

1 By Himanshu Khatri

Montague Statement 1917/ August Declaration 1917

1. "Henceforth, British policy in India to be gradual development of self-governing institution with a view to progressive realization of responsible government in India within British empire" - issued by Secretary of State for India- Montague.
2. Basically meant = British would give British India, Swaraj but gradually (**world history -Allied propaganda @WWI (1914-19) = Fighting for democracy & self-determination against absolute monarchies, therefore there was moral & public pressure for self-governance in colonies). Therefore now demand of swaraj not seditious.

GOI 1919/Montague Chelmsford 1919 or Montford reforms

1. Reasons-

- a. Narrative of Self Govt & democracy during WW1(1914-19) led to pressure for self govt in colonies +
 - b. Indians fought & died for self govt in EU hence desired self govt in India + pressure created by Ghadar 1913-15 and Home Rule Leagues (HRL 1916-18) and unity of INC & ML via Lucknow Pact 1916.
 - c. Therefore, resulting in Montague Statement 1917 & MONTFORD reforms 1919 (Government of India Act 1919 or Montague Chelmsford reforms)(*Chelmsford 1919 i.e. 1916-21 after Hardinge 1916 (1910-16)).
2. **Bicameral Legislature** at centre i.e. Central Legislative Assembly & Council of States (CLA as lower house & CoS as upper house) for British India. (*not 565PS, only GOI 1935 was for whole of India)
 3. **Narendra Mandal** i.e. Chamber of Princes created as an advisory body for 565PS as a reward for their support in WWI i.e. Br will consult Princes @policy in 565PS.

By Himanshu Khatri

2 By Himanshu Khatri

4. Elected majority in CLA, CoS & PLAs (**ICA 1909- only non official majority only in PLCs)
5. **Direct elections – 1st time-** in CLA, CoS & PLAs
6. Right to Vote- linked with income criteria (as in ICA1909).
7. **1st time Right to Vote to Women** + lower income criteria for women.
 - a. Criteria= Landowner with annual income > 200 Rs or wife or widow of landowner with annual income >200 Rs.
8. **Separate electorates** for Muslims continued and now also for Sikh, Anglo-Indians & Christians.
9. For **depressed classes reservation** of nominated seats in all legislatures (not elected seats).
10. **Subjects** were divided between Centre & Provinces but **not a federal distribution** of subjects (i.e. center could take away a subject or legislate upon it)
11. Provincial **budget** separated from central budget for 1st time & sources of revenue divided. eg LR to provinces, customs & income tax to center.
12. Powers of Viceroy:
 - a. VEC not to be responsible to legislature (*Responsibility= Minister has to be MP 1st + Accountability e.g. No Confidence Motion etc) +
 - b. veto power over bills +
 - c. power to approve rejected bills +
 - d. ordinance power (*law by executive with life of 6 months) +
 - e. power to restore cuts in grants (*Budget)
13. **Whole budget** could still not be voted upon + **75% of budget items** still non-votable. (*Taxation Without Representation contd)
14. +ves:

By Himanshu Khatri

3 By Himanshu Khatri

- a. However, **adjournment motions** could be passed
- b. 3/8 members in VEC to be Indians [*Viceroy + C-i-C + 6 (*of which 3 Indians)] (*Lucknow Pact 1916 desired half as Indians-LP1916 ☹)

15. **Dyarchy at Province level.**

- a. Subjects were divided into reserved & transferred.
- b. On reserved subjects laws to be made by Governor & his officials + to be administered by Governor & his officials.
- c. Transferred subjects – to be legislated upon by PLA & to be administered by ministers responsible to PLA
- d. Ministers of reserved subjects were not responsible to PLA therefore partially responsible govt at province level while no responsible govt at centre.
- e. Reserved subjects were politically important e.g. law & order, finance, LR, control over officials while transferred subjects less politically important e.g. health, education, local government, agriculture .
- f. Goal was to hurt legitimacy of Indian ministers as they won't be able to effectively administer even transferred subjects due to lack of control over finances & officials therefore, making them unpopular among masses.
- g. In case of failure of constitutional machinery Governor could take over executive & legislative powers over transferred subjects
- h. Ministers from PLA could be overruled by Governor in any matter.

16. INM leaders dissatisfied because

- a. Dissatisfactory division of subjects between centers & provinces (*hence **Federalism ☹**)

4 By Himanshu Khatri

- b. Dissatisfactory division of subjects in Dyarchy between Reserved & Transferred subjects at province level (*as Governor is agent of Centre hence Dyarchy also makes **Federalism** ☹)
- c. No universal adult franchises (***UAF** as desired by LP1916)
- d. Not fully **responsible govt** at provinces & no responsible govt at center
- e. Provinces were allocated **seats in CLA & COS** not as per population but as per their importance. E.g. military importance of Punjab + commercial importance of Bombay
- f. GOI 1919 did not bring effective **self-government**.(* but > Ltd SG of 1909)

By Himanshu Khatri