

Day-2

? Question:

Moderate of level → Cognitive

dimensions → diagrams / innovative

✓ Discuss how the Government of India Acts of 1858 and 1861 reflect the British response to the Revolt of 1857 — not just as a political crisis, but as an administrative reckoning.

1858 और 1861 के भारत सरकार अधिनियम 1857 की विद्रोह के प्रति ब्रिटिश प्रतिक्रिया को केवल एक राजनीतिक संकट नहीं, बल्कि एक प्रशासनिक पुनर्विचार के रूप में कैसे दर्शाते हैं — इस पर चर्चा कीजिए। 38M

reference

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U.P.S.C.

प्रश्न संख्या
(Question No.)

सभा में बहुत
(Don't write in
in the para)

DAY - 2

Q→ Discuss how the Government of India Act of 1858, and 1861 reflect the British response of the revolt of 1857 - not just as a political crisis but as an administrative reckoning. (38 M)

Ans The revolt of 1857 not only shook the foundation of British Governance but also exposed the administrative shortcomings. In response to this, Government of Act (1858) and the Indian Council Act (1861) were brought to transform the administrative set-up in India.

Administrative shortcomings exposed by Revolt of 1857

In sensitivity to Religious sentiments and disregard for social norms

Revolt of 1857

Racial discrimination in Army and over reliance on Indian Sepoys without addressing grievances

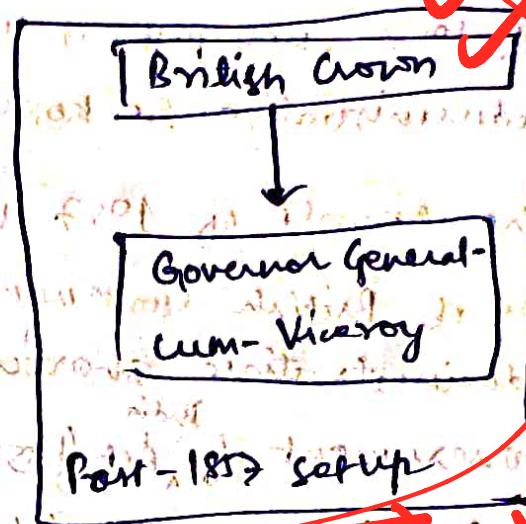
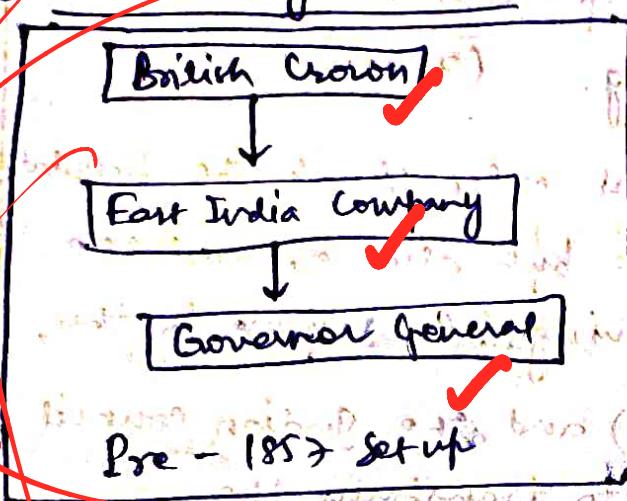
Exclusion of Indian from Higher administrative post.

but diagnosis

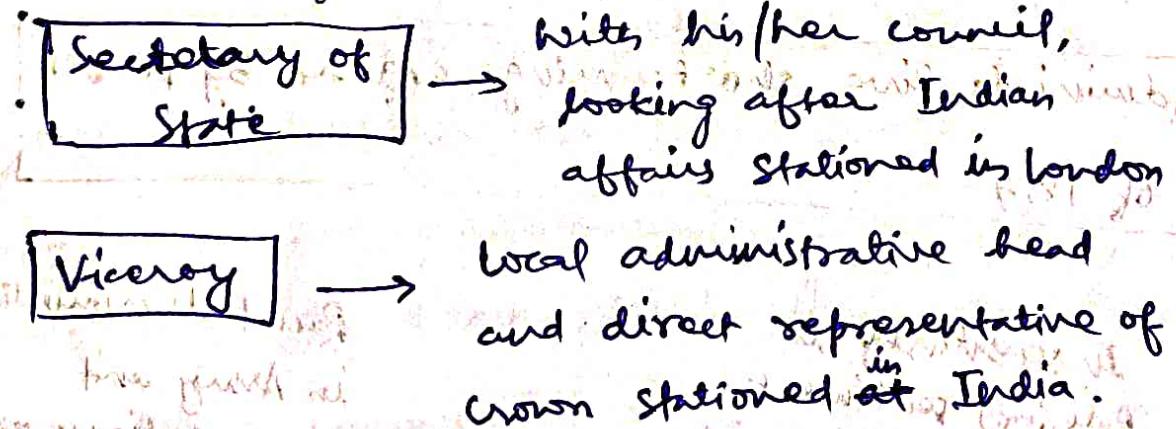
Agressive annexation policies e.g. Doctrine of lapse.

Acts of 1858 and 1861 : Tool for administrative reckoning

① Centralizing control :-



② Establishing clear line of Authority



③ Reorganising the Apex Administration -

- ① The establishment of India-council, an advisory body to the Secretary of State, provided a mechanism for bringing diverse expertise.
- ② later on, Indians like Krishna Gupta and

U.P.S.C.

Syed Hassan Bilgrami were firsts to be include in 1903 intended to inject informed Indian perspectives into governance.

④ Acknowledging Princely States -

- By ending the doctrine of lapse and reorganising the rights of princely states under British paramountcy, these acts signaled a shift in policy towards Indian rulers.

⑤ Decentralisation of Administrative powers -

- Restoration of legislative powers of presidencies of Bombay and Madras to make governance more responsible to local needs and conditions.

⑥ Formalising the portfolio system -

- Under this, each member was responsible for a specific department and this brought a degree of efficiency.

⑦ Empowering the viceroy -

- Granting the viceroy the power to

issue ordinances during emergencies provided the executive with greater flexibility to respond to crises.

Limitations of Acts of 1858 and 1861

- ① Limited inclusion of Indians with no democratic principles — Members nominated by Viceroy and that too as non-official member
- ② Viceroy's overriding power and Secretary of State's supremacy with responsibility to British parliament only.
- ③ Seeds of Divide and rule perpetrated as a tacit administrative strategy.
- ④ Failure to address fundamental grievances of Indian population.

The government of India Act (1858) brought fundamental change in British administrative machinery from inside while the Indian Council Act (1861) was intended to bring

Administrative changes in the wake of addressing the grievances of Indian population. Although some reforms were brought like nomination of Indian in council but these were intended to make an impression not to bring grass-root change.

~~good~~

