Indian National Movement: Miscellaneous topics

In this PDF, we will go through

- Introduction of Civil Service exam in India
- Development of education
- Development of Press in India, Vernacular Press Act
- Newspapers and Journals
- Governor-General and Viceroy of India
- INC Annual Sessions
- Famous trials of the Nationalist period

### Civil Service exam

- The earliest origins of a civil service in India for administration purposes can be traced back to the period after 1757 when the East India Company were the de-facto rulers in parts of India. The company started the Covenanted Civil Services (CCS). CCS members had to sign covenants with the company’s board.
- **After the Revolt of 1857**, when the rule of the company ended and power was transferred to the British Crown, i.e., after 1886 the service came to be called the Imperial Civil Service. It later came to be called the Indian Civil Service.
- In 1854, the Macaulay Committee recommended that appointment to the service based on the company’s patronage be stopped and a merit-based system be established.
- Post 1855, recruitment to the ICS was based on merit only through a competitive examination. It was restricted to Indians.
- In 1886, the Aitchison Commission chaired by Sir Charles Umpherston Aitchison recommended that Indians also get employed in public service.
- A further prod to the inclusion of Indians in the service happened in 1912 when the Islington Commission suggested that 25% of the higher posts be filled by Indians.
- It also recommended that the recruitment to higher posts should be done partly in India and partly in England.
- **From 1922, the ICS exam was held in India.**
- The Public Service Commission of India (forerunner of the Union Public Service Commission) was established on 1st October 1926 under the chairmanship of Sir Ross Barker.
- The all India services were designated as Central Superior Services in 1924. After 1939, the number of Indians in the service increased because of non-availability of Europeans.
- After the Government of India Act of 1858, the higher civil service in India came to be known as the Indian Civil Services (ICS).
- After independence, the ICS became the Indian Administrative Service (IAS).
- Lord Cornwallis is usually known as the Father of civil services in India.
- Sardar Vallabh bhai Patel was among the top nationalist leaders who had argued for the continuation of the civil services because he had believed that an organized bureaucracy was essential to ensure the unity and integrity of the newly independent India.
- Initially, the examinations for Indian Civil Service were conducted only in London.
- In 1864, the first Indian, Shri Satyendranath Tagore, brother of Shri Rabindranath Tagore succeeded.

### Development of Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individual efforts under company rule</th>
<th>Calcutta Madrasah was established by Warren Hastings in 1781 to study Muslim laws and customs.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Jonathan Duncan established Sanskrit college</strong> at Banaras in 1791 for Hindu laws and philosophy.</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Fort William College was set up in 1800</strong> by Wellesley for training of civil servants of the Company. (It was closed in 1802).</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Charter Act of 1813</th>
<th>1 lakh rupees were to be spent by the company for the promotion of education in India.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lord Macaulay’s Minute of 1835</td>
<td><strong>Amidst Orientalist-Anglicist controversy</strong>, Macaulay supported the latter view.</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>English language was chosen as the sole medium of education.</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Government decided to spend the limited resources for teaching western sciences and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Details</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wood's Despatch, 1854</td>
<td>- They adopted ‘downward filtration theory’ instead of mass education. - This was also known as “Magna Carta of English Education in India”. - It rejected ‘downward filtration theory’. - It recommended English for higher studies and vernaculars at school level. - Secular education. - Encouraged private enterprises.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter Education Commission, 1882-83</td>
<td>- Its objective was to assess the Wood Dispatch. - It emphasized on state’s role in improving education. - Advocated for transfer of control to local bodies (district and municipal boards).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rayleigh Commission, 1902</td>
<td>- To review the performance of universities in India.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indian Universities Act, 1904</td>
<td>On the recommendation of Rayleigh commission, the act provided for: - greater control over universities - Universities were given due importance for research and studies. - number of fellows reduced. - Rules were made stricter for private college affiliations. - Gopal Krishna Gokhale called this move a “retrograde measure”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Resolution on Education Policy, 1913</td>
<td>- Government refused to take up the responsibility of compulsory education. - It urged the provincial government to do the same. - Even private players were encouraged.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saddler University Commission, 1917-19</td>
<td>- The commission was set up to review Calcutta University which later extended to all universities. - 12+3 program (12-year schooling and 3-year degree) - A separate board of secondary and intermediate education were to be set up. - It laid stress on Female education, applied scientific and technological education, teachers' training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartog Committee, 1929</td>
<td>- Laid emphasis on primary education. - Quality of education was given priority over a number of schools and colleges. - Admissions were highly restricted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wardha Scheme of Basic Education (1937)</td>
<td>- Zakir Hussain committee formulated this national scheme for basic education. - The main principle of ‘learning through activity’. - secular in approach. - First seven years of schooling through mother tongue and English after 8th.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sergeant Plan of Education, 1944</td>
<td>- Sergeant was the educational advisor to the British Government. - He advocated number of reforms and aimed to make Indian education system equivalent to that of England in 40 years. But it seriously lacked methodology for implementation. - It was just lip service of the government.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Development of Press in India**

- In 1780, James Augustus Hickey started “The Bengal Gazette or Calcutta General Advertiser” which was seized in 1872 because of its outspoken criticism of the Government.
- Later, more newspaper newspaper/journals came up - The Bengal Journal, Calcutta Chronicle, Madras Courier, and Bombay Herald.
- And this effort of Hickey laid the foundation of press in India. The evolution of Indian Press is discussed below:

**Lord Wellesley enacted Censorship of Press Act, 1799**

- It was enacted by the Lord Wellesley, anticipating French invasion of India.
- It imposed almost wartime press restrictions including pre-censorship which was later relaxed by the Lord hasting.

**Licensing Regulations, 1823**

- It was enacted by the John Adams.
- According to this regulation, press without licence was a penal offence.
- The restriction was directed mainly to Indian language newspapers or those edited by the Indians.
| Press Act of 1835 or Metcalfe Act | • Metcalfe (Governor General – 1835 – 36) repealed the obnoxious 1823 ordinance and was named, “liberator of the Indian press” |
| Licensing Act, 1857 | • This act imposed licensing restriction and the right to stop publication and circulation of book, newspaper or printed matter reserved with the Government. |
| Registration Act, 1867 | • This act relaxed the restrictions put by Metcalf’s Act of 1835 and hence states that Government acts as regulatory not restrictive body. |
| Vernacular Press Act, 1878 | • It was constituted for ‘better control’ of the vernacular press and effectively punished and repressed seditious writing.  
• The provisions of the Act are given below:  
  o The district magistrate was empowered to call upon the printer and publisher of any vernacular newspaper to enter into a bond with the Government undertaking not to cause disaffection against the government or antipathy between persons of different religions, caste, race through published material; the printer and publisher could also be required to deposit security which could be seized if the offences reoccurred.  
  o The magistrate’s action was final and no appeal could be made in a court of law.  
  o A vernacular newspaper could get an exemption from the operation of the Act by submitting proof to a government censor. |
| Newspaper (Incitement to Offences) Act, 1908 | • This act empowered the magistrates to confiscate press property which published objectionable material likely to cause incitement to murder/acts of violence against the Extremist nationalist activity. |

| Indian Press Act, 1910 | • This act was a revision of the Vernacular Act that empowered the local government to demand a security at registration from the printer/publisher and forfeit/deregister if it was an offending newspaper, and the printer of a newspaper was required to submit two copies of each issue to local government. |

In a nutshell, we can say that the evolution of Indian press was fraught with developmental difficulties, illiteracy, colonial constraints and repression. It disseminated the ideas of freedom and became a prominent tool for freedom struggle.

### Newspapers during Indian Freedom Struggle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Newspaper/ Journal</th>
<th>Founder</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1780</td>
<td>Bengal Gazette</td>
<td>English newspaper</td>
<td>James Augustus Hicky</td>
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<tr>
<td>1819</td>
<td>Samvad Kaumudi</td>
<td>Bengali weekly newspaper</td>
<td>Ram Mohan Roy</td>
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<td>1822</td>
<td>Mirat-ul-Akbar</td>
<td>Persian language journal</td>
<td>Raja Ram Mohan Roy</td>
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<tr>
<td>1854</td>
<td>Rast Goftar</td>
<td>Gujarati Newspaper</td>
<td>Dadabhai Naoorji</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1858</td>
<td>Som Prakash</td>
<td>Weekly newspaper</td>
<td>Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1862</td>
<td>Indian Mirror</td>
<td>Newspaper</td>
<td>Devendra Nath Tagore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1868</td>
<td>Amrita Bazar Patrika</td>
<td>Newspaper</td>
<td>Sisir Kumar Ghosh and Motilal Ghosh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1871</td>
<td>Tazhib-ul-Akha</td>
<td>Journal</td>
<td>Sir Syed Ahmed Khan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1878</td>
<td>Hindu</td>
<td>Newspaper</td>
<td>Vir Raghavachrya and G.S. Aiyar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1881</td>
<td>Kesari</td>
<td>Marathi Newspaper</td>
<td>B.G. Tilak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1888</td>
<td>Sudharsak</td>
<td>Newspaper</td>
<td>G.K. Gokhale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1892</td>
<td>Hindoo Patriot</td>
<td>English weekly</td>
<td>Girish Chandra Ghosh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>Prabuddha Bharata</td>
<td>English monthly journal</td>
<td>Swami Vivekananda</td>
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<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>Udbodhana</td>
<td>Magazine</td>
<td>Swami Vivekananda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>Indian Opinion</td>
<td>Newspaper</td>
<td>M. K Gandhi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>Kande Mataram</td>
<td>English language newspaper</td>
<td>Aurobindo Ghosh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>Bombay Chronicle</td>
<td>English-language newspaper</td>
<td>Firoze Shah Mehta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>Comrade</td>
<td>Weekly English newspaper</td>
<td>Maulana Mohammad Ali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>Al-Balagh</td>
<td>Urdu weekly newspaper</td>
<td>Abul Kalam Azad</td>
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<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>Al-Hilal</td>
<td>Urdu weekly newspaper</td>
<td>Abul Kalam Azad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1913</td>
<td>Pratap</td>
<td>Hindi language newspaper</td>
<td>Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi</td>
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<tr>
<td>1914</td>
<td>New India</td>
<td>English-language daily newspaper</td>
<td>Annie Besant</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Points to remember

- In 1684, British had established a printing Press in Bombay.
- The first newspaper in India was published on 29 January, 1780 by James Augustus Hicky under the British Raj and its name was *The Bengal Gazette*. It was also called as *Calcutta General Advertiser* and people simply remember it as *Hicky’s Gazette*.
- Many other newspapers were also started, namely Calcutta Gazette (1784), The Bengal Journal (1785).
- In 1785, Richard Johnson in Madras brought out *Madras Courier* in English language. R. William’s *Madras Gazette* in 1795 and Humphrey’s *India Herald* in 1796.
- In Bombay first newspaper was *Bombay Herald* in 1789, Bombay Courier’ in 1789 and *Bombay Gazette* in 1791.
- Some merchants of Calcutta in 1811 started *Calcutta Chronicle* and the editor was James Silk Buckingham.
  - He had introduced a new approach to Journalism in India.
  - He initiated clear journalistic practices and covered the problems of local people and their lives.
  - Even he had started a movement against the evil practice of ‘Sati’.
- Raja Ram Mohan Roy a social reformer recognized the power of newspapers and started a Bengali newspaper *Sambad Kaumudi* in 1822 and a Persian paper *Mirat-ul-Akhbar* in 1822.
- Fardaonji Murzban in 1822 started *Bombay Samachar*, he was a pioneer of the Vernacular Press in Bombay.
- 3 November, 1838 - The Times of India issued its first edition as *The Bombay Times and Journal of Commerce*.
- 1857 is known as the year of the emergence of journalism in India.
- 1861 - The first edition of *The Times of India* was published by Robert Knight.
- 1868 - *Amrit Bazaar Patrika* was started by two brothers, Shishir Kumar Ghosh and Motilal Ghosh.
- 1878 - *The Hindu* was started in the English language, which was mainly distributed in Tamil Nadu and Kerala.
- News agency services became available on a regular basis with the *Press Trust of India* which was started in 1946.
- Bal Gangadhar Tilak brought Kesari and Maharatta newspaper, Mahatma Gandhi started Young India and Harijan. Jawaharlal Nehru started the *National Herald*.
- The Bombay Samachar, founded in 1822 and printed in Gujarati is the oldest newspaper in Asia still in print.

Governor Generals and Viceroy

Difference between Governor General and Viceroy

- Governor General was the head of all governors of states under East India Company.
- After the power shifted in the hands of British Crown, Viceroy was appointed, who was the head of colonial India and governed the territory on behalf of British Crown.
- Their functioning was almost same with only difference that Governor General served EIC’s interests whereas Viceroy that of British Crown.

In the British Nobility, the order of the peerages is give below.

- **Duke**: The highest rank and title in the British peerage.
- **Marquess/Marquis**: The second order of the British peerage, in rank next to that of the Duke.
- **Earl**: Also called as Count, now the third degree of rank and dignity in the British peerage.
- **Viscount**: The fourth degree of rank and dignity in the British peerage.
- **Baron**: The lowest rank in the British peerage.
- **Baronet**: A hereditary rank, lower than the peerage.
- **Knights**: Lowest rank, or sometimes considered at par with Baronet, but is not heritage but awarded for the Service to Crown.
**GOVERNOR GENERALS OF BENGLA (BEFORE 1773)**

**Robert Clive (1754-1767)**
- Founder of the British Indian Empire, popularly known as “Clive of India”.
- He was British administrator and military leader to start with, however his destiny brought him to India and he worked in various capacities for British East India Company.
- He was Governor of Bengal before “Regulating Act of 1773” – which actually marks beginning of British rule.
- He was involved in Battle of Plassey (1757) and consequent annexation of Bengal.
- Started Dual administration in Bengal (1765-1772), the practice was stopped by Warren Hastings.
- Civil Services were organized during Clive’s tenure.
- He prohibited employees of the company from undertaking any private or accept any gift.
- During First Anglo-Mysore War (1766-69), Robert Clive was recalled during the course of war in 1767. English were defeated by Haider Ali.

**Lord Warren Hastings (1773-1785)**
- Governor of Bengal was designated as Governor General of Bengal.
- He annexed Bengal, Bihar and Orissa in 1772.
- He started modern western administration in India.
- He entered into business with Egypt, Tibet and Bhutan. He stopped annual pension to Mughal Emperor and reduced the pension of the Nawab of Bengal.
- Overall administration including Civil Services was very corrupt during Hastings’s tenure.
- He initiated the Rohilla War (1774) and annexation of Rohilkhand by Nawab of Awadh, with the help of British.
- During his tenure Act of 1781 came under which the powers of jurisdiction between the Governor-General-in-council and the Supreme Court at Calcutta were clearly divided.
- He led First Anglo-Maratha War (1775-82) followed by Treaty of Salbai as Marathas were defeated.
- Pitts India Act of 1784 was enacted.
- He was involved in Second Anglo-Mysore War (1780-84), Haider Ali died and Mysore was defeated.
- During his tenure Judicial Murder of Nand Kumar in 1775 took place. Nand Kumar was critic of Warren Hastings, indicted in false case and sentenced to death.

**Lord Cornwallis (1786-1793)**
- He was the founding father of ‘Indian Civil Services’. (Reforms for purification of Administration).
- He was the father of modern police administration in India.
- He created the post of DSP. He believed in the separation of powers, therefore he deprived the District Collector of judicial powers and created the new post of District Judge. He also carried out gradation of courts.
- He proposed Cornwallis Code (1793) incorporating several judicial reforms. He codified the personal laws (IPC and CrPC are codified personal laws) and separation of revenue and civil administration.
- Third Anglo-Mysore War (1790-92) followed by Treaty of Seringapatnam (1792).
- Introduction of the Permanent Revenue Settlement that is Zamindari system in Bengal and Bihar (1793). It was the worst measure of Lord Cornwallis.
- Europeanization of administrative machinery and introduction of civil services.
- He established Permanent revenue settlement with a class of revenue collectors (Zamindars under Zamindari rights).

**Sir John Shore (1793-1798)**
- First civil servant to become Governor-General. He played important role during the introduction of Permanent revenue settlement that is Zamindari system in 1793.
- Charter act of 1793 was enacted during his period.
- He defeated Nizam of Hyderabad who later on joined Subsidiary Alliance with British during Wellesley’s tenure.
- Third Anglo-Mysore War (1799) & Second Anglo-Maratha war (1803-05) occurred.

**Prince Charles Cornwallis (1798-1805)**
- During his tenure introduction of Subsidiary Alliance in 1798 occurred. The rulers of the state of Nizam of Hyderabad, Mysore, Tanjavore, Awadh, Jodhpur, Jaipur and finally Peshwas also signed Subsidiary Alliance.
- During his tenure Fourth Anglo-Mysore war (1799) & Second Anglo-Maratha war (1803-05) occurred.
Lord George Barlow (1805-1807)
- Pursued moderate policy, that is, the policy of non-intervention with princely states.
- Tried to establish peaceful relations with Marathas.
- White Mutiny at Vellore (1806) occurred during his tenure.

Lord Minto-I (1807-1813)
- Concluded important Amritsar treaty (1809) with Maharaja Ranjit Singh which decided later course of Anglo-Sikh relations.
- Governor General of Bengal at the time of passage of Charter Act of 1813.
- Francis Rawdon Hastings (1813-1823): (Marques of Hastings)
  - Renounced the policy of non-intervention followed by his predecessor and revived aggressive imperialistic policy marking the beginning of second phase of British imperialism in India, so as to build large British Asiatic Empire by conquering territories bordering India.
  - During his tenure Anglo-Nepal War; Third Anglo-Maratha War (1817-1819) and Pindari War (1817-1818) occurred.

Lord Amherst (1823-28)
- First Anglo-Burmese War (1824-1826) and signed Treaty of Yandaboo in 1826 by which British merchants were allowed to settle on southern coast of Rangoon.
- Capture of Barakhphir (1826) occurred.

GOVERNOR GENERALS OF INDIA (1832-1858)

Lord William Bentinck (1828-1835)
- Charter Act of 1833 was enacted.
- He was the most liberal British Governor-General of India.
- Tenure coincides with socio-religious reform movements of 19th century (Abolition of Sati and other cruel rights (1829) occurred during his tenure.
- Resolution of 1835 and Educational reforms.
- Suppression of ‘Thuge’ that is highway robbery in 1830 by Colonel Sleeman.
- Raja of Mysore was deposed and territories of kingdom were annexed (1831).
- Annexation of Cachar (1832) and Jaintia (1832) and Coorg (1834) on the charges of mal-administration.
- Formation of Agra province in 1834.
- Provincial courts of appeal and circuits were replaced by commissioners of revenue and circuit.
- Treaty of ‘Perpetual friendship’ with Ranjit Singh took place.

Sir Charles Metcalfe (1835-1836)
- Brief tenure marked by the liberation of Indian press of prohibitory restrictions as new press law was passed.

Lord Auckland (1836-1842)
- Disastrous First Anglo-Afghan War (1838-1842) occurred during his tenure.

Lord Ellenborough (1842-1844)
- Successfully completed Afghan war and annexed Sindh province for British in 1843.
- Became first Governor General of India to be recalled for defying the orders of the Court of Directors of East India Company.
- War with Gwalior (1843) occurred during his tenure.

Lord Hardinge-I (1844-1848)
- Issued orders for prohibition of female infanticide and suppression of the practice of human sacrifice among the Goads of Central India.
- Anglo-Sikh War (1845-1846) occurred during his tenure.

Lord Dalhousie (1848-1856 great imperialist and colonist)
- Application of ‘Doctrine of Lapse’ (one of the principle political reasons for “Revolt of 1857) annexed Satara (1848), Jaipur and Sambalpur (1849), Bhagat (1850), Udaipur (1852), Jhansi (1853), Nagpur (1854) and Awadh (1856) under ‘Doctrine of Lapse’
- The introduction of Railways (first train Bombay to Thane), Telegraph and Postal systems (first telegraph line – Calcutta – Agra) in India in 1853.
- Postal reforms (Post Office Act 1854) initiated during his tenure.
- Charter- Act of 1853 passed.
- Wood’s Education Dispatch 1854 (Magna Carta of Modern Western Education in India) also passed.
- Second Anglo-Burmese War (1852) and annexation of lower Burma occurred during his tenure.
- Widow Remarriage Act (1856) enacted.
- Military headquarter of British India was moved to Shimala, where summer capital of British India was also established. Headquarter of Bengal artillery was moved to Meerut.
- Second Anglo-Sikh War (1848-56) and annexation of Punjab from Maharaja Dalip Singh (Maharaja...
Dalip Singh handed over Kohinoor diamond to British.

- Establishment of separate Public Works Department in every province

### VICEROY OF INDIA (1858-1947)

**Lord Canning (1856-1857 and 1858-1862)**

*(Last Governor of East India Company and first viceroy and Governor General of India)*

- Establishment of three universities at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay in 1857 occurred during.
- Witnessed and suppressed the Revolt of 1857.
- ‘Doctrine of Lapse’ started by Lord Dalhousie was finally withdrawn in 1859.
- Two arms of British administration originated (Secretary of State of India, Viceroy and Governor General of India to look after the administration of India)
- Regressive laws, such as Criminal Procedure Codes (CrPC) and Indian Penal Codes (IPC) were introduced.
- Introduction of new tax such as income tax, on experimental basis in 1859.
- ‘White Mutiny’ by European troops in 1859 occurred.
- Indian Councils Act of 1861 enacted.

**Lord Elgin-I (1862-1863)**

- Wahabi movement occurred during his tenure and get suppressed.

**Lord Lawrence (1862-1869)**

- Followed a policy of rigid non-interference in Afghanistan called Policy of Masterly Inactivity.
- Setting up of High Courts at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras (1865).

**Lord Mayo (1869-1872)**

- Opening of the Rajkot College in Kathiawar and the Mayo College at Ajmer for political training of Indian princes.
- Establishment of Statistical Survey of India occurred.
- Establishment of Department of Agriculture and Commerce.
- Introduction of State Railways.

**Lord North Brook (1872-1876)**

- Visit of Prince of Wales in 1875 occurred.
- Kuka movement in Punjab occurred during his tenure.

**Lord Lytton (1876-1880)**

- Famine of 1876-1878 affecting Madras, Bombay, Mysore, Hyderabad, parts of Central India and Punjab occurred.
- Famine commission under the presidency of Richard Strachey (1878) appointed.
- Royal Titles Act (1876), Queen Victoria assuming the title of "Kaiser-i-hind" or "Queen Empress of India".
- The Vernacular Press Act (1878) and the Arms Act (1878) enacted.
- The Second Afghan War (1878-1880) took place.

**Lord Rippon (1880-1884)**

- Repeal of the Vernacular Press Act (1882) took place.
- The first Factory Act, 1881, to improve labor conditions enacted.
- Government resolution on Local Self Government (1882) also passed.
- Continuation of Financial decentralization.
- Appointment of education commission under the chairmanship of Sir William Hunter (1882).
- The Ilbert bill controversy (1883-1884) occurred.

**Lord Dufferin (1884-1888)**

- The third Burmese war (1885-86) and establishment of Indian National Congress occurred during his tenure.

**Lord Lansdowne (1888-1894)**

- Factory act (1891) enacted.
- Categorization of civil services as imperial, provincial and subordinate occurred.
- Indian Council Act (1892) enacted.
- Setting up of Durand Commission (1893) to define the Durand line between India and Afghanistan (now between Pakistan and Afghanistan).

**Lord Elgin-II (1894-1999)**

- Two British officials assassinated by Chapekar brothers (1897) during his tenure.

**Lord Curzon (1899-1905)**

- Appointment of Police Commission (1902) under Sir Andrew Frazer to review police administration.
- Appointment of Universities Commission (1902) and passing of Indian Universities Act (1904) Establishment of department of Commerce and industry.
- Calcutta Corporation Act (1899) enacted.
- Ancient Monument Preservation act (1904) & Partition of Bengal (1905) enacted.
- Curzon-Kitchener controversy started.
- Partition Bangal (1905) of Bengal occurred.
- Young husbands mission to Tibet (1904) started.

Lord Minto-II (1905-1910)
- Popularization of Anti-partition and Swadeshi movements.
- Split in Congress in the annual session of 1907 in Surat occurred.
- Establishment of Muslim League by Aga Khan (1906).

Lord Hardinge-11 (1910-1916)
- Creation of Bengal presidency (like Bombay and Madras) in 1911.
- Coronation Durbar of King George V held in Delhi 1911.
- Transfer of Capital from Calcutta to Delhi 1911.
- Establishment of Hindu Mabasabha (1915) by Madan Mohan Malavaya.

Lord Chelmsford (1916-1921)
- Formation of Home Rule Leagues by Annie Besant and Tilak (1916).
- Lucknow session of the Congress (1916).
- Lucknow pact between Congress and Muslim league (1916) signed.
- Foundation of Sabarmati Ashram (1916) after Gandhiji's return; Launch of Champaran Satyagraha (1916), Kheda Satyagaha (1918) and Satyagraha at Ahmedabad (1918) occurred.
- Montague's August declaration (1917) proposed.
- Government of India's Act (1919) enacted.
- The Rowlatt Act (1919) enacted.
- Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (1919) took place.
- Launch of Non-cooperation and Khilafat movement occurred.
- Foundation of women’s university at Pune (1916) and appointment of Saddler’s commission (1917) for reforms in educational policy.
- Appointment of S.V. Sinha as Governor of Bihar (the first Indian to become a Governor).

Lord Reading (1921-1926)
- Chauri Chaura incident (February 5, 1922) and the subsequent withdrawal of non-cooperation movement.
- Moplah rebellion in Kerala (1921) started.
- Criminal Law Amendment Act and Abolition of cotton exercise.
- Communal riots in Multan, Amritsar, Delhi, Aligarh, Arvi and Calcutta occurred.
- Kakori train robbery (1925) also happened during his tenure.
- Establishment of Swaraj party by C.R. Das and Motilal Nehru (1922).
- Decision to hold simultaneous examination for the ICS both in Delhi and London with effect from 1923.

Lord Irwin (1926-1931)
- Visit of Simon Commission to India (1928) and the boycott of the commission by the Indians occurred.
- An All Parties Conference held at Lucknow (1928) for suggestions for (future) Constitution of India, the report of “Nehru Report” of the "Nehru Constitution" proposed.
- Murder of Saunders, the Assistant Superintendent of Police of Lahore; bomb blast in the assembly hall of Delhi; the Lahore conspiracy case and the death of Jatin Das after prolonged hunger strike (1921) and bomb accident on train in Delhi (1929).
- Lahore session of the Congress (1929); Puna Swami resolution.
- Dandi March (March 12,1930) by Gandhi to launch the Civil Disobedience Movement.
- Deepavali declaration by Lord Erwin (1929).
- Boycott of the first round table conference, Gandhi-Irwin pact (1931) and the suspension of the civil disobedience movement (March 1931).

Lord Willingdon (1931-1936)
- Second round table conference (1931) and failure .of the conference, presumption of civil disobedience.
- Announcement of communal award 1932 under which separate communal electorates were set up.
- “Fast unto Death” by Gandhi in Yeravada prison, broken after the Pune pact (1932).
- Third round table conference (1932) occurred.
Launch of individual Civil Disobedience Movement (1933).
- Establishment of All India Kisan Sabha (1936) and Congress Socialist Party by Acharya Narendra Dev and Jayprakash Narayan (1934).
- Burma-separated from India (1935).

Lord Linlithgow (1936-1944)
- First general elections (1936-37); occurred Congress gained majority in 5 provinces and formed coalition in 3 other provinces.
- Resignation of the Congress ministries after the outbreak of the World War-II (1939).
- Subash Chandra Bose elected President of Congress at the 51st session of the Congress (1938).
- Resignation of Bose in 1939 and formation of the Forward Bloc (1939) occurred.
- Lahore resolution (March 1940) by the Muslim league demand for the separate state for Muslims.
- ‘August offer’ (1940) by the viceroy; criticism by the congress and the endorsement by the Muslim league.
- Vincent Churchill was elected Prime Minister of England (1940).
- Escape of Subash Chandra Bose from India (1941) and organization of the Indian National Army.
- Cripps Mission, Cripps Plan to offer dominion status to India and setting up of a constituent assembly and its rejection by the congress.

The Indian National Congress was founded by members of the Theosophical Society on December 28, 1885 at Gokuldas Tejpal Sanskrit College in Bombay, with 72 delegates in attendance.
- It was formed during the period of Governor General Lord Dufferin (1884 - 1888).
- Allan Octavian Hume's (the founder of INC) main purpose in encouraging the foundation of the congress was probably to provide a “safety valve” to the growing discontent among the educated Indians.

Important Points to Remember from Indian National Congress Sessions
- The first president of Indian National Congress was Womesh Chandra Banerji.
- The first session of the Indian National Congress was held in December 1885 in Mumbai.
- The first Muslim president of the INC was Badruddin Tayabji. (1887 at Madras session)
- The first Englishman to become the president of INC was George Yule. (1888 at Allahabad session)
- The first woman president of INC was Mrs Annie Besant. (1917 at Kolkata session)
- Mahatma Gandhi presided over the Belgaum session of INC in 1924.
- The first Indian woman president of the INC was Mrs Sarojini Naidu. (1925 at Kanpur session)
- The president of INC at the time of India's independence was Acharya JB Kripalani.
- Maximum Number of Congress session were held in Calcutta.
- Maulana Abul Kalam Azad had the longest duration of serving as a President. He became the youngest person to serve as the President of the Indian National Congress.

Lord Wavell (1944-1947)
- C. Rajagopalachari’s ‘C.R. Formula’ (1944) was proposed.
- Failure of Gandhi-Jinnah pacts (1944) occurred.
- Wavell Plan and the Shimla Conference (1942) took place.
- End of World War-II (1945).
- Proposals of the Cabinet Mission (1946) and its acceptance by the Congress.
- Observance of ‘Direct action day”(August 16, 1948) by the Muslim League.
- Elections to the constituent assembly, formation of interim government by the congress (September 1946)
- Announcement of the end of British rule in India by Clement Atlee (Prime Minister of England) on February 20, 1947

Lord Mountbatten (1947-1948)
- June 3 Plan (June 3, 1947) announced.
- Introduction of Indian Independence Bill in the House of Commons.
- Appointment of two boundary commissions under Sir Cyril Radcliffe for the partition of Bengal and Punjab.
### Most Important Sessions of Indian National Congress

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Importance Of INC Annual Sessions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1885</td>
<td>Bombay</td>
<td>W. C. Banerjee</td>
<td>First session of INC. It was attended by 72 delegates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1887</td>
<td>Madras</td>
<td>Badruddin Tyabji</td>
<td>First muslim President was elected. It appealed Muslim friends to join.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1888</td>
<td>Allahabad</td>
<td>George Jule</td>
<td>First season of INC to be presided over by an Englishman.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>Calcutta</td>
<td>Rahimtulla M. Sayani</td>
<td>National song ‘Vande Mataram’ was sung for the first time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>Lucknow</td>
<td>Romesh Chunder Dutt</td>
<td>Demand for permanent fixation of land revenue was raised.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>Calcutta</td>
<td>Dadabhai Naoroji</td>
<td>Word “Swaraj” mentioned for the first time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>Surat</td>
<td>Rash Behari Ghosh</td>
<td>Party splits into extremists and moderates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>Surat</td>
<td>Rash Behari Ghosh</td>
<td>Constitution of Indian National Congress was drawn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>Lahore</td>
<td>Madan Mohan Malviya</td>
<td>Disapproval on Morley-Minto reform (separate electorate for Muslims)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>Calcutta</td>
<td>Bishan Narayan Das</td>
<td>Jana Gana Mana sung for the first time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1916</td>
<td>Lucknow</td>
<td>A. C. Majumdar</td>
<td>Lucknow Pact – joint session with the Muslim League</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>Sarojini Naidu</td>
<td>First Indian woman President of INC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1928</td>
<td>Calcutta</td>
<td>Motilal Nehru</td>
<td>First, All India Youth Congress formed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1929</td>
<td>Lahore</td>
<td>Jawaharlal Nehru</td>
<td>Resolution for Poorna Swaraj or complete independence was passed. Agreement on launching Civil Disobedience movement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>Karachi</td>
<td>Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel</td>
<td>Resolution on Fundamental Rights and Economic Policy, later known as Karachi Resolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>Haripur</td>
<td>S. C. Bose</td>
<td>National Planning Committee set up under Nehru.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>Tripuri</td>
<td>S. C. Bose</td>
<td>S. C. Bose was elected, but he resigned and then, Rajendra Prasad became president.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>Meerut</td>
<td>J. B. Kripalani</td>
<td>Last INC session before the Independence of India.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>Jaipur</td>
<td>Pattabhi Sitaramayya</td>
<td>First session after the Independence of India.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Famous trials of the Nationalist period

**Muzaffarpur Conspiracy Case (1908 AD)**
- It was a revolutionary conspiracy by the Khudiram Bose and Prafulla Chaki to kill the Chief Presidency Magistrate DH Kingsford of Muzaffarpur.
- They threw bombs on a vehicle of DH Kingsford but he was safe and unfortunately two British women were killed in the attack.
- Later on Khudiram Bose was arrested by the Indian British police officer Nandalal Banerjee, who was later shot dead by the Narendranath Banerjee.
- Prafulla Chaki committed suicide when he was about to be arrested by the Police.
- Khudiram Bose was the youngest India who was hanging by the British.

**Delhi Conspiracy Case (1912 AD)**
- This incident was also called as Delhi-Lahore Conspiracy.
- It was organised by the Indian revolutionary underground in Bengal and Punjab and headed by...
Rashbehari Bose to assassinate the then Viceroy of India, Lord Hardinge.
- Basant Kumar Biswas, Amir Chand and Avadh Behari were convicted and executed in the trial of this Delhi Conspiracy Case.
- Rash Behari Bose was identified as the person who threw the bomb.

Kanpur Bolshevik Conspiracy Case (1924 AD)
- In this case, newly emerged communists of India were executed by the British Government. M N Roy, Muzaffar Ahamed, S A Dange, Shaukat Usmani, Nalini Gupta, Singaravelu Chettiar, Ghulam Hussain were caught by the Government and were trialed for conspiring against the Government. They were charged:
  - “to deprive the King Emperor of his sovereignty of British India, by complete separation of India from imperialistic Britain by a violent revolution.”
  - This case was not people movement but British movement to sack the upcoming communist leaders* of the time.

Kakori Conspiracy Case (1925 AD)
- It is also called Kakori train robbery or Kakori Case was a train robbery against the British Indian Government.
- It was organised by revolutionary organisation i.e., Hindustan Republican Association (HRA) under the leadership of Ram Prasad Bismil and supported by Ashfaqulla Khan, Rajendra Lahiri, Chandrashekhhar Azad, Sachindra Bakshi, Keshab Chakravarty, Manmathnath Gupta, Murari Lal Gupta (Murari Lal Khanna), Mukundi Lal (Mukundi Lal Gupta) and Banwari Lal.
- **Objectives of this robbery:**
  - To fund the Hindustan Republican Association (HRA) under with funds stolen from the British administration.
  - To garner public attention by creating a positive image of the Hindustan Republican Association (HRA) under among Indians.

Meerut Conspiracy Case (1929 AD)
- This was immense political significance for the Indian working class movement because it was conspiracy of British Government against the rise of Communism in India. During this case 31 labour leader included three Englishmen were arrested on the charge of conspiracy.
- Muzafir Ahamed, S.A Dange, S.V Ghatge, Dr. G Adhikari, P.C.Joshi, S.S.Mirajkar, Shaukat Usmani, Philip Stratt etc. were arrested on the charge of conspiracy to overthrow the British Government of India through strikes and other militant methods.
- It is interesting to note that the accused in the Meerut Case gained the sympathy of the nationalists.

Next: Revolutionary Activities during 1920’s

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