

## Post Independence India Class 02

14th January, 2024 at 1:00 PM

### BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE PREVIOUS CLASS [01:09 PM]

#### INDIA INDEPENDENCE ACT, 1947 [01:11 PM]

- As per Indian Independence Act, 1947 (IIA, 1947)
- Paramountcy is not to be transferred to any GOI unless the IOA is signed, plus paramountcy is to lapse on the appointed day of 15th August.
- Therefore, net legal status = legally possible for each princely state (PS) to be a fully independent country.
- However, the 3rd June Plan, 1947 promised India to be as large as possible and unofficially no right of independence to any PS.
- 13th June 1947- States Department set up 2 wings - 1 each for India and Pakistan.
- Indian wing had Patel as minister and VP Menon as secretary.
- The role was to manage issues related to partition and issues related to PS.
- **The strategy of Patel:**
- 1. Brought Mountbatten (MTB) on board who gave a speech in Narendrapur (1920) to convince princes to sign an IOA with India.
- Patel also negotiated.
- Princes agreed and most signed in 3 weeks of 13th June as:
  - a. Trusted MTB since he was from the royal family and paramountcy was the personal relationship between the prince and the crown.
  - b. MTB argued that IOA was only for 3 subjects, at present also not with princes.
- Also, Britain wouldn't be able to help after the lapse of paramountcy if India or the people took action.
- c. Patel- tried to persuade to sign IOA and MA (Merger Agreement).
- If princes didn't agree then gave the option to accede only in 3 subjects via IOA i.e. promised autonomy or special status.
- If still didn't agree, then gave an implied threat of anarchy i.e. India wouldn't be able to control people after 15th August.
- **Problems:**
- BhoTMAJo (Bhopal, Travancore, Manipur, Jodhpur) - Signed IOA late, but before 15th August.
- HJJ (Hyderabad, Junagarh, JK) - Signed IOA but post 15th August.
- Pakistan was luring princes with blank cheques of autonomy and other privileges especially of border states.

#### BHOPAL [01:44 PM]

- The majority population was Hindus who wanted to be a part of secular India, while the ruler was Muslim- Habibullah, who resisted signing IOA.
- He saw pressure by Patel and communists led to the signing of IOA and MA.

### **TRAVANCORE [01:46 PM]**

- The prince was Maharaj Thirunal, but the real power center was CP Ramaswamy Ayer.
- Ayer argued that Travancore would follow the American model of voluntary union and, therefore won't sign the IOA.
- Since, October 1946 Punappara Vayalar Movement with the method of armed struggle- by peasants and workers for their class rights and for uniting with India.
- Now they gave a slogan- "Go into the Arabian Sea with American model"- and started fresh protests.
- They were violently repressed.
- 18th June 1947- Negotiations failed and Travancore declared independence.
- 25th July 1947- Attack on life of Ayer who fled away and then Travancore signed IOA and MA.
- Therefore, the role of the state people and Patel's threat of anarchy in operation.

### **MANIPUR [01:59 PM]**

- On 11th August 1947 Maharaja Bodhchandra signed the IOA on assurance of autonomy in subjects other than 3 subjects of the IOA.
- June 1948- First elections in independent India in Manipur as public pressure led to a constitutional monarchy with a popular Legislative Assembly(LA).
- September 1949 - Maharaja and Governor General signed MA, but without consulting popular LA.
- SPC(States People's Congress) favored signing MA, but other parties did not, which contributed to separatist sentiments.

### **JODHPUR [02:07 PM]**

- Jodhpur was important as it shared a border with Pakistan.
- Pressure on the young king by Patel finally led to the signing of IOA and MA.
- Therefore, *BhoT MaJo* acceded before 15th August.

### **HYDERABAD [02:09 PM]**

- Geography- On the Indian mainland and largest PS consisting of 75% Hindus who wanted integration with secular India, while the ruler was Muslim- Nizam Mir Osman Ali.
- The real ruler was Qasim Rizvi, advisor to Nizam, who along with MIM(a political party like ML1906 in British India).
- It opposed signing IOA.
- Rizvi was an anti-Hindu radical desperate for independence and posed a threat to the security of Hindus.
- The rule of Nizam was unjust.
- For example, 25% Muslims dominated the entire administration.
- On 12th June 1947 Hyderabad declared independence.
- Patel offered autonomy, special status, and 20,000 personal troops for Nizam, but he rejected it.
- Now, a people's movement began under the leadership of the SPC of Hyderabad with peasants, workers, women, and students from the Telangana region of Hyderabad.
- In response, violence by Razakaras(private army of Nizam) was unleashed on people.
- November 1947: Standstill agreement between Hyderabad and GOI but violence by Razzakars continued.
- September 1948: Finally in Operation Polo/Caterpillar, the Indian Army entered Hyderabad.
- Rizvi was imprisoned until 1957, then he left for Pakistan.
- Also, MIM was banned and Nizam was made Governor after he signed IOA and MA.

### **JAMMU AND KASHMIR [02:48 PM]**

- INC was not a Hindu organization and thus did not believe in the two-nation theory.
- Therefore, they believed Muslim masses in J&K are Indians first, who should be in India.
- Also, it was British India that was partitioned on a religious basis and not 565 PS.
- Therefore, J&K as part of India is undeniable.
- If we agree that because Muslims = masses and therefore, J&K to Pakistan had some merit, then we are agreeing to the Two-nation theory.
- IOA made J&K an Indian territory.
- Therefore, military action after this was an act of defense.
- Further in 1954, the Constituent Assembly(CA) of J&K ratified accession.
- Plus 1974, the Indira-Sheikh agreement, wherein Sheikh Abdullah called J&K accession permanent and irrevocable.

- **Important Players:**

- 1. Maharaja Hari Singh who wanted independence.
- 2. Sheikh Abdullah was a popular leader who was anti-Pakistan, anti-monarchy, pro-democracy, and pro-socialism and had good relations with Nehru.
- In 1946, he began "Kashmir Choro Andolan" against the monarchy.
- Muslims were in majority and were poor ryots, under the economic operation of Hindu Zamindars.
- Therefore, demanded land reforms.
- Also, both India and Pakistan wanted J&K.
- Hari Singh offered a standstill agreement to India and Pakistan because he wanted the movement of people and goods in and out of J&K.
- Pakistan signed but India did not.
- That made Pakistan anxious and it now implied an economic blockade on J&K to pressurise for IOA.
- Then in October 1947, Pashtun from NWFP invaded Kashmir.
- Hari Singh sought help, but India gave a condition of signing IOA and making Sheikh Abdullah head of admin.
- IOA was signed and Abdullah became PM.
- Also, the Indian army entered J&K.
- But before invaders could be pushed back completely, MTB convinced Nehru to take the issue to the United Nations.
- July 1949:
  - The Ceasefire Line came to exist after the ceasefire under the UNSC resolution.
  - Therefore, POK came to exist.
  - Also, a UN mission was set up to monitor the ceasefire.
- 1951 UNSC resolution:
  - It called for a plebiscite, but condition that Pakistan withdraws from POK.
  - No question of a plebiscite since Pakistan never withdrew.
- 1951:
  - Constituent Assembly(CA) of J&K met.
- 1954:
  - CA of J&K ratified accession.
- 1956:
  - Constitution of J&K drafted.
  - (\*When only IOA and not MA, then PS can have its constitution on subjects other than defense, communication, and foreign affairs)
- 1948 onwards:
  - The US and Britain sided with Pakistan in the UNSC.
  - Therefore, today India is against third-party intervention in bilateral disputes unless mutually agreed upon.
  - India adopted the NAM policy, while Pakistan aligned with the capitalist blok.
  - For example, Pak joined military alliances like SEATO(1954) for South East Asia and Baghdad Pact(1955) for the Middle East(like Nato-1949 for the US, and Europe).

### **JUNAGARH [03:52 PM]**

- Geography:
- A small state on Saurashtra coast.
- The majority population were Hindus who wanted integration with secular India.
- Problem= It announced accession to Pakistan and Shahnawaz Bhutto(\*Father of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto)
- Shahnawaz joined the state government as PM.
- A people's movement began that forced Nawab to flee.
- So, now Bhutto requested military help from Pakistan, but Jinnah refused as his main focus was J&K and Junagarh just as a bargaining trick.
- Indian troops entered Junagarh and a plebiscite in 1948 led to its merger with India.
- (\*Notice plebiscite when signing authority i.e. prince unavailable).
- For example, no plebiscite in Hyderabad as Nizam present.

### **PARTITION AND ITS AFTERMATH [04:05 PM]**

- Responsibility for communal violence @ migration:
- In the MTB plan, the British decided to exit India by 15th August instead of 30th June 1948 i.e. in 72 days.
- This led to poor preparation by the administration and people for orderly migration.
- For example, Punjab LG Jenkins - "Peaceful division will take years and not 72 days.
- Also C.I.C. Lockhart: "Punjab tragedy won't have happened if partition delayed by 1 year."
- Therefore, the British knew before and confirmed later that the early transfer of power was responsible.
- As per IIA, 1947, Two Radcliffe commissions were set up for border demarcation in east and west before or after 15th August.
- The award was ready before 15th August but declared on 17th August to prevent British responsibility for the violence.
- Radcliffe had no experience of India or border demarcation.
- Also, the Commission had no experts and a deadline of 6 weeks.
- Therefore, people didn't know on 15th August if they were on the desired side of the border causing last-minute chaos.

**TOPIC FOR THE NEXT CLASS: Continuation of the rehabilitation of migrants.**