

Modern Indian History Class 32

12th January, 2024 at 1:00 PM

FEDERAL INSTITUTIONS (01:05 PM)

- 80% of the Budget was not votable and the Viceroy could restore cuts in grants and had residual powers, veto powers, ordinance powers, and could certify rejected bills.
- Dyarchy at the centre:
- Legislative, Executive (L,E) powers over reserved subjects with Viceroy (defence, home, foreign, Church, tribal Areas).
- L, E powers @ transferred subjects with FA and CoS and ministers responsible to them.
- Fiscal autonomy to the Government of India from SoS that is financial control of British India now with Viceroy and not SoS. (*that's why Morley's BD speech 1906).
- (*Since GoI 1858, SoS = Top authority).
- Nehru- "This is only major change".

FEATURES @ PROVINCES (01:15 PM)

- (*Swaraj in Provinces).
- Provincial autonomy as now the Federal distribution of subjects (*Federalism peaked, began in 1861) and dyarchy ended that is all subjects transferred to the PLA and ministers responsible to the PLA.
- The Governor = Agent of centre therefore, 1919 dyarchy anti-federalism and not just anti-democracy.
- Fully responsible as no dyarchy. (*that is Swaraj).
- CoM under Premiere (*CM) is responsible to PLA.
- Direct elections, the separate electorate - like 1919.
- Some provinces got the upper house.
- However:
- 1. 40% Bd is not votable. (*Indian MLA sad, Indian FM happy, British Plain face that is not pro-British but anti-democracy feature).
- 2. Governor still too powerful:
- 1. Discretionary powers to summon PLA.
- 2. Veto power @ bills.
- 3. Ordinance power.
- 4. Admin of Tribal Areas.

- (*5th Schedule Col).
- 3. Special powers to protect minority rights.
- 4. Features:
 - 1. British Business interests.
 - 2. privileges of civil servants.
 - 3. Power to take over Government and run it indefinitely.
- 5. Results:
 - No dominion status.
- (*Nehru report 1928 :-()).
- Goal= Strong control over the centre and get INC busy at the Provincial Government.
- Make central INC leaders weak by making Provincial leaders strong (DNR).
- INC wanted elected representatives from 565 Princely States.
- INC rejected GoI 1935 and demanded a CA elected by UAF.

CONGRESS MINISTRIES (01:41 PM)

- 28-month rule. (1937-1939).
- INC majority in all provinces except Bengal, Assam, NWFP, Sindh, Punjab. (*MMP)
- INC =Largest party without a majority in Bengal, Assam, NWFP.
- INC coalition Government in Assam, NWFP.
- INC gained Governance experience (*Held after 1947).
- INM strengthened in 565 years as states' people motivated. (*If INC can extract Swaraj then even we can from Indian Prince).
- Now SPCs set up in more Princely states+ Membership of existing SPCs increased.
- WC and Peasant movements strengthen as Government of INC.

1939 INC STAND @ WW II (02:01 PM)

- MG-
- Unconditional support to the British as the victim of excess aggression + Dont benefit @ Weakness of the British.
- Neta ji Bose - starts CDM.
- Nehru- Give Purna Swaraj and then India will support in WWII.
- Overall, INC wanted allied victory as, after WWI, victorious powers took over colonies of losing powers.
- Therefore, all INM progress would be lost if excess victory as they were themselves dictatorships.
- INC demanded the following if the British wanted support in the war effort:
- INC asking Indians to join + Preventing - WC strikes, no tax campaigns, etc.
- (*ToP).
- Immediate responsible Government at the centre.
- (*Col) Promise CA after war.
- Swaraj.
- Declare war aims @ India's future.
- Linlithgow and promised only - advisory to advise the British in war (*So Indians feel involved).
- 1939 Wardha Meet of CWC.
- INC refused to support war.
- Congress ministries to resign.
- Impact:
- Linlithgow panicked and promised dominion status after the war.
- March 1940- Pakistan- Lahore Resolution by ML1906.

AUGUST OFFER 1940 (02:27 PM)

- By Linlithgow 3643.
- 1. Advisory War Council Set up.
- 2. (*ToP)
- Will expand VEC to have more Indians.
- 3. (*Col)
- CA post-war were mainly Indians.

- (*Solely Indians in Cripps 1942).
- 4. (*Swaraj) Dominion status in Col after the war.
- (*1909- limited SG given, Montagu 1917 = Swaraj in future, Irwin 1929 = Dominion in Future, Linlithgow 3643 1940= Dominion after war).
- Therefore, first time, the British recognised Right of Indians @drafting Col + first time explicit promise of dominion status with a clear timeline (*Thank you Hitler/ WW II).
- 5. (*Unity) "No future Col without minority consent" that is veto to ML. (*Imagine in CA, Article 1 = a Union of India). (ML 1906 will vote no and the article will fail).
- 1889 INC- No resolution without minority consent.
- Impact:
 1. Rejected by the INC at the 1940 Wardha meet+ INC goal = Purna Swaraj.
 2. ML 1906 rejected as no partition or two CAs explicitly.
- Individual Satyagraha 1940:
 - Launched after the failure of AO 1940.
 - Method= Make Anti-war speech and demand Freedom of Speech (*not Purna Swaraj).
 - Vinobha Bhave, Nehru, Bhrahmadutta = First three Satyagrahis - arrested under the Defence of India Act.
 - Satyagrahis launched Delhi Chalo Movement.

VEC EXPANSION 1941 (03:13 PM)

- From 3 of 8 Indians (* Gol 1919) to 8 of 12 Indians but defence home finance not with Indians.
- First time, Indian ministers majority @ VEC.

CRIPPS MISSION 1942 (03:15 PM)

- June 1941- Germany attacked USSR + December 1941- Japan attacked the US.
- December 1941 - INC offered support to the British if:
 1. (*Swaraj)- Purna Swaraj post war.
 2. (*ToP)- Immediate ToP at the centre.
 3. Reason= INC anxious due to Jap successes.
 4. March 1942 - Japan occupied Burma therefore, anxious British under US, USSR pressure sent Cripps Mission.
 5. Offer =
 1. (*Swaraj) Dominion Status after war+ Foreign Policy with Indians.

- 2. (*Col) CA post-war having solely Indians + CA = Nominees of 565 PS + MPLAs after fresh elections in Provinces.
- 3. (*Unity) Once the Col is drafted after any province/PS can decide to not join the Union and frame its own Constitution or set up its own Union within the Empire if disagrees with the Col framed by CA.
- (*Technically now 565 +11 countries possible).
- 4. (*ToP) IF ToP during war then defence with Viceroy + No dilution of Viceroy's powers.
- Talks broke down on this point.
- 5. Result=
- 1. MG called Cripps post-dated cheque.
- 2. INC wanted Purna Swaraj after war+ Elected representatives in CA from 565 PS + no right to secede to any Province/PS.
- 3. ML wanted two CAs, Pakistan.
- 4. (*:- (Unity)
- However, INC agreed to autonomy for MMPs in future Col (*that is Article 370 for MMPs).

QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT (QIM) (1942-45) (03:43 PM)

- **(*Refer Handout for the same).**
- **Mahatma Gandhi drafted a resolution for the Quit India Movement and Non-Cooperation against the Japanese.**
- **In Wardha 1942, CWC accepted the idea Quit India Movement.**
- **On 8th August 1942, an INC Session was conducted in Bombay, and a public meeting took place at Gowalia Tank.**
- **Plan of action:**
- **Govt. servants:**
- **Don't resign but declare allegiance to INC.**
- **Soldiers:**
- **Support the British against fascists but don't fire upon their own countrymen.**
- **Students:**
- **Leave studies and Join QIM.**
- **Princes:**
- **Accept the Sovereignty of your own people and stop supporting Britishers.**
- **Plan of Action not known to the Public:**
- **Peasants:**
- **Don't pay land revenue.**
- **Tenants:**
- **Pay fair rent only if Zamindar is anti-British.**
- **Mass Struggle Phase of 6 Weeks**
- **The methods were not non-violent.**
- **The primary focus was to attack symbols of the British Authority.**
- **Participation:**
- **Common people showed unparalleled heroism.**
- **Leadership was provided by local and provincial leaders as the main leaders were arrested.**
- **Village people joined people from towns on news of the arrest.**
- **Peasants were the soul of the QIM, especially in Eastern UP, Bihar, Midnapore, etc.**
- **Big Zamindars stayed neutral and did not help the British.**
- **CPI didn't participate yet many workers organized strikes.**

- Women especially school and college girls played an important role.
- The student left their studies and led the procession and distributed patrikas and leaflets.
- Muslim participation was limited but supported underground activities.
- Total absence of communal violence.
- British Repression:
- British Repression was the harshest and most immediate.
- British had legal tools of Repression like the Revolutionary Movement Ordinance and the Defence of India Rules.
- All top leadership of INC was arrested.
- Gagging of Press.
- Mass struggles were crushed in 6 weeks.
- Underground Phase:
- The Leadership of Achyut Patwardhan, Ram Manohar Lohia, Aruna Asaf Ali, Sucheta Kriplani, etc.
- The main leadership came from the Congress Socialist Party.
- They supplied bombs, and arms to activists, students acted as couriers, and villagers refused to pass information to the police.
- Government officials and Police leaked info about impending raids.
- Note: Mahatma Gandhi underwent a fast for 21 days from Aga Khan Palace, where he was detained. British wanted him to condemn violence but he started his fast.
- Impact of the movement:
- Indian members of the Viceroy Executive Council resigned.
- Mass upsurge in the form of demonstrations and strikes.
- The attention of International Media.
- Parallel Governments.
- Extensive constructive work by INC.
- Setup of an armed group called Vidyut Vahini.

BENGAL FAMINE 1943 (04:20 PM)

- 4-5 million Indians died.
- There was no actual food shortage and it was a man-made famine as food was exported to Europe to meet the needs of soldiers and Europeans.

- Therefore, the needs of the army and Europeans were given priority over Indian lives.
- Japan controlled Burma. Therefore food imports from Burma stopped.
- Poor supply chain management.
- Impact:
- This led to a huge distrust of the British as they favoured English lives over Indians.
- Winston Churchill denied the prohibition of export from India despite Linlithgow's requests.
- By 1943, most British politicians except Churchill were sympathetic to India.
- Churchill was criticized as Hitler in Britain and public opinion in Britain shifted more in favour of Indian Independence.

The topic to be discussed in the next class is-Desai Liaquat pact, etc.