

Post Independence India Class 06

25th January, 2024 at 1:00 PM

SHASTRI ERA (CONTINUATION FROM THE PREVIOUS CLASS) (01:05 PM):

- **4 Aspects of politics in J&K:**
- Merger with India (No **Art 370**).
- Only IOA with India (**Art 370** or more but within India).
- Independent country (Militant JKLF).
- As part of Pakistan (Militant - Hizb - Ul- Mujahideen).

(in 1990s Hizb-UI-Mujahideen militants started killing JKLF militants)

→ **Operation Gibraltar (August 1965) (01:12 pm):**

- By Pak whereby **40K militarily trained infiltrators** entered J&K with the goal of starting a civil rebellion by Kashmiris.
- However, the operation failed later, as they did not get the desired response and effective military intelligence led to their suppression.

→ **Operation Grandslam - Sept 1965 by Pak.**

- **Akhnoor** connects J&K to the rest of India.
- The goal was to capture Akhnoor and cut off supplies to Indian forces in J&K.
- Therefore **Operation Gibraltar** and **Operation Grandslam** launched to annex J&K.
- **Domestic politics and LBS leadership (01:17 pm):**
- Meanwhile, LBS was being criticized for his inaction @RoK conflict.
- For example, **Vijay Laxmi Pandit** called him a '**Prisoner of indecision**' to which LBS replied that when India enters war **the time and place both would be of India's choice.**
- (* **Leadership**; inaction = strategy and not indecision, therefore gave confidence to people, soldiers + Action followed words) .
- Along with the army chief, LBS decided to open a second front in Punjab.
- So Pak forces are diverted away from J&K, contributing to the failure of **Operation Grandslam**.
- This was a bold decision as could have brought **China** and possibly the **US** into war, as now it would be an all-out war on multiple fronts and not a local war.

• **Result:**

- The US did not enter the war as heavily involved in the **Vietnam War (1961-75)** under **President Johnson** who sent half a million troops and heavily bombed North Vietnam.

• **[Ind Indo-China War/Vietnam War (1961-75):**

• **Reasons:**

- Vietnamese wanted the unification of North and South Vietnam.
- **Eisenhower (1953-61)** - Planning was done.
- **J.F. Kennedy (1961-63)** - Limited intervention by sending some thousands of CIA operatives.
- **Johnson (1963-69)** - **5 lakh troops**, high intervention.
- **Nixon (1969-74)** - Withdrawal of troops began].
- (* Watch the movie Platoon).

- USSR did not openly support India but made clear to China that the USSR will support India if China supports Pakistan.

- Therefore kept China out of war.

- USSR didn't want domination of South Asia by US allies.

- India successfully captured **1920 sq km** in Pak + Reached the outskirts of Lahore + Captured Hajipir that connected PoK with the rest of Kashmir, therefore highly strategic + Destroyed many Patton tanks; while Pak captured **540 sq km**.

- Therefore real gains during the war were made by India.

These tanks were very costly i.e. Pak was encountering high war expenditure

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- **Tashkent Agreement (Jan 1966) (01:59 pm):**
 - USSR feared the involvement of the US if the war continued longer.
 - USSR did not want a repeat of the **Cuban Missile Crisis**-like situation.
 - Therefore put pressure on India and Pakistan for a ceasefire and Pak accepted.
 - (*Obviously losing).
 - But LBS consulted the army chief on the possibility of an all-out victory but was told that we were running short on arms and ammunition which was an assessment failure.
 - Therefore India accepted the ceasefire.
 - (*Leadership = When a friend pressurizes, it is **10 times** pressure)
 - Status quo ante restored ie both sides gave back occupied territory.
 - Sadly India had to give back to Hajipur, therefore **1965 war** was a no-result war, though real gains during the war were made by India.
 - India agreed due to USSR pressure + assessment failure + fear of losing USSR support ^{on} in Kashmir in the UNSC + fear of US entry and therefore long war not good for the economy.
 - During ^{war} the stature of LBS greatly improved.
 - He raised morale and led from the front.
 - For example, on **19th Oct 1965 Allahabad speech**, he gave the slogan of '**Jai Jawan Jai Kisan**'.
 - **Agrarian crises and LBS (02:13 pm):**
 - Agrarian crises was inherited by LBS and now further war expenditure diverted resources + to punish ^{India} for not accepting the ceasefire initially, the US stopped exporting **PL 480** food grain to India (low-grade food grain).
 - Therefore now LBS highlighted the importance of self-sufficiency in food security and the crucial role of peasants in the economy.
 - (* Can link Mao and his GLF, **1958**).
 - (* India - China achieved food security by **1977**).
 - LBS gave slogan of '**Jai Jawan Jai Kisan**'.
 - (*Essay on Atmanirbhar Bharat - Self-reliance focus in constructive work of MG and Swadeshi movement **1905-1911** + Import restrictions post **1947** + LBS + Green revolution **1967-77** + Rajeev Gandhi @ service sector + Make in India).
 - LBS gave ideas of - Kitchen garden ie each family growing basic vegetables near their house + fasting once a week and he began these with his own family.
 - (*Leadership - led by examples).
 - (* Even if for vote bank politics, politicians of present and future would need to realize that food security can't be ignored).
 - Therefore LBS set public and political narratives for the **Green Revolution (1967-770)**.
 - **[Q. 1965 War was lost by Pakistan but not won by India. Examine.**
 - **Answer:**
 - Responsibility of victory /achieving war aims is on the aggressor + India gave back its gains].

INDIRA GANDHI ERA (1966 - 31ST OCT 1984) (02:55 PM):

- After the death of LBS in Jan 1966 in **Tashkent**, the new PM to be chosen.
- **G.L. Nanda** and **Moraraji Desai** were overambitious and, therefore rejected by syndicates.
- **Kamraj** was a strong leader but neither new Hindi nor English, therefore may not be accepted as PM.
- IG projected herself as uninterested + **Syndicates** assumed that she would be a weak PM, being a woman and inexperienced + would have the sympathy of the public being Nehru's daughter.
- Therefore India got **1st woman PM**.
- (**1919** - Right to Vote; **1935** - Reservation, **1950** - No reservation, **2023** - Reservation).

- **Congress split in 1969 (Reasons) (03:01 pm):**

- **Ideology:**

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IG

Socialist ideology
Wanted a strong welfare state.
Therefore favored the nationalization of banks and infrastructure. industry.
(*ICICI may not loan to BPL, PNB will).

Wanted a planned economy led by the state.

Favored land redistribution in favor of the poor.
(*Like Thomas Munroe of Ryotwari) → 1801-20
Favored better relations with the USSR.

Syndicates

Capitalist ideology

Wanted a strong private sector.

Wanted the state only as a regulator and decision-making power with the private sector.
Therefore wanted to abolish the 5-year plan.
(*like today).

Pro-landlords. 8693
(*Like Cornwallis of Permanent Settlement -1793).

Favored better relations with the USA.

- The real reason was IG acting independently.
- For example, in **1966-67**, IG devalued the rupee due to pressure of the World Bank and IMF as India faced BoP crises and devaluation may increase export earnings ie forex.
- The decision backfired as -
- India was a net importer and imported raw materials, especially energy, therefore even in exported goods, the cost of inputs increased.
- Also, India was not industrialized to capitalize on the benefits of devaluation.
- **1967 elections at center and states:**
- (* therefore, **One Nation One Election** has history). for MLA so that they can prevent IG's bill in Rajya Sabha
- To control IG, Syndicates gave tickets to their loyalists but high anti-incumbency due to poverty, food shortages, corruption, etc, **1st** time Congress lost in **8 states** and an era of regional parties began.
- But since no alternative at the center, IG secured a thin majority.
- Therefore Syndicates weakened within **INC**.
- Then after the death of President **Zakir Hussain**, Syndicates wanted **Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy** as President to control IG.
- (* Pocket veto etc).
- IG declared her support for **V. V. Giri** + propaganda that syndicates want to remove her.
- V. V. Giri won.
- (*Poor **1967** results in states, therefore less MLAs with Syndicates).
- Humiliated, Syndicates ~~IC leading to split~~ expelled IG.
- IG continued as PM as more MPs supported her.
- **March 1971 elections (03:26 pm):**
- Declared prematurely by IG as wanted a strong majority for legal reforms.
- For example, wanted to abolish **privy purses** but didn't have a majority in **Rajya Sabha**, therefore brought an ordinance but overturned by the SC in the **N. Palkiwala case** + did the **nationalization of banks** but overturned by the SC in the **R.C. Cooper case**.
- Syndicates, Jansangh, etc set up a grand alliance and gave the slogan '**Indira Hatao**' while IG gave the slogan '**Garibi Hatao**' which resonated with the masses + Mistake by **Ram Manohar Lohia** who called IG **Goongi Gudiya**.
- In March **1971**, IG got the absolute majority.

- **B'desh Liberation War (3rd December -16th December 1971) (03:36 pm):**
- **Reasons:**
- **East Pakistan** (EP) and **West Pakistan** (WP) had cultural differences.
- For example, EP felt closer to West Bengal culturally compared to WP due to the common Bengali language.
- EP wanted official language status for Bengali - resisted by Pak as wanted an Islamic image and identity for national integrity. (Pak wanted Urdu but even in WP Urdu speakers were very less)
- (* ie Muslim **1st** and Punjabi/Bengali later).
- (* Think - Similar challenge but Indian approach of accommodation and positive belief in Indian nationalism and Indians + Our motto = Indian first).
- Pakistani state and military was dominated by WP/Punjabis.
- EP was poor and WP relatively rich.
- **Pre-1947**, irrigation infra not developed in permanent settlement areas as LR could not be increased, therefore more canals built in the undivided Punjab (Mahalawari in Central, United Provinces, and Punjab).
- EP felt that revenue from jute export used for the development of WP.
- Poor administration in EP (*Poor roads, education, health, jobs, electricity, etc).
- The trigger was the **Bhola cyclone** in EP after which poor relief work led to anger.
- **Sheikh Mujib Ur Rehman** - of **Awami League** - highly popular in EP and began raising political, economic, and socio-cultural demands of EP.
- There was agreement on elections and then an amendment to the constitution to bring federalism. (agreement proposed bz of demands raised by Sheikh Mujib Ur Rehman)
- The WP leaders **Yahya Khan** (Military ruler) and **Zulfikar Ali Bhutto** (Popular politician) were confident of electoral victory and, therefore agreed.
- But the election result was a big surprise as **Awami League** won nearly all seats in EP, therefore getting a majority in parliament. (bz population of EP was more so seats were also more than WP)
- WP leaders refused to convene parliament meetings.
- Peaceful **CDM** started by the Awami League with demands for the right to form govt and federalism.
- **25th March 1971 - Operation Searchlight** by the Pak army in EP.
- Lakhs of Bengalis executed + Hindus selectively targeted, therefore Hindu and Muslim Bengali suffered together.
- Overall **10 lakh refugees** entered India in a short time threatening internal stability.
- North East was already under ethnic and linguistic tensions due to immigration and other factors since **1947** + the economy of the northeast was poor + India faced challenges of food security, unemployment, and poverty.

TOPIC FOR THE NEXT CLASS: Continuation of IG era.