricultural output in cotton and silk-trade will be promoted, which could be taxed

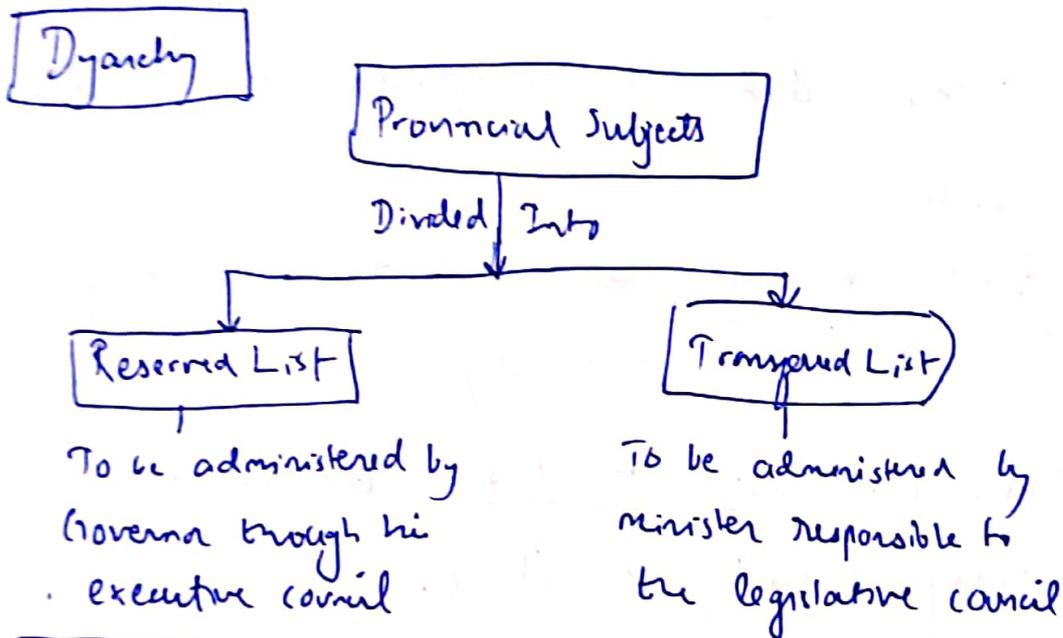
## Permanent Settlement - Defects

- ① The revenue fixed was very high - often couldn't be paid by peasants - led to alien eviction
- ② Rules were violated on ground - no proper assessment, no patta system was carried out and illegal cesses (abwabs) continued
- ③ Customary rights of peasants ignored - here were reduced to tenants-at-will
- ④ 'Sunset Laws' - led to dispossession of lands
- ⑤ Even the Government was dissatisfied as the revenue couldn't be increased

Hence, as Daniel Thorner has shown, the state itself became the supreme landlord, peasants suffered under heavy demand and it led to ruin of agriculture the peasantry.

Q.5 (b) "The scheme of Dyarchy was 'cumbrous, complex, confused system, having no logical basis and rooted in compromise' and was foredoomed to failure." Explain. [10 Marks]

The system of Dyarchy was introduced in the provincial governments under the Montagu-Chelmsford reforms of 1919.



### Reasons of Failure

- ① All important subjects like finance, law and order, police were kept under reserved list
- ② Only non-crucial matters like agriculture, health, education, etc remained in transferred subjects

③ Lack of finances - Meant that Indian ministers shouldered responsibility without any real power

④ Hence, ministers couldn't give effect to their initiatives

⑤ Even the bureaucracy, being only responsible to Viceroy, did not cooperate with Indian ministers

⑥ People were angry at ministers since they couldn't fulfill their expectations

⑦ There was constant tussle between the Viceroy's executive council and the decision of legislative council

Therefore, dyarchy system was doomed to fail.

Q.5 (c) "The Government of India Act of 1935 had all brakes, but no engine." Comment. [10 Marks]

The Government of India Act of 1935 aimed to establish a federal government at centre and responsible government at states. But its provisions made it unworkable from the beginning - "all brakes, but no engine".

### Defects of Government of India Act, 1935

- ① No federal government was formed - since princely states declined to join
- ② Dynarchy at provinces  
- Ministers couldn't handle important matters like finance, home, law and order
- ③ Separate electorates resulted in communalisation of the electorate
- ④ A powerful centre was maintained as most

subjects were included in the central list

- ⑤ Congress was dissatisfied as it didn't grant any real power to responsible governments
- ⑥ The electorate was very narrow - only about 10% of the population eligible to vote
- ⑦ Demands of self-government, greater Indian representation in Viceroy's executive council were ignored

Hence, the act of 1935 largely failed to take off due to its inherent defects.

Q.5 (d) "Though Sri Ramakrishna became the prophet of neo-Hinduism, he never claimed to have founded any new religion." Explain. [10 Marks]

Sri Ramakrishna induced a new life into Hindu culture and has been hailed as a prophet of Neo-Hinduism.

But he never claimed to have found a new religion.

### Sri Ramakrishna's Ideas

- ① He propagated ideas of Hinduism in simple but effective language to be understood by everyone
- ② Highlighted spiritual superiority of Hinduism as given in Vedas, Gita and Upanishads
- ③ Criticised practices such as caste system, untouchability, idol worship, priestly class domination

④ Drew inspiration from popular culture to preach ideas at the Dakshineswar Kali Temple

⑤ Inspired future leaders such as Swami Vivekananda

⑥ Promoted mutual tolerance and understanding between different sects and religions

Sri Ramakrishna's ideas became a huge hit among masses due to his simple discourses and ability to ignite the self-confidence of the masses in spiritual terms.

Q.5 (e) "In moderate phase, Congress was limited to a limited elitist politics for limited reforms."  
Comment. [10 Marks]

Congress, during its initial phase consisted of a limited circle of leaders, who demanded limited reforms.

### Elitist Politics

- ① Between 1893-1905, about 39% attendees were lawyers, 17% were landlords, 15% merchants, journalists, teachers and doctors
- ② About 90% attendees between 1873-1905 were Hindus, of which 40% were Brahmins and rest were also upper classes
- ③ The participation of peasants, working classes were minimal
- ④ Muslims and depressed classes were also under-represented
- ⑤ Women participation was also very less

## Demand for Limited Reforms

Most of the reforms demanded were suited to the elitist nature of the leaders; but nevertheless they raised important questions:

- ① Extension of permanent settlement
- ② Reduction on home charges and military expenditure
- ③ Indianisation of the civil services
- ④ Greater participation of Indians in the provincial and central legislative council
- ⑤ Reduction in land revenue and imposition of custom taxes
- ⑥ Investment in irrigation and agriculture

It is because of the elitist politics of early Congress that Lord Dufferin could castigate it for representing a "microscopic minority".

Q.6 (a) Describe the tactics evolved by Mahatma Gandhi in the course of the Indian National Movement. [20 Marks]

Mahatma Gandhi had a profound understanding of Indian society, nature of mass psychology and also nature of colonial mindset due to his experiences in South Africa.

He used this knowledge to evolve his tactics during the Indian National Movement.

### Tactics of Mahatma Gandhi

① Use of symbolism of common men

- Used colloquial Hindi to communicate

- Wore a dhoti

- Mingled freely among commoners

② Use of religious idioms strategically

- Unlike revivalists, he used idioms like 'Ramrajya' to inspire people into action

- But when addressing muslims, urged them

to fight for Islam as seen during Khilafat movement

### ③ Centrism

- He acted to maintain balance among different sections of Congress
- Hence, he could unite extremists aim of 'Swaraj' through moderate methods of 'non-violence'
- Could also form connection between right-wingers and socialists

### ④ Leader of all sections

- Lead peasants in Champaran, Kheda
- Lead worker movement in Ahmedabad
- Demanded reforms for both peasants as well as capitalists in "11-point programme" to Lord Irwin

### ⑤ Social Reform

- Included agenda in Congress to rid Hinduism of untouchability
- Led temple-entry movements
- Kept united Hindu electorate by Poona pact

⑥ Synthesis of religiosity yet secularism

- While being staunch Hindu, advocated for full rights to Muslims
- Was able to forge Hindu-Muslim unity in non-cooperation movement

⑦ Injured confidence in tradition

- Criticized modern civilisation and its associated political & economic structures
- Termed ancient Indian civilisation as best

⑧ Non-violence and Satyagrah

- Didn't compromise with morality
- Due to his methods, adverse colonial reactions could never be justified

It was these dynamic factors evolved by Gandhiji which enabled him to become leader of the masses and the "father of our nation".

Q.6 (b) Examine the essential principles of the Subsidiary Alliance System. How did it contribute in making the British Company the supreme sovereign authority in India? [20 Marks]

The system of Subsidiary Alliance was developed by Lord Wellesley, who came to India in 1798 with a lust for personal glory and aggressive imperialism.

### Principles of Subsidiary Alliance

- ① This alliance was made by the East India Company with the native Indian rulers.
- ① A British resident would be stationed at the court to aid and advise the Indian ruler.
- ② A British army contingent would be stationed at court for its protection.
- ③ The expenditure for the stationed army would be borne by the Indian ruler.

- ④ The British and the ruler would depend each other in case of attacks on either of them
- ⑤ While dealing with external powers, the ruler would always consult the British resident
- ⑥ The ruler would contribute his army, shall the British need it during wars

### Contribution in making British Supreme Authority

- ① The British resident gradually became the locus of real ~~to~~ power
- ② The ruler's autonomy was greatly reduced by connivance with the local elites and nobles
- ③ The payments for the resident army contingent kept on rising and pressure was put on rulers to pay more
- ④ This enabled British to take indirect control

of the ruler's territories

- ⑤ It was used during Wars among regional powers to turn balance of power towards British such as support of Hyderabad during Anglo-Maratha wars
- ⑥ The payment of revenues clause was used to harass rulers like in Awadh, which was annexed on grounds of misgovernance
- ⑦ The ruler's armies could be used in wars to maintain British hegemony and to control revolts as seen during 1857

Hence subsidiary alliances helped British establish its both direct as well as indirect rule over India.

Q.6 (c) Examine the phase of political extremism of the Swadeshi Movement and the factors responsible for the decline of this phase. [10 Marks]

Sumit Sarkar has classified the Swadeshi Movement into four phases - moderate trend, constructive swadeshi, political extremism and revolutionary terrorism.

### Phase of Political Extremism

- ① Resolution of swadeshi, boycott and swaraj was passed in 1905 session of Congress
- ② Boycott of local councils, courts and schools was done
- ③ Non-cooperation with British laws was carried out
- ④ Picketing of shops dealing in foreign cloth, liquor was carried out
- ⑤ National schools and arbitration councils were established e.g. Bengal National College, Swadesh Bandhab Samiti

## Factors for Decline

- ① Swat Split 1907 - Split of moderates and extremists in swat weakened the extremist agenda
- ② Lack of enough <sup>national</sup> schools led to students returning back to government schools
- ③ Swadeshi alternatives were costlier, hence couldn't be used for long
- ④ Government diverted attention by declaration of Morley-Minto reforms
- ⑤ There was division of opinion regarding Swaraj - whether it would be self government within British rule or complete independence

It was due to above factors that political extremism declined, giving rise to revolutionary terrorism.

Q.7 (a) "The suspension of Non-Cooperation Movement was a national calamity". Critically examine. [20 Marks]

The Non-Cooperation movement was abruptly revoked by Gandhiji owing to the rising instances of violence that peaked <sup>during</sup> ~~with~~ the unfortunate Chauri Chaura incident.

Why suspension was a national calamity?

① Sudden end of first organised Congress mass movement

- It was Congress's first experiment with mass action

- Sudden withdrawal ~~part~~ demoralised the Congress workers

② Hindu-Muslim unity breached

- The unity forged due to Khilafat movement died down

- Revivalist groups like Hindu Mahasabha and Muslim League became stronger

③ Masses dissatisfied

- Masses which had participated first time in a national movement like peasants, workers were

largely disappointed

- At some places, the movement continued despite official withdrawal

#### ④ Rise in revolutionary activities

- Many youth leaders like Ram Prasad Bismil, Bhagat Singh, etc who had participated became disenchanted with the Congress
- They took to individual acts of extremism

#### ⑤ Failed to attain its objective of swaraj

- The sudden withdrawal also broke the hopes of attaining swaraj within a year, which Craockhiji had proposed during beginning

#### ⑥ The movement was at its peak

- During its withdrawal, the movement attained highest momentum - eliciting huge participation of masses
- It was also anticipated by many that British may give in to their demands

- But the sudden withdrawal felt like stepback to the inspired masses

But suspension was necessary

- It showed Grandhiji's non-compromising attitude to non-violence, which cannot be done away at any cost
- The government would have justified heavy-handed repression on account of violence
- It was difficult to maintain the mass movement for a longer time and some interim constructive work had to be done
- Given the animosity of certain sections like Indian businesses, it might have divided Indian unity as well

The suspension of non-cooperation movement though was sudden but the rise of 'mobocracy' left Grandhiji with no other option.

Q.7 (b) Analyse the motive and compulsion of the British in framing social policies for India. [20 Marks]

The Britishers, especially from early 19th century were on a reformist mission in India - abolition of sati, widow remarriage act, banning of child sacrifice, among others being their many reforms.

### Motives and Compulsions

#### ① Ideological imperatives

- Men like William Bentinck were influenced by Utilitarian ideas - advocated laws for social changes
- Ideas of paternalism, liberalism, anglicisation influenced the social reforms as well

#### ② Aim to 'civilize' Indians

- Liberals like CE Trevelyan, Macaulay, etc aimed to 'civilise' the Indians by driving away their superstitions
- People like Charles Grant, William Wilberforce

argued for Christian knowledge to rescue Indians from their 'barbaric religions'

### ③ Demand from Indian Reformers

- Men like Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar forcefully campaigned for such reforms

### ④ To ameliorate harsh aspects of society

- There was a humanitarian zeal - to eliminate brutal practices which caused especially harm to women (sati, child marriage), depressed classes, etc.

### ⑤ To integrate deeply into the colony

- As observed by scholars, after 1858 act, Britishers had become 'insiders' in the Indian society

- This was an attempt of the British to further integrate themselves into Indian society

### ⑥ To showcase British benevolence

- As liberals like CE Trevelyan envisage, "India would remain largest monument of British benevolence"

### ⑦ Strengthen loyalty to British

- Through reforms like English education and literature, it was hoped Indians would become, in words of <sup>Macaulay</sup> Macaulay, "Indians in blood and colour, but English in taste and intellect"

Hence, it was with various motives and compulsions that British had to introduce reforms in India.

Q.7 (c) What factors were responsible behind the congress accepting the partition of India in 1947?  
Discuss. [10 Marks]

The partition of India was constituted as per the Mountbatten Plan in 1947.

### Factors of Congress Acceptance of Partition

#### 1) Uncompromising and non-cooperating Muslim League

- Muslim League obstructed every constitutional plan or post independence provisions such as those offered by Wavell Plan, Cabinet Mission, etc -
- Made it impossible to run government with them

#### 2) Sharp Polarisation of Muslim majority Areas

- Muslim majority provinces like Bengal, Punjab voted for partition
- Regions like Baluchistan, NWFP also decided to join Pakistan

#### 3) Fierce Communal Riots

- There was visible breach of Hindu-Muslim unity and communal riots were severe

in Bombay, Bihar, Calcutta, Noakhali, etc.

#### 4) British reluctance to continue rule

- Congress realised the lack of interest and also ability of British to rule any further as seen from pre-poning of independence date

#### 5) To prevent further divisions

- It was felt that any further delay might result in breaches of unity in terms of language, caste, etc and lead to more divisions

#### 6) Nationalist movement had reached its peak and the freedom fighters thought it <sup>that</sup> ~~was~~ the time ~~to~~ for independence had come

Hence, several factors were at play to influence the congress into accepting the partition plan

in 1947.