The Government of India Act of 1935

The Government of India Act of 1935 marked the second milestone towards a completely responsible government in India after the Act of 1919. This Act was passed by the British Government in the year 1935. It was one of the lengthiest Acts at that time as it contained 321 sections and 10 schedules. It was also the last constitution of British India, before the country was divided, in 1947, into two parts-India and Pakistan.

Salient Features of the Government of India Act 1935 were as follows:

* Abolition of provincial diarchy and introduction of diarchy at centre.
* Abolition of Indian Council and introduction of an advisory body in its place.
* Provision for an All India Federation with British India territories and princely states.
* Elaborate safeguards and protective instruments for minorities.
* Supremacy of British Parliament.
* Increase in size of legislatures, extension of franchise, division of subjects into three lists and retention of communal electorate.
* Separation of Burma from India.

**Lahore Resolution**

The Pakistan Resolution 1940 was a resolution that the All India Muslim League passed on 23rd March 1940 in its annual session in Lahore. The Muslim League leader and the premier of Bengal, Maulvi Fazal-ul-Haq had presented this resolution in the session.

The resolution stated that ‘the Muslim majority areas in the north-west and north-east should be constituted into independent and sovereign Muslim states to solve the constitutional problem of India forever.

The league initially called it Lahore Resolution for its passage in the AIML session in Lahore city.  However, the anti-league press sarcastically referred to it as the Pakistan Resolution. For the Indian press of that time,  the resolution was a dream never to see its practical realization.  As the anti-Muslim League press popularized the title ‘Pakistan Resolution’ more and more, the league also adopted the title and named it Pakistan Resolution 1940.

Pakistan Resolution 1940 changed the course of Indian history. Had this resolution not passed, the history of Indo-Pakistan would have been different.