

Chapter 13. The National Movement During the First World War (1915–1919)

Very Short Questions

Question 1: Where did the Congress and the Muslim League held their session in 1916?

Answer: The Congress and the Muslim League held their session in 1916 at Lucknow.

Question 2: Between whom was the Lucknow Pact concluded?

Answer: The Lucknow Pact was concluded between the Congress and the Muslim League.

Question 3: When did the Congress split into two wings?

Answer: The Congress split into two wings at Surat in 1907.

Question 4: The Lucknow Pact is remembered for two reasons. State the reasons.

Answer: Two reasons were:

- (i) Hindu-Muslim unity as a result of Lucknow Pact, 1916.
- (ii) Unity between the Moderates and the Assertives in the Congress in 1916.

Question 5: What is the importance of the Lucknow session of the Congress?

Answer: It was at the Congress session of Lucknow that Assertives were added to Congress and Congress League Pact of 1916 was signed during this Congress session.

Question 6: 'The Indian Council of the Secretary of State should be replaced by two permanent Under Secretaries out of which one should be an Indian.' Where and when was this stated?

Answer: It was one of the main features of the Lucknow Pact, it was stated in die Lucknow Pact between the Congress and the Muslim League in 1916.

Question 7: When was the Lucknow Pact was adopted by the Congress and the League?

Answer: The Lucknow Pact was adopted by the Congress and the League in 1916.

Question 8: Write any two features of the Lucknow Pact.

Answer: (i) Judiciary should be separated from Executive.
(ii) Half the members of the Viceroy's Executive Council should be Indians.

Question 9: Write any one major drawback of Lucknow Pact.

Answer: Since the Congress agreed to the scheme of communal electorates for Muslims, it lost its secular character.

Question 10: Who started the Home Rule Movement?

Answer: Lokmanya Tilak and Mrs. Annie Besant, both the leaders started the Home Rule Movement.

Question 11: Where did Mrs. Annie Besant founded the Home Rule League?

Answer: Mrs. Annie Besant founded the Home Rule League in Madras on 1st September 1913.

Question 12: Name the Nationalist who said 'Swaraj is my birth right'. Mention one contribution of his to the National Movement.

Answer: Bal Gangadhar Tilak said 'Swaraj is my birth right'. He established the Home Rule Movement in 1916 to infuse the nation with new strength and vigour.

Question 13: Where did Tilak establish the Home Rule League?

Answer: Tilak established the Home Rule League on 28th April 1916 making Poona as the headquarters.

Question 14: When did Mrs. Annie Besant join the Indian National Congress?

Answer: Mrs. Annie Besant join the Indian National Congress in 1914.

Question 15: Name two leaders linked with the Home Rule League.

Answer: (i) Bal Gangadhar Tilak (ii) Mrs. Annie Besant.

Question 16: When were Montague-Chelmsford Reforms introduced?

Answer: Montague-Chelmsford Reforms were introduced by the Government of India Act 1919 published in July 1918.

Question 17: Give one main reason why the system of Dyarchy broke down.

Answer: Financial arrangements were not proper. No minister was given sufficient funds for the development activities.

Question 18: Who made the August Declaration 1917?

Answer: Mr. E. S. Montague made the August Declaration in 1917.

Short Questions – I

Question 1: Mention any two constitutional provisions of Lucknow Pact.

Answer: Two constitutional provisions of Lucknow Pact were:

(i) The Provinces should largely be free from the control of the Centre in matters of administration and finance.

(ii) The Government of India should be free, as far as possible, from the control of the Secretary of State of India.

Question 2: Mention two reasons why the Lucknow pact is considered important in the history of the Indian National Congress.

Answer: The Lucknow Pact 1916 is important due to the following reasons:
(i) It led to argument between the Congress and Muslim League about constitutional reforms.
(ii) After this Pact, the unity between Hindus and Muslims strengthened National Movement.

Question 3: The year 1916 is considered a memorable year in Indian history. Name any one incident related to Hindu-Muslim unity and one which strengthened the National Movement.

Answer: (i) Hindu-Muslim Unity—Lucknow Pact
(ii) Strengthening of National Movement—Home Rule League

Question 4: After Mrs. Annie Besant joined Congress in 1914, she started propagating her views. What were her views?

Answer: Mrs. Besant dominated the Lucknow session of the Congress at which Assertives, Moderates, Hindus and Muslims were reunited. In 1915, she formed the Home Rule League. The self government later became a common demand of both the Congress and Muslim League.

Question 5: Why did the Home Rule league demand Swaraj for India?

Answer: The Home Rule League demanded Swaraj because:
(i) Independence is the birth right of all, and
(ii) The resources of India were not being used for the welfare of the people of India.

Question 6: 'Home Rule Leagues infused new blood into National Movement.' State two points in favour of this statement.

Answer: (i) Due to of War, the National Movement between the years 1914-19 was more or less subdued. The Home Rule Movement enthused new spirit among the masses.
(ii) It was also under the pressure of Home Rule Movement that the British announced Montague-Chelmsford Reforms.

Question 7: Give any two impacts of the Home Rule League.

Answer: The two impacts were:
(i) The Congress was not working and the Home Rule League once again revived the National Movement.
(ii) It indented the base of the movement, even women started to participate in the National Movement.

Question 8: What do you mean by dyarchy? Who introduced it?

Answer: Dyarchy is a form of government in which two persons, States or bodies are jointly vested with supreme power. The government of India Act of 1919 introduced the

system of dyarchy in the provinces.

Question 9: Mention two reasons which intensified Indian Nationalism.

Answer: Two reasons which intensified Indian nationalism were:

(i) The deteriorating economic condition of Indians.

(ii) The Communist Revolution of 1917, in Russia placed a unique and inspiring idea before the Indians.

Question 10: Why did the Indian National Congress support the British in the First World War?

Answer: The Indian National Congress supported the British in the First World War because the Congress leaders hoped that as a consequence of this effort India would get the status of a self-governing dominion under the British throne.

Question 11: Give two immediate causes that made the British rulers to come up with the Montague Chelmsford Reforms.

Answer: The Lucknow Pact and the Home Rule Movement made the British Government to come up with the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms to oppose the nationalists.

Question 12: What was the objective of the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms?

Answer: The objective of the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms was to give some responsibilities to the Indian representatives elected by the people.

Question 13: How did the real control of the administration remain in the hands of the British according to the Government of India Act, 1919?

Answer: The real control of the administration remained in the hands of the British according to the Government of India Act, 1919 because the British could control law and situation anywhere in India and had control over the finance.

Question 14: In what ways were the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms illusory as far as the National Movement was concerned?

Answer: The Montague-Chelmsford reforms were illusory to the leaders of the national movement: because the real control of the administration remained in the hands of the British as per this Act. The British could control law and order situation anywhere in the country as they had the police and the army under them. Moreover, the finances were under British control.

Short Questions – II

Question 1: What were the two main terms of the Lucknow Pact.

Answer: The main two terms of the Lucknow Pact were as follows:

(i) Provincial Legislatures: Four-fifth of the members of the Provincial Legislatures were to be elected and one-fifth to be nominated. The number of Muslim members was fixed

separately in each province. On the whole, the proportion of Muslim members was large for example, 50 percent in Punjab, 40 percent in Bengal and 30 percent in U.P. They were to be elected through separate electorates.

(ii) Imperial Legislative Council: The Imperial Legislative Council should consist of 150 members, of these four-fifth were to be elected and one-fifth are to be nominated. One-third of the elected members were to be Muslims.

Question 2: What was the significance of the Pact?

Answer: (i) Unity: It brought the Hindu and Muslim unity which was the need of the hour. It also brought Assertive and Moderate leaders at the same platform.

(ii) Strengthening of National Movement: The unity between the Congress, the League and between the Moderates and Assertive demoralised the Government of India. Now the Government was under pressure for Constitutional reforms. This helped in strengthening the National Movement.

(iii) Constitutional Reforms: At that time the Home Rule League was also gaining momentum. Both the leaders of the Congress and the League made it clear to the British Government that their demands for Constitutional reforms could not be easily rejected if they wished Indians to be loyal to the British. In the face of overwhelming odd the government announced on August 20,1917 that their policy in India was the gradual development of self- governing institutions”.

Question 3: With reference to the Lucknow Pact, mention three important provisions regarding Constitutional reforms.

Answer: The important provisions regarding Constitutional reforms were jointly accepted by the Congress and the Muslim League. They were:

(i) The British Government-should declare that Britain’s objective was to grant self-government to India and should be granted an equal status with that of other Dominions in the British Empire.

(ii) 4/5 of the members of the Central and the Provincial Legislatures should be elected. The rest of the members could be nominated.

(iii) At least 1/2 of the members of the Central as well as the Provincial Executive Councils should be elected by the elected members of the respective Legislatures.

Question 4: What is meant by ‘Home Rule’? Why did the leaders of this movement avoid revolutionary and aggressive methods?

Answer: ‘Home Rule’ means self rule. Home Rule Leagues’ founded in 1915-16, one by Tilak in December 1915 and another by Annie Besant in September 1916, both had same objective so seeking Home Rule or self-government within the British empire by Constitutional means, The leaders of these movements avoided revolutionary and aggressive methods because:

(i) They did not like to embarrass the British in its war efforts during First World War.

(ii) They wanted to educate the masses and organise public opinion in favour of self rule.

Question 5: Why the reforms introduced by the government failed to satisfy Indian?

Answer: (i) Flaws in Dyarchy System: The system of Dyarchy was a total failure. The division of subjects was not proper and ministers in charge of various departments had no sufficient funds for development.

(ii) Divide and Rule Policy: Britishers continued their policy of Divide and Rule as the Communal representation was now extended to other communities also.

(iii) Non-cooperation of British Officials: The working of the reforms was made difficult due

to the non-cooperation of British officials. They were reluctant to give up their unlimited powers.

Question 6: With reference to the Home Rule Movement discuss the two factors which emphasize the significance of the Home Rule Movement.

Answer: (i) First World War: The First World War broke out in 1914. India too was made a party of the war without consulting any of the Indian leaders. So this was opposed by the Indian leaders. Even the common people grew impatient.

(ii) Bal Gangadhar Tilak's release and Mrs. Annie Besant's Entry into politics: Bal Gangadhar Tilak was one of the most important assertive nationalists. He was released in 1914. In 1916 he formed the Home Rule League. Mrs. Annie Besant set up a similar Home Rule League with its headquarter at Adyar. These movements were fully supported by Moderate as well by the Assertive leaders.

Question 7: What is meant by Diarchy? How was it to be practiced as per the Government of India Act, 1919?

Answer: Diarchy means dual rule. The Central Government was to be governed by the British, while the Indians would be involved in the administration of the provinces (states). As per the Government of India Act, 1919 the Centre would control such areas as law and order, finance, defence, external affairs and communication. The provinces would control irrigation, forests, health education, etc.

Question 8: What was the programme of the Home Rule League?

Answer: Programme of action consisted of massive propaganda. Like organisation of mass meetings, lecture tours, carrying message of Home Rule through newspapers, distribution of leaflets and pamphlets, tours of towns and villages, and opening of the branches of the League in different cities of India. Women and students were motivated to carry the message of Home Rule to all sections of society and all parts of the country.

Long Questions

Question 1: The bond of alliance between the Congress and the Muslim League was cemented by the conclusion of the Lucknow Pact in 1916. In this context mention the main features of the Pact?

Answer:

1. **Independent Unit:** India was to be treated as an independent unit of the Empire, as a self autonomous state with equal rights and responsibility.

2. **Provincial Legislatures:** Four-fifth of the members of the Provincial Legislatures were to be elected and one fifth nominated. One third of the elected members were to be Muslims.
3. **Powers of the Imperial Legislative:** Defence, Foreign affairs, and political relations of India i.e. making of war, peace and signing of treaty were to be excluded from the control of the Imperial Legislative.
4. **Bills related to Religious Interests:** No bill could be introduced in the Legislative Council if it affected the interest of any community and such a bill could not be passed if it was opposed by three-fourths of that community.
5. **Composition of Viceroy's Executive Council:** Half the members of the Viceroy's Executive Council should be Indians elected by the elected members of the Imperial Legislative Council.
6. **Separation of Judiciary from Executive:** Judiciary should be separated from Executive. Members of the judiciary in every Province should be placed under the control of the highest court of that Province.
7. **Abolition of Council of the Secretary of State:** The Council of the Secretary of State for India shall be abolished and he shall have same position with regard to the Government of India as he does in relation to the government of self governing colonies.

Question 2: The Home Rule Leagues (1916-17) carried the burden of nationalist propaganda during the First World War. In this context, explain objectives of the League.

Answer: The following were the objectives of the Home Rule Leagues:

1. **To attain Self-Government at all Levels:** Home Rule Leagues aimed at securing self-government for India at all levels.
2. **To attain Self-Government and not Complete Independence:** They aimed to secure self-government within the British Empire, and not complete independence.
3. **To check Revolutionism in Indian Politics:** The aim of the Home Rule Leagues was also to check terrorism in Indian politics. Mrs. Annie Besant felt that in the absence of a peaceful and Constitutional agitation, there would be dominance of revolutionaries over Indian politics.
4. **To use Peaceful and Constitutional means:** The Home Rule Leagues believed in peaceful and Constitutional agitations to achieve their goal of self-government.
5. **To awaken masses:** Some time there was a lull in Indian politics. The objective of the Home Rule Leagues was to awaken the sleepy Indians so that they could work for their motherland. The idea was to organize mass political agitation to bring pressure upon the Government.
6. **Repression by the Government:** Home Rule Movement was a perfect Constitutional agitation. Neither Tilak nor Annie Besant ever preached violence. The plea of both the leaders was that a self-governed India would be an asset to Britain during the War and even after the War.

Question 3: The Home Rule League was founded in India in 1915-16. In this context describe the impact of the movement:

Answer: (i) The Home Rule League intensified the propaganda all over the country demanding the self-government or Home Rule in India after the war.
(ii) It was during this time Tilak gave a call 'Swaraj is my birthright and I shall have it.'
(iii) The movement made rapid progress and the cry of Home Rule resounded throughout India.
(iv) Many Moderate leaders, who earlier were doubtful about the success of the movement, now joined the Home Rule agitation.
(v) At a time when the Congress was almost inactive, the Home Rule Movement kept the national spirit alive and infused new energy and enthusiasm among the people.

Question 4: The Montague-Chelmsford scheme of Constitutional Reforms was embodied in the Government of India Act, 1919. In this context discuss the main features of the Act of 1919?

Answer:

1. **Dyarchy of Dual Government in the Provinces:** Under the Dyarchy the subjects to be dealt by the Provincial Government were divided into:
(i) Reserved subjects, (ii) Transferred subjects. Central Government got subjects of national importance whereas Provincial Government got subjects of local importance.
2. **Enlargement of Provincial Legislative Councils:** The Act provided for the establishment of a Legislative Council consisting of the members of the Executive Council, and of nominated elected members.
3. **Powers of the Governor:** The Governor was the head of the executive government in the province. He was supreme and enjoyed extensively legislative powers. He had the power to take over the entire administration in his hands in case of breakdown of Constitutional machinery.
4. **Supremacy of British Parliament:** The Central Executive was not responsible to the Legislature but was responsible to the British Parliament.
5. **Voting Rights:** Many Indians were granted the right to vote as the qualification for voting was lowered for Legislative Assembly. Women were also given the right to vote. The Act extended the communal franchise to other communities also.

Question 5: How did Tilak bring a new wave in Indian Politics that was distinct from the early congressmen?

Answer: The new wave in Indian politics was the result of efforts putting by Balgangadhar Tilak. The distinct features of his movement of attain Swaraj were:

1. **His role in the Anti-partition Movement:** The partition of Bengal gave him a big opportunity to expose evil design of the Government Leaders like Tilak, Bipin Chandra and Lajpat Rai transformed the Anti-Partition Movement into a movement of Swaraj.
2. **Bitter attacks on Government:** Year after year, the Congress passed nearly the same resolutions, without much effect on the Government. Therefore, Tilak came to the conclusion that "reforms would be secured not by action."
3. **Home Rule Movement:** The year 1916 saw the establishment of the Home Rule leagues in Madras (Chennai) and Maharashtra. The two leagues were led by Mrs. Besant and Tilak respectively.

4. **Tilak's political belief—"Swaraj is my birthright and I shall have it"**: Tilak talked of 'Swaraj' as early as 1896-97. Swaraj and Swadeshi had become the battle cry of these robust nationalists.

Question 6: What according to you was the most significant contribution of the Home Rule Movement in India.

Answer:

1. **Strengthening of the National Movement:** The Home Rule infused a new spirit and life in the National Movement and intensified the demand for the grant of self-government.
2. **Mass Movement:** It transformed the National Movement into people's movement. Even women did not lag behind.
3. **Unity in the Congress:** The movement brought together the Moderates and the Assertives in the Congress.
4. **Declaration of August 1917:** The Government realised the seriousness of the demonstration that broke out after the launching of Home Rule League. So government felt the necessity to pacify the Indians by declaring its policy.
5. **Beginning of Transfer of Power:** The Government of India Act was the direct outcome of Home Rule League. Through this Act Government made a beginning towards transferring some power to Indians at Provincial level.

Picture Based Questions

Question 1: Answer the following:



- (i) Name the lady in the picture given alongside With which national event you can associate this lady?
- (ii) Which movement influenced her to launch the similar movement in India?

Answer: (i) Dr. Annie Besant. She was associated with Home Rule League
(ii) Home Rule Movement of Irish freedom fighters influenced her to launch the similar movement in India.

Question 2: Answer the following:



- (i) Name the person in the picture.
- (ii) With which famous declaration would you associate this gentleman? When this declaration was made?

Answer: (i) Edwin Montague.

(ii) He was associated with 'August Declaration'. This declaration was made on 20 August 1917.