* The meaning of ‘Acts’ is Law
* Charter Acts 1793, 1813, 1833 and 1853
  + It is noteworthy that the East India Company was started in 600 AD by the charter of Queen Elizabeth I to allow the company to do business.

To increase the time and jurisdiction of this company, four charters were passed in 1793, 1813, 1833 and 1853 AD respectively (i.e. 20 years once).

* The first charter of the company was to expire in AD 1794. But before that in the year 1793, the company's activities were discussed and audited.

Later again in 1973, a new charter was passed, under which the company was given the rights of trade and commerce as well as to administer over a large area of ​​India.

The authority was also given and its term of office was again extended for another 20 years.

* After this, it was made a custom to pass a new charter after every twenty years till 1853 AD, but the charter of 1853 AD was the last charter as the term of the East India Company was not extended in the charter of 1853.
* Later, the Revolution of 1857 abolished the Charter Act, and all of the East India Company’s rights, and the territories administered in India were taken directly by Queen Victoria.
* The first Governor General of the East India Company in India was Warren Hastings.
* **1793 Charter Act**
* In the 1773 Regulating Act, the permission was given to the company to do business abroad for the next 20 years (meaning till 1793). So, the permit was about to expire in 1793.
* So the company's Charter Act 1793 was passed by the British Parliament in 1793 to extend it for another 20 years and thereafter every 20 years until 1853.
* The duration of the Charter Act was extended.
* The 1793 Charter Act did not make much special provisions because it was passed only to extend the term of the company.
* The two important provisions in this act were:
  + All the provinces under the Company were governed by the Governor of that province and his council.
  + It was decided to pay the salaries of all the board members, officers and employees of the company from the Indian treasury, which till then was given from the British treasury.

This was because, it took much time for the salary funds to arrive from British Treasury to company’s employees. The top officials of the company took bribe from employees to release their salaries.

* **1813 Charter Act**
  + After 20 years of the Charter Act of 1793 (i.e. in 1813, again the Charter Act 1813 was passed for the renewal of the business and governance of the company.
  + The monopoly of the company was abolished to some extent by the Act.
  + The following 4 major provisions were made in this Act-
    - Permission was given to missionaries to propagate Christianity. Following this chartered act, even today according to Article 25 of the Indian Constitution, freedom to propagate religion is enjoyed.
    - The trading monopoly of the East India Company was abolished (except for the trade of tea and trade with China).
    - Every year only for the education of Indian people, provision was made to spend Rs. 1 lakh.
* **Charter Act of 1833**
  + The Charter Act of 1833 was a decisive step towards the centralization of British India, the features of this act are as follows
    - It made the Governor General of Bengal the Governor General of India in which all civil and military powers were vested. This was done because the governor generals of each of the presidencies (Bengal, Bombay, Madras, Agra) were trying to dominate over each other.

This act made sure that the British government had complete control over British-occupied Indian territory.

Lord William Bentinck was the first official governor general of **British** India.

* + - This act deprived the governors of Bombay and Madras of legislative powers.

In British India, unlimited powers of the legislature were granted to the Governor General of India (Lord William Bentinck)

The laws made under older system of governance (governance without governor general for whole India) were called Regulatory Acts

The laws made under new system of governance (governance with governor general for whole India) were called Acts

* + - The activities of the East India Company as a trading body were abolished and it became a purely administrative.

Under this, the territories under the Company's jurisdiction remained in the possession of either the British monarchy or its successors.

* + - The name of the East India Company was changed to "Company of Merchant of India".
    - Under this Act, Lord Macaulay Law Commission was constituted whose function was to formulate and classify Indian law.
    - Under this act, an attempt was made to organize competitive exams for the selection of civil servants

It was said that in the company, none of the Indians shall be debarred from securing any kind of employment. (i.e. All Indians shall be given fair opportunity to participate in civil services exam)

But this provision was abolished due to the opposition of the Director.

* **Charter Act of 1853**
  + This act was an important act from the point of view of constitutional development among the 4 charter acts passed by the British Parliament during 1793 to 1853.
  + The features of this act are as follows:
    - For the first time the legislative and administrative functions of the Governor-General's Council were separated. (DevOps became Dev and Ops)
    - 6 new councilors were added to the governor general's council

The 6 new councilors were called Vidhan Parshads

4 out of 6 new members were elected by the local provincial governments of Bengal, Madras, Mumbai, and Agra.

* + - This act called the Legislative Council of the Governor General as Indian Legislative Council or the Indian Central Legislative Council.

The Council functioned like a smaller parliament and used the same procedures followed by the British Parliament.

Thus for the first time the legislature was known as the special function of the government.

* + - Successful provision was made for the conduct of competitive examination for the appointment of employees in the company, and in the year 1856 the first Indian Satyendra Nath Tagore got the distinction of being selected in the civil service.
    - The principle of enrollment in services was abolished. (Till this act was implemented, employment in company was given to people who were in need of it without screening them)
    - The earlier acts extended the company’s rule for next 20 years. But this act didn’t do so. It clearly stated that the company’s rule can be ended at any time by the Parliament (Legislative Council)

This is why for the first time local representation was introduced in the Indian Central Legislative Council (See feature 2 stated above)

* Pitt’s [India Act](https://www.britannica.com/topic/India-Act) (1784), named for the British [prime minister](https://www.britannica.com/topic/prime-minister) [William Pitt the Younger](https://www.britannica.com/biography/William-Pitt-the-Younger), established the dual system of control by the British government and the [East India Company](https://www.britannica.com/topic/East-India-Company), by which the company retained control of commerce and day-to-day administration but important political matters were reserved to a secret committee of three directors in direct touch with the British government; this system lasted until 1858.

The act of 1813 broke the company’s trade monopoly and allowed missionaries to enter British India.

The act of 1833 ended the company’s trade, and that of 1853 ended the company’s patronage.

The act of 1858 transferred most of the company’s powers to the crown.

* Indian Council Act of 1892 induced non officials (Indians) into Legislative Council. British were not getting the exact problems of least citizen of India. That is why, Indians (famous Zamindars, etc.) were appointed to Legislative Council.

**Union List**

* Foreign Affairs **🡺** Agreements and trading with other countries.
* Communication **🡺** India wanted to bring back students in Ukraine to India during the war between Ukraine and Russia.

**Concurrent List**

* Adoption 🡺 Taking new initiatives
* Succession 🡺 Method of general elections