

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

18 Oct to 24 Oct 2021

HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

History

Q.1) Consider the following pairs:

Political Association	Leader
1. Bangabhasha Prakasika Sabha	Raja Rammohan Roy
2. East India Association	B. M. Malabari
3. India League	M. N. Joshi

Which of the pairs given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: C

Explanation: The Bangabhasha Prakasika Sabha was formed in 1836 by associates of Raja Rammohan Roy.

- The East India Association was organised by Dadabhai Naoroji in 1866 in London to discuss the Indian question and influence public men in England to promote Indian welfare. Later, branches of the association were started in prominent Indian cities.
- The Indian League was started in 1875 by Sisir Kumar Ghosh with the object of “stimulating the sense of nationalism amongst the people” and of encouraging political education.

Source: Spectrum’s A Brief History of Modern India.

Q.2) Consider the following statements about Indian National Association:

- 1. It was founded & led Dadabhai Naoroji & Sisir Kumar Ghosh.
- 2. It led a campaign against the repressive arms act and the vernacular press act.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: B

Explanation: The Indian Association of Calcutta (also known as the Indian National Association) superseded the Indian League and was founded in 1876 by younger nationalists of Bengal led by Surendranath Banerjea and Ananda Mohan Bose, who were getting discontented with the conservative and pro-landlord policies of the British Indian Association.

The Indian Association was the most important of pre-Congress associations and aimed to “promote by every legitimate means the political, intellectual and material advancement of the people.” It set out to—

- create a strong public opinion on political questions, and
- unify Indian people in a common political programme.

It protested against the reduction of age limit in 1877 for candidates of the Indian Civil Service examination.

- The association demanded simultaneous holding of civil service examination in England and India and Indianisation of higher administrative posts.

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- It led a campaign against the repressive arms act and the vernacular press act.
Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India.

Q.3) Arrange the above political organizations in chronological order of their formation.

1. British Indian Association
2. Madras Mahajan Sabha
3. Poona Sarvajanik Sabha

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1 - 2 - 3
- b) 1 - 3 - 2
- c) 2 - 1 - 3
- d) 2 - 3 - 1

ANS: B

Explanation: Political Associations before Indian National Congress:

- 1836—Bangabhasha Prakasika Sabha and Zamindari Association or Landholders' Society
- 1843—Bengal British India Society
- 1851—British Indian Association
- 1866—East India Association
- 1870—Poona Sarvajanik Sabha
- 1875—Indian League
- 1876—Indian Association of Calcutta or Indian National Association
- 1885—Bombay Presidency Association
- 1884—Madras Mahajan Sabha

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India.

Q.4) Who among the following is the founder of the Poona Sarvajanik Sabha?

- a) Vasudev Balwant Phadke
- b) Mahadeo Govind Ranade
- c) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- d) Gopalakrishna Goakhle

ANS: B

Explanation: The Poona Sarvajanik Sabha was founded in 1867 by Mahadeo Govind Ranade and others, with the object of serving as a bridge between the government and the people.

The Bombay Presidency Association was started by Badruddin Tyabji, Pherozshah Mehta and K.T. Telang in 1885.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India.

Q.5) "Political freedom is the life breath of a nation; to attempt social reform, educational reform, industrial expansion, the moral improvement of the race without aiming the first and foremost at political freedom, is the very height of ignorance and futility" – is said by which of the following?

- a) Gopalakrishna Goakhle
- b) Subhash Chandra Bose
- c) Sardar Vallabhai Patel
- d) Aurobindo Ghose

ANS: D

Explanation: Sri Aurobindo was renowned and important personality in the history of the Indian resurgence and Indian nationalism.

- Aurobindo had a versatile brilliance. He was a great poet, a thoughtful thinker, a distinguished metaphysician, a great prophet and a passionate patriot.
- He wrote effective texts that represented the crystallization of the new and rising soul of India and given a spiritual message for humankind.
- He wrote that "Political freedom is the life-breath of a nation. To attempt social reform, educational reform, industrial expansion, the moral improvement of the race without aiming first and foremost at political freedom, is the very height of ignorance and futility.
- The primary requisite for national progress, national reform, is the habit of free and healthy national thought and action which is impossible in a state of servitude."

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India.

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. A British Committee of the Indian National Congress (INC) was established in 1885.
2. INC was successfully conducted its 1892 session in London.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: D

Explanation: A British committee of the Indian National Congress was established in London in 1889 which had India as its organ.

- Dadabhai Naoroji spent a substantial portion of his life and income campaigning for India's case abroad.
- In 1890, it was decided to hold a session of the Indian National Congress in London in 1892, but owing to the British elections of 1891 the proposal was postponed and never revived later.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India, Page 255.

Q.7) Who among the following called Indian National Congress as 'a factory of sedition'?

- a) Lord Dufferin
- b) Lord Curzon
- c) Lord Canning
- d) Lord Lytton

ANS: A

Explanation: The British Indian Government was hostile to the Congress from the beginning despite the latter's moderate methods and emphasis on loyalty to the British Crown.

- The official attitude stiffened further after 1887 when the government failed to persuade the Congress to confine itself to social issues when the Congress was becoming increasingly critical of the colonial rule.
- Now, the government resorted to open condemnation of the Congress, calling the nationalists "seditious brahmins", "disloyal babus", etc.
- Dufferin called the Congress "a factory of sedition". Later, the government adopted a 'divide and rule' policy towards the Congress.

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- The officials encouraged reactionary elements like Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Raja Shiv Prasad Singh of Benaras to organise the United Indian Patriotic Association to counter Congress propaganda.
- The government also tried to divide the nationalists on the basis of religion, and, through a policy of 'carrot and stick', pitted the Moderates against the Extremists. But the government failed to check the rising tide of nationalism.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India.

Q.8) Consider the following pairs of foundational theories of INC and their prominent believers:

Foundational theories of INC	Prominent Believers
1. Safety Valve Theory	Sardar Vallabhai Patel
2. Lighting Conductor	Bal Gangadhar Tilak
3. Conspiracy Theory	R. P. Dutt

Which of the pairs given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: B

Explanation: Foundation of Indian National Congress

- First session held in 1885 (Bombay). Indian National Union, formed by A.O. Hume, became Indian National Congress.
- Foundational theories of INC and prominent believers:
 - Safety Valve Theory —Lala Lajpat Rai
 - Conspiracy Theory—R.P. Dutt
 - Lightning conductor Theory—G.K. Gokhale
- Important leaders of Moderate Phase: Dadabhai Naoroji, Badruddin Tyabji, Pherozeshah Mehta, P. Ananda Charlu, Surendranath Banerjea, Romesh Chandra Dutt, Ananda Mohan Bose, G.K. Gokhale, etc.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India.

Q.9) Which among the following was not the main aim of Indian National Congress in its initial phase?

- a) Attainment of complete independence
- b) establish the headquarters for a movement
- c) develop and propagate an anti-colonial nationalist ideology
- d) Promote and nurture Indian Nationhood

ANS: A

Explanation: Aims and Objectives of the Congress: The main aims of the Indian National Congress in the initial stage were to—

- (i) found a democratic, nationalist movement;
- (ii) politicise and politically educate people;
- (iii) establish the headquarters for a movement;
- (iv) promote friendly relations among nationalist political workers from different parts of the country;
- (v) develop and propagate an anti-colonial nationalist ideology;
- (vi) formulate and present popular demands before the government with a view to unifying the people over a common economic and political programme;

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- (vii) develop and consolidate a feeling of national unity among people irrespective of religion, caste or province.
- (viii) carefully promote and nurture Indian nationhood.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India.

Q.10) Which of the above merged into a new organization named 'British Indian Association'?

1. Bengal British India Society
2. Oriental society
3. Zamindari Association

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: C

Explanation: The Zamindari Association, more popularly known as the 'Landholders' Society', was founded to safeguard the interests of the landlords.

- Although limited in its objectives, the Landholders' Society marked the beginning of an organized political activity and use of methods of constitutional agitation for the redressal of grievances.
- The Bengal British India Society was founded in 1843 with the object of "the collection and dissemination of information relating to the actual condition of the people of British India.
- And to employ such other means of peaceful and lawful character as may appear calculated to secure the welfare, extend the just rights and advance the interests of all classes of our fellow subjects".
- In 1851, both the Landholders' Society and the Bengal British India Society merged into the British Indian Association.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India.

History

Q.1) Which of the following factors led to rise in militant nationalism in British India?

1. International influences like Japan – Russia War.
2. Growth of Self-confidence and Self-respect.
3. Help from American Nationalists.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: B

Explanation: A radical trend of a militant nationalist approach to political activity started emerging in the 1890s and it took a concrete shape by 1905. As an adjunct to this trend, a revolutionary wing also took shape.

Many factors contributed to the rise of militant nationalism:

- Recognition of the true nature of British Rule.
- Growth of Self-confidence and Self-respect.
- Growth of Education.
- International influences like Japan – Russia War.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.2) Arrange the following events in chronological order:

1. The Battle of Adwa.
2. The Boer wars.
3. The Japan – Russia War.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 – 2 – 3
- b) 2 – 1 – 3
- c) 3 – 1 – 2
- d) 1 – 3 – 2

ANS: A

Explanation: The defeat of the Italian army by Ethiopians (Battle of Adwa) (1896), the Boer wars (1899 - 1902) where the British faced reverses and Japan's victory over Russia (1905) demolished myths of European invincibility.

- Also, the nationalists were inspired by the nationalist movements worldwide—in Ireland, Russia, Egypt, Turkey, Persia and China.
- The Indians realized that a united people willing to make sacrifices could take on the mightiest of empires.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.3) Which among the following was used the three P's (Petitions, Prayers and Protests) method for freedom struggle?

- a) Moderates
- b) Extremists
- c) Revolutionarists

d) Both A & B

ANS: A

Explanation: The objective of the Early Nationalists (Moderates) was to influence the British government and the British public.

- To achieve this objective, they followed some methods; three P's was one of them.
- They made use of three P's i.e. Petitions, Prayers and Protests.
- They sent petitions, requests and letters of protest to the British government to look into the problems of the Indians.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.4) Which of the following freedom fighter (s) is/are related to militant school of thought?

1. Surendranath Banarjee
2. Raj Narain Bose
3. Vishnu Shastri Chiplunkar

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: C

Explanation: By the dawn of the twentieth century, a band of nationalist thinkers had emerged who advocated a more militant approach to political work.

- These included Raj Narain Bose, Ashwini Kumar Datta, Aurobindo Ghosh and Bipin Chandra Pal in Bengal;
- Vishnu Shastri Chiplunkar and Bal Gangadhar Tilak in Maharashtra; and Lala Lajpat Rai in Punjab.
- Tilak emerged as the most outstanding representative of this school of thought.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.5) The news paper "Bengalee" was started by which of the following?

- a) Surendranath Banerjee
- b) Dwijendranath Tagore
- c) Rabindranath Tagore
- d) Prithwishchandra Ray

ANS: A

Explanation: In the period 1903-1905, the leadership was provided by men like Surendranath Banerjee, K.K. Mitra and Prithwishchandra Ray.

The methods adopted were petitions to the government, public meetings, memoranda, and propaganda through pamphlets and newspapers such as Hitabadi (Dwijendranath Tagore), Sanjibani and Bengalee (Surendranath Banerjee).

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.6) Which of the following provision (s) is/are made by Congress towards Bengal Partition?

1. To condemn the partition of Bengal.
2. To support the anti-partition and Swadeshi Movement of Bengal.
3. To inquire excesses done crime investigation department (CID).

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only

- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: B

Explanation: The Indian National Congress, meeting in 1905 under the presidentship of Gokhale, resolved to

- condemn the partition of Bengal and the reactionary policies of Curzon, and
- support the anti-partition and Swadeshi Movement of Bengal.

The militant nationalists led by Tilak, Lajpat Rai, Bipin Chandra Pal and Aurobindo Ghosh wanted the movement to be taken outside Bengal to other parts of the country and go beyond a boycott of foreign goods to become a full fledged political mass struggle with the goal of attaining swaraj.

But the Moderates, dominating the Congress at that time, were not willing to go that far.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.7) In which Indian National Congress Session Proclaimed the “self-government or swaraj like the United Kingdom or the colonies” of Australia or Canada?

- a) Calcutta Session – 1906
- b) Benares Session – 1910
- c) Calcutta Session – 1917
- d) Surat Session – 1921

ANS: A

Explanation: A big step forward was taken at the Congress session held at Calcutta (1906) under the presidentship of Dadabhai Naoroji, where it was declared that the goal of the Indian National Congress was “self-government or swaraj like the United Kingdom or the colonies” of Australia or Canada.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.8) Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding National Council of Education was set up in 1906?

1. Bengal Institute of Technology was set up for technical education and funds were raised to send students to Britain for advanced learning.
2. Education was to be imparted through the English medium.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: D

Explanation: Bengal National College, inspired by Tagore’s Shantiniketan, was set up with Aurobindo Ghosh as its principal.

- Soon national schools and colleges sprang up in various parts of the country.
- On August 15, 1906, the National Council of Education was set up to organise a system of education— literary, scientific and technical—on national lines and under national control.
- Education was to be imparted through the vernacular medium.
- A Bengal Institute of Technology was set up for technical education and funds were raised to send students to Japan for advanced learning.

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Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.9) Arrange the following acts in chronological order:

1. The Seditious Meetings Act.
2. The Indian Press Act.
3. Criminal Law Amendment Act

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 – 2 – 3
- b) 2 – 1 – 3
- c) 3 – 1 – 2
- d) 1 – 3 – 2

ANS: D

Explanation: The government launched a massive attack on the Extremists. Between 1907 and 1911, five new laws were brought into force to check anti-government activity.

- These legislations included the Seditious Meetings Act, 1907;
- Indian Newspapers (Incitement to Offences) Act, 1908;
- Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1908;
- The Indian Press Act, 1910.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.10) “We shall die to awaken the nation”, was the call of which of the following freedom fighter?

- a) Bhagat Singh
- b) Chandrasekhar Azad
- c) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- d) Bagha Jatin

ANS: D

Explanation: “We shall die to awaken the nation”, was the call of Bagha Jatin.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

History

Q.1) Which of the following is/are reformist schools of thought in British India?

1. Arya Samaj
2. Deoband Movement
3. Aligarh Movement

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: C

Explanation: The reform movements could broadly be classified into two categories—the reformist movements like the Brahmo Samaj, the Prarthana Samaj, the Aligarh Movement, and the revivalist movements like Arya Samaj and the Deoband movement.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.2) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

- | Person | : | Associated role |
|---------------------|---|--|
| 1. D. K. Karve | : | Established First technical university |
| 2. J. E. D. Bethune | : | President of the Council of Education |
| 3. Sarojini Naidu | : | President of Indian National Congress |

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) 2 and 3 only

ANS: D

Explanation: The Christian missionaries were the first to set up the Calcutta Female Juvenile Society in 1819.

- The Bethune School, founded by J.E.D. Bethune, president of the Council of Education in Calcutta in 1849 was the first fruit of the powerful movement for women's education that arose in the 1840s and 1850s.
- The Indian Women's University set up by Professor D.K. Karve in 1916 was one of the outstanding institutions imparting education to women.
- Sarojini Naidu went on to become the president of the Indian National Congress (1925) and later the governor of the United Provinces (1947-49).

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.3) Who among the following was convened the first meeting of the Bharat Stree Mahamandal in Allahabad?

- a) Sarala Devi Chaudhurani
- b) Sarojini Naidu
- c) Pandita Ramabai Saraswati
- d) Ramabai Ranade

ANS: A

Explanation: In 1910, Sarla Devi Chaudhurani convened the first meeting of the Bharat Stree Mahamandal in Allahabad.

- Considered as the first major Indian women's organisation set up by a woman, its objectives included promotion of education for women, abolition of the purdah system and improvement in the socio-economic and political status of woman all over India.
- Sarla Devi believed that the man working for women's upliftment lived 'under the shade of Manu'.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.4) Who among the following was founded the first women's organization with an egalitarian approach?

- a) Ramabai Ranade
- b) Sarla Devi Chaudhurani
- c) Margaret Cousins
- d) Sarojini Naidu

ANS: C

Explanation: Ramabai Ranade founded the Ladies Social Conference (Bharat Mahila Parishad), under the parent organization National Social Conference, in 1904 in Bombay.

- In 1910, Sarla Devi Chaudhurani convened the first meeting of the Bharat Stree Mahamandal in Allahabad.
- The All India Women's Conference (AIWC), founded by Margaret Cousins in 1927, was perhaps the first women's organisation with an egalitarian approach.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.5) "All India Harijan Sangh" was established by which of the following?

- a) B. R. Ambedkar
- b) D. K. Karve
- c) Mahatma Gandhi
- d) Boya Bhiamana

ANS: C

Explanation: Gandhi always had in mind the objective of eradicating untouchability by root and branch. His ideas were based on the grounds of humanism and reason.

- He argued that the Shastras did not sanction untouchability and, even if they did, they should be ignored since truth cannot be confined within the covers of a book.
- In 1932, he founded the All India Harijan Sangh.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.6) "No religion, no caste, no God for mankind" was coined by?

- a) E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker
- b) Sri Narayana Guru
- c) Sahadaran Ayyapan
- d) Swami Vivekananda

ANS: C

Explanation: During the 1920s in South India, the non-brahmins organised the Self-Respect Movement led by E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker.

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- There were numerous other movements demanding that the ban on the entry of lower castes into temples be lifted.
- Sri Narayana Guru in Kerala led a lifelong struggle against upper caste domination.
- He coined the slogan “one religion, one caste, one God for mankind”, which his disciple Sahadaran Ayyapan changed into “no religion, no caste, no God for mankind”.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “Prarthana Samaj”:

1. It was established by Atmaram Pandurang.
2. It was very attached to the bhakti cult of Maharashtra.
3. Paramahansa Sabha was the precursor of Prarthana Samaj.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: In 1867, Keshab Chandra Sen helped Atmaram Pandurang found the Prarthana Samaj in Bombay.

- Earlier, the Brahmo ideas spread in Maharashtra. A precursor of the Prarthana Samaj was the Paramahansa Sabha, something like a secret society to spread liberal ideas and encourage the breakdown of caste and communal barriers.
- The Prarthana Sabha was very attached to the bhakti cult of Maharashtra.
- The samaj relied on education and persuasion and not on confrontation with Hindu orthodoxy.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.8) The work “Gulamgiri” was written by?

- a) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- b) Jyotirao Phule
- c) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
- d) B. R. Ambedkar

ANS: B

Explanation: Phule’s works, Sarvajanic Satyadharma and Gulamgiri, became sources of inspiration for the common masses.

- Phule used the symbol of Rajah Bali as opposed to the brahmins’ symbol of Rama.
- Phule aimed at the complete abolition of the caste system and socio-economic inequalities; he was against Sanskrit Hinduism.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.9) The periodical “Indu Prakash” was founded by?

- a) Gopalhari Deshmukh
- b) Atmaram Pandurang
- c) Keshab Chandra Sen
- d) Mehtaji Durgaram

ANS: A

Explanation: Gopalhari Deshmukh (1823-1892) was a social reformer and rationalist from Maharashtra.

- He held the post of a judge under British raj, but wrote for a weekly Prabhakar under the pen name of Lokahitawadi on social reform issues.
- He started a weekly, Hitechhu, and also played a leading role in founding the periodicals, Gyan Prakash, Indu Prakash and Lokahitawadi.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding the “Servants of India Society”:

1. It was founded by Gopal Krishna Gokhale.
2. The aim of the society was to prepare a cadre of selfless workers who were to devote their lives to the cause of the country in a religious spirit.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

Explanation: Gopal Krishna Gokhale (1866-1915), a liberal leader of the Indian National Congress, founded the Servants of India Society in 1905 with the help of M.G. Ranade.

- The aim of the society was to train national missionaries for the service of India;
- to promote, by all constitutional means, the true interests of the Indian people;
- and to prepare a cadre of selfless workers who were to devote their lives to the cause of the country in a religious spirit.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

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History

Q.1) Which of the following is/are the features of the Mont-ford Reforms (the Government of India Act, 1919)?

1. Introduction of diarchy at central level.
2. Subjects like finance and land revenue was kept under reserved subjects.
3. In case of failure of constitutional machinery in the province the governor-general of India could take over the administration of transferred subjects.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) 1 and 3 only

ANS: B

Explanation: In line with the government policy contained in Montagu's statement of August 1917, the government announced further constitutional reforms in July 1918, known as Montagu-Chelmsford or Mont-ford Reforms. Based on these, the Government of India Act, 1919 was enacted.

The main features of the Montford Reforms were as follows:

- The Act introduced dyarchy for the executive at the level of the provincial government.
- Subjects were divided into two lists: 'reserved' which included subjects such as law and order, finance, land revenue, irrigation, etc., and 'transferred' subjects such as education, health, local government, industry, agriculture, excise, etc.
- In case of failure of constitutional machinery in the province the governor could take over the administration of transferred subjects also.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.2) Which of the following statement is NOT correct about the Government of India Act, 1919?

- a) A bicameral arrangement was introduced at central level.
- b) Council of State had tenure of 3 years and had only male members.
- c) The legislators could ask questions and pass adjournment motions and vote a part of the budget.
- d) The lower house or Central Legislative Assembly would consist of 145 members.

ANS: B

Explanation: A bicameral arrangement was introduced. The lower house or Central Legislative Assembly would consist of 145 members (41 nominated and 104 elected— 52 General, 30 Muslims, 2 Sikhs, 20 Special) and the upper house or Council of State would have 60 members, of which 26 were to be nominated and 34 elected—20 General, 10 Muslims, 3 Europeans and 1 Sikh.

- The Council of State had tenure of 5 years and had only male members, while the Central Legislative Assembly had tenure of 3 years.
- The legislators could ask questions and supplementary, pass adjournment motions and vote a part of the budget, but 75 per cent of the budget was still not votable.
- Some Indians found their way into important committees including finance.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.3) “Indian Opinion” news paper was started by which of the following?

- a) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- b) Gopala Krishna Goakhle
- c) Annie Besant
- d) M K Gandhi

ANS: D

Explanation: Gandhi relied on sending petitions and memorials to the authorities in South Africa and in Britain hoping that once the authorities were informed of the plight of Indians, they would take sincere steps to redress their grievances as the Indians were, after all, British subjects.

To unite different sections of Indians, he set up the Natal Indian Congress and started a paper Indian Opinion.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “Champaran Satyagraha”:

1. Gandhi was requested by Rajendra Prasad, to look into the problems of the farmers in context of indigo planters of Champaran in Bihar.
2. The European planters were practicing the tinkathia system in champaran.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: B

Explanation: Gandhi was requested by Rajkumar Shukla, a local man, to look into the problems of the farmers in context of indigo planters of Champaran in Bihar.

The European planters had been forcing the peasants to grow indigo on 3/20 part of the total land (called tinkathia system).

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.5) Who among the following approached Gandhi to intervene and help resolve the impasse between the workers and the employers (Ahmedabad Mill Strike)?

- a) Ambalal Sarabhai
- b) Anusuya Sarabhai
- c) Sardar Vallabhai Patel
- d) Sarojini Naidu

ANS: B

Explanation: In March 1918, Gandhi intervened in a dispute between cotton mill owners of Ahmedabad and the workers over the issue of discontinuation of the plague bonus.

- The relations between the workers and the mill owners worsened with the striking workers being arbitrarily dismissed and the mill owners deciding to bring in weavers from Bombay.
- The workers of the mill turned to Anusuya Sarabhai for help in fighting for justice.
- Anusuya Sarabhai was a social worker who was also the sister of Ambalal Sarabhai, one of the mill owners and the president of the Ahmedabad Mill Owners Association

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(founded in 1891 to develop the textile industry in Ahmedabad), for help in fighting for justice.

- Anusuya Behn went to Gandhi, who was respected by the mill owners and workers, and asked him to intervene and help resolve the impasse between the workers and the employers.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.6) “Saifuddin Kitchlew and Dr Satyapal” are associated with which of the following?

- a) Midnapore Conspiracy case
- b) Kanpur Conspiracy case
- c) Chauri Chaura Movement
- d) Jallianwala Bagh Massacre

ANS: D

Explanation: On April 9, two nationalist leaders, Saifuddin Kitchlew and Dr Satyapal, were arrested by the British officials without any provocation except that they had addressed protest meetings, and taken to some unknown destination.

- This caused resentment among the Indian protestors who came out in thousands on April 10 to show their solidarity with their leaders.
- On Baisakhi day, a large crowd of people mostly from neighbouring villages, unaware of the prohibitory orders in the city, gathered in the Jallianwala Bagh, a popular place for public events, to celebrate the Baisakhi festival.
- Local leaders had also called for a protest meeting at the venue. It is not clear how many in the 20,000 odd people collected there were political protestors, but the majority were those who had collected for the festival.
- The troops surrounded the gathering under orders from General Dyer and blocked the only exit point and opened fire on the unarmed crowd.
- No warning was issued; no instruction to disperse was given. An unarmed gathering of men, women and children was fired upon as they tried to flee.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.7) Which of the following are the members of Disorders Inquiry Committee (Hunter Committee/Commission)?

1. Madan Mohan Malviya
2. Pandit Jagat Narayan
3. Sardar Sahibzada Sultan Ahmad Khan

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: C

Explanation: The Secretary of State for India, Edwin Montagu, ordered that a committee of inquiry be formed to investigate the matter.

- So, on October 14, 1919, the Government of India announced the formation of the Disorders Inquiry Committee, which came to be more widely and variously known as the Hunter Committee/Commission after the name of chairman, Lord William Hunter, former Solicitor-General for Scotland and Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland.

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- The purpose of the commission was to “investigate the recent disturbances in Bombay, Delhi and Punjab, about their causes, and the measures taken to cope with them”.
- There were three Indians among the members, namely, Sir Chimanlal Harilal Setalvad, Vice-Chancellor of Bombay University and advocate of the Bombay High Court;
- Pandit Jagat Narayan, lawyer and Member of the Legislative Council of the United Provinces; and Sardar Sahibzada Sultan Ahmad Khan, lawyer from Gwalior State.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.8) In September 1920 at a special session in Calcutta, the Congress approved a non-cooperation programme till the Punjab and Khilafat wrongs were removed and swaraj was established. Which of the following is/are part of programme?

1. Boycott of government schools and colleges.
2. Boycott of law courts and dispensation of justice through private bar councils instead.
3. Boycott foreign cloth and use of khadi.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: B

Explanation: September 1920, at a special session in Calcutta, the Congress approved a non-cooperation programme till the Punjab and Khilafat wrongs were removed and swaraj was established. The programme was to include—

- boycott of government schools and colleges;
- boycott of law courts and dispensation of justice through panchayats instead;
- boycott of legislative councils;
- boycott of foreign cloth and use of khadi instead; also practice of hand-spinning to be done;
- Renunciation of government honours and titles; the second phase could include mass civil disobedience including resignation from government service, and non-payment of taxes.
- During the movement, the participants were supposed to work for Hindu-Muslim unity and for removal of untouchability, all the time remaining non-violent.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.9) “Congress working committee (CWC)” of 15 members was established in which of the following session?

- a) Calcutta Session – 1919
- b) Nagpur Session – 1920
- c) Calicut Session – 1921
- d) Bombay Session – 1929

ANS: B

Explanation: December 1920, at the Nagpur session of the Indian National Congress—

- Some important organisational changes were made: a congress working committee (CWC) of 15 members was set up to lead the Congress from now onwards;
- Provincial congress committees on linguistic basis were organised;
- ward committees was organised; and entry fee was reduced to four annas.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.10) “The Indian National Liberal Federation” was founded by which of the following?

- a) M N Joshi
- b) G.S. Kharpade
- c) Surendranath Banerjea
- d) Sardar Vallabhai Patel

ANS: C

Explanation: Montagu report of 1918 was made public; there was a divide in the Congress over it. The moderates welcomed it while the extremists opposed it.

- This led to a schism in the Congress with moderate leaders forming the "Indian National Liberal Federation" in 1919.
- The party (INLF) was founded by Surendra Nath Banarjea and some of its prominent leaders were Tej Bahadur Sapru, S. Srinivasa Sastri and M. R. Jayakar.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

History

Q.1) Which of the following Indian National Congress (INC) Session was preside by Gandhi?

- Lahore Session – 1916
- Kakinada Session – 1922
- Belgaum Session – 1924
- Kanpur Session – 1929

ANS: C

Explanation: The 1924 Belgaum session of the Indian National Congress – the only Congress session presided over by Mahatma Gandhi.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.2) Which of the following is/are communists in British India?

- Aurbindo Ghosh
- Muzaffer Ahmed
- Shaukat Usmani

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 1 only
- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

ANS: C

Explanation: The Communist Party of India (CPI) was formed in 1920 in Tashkent (now, the capital of Uzbekistan) by M.N. Roy, Abani Mukherji and others after the second Congress of Comintern. M.N. Roy was also the first to be elected to the leadership of Comintern.

In 1924, many communists—S.A. Dange, Muzaffar Ahmed, Shaukat Usmani, Nalini Gupta—were jailed in the Kanpur Bolshevik Conspiracy Case.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.3) Which of the following activists/associations is/are related with caste movements?

- Justice party.
- Satyashodhak activists.
- Dharma Sabha.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 1 only
- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

ANS: B

Explanation: As in earlier periods, the varied contradictions of the Indian society found expression in caste associations and movements. These movements could be divisive, conservative and at times potentially radical, and included:

- Justice Party (Madras)
- Self-respect movement (1925) under “Periyar”—E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker (Madras)
- Satyashodhak activists in Satara (Maharashtra)

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- Bhaskar Rao Jadhav (Maharashtra)
- Mahars under Ambedkar (Maharashtra)
- Radical Ezhavas under K. Aiyappan and C. Kesavan in Kerala
- Yadavs in Bihar for improvement in social status
- Unionist Party under Fazl-i-Hussain (Punjab).

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.4) “Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt” were thrown a bomb in the Central Legislative Assembly to protest against the passage of which of the following bills?

1. Public Safety Bill.
2. General enlistments Bill.
3. The Passport (Entry into India) Bill.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: A

Explanation: The HSRA leadership now decided to let the people know about its changed objectives and the need for a revolution by the masses.

- Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt were asked to throw a bomb in the Central Legislative Assembly on April 8, 1929 to protest against the passage of the Public Safety Bill and Trade Disputes Bill aimed at curtailing civil liberties of citizens in general and workers in particular.
- The bombs had been deliberately made harmless and were aimed at making ‘the deaf hear’.
- The objective was to get arrested and to use the trial court as a forum for propaganda so that people would become familiar with their movement and ideology.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.5) Which of the following are the recommendations of Nehru Report?

1. Complete Independence.
2. Demand for joint electorates.
3. Granting fundamental rights to citizens.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: C

Explanation: The Nehru Report confined itself to British India, as it envisaged the future link-up of British India with the princely states on a federal basis. For the dominion it recommended:

- Dominion status on lines of self-governing dominions as the form of government desired by Indians (much to the chagrin of younger, militant section—Nehru being prominent among them).
- Rejection of separate electorates which had been the basis of constitutional reforms so far;

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- Instead, a demand for joint electorates with reservation of seats for Muslims at the Centre and in provinces where they were in minority (and not in those where Muslims were in majority, such as Punjab and Bengal) in proportion to the Muslim population there with right to contest additional seats.
- Linguistic provinces.
- Nineteen fundamental rights including equal rights for women, right to form unions, and universal adult suffrage.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.6) “Independence for India League” was set up by which of the following?

- a) Subhash Chandra Bose
- b) B R Ambedkar
- c) C R Rajagopalachari
- d) Sachin Sanyal

ANS: A

Explanation: Not only were the Muslim League, the Hindu Mahasabha and the Sikh communalists unhappy about the Nehru Report, but the younger section of the Congress led by Jawaharlal Nehru and Subhash Bose was also angered.

- The younger section regarded the idea of dominion status in the report as a step backward, and the developments at the All Parties Conference strengthened their criticism of the dominion status idea.
- Nehru and Subhash Bose rejected the Congress’ modified goal and jointly set up the Independence for India League.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.7) 1929 – Lahore session of Indian National Congress (INC) was presided by?

- a) Rajendra Prasad
- b) Jawaharlal Nehru
- c) Subhash Chandra Bose
- d) Sardar Vallabhai Patel

ANS: B

Explanation: Jawaharlal Nehru, who had done more than anyone else to popularize the concept of purna swaraj, was nominated the president for the Lahore session of the Congress (December 1929) mainly due to Gandhi’s backing (15 out of 18 Provincial Congress Committees had opposed Nehru).

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.8) To carry forward the mandate given by the Lahore Congress, Gandhi presented eleven demands to the government and gave an ultimatum of January 31, 1930 to accept or reject these demands. Which of the following demand is NOT part of eleven demands?

- a) Reduce expenditure on Army and civil services by 50%.
- b) Introduce total prohibition.
- c) Release political prisoners.
- d) Reject Postal Reservation Bill.

ANS: D

Explanation: To carry forward the mandate given by the Lahore Congress, Gandhi presented eleven demands to the government and gave an ultimatum of January 31, 1930 to accept or reject these demands. The demands were as follows.

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- Reduce expenditure on Army and civil services by 50 per cent.
- Introduce total prohibition.
- Carry out reforms in Criminal Investigation Department (CID).
- Change Arms Act allowing popular control of issue of firearms licences.
- Release political prisoners.
- Accept Postal Reservation Bill.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.9) “Vaikom Satyagraha” has prominence in Indian National Movement related to which of the following?

- a) Malabar area
- b) Nizam area
- c) Chotta Nagpur area
- d) North West Frontier Province

ANS: A

Explanation: In Malabar area, K. Kelappan, a Nair Congress leader famed for the Vaikom Satyagraha, organised salt marches.

P. Krishna Pillai, the future founder of the Kerala Communist movement, heroically defended the national flag in the face of police lathi-charge on Calicut beach in November 1930.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.10) The Communal Award was announced by the British prime minister, Ramsay MacDonald, was based on which of the following committee/commission recommendations?

- a) Lothian Committee
- b) Sadler Commission
- c) Raleigh Commission
- d) Welby commission

ANS: A

Explanation: The Communal Award was announced by the British Prime Minister, Ramsay MacDonald, on August 16, 1932.

- The Communal Award, based on the findings of the Indian Franchise Committee (also called the Lothian Committee), established separate electorates and reserved seats for minorities, including the depressed classes which were granted seventy-eight reserved seats.
- Thus, this award accorded separate electorates for Muslims, Europeans, Sikhs, Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians, depressed classes, and even to the Marathas for some seats in Bombay.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

History

Q.1) “Anushilan Samiti” was founded by which of the following?

- a) Bhagat Singh
- b) Jnanendranath Basu
- c) Khudiram Bose
- d) Promotha Mitter

ANS: D

Explanation: The first revolutionary groups were organized in 1902 in Midnapore (under Jnanendranath Basu) and in Calcutta (the Anushilan Samiti founded by Promotha Mitter, and including Jatindranath Banerjee, Barindra Kumar Ghosh and others.)

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.2) “The remedy lies with the people. The 30crore people inhabiting India must raise their 60crore hands to stop this curse of oppression. Force must be stopped by force.” Written in which of the following news paper/weekly?

- a) Yugantar
- b) Maharatta
- c) The Hitavad
- d) Indian Opinion

ANS: A

Explanation: In April 1906, an inner circle within Anushilan (Barindra Kumar Ghosh, Bhupendranath Dutta) started the weekly Yugantar and conducted a few abortive ‘actions’.

- By 1905 - 06, several newspapers had started advocating revolutionary violence.
- For instance, after severe police brutalities on participants of the Barisal Conference (April 1906), the Yugantar wrote: “The remedy lies with the people. The 30crore people inhabiting India must raise their 60crore hands to stop this curse of oppression. Force must be stopped by force.”

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.3) The Manicktolla bomb conspiracy or Muraripukur conspiracy is related to which of the following?

- a) Indian Home Rule Society
- b) Bharat Naujawan Sabha
- c) Anushilan Samiti
- d) Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA)

ANS: C

Explanation: The whole Anushilan group was arrested including the Ghosh brothers, Aurobindo and Barindra, who were tried in the Alipore conspiracy case, variously called Manicktolla bomb conspiracy or Muraripukur conspiracy.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.4) “Zimmerman Plan” is related to which of the following?

- a) Partition plan for British India.
- b) British Congress Committee to frame rules regarding urban expenditure.
- c) All-India insurrection plan to overthrow British Government.

d) To reform police & crime investigation department in British government.

ANS: C

Explanation: During the First World War, the Jugantar party arranged to import German arms and ammunition through sympathizers and revolutionaries abroad.

Jatin asked Rashbehari Bose to take charge of Upper India, aiming to bring about an all-India insurrection in what has come to be called the 'German Plot' or the 'Zimmerman Plan'.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.5) "Ramosi Peasant Force" – was organized a revolutionary activity against the British in which of the following area?

- a) Central Province
- b) Punjab Province
- c) Bombay Province
- d) Assam Province

ANS: C

Explanation: The first of the revolutionary activities in Maharashtra was the organization of the Ramosi Peasant Force by Vasudev Balwant Phadke in 1879, which aimed to rid the country of the British by instigating an armed revolt by disrupting communication lines.

It hoped to raise funds for its activities through dacoities. It was suppressed prematurely.

Source: Spectrum Modern India Page no, 320.

Q.6) "Punjabee" newspaper was founded by which of the following?

- a) Abdul Ghaffar Khan
- b) Ram Prasad Bismil
- c) Hemu Kalani
- d) Lala Lajpat Rai

ANS: D

Explanation: The Punjab extremism was fuelled by issues such as frequent famines coupled with rise in land revenue and irrigation tax, practice of 'begar' by zamindars and by the events in Bengal.

Among those active here were Lala Lajpat Rai who brought out Punjabee (with its motto of self-help at any cost).

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding the "Indian Home Rule Society":

1. It was founded by Shyamji Krishnavarma outside India.
2. Savarkar and Hardayal are members of the Indian Home Rule Society.

Which of the statements given above is/are NOT correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: D

Explanation: Shyamji Krishnavarma had started in London in 1905 an Indian Home Rule Society—'India House'—as a centre for Indian students, a scholarship scheme to bring radical youth from India, and a journal The Indian Sociologist.

Revolutionaries such as Savarkar and Hardayal became the members of India House.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.8) Which of the following pair (s) is/are correctly matched?

Organization	:	Location
1. Ghadar Party	:	Florida
2. Swadesh Sevak Home	:	Vancouver
3. United India House	:	Seattle

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: C

Explanation: The Ghadr Party was a revolutionary group organised around a weekly newspaper The Ghadr with its headquarters at San Francisco and branches along the US coast and in the Far East.

To carry out revolutionary activities, the earlier activists had set up a 'Swadesh Sevak Home' at Vancouver and 'United India House' at Seattle.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.9) The "Berlin Committee for Indian Independence" was established by?

- a) Lala Hardayal
- b) Bir Tikendrajit Singh
- c) Tirok Sing Syiem
- d) Rashbehari Bose

ANS: A

Explanation: The Berlin Committee for Indian Independence was established in 1915 by Virendranath Chattopadhyay, Bhupendranath Dutta, Lala Hardayal and others with the help of the German foreign office under 'Zimmerman Plan'.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.10) "Mitra Mela"—a secret society organised by which of the following?

- a) Savarkar brothers
- b) Lala Hardayal
- c) Subhash Chandra Bose
- d) Bala Gangadhar Tilak

ANS: A

Explanation: 1899—Mitra Mela—a secret society organised by Savarkar and his brother.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

History

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “Chuar Uprising”:

1. Chuar aboriginal tribesmen belong to the Baluchistan province of North Western India.
2. They held their lands under a kind of feudal tenure.
3. They are not strongly attached to the soil and always ready to change from farming to hunting.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: C

Explanation: Famine, enhanced land revenue demands and economic distress goaded the Chuar aboriginal tribesmen of the Jungle Mahal of Midnapore district and also of the Bankura district (in Bengal) to take up arms.

They held their lands under a kind of feudal tenure, but were not strongly attached to the soil, being always ready to change from farming to hunting, at the bidding of their jungle chiefs or zamindars.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.2) The Buddho Bhagat resented against the British policies and outsiders in 1831, was belongs to which of the following tribes?

- a) Ho tribes
- b) Munda tribes
- c) Kol tribes
- d) Chenchu tribes

ANS: C

Explanation: The Kols, alongwith other tribes, are inhabitants of Chhotanagpur. This covered Ranchi, Singhbhum, Hazaribagh, Palamau and the western parts of Manbhum.

- The trouble in 1831 started with large-scale transfers of land from Kol headmen to outsiders like Hindu, Sikh and Muslim farmers and money-lenders who were oppressive and demanded heavy taxes.
- Besides, the British judicial and revenue policies badly affected the traditional social conditions of the Kols.
- The Kols resented this and in 1831, under the leadership of Buddho Bhagat, the Kol rebels killed or burnt about a thousand outsiders.
- Only after large-scale military operations could order is restored.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.3) The origin of “Ho tribal uprising” of British period is belong to which of the following area?

- a) Singhbhum
- b) Pune
- c) Valsad
- d) Rampa chodavaram

ANS: A

Explanation: The Raja of Parahat organised his Ho tribals to revolt against the occupation of Singhbhum (now in Jharkhand).

The revolt continued till 1827 when the Ho tribals were forced to submit.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.4) The tribal leaders “Sidhu and Kanhu” are belong to which of the following uprising?

- a) Munda uprisings
- b) Moppha uprisings
- c) Gond uprisings
- d) Santhal uprisings

ANS: D

Explanation: Continued oppression of the Santhals, an agricultural people, who had fled to settle in the plains of the Rajmahal hills (Bihar) led to the Santhal rebellion against the zamindars.

- The money-lenders who had the support of the police among others had joined the zamindars to subject the peasants to oppressive exactions and dispossession of lands.
- The rebellion turned into an anti-British movement.
- Under Sidhu and Kanhu, two brothers, the Santhals proclaimed an end to Company rule, and declared the area between Bhagalpur and Rajmahal as autonomous.
- The rebellion was suppressed by 1856.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.5) Which of the following are the factors of impoverishment of Indian peasantry?

1. Colonial economic policies.
 2. New land revenue system.
 3. Farmer supportive financial & judicial system.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: B

Explanation: The impoverishment of the Indian peasantry was a direct result of the transformation of the agrarian structure due to—

- colonial economic policies,
- ruin of the handicrafts leading to overcrowding of land,
- the new land revenue system,
- Colonial administrative and judicial system.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Indigo Revolt”:

1. Europeans forced the Bengal peasants to grow indigo crop on their land.
2. It was led by Debendranath & Satyendranath Tagore.
3. The revolt didn't get any support from Bengali intelligentsia.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only

- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: A

Explanation: In Bengal, the indigo planters, nearly all Europeans, exploited the local peasants by forcing them to grow indigo on their lands instead of the more paying crops like rice.

- The planters forced the peasants to take advance sums and enter into fraudulent contracts which were then used against the peasants.
- The anger of the peasants exploded in 1859 when, led by Digambar Biswas and Bishnu Biswas of Nadia district.
- They decided not to grow indigo under duress and resisted the physical pressure of the planters and their lathiyals (retainers) backed by police and the courts.
- The Bengali intelligentsia played a significant role by supporting the peasants' cause through newspaper campaigns, organisation of mass meetings, preparing memoranda on peasants' grievances and supporting them in legal battles.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.7) "Pabna Agrarian Movement" was related to which of the following province?

- a) United Province
- b) Central Province
- c) Bengal Province
- d) Mysore province

ANS: C

Explanation: During the 1870s and 1880s, large parts of Eastern Bengal witnessed agrarian unrest caused by oppressive practices of the zamindars.

- The zamindars resorted to enhanced rents beyond legal limits and prevented the tenants from acquiring occupancy rights under Act X of 1859.
- To achieve their ends, the zamindars resorted to forcible evictions, seizure of cattle and crops and prolonged, costly litigation in courts where the poor peasant found himself at a disadvantage.
- Having had enough of the oppressive regime, the peasants of Yusufshahi Pargana in Patna district formed an agrarian league or combination to resist the demands of the zamindars.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.8) "American Civil War" is associated or related to which of the following movements in British India?

- a) Deccan riots
- b) Indigo revolt
- c) Rampa movement
- d) Santhal movement

ANS: A

Explanation: The ryots of Deccan region of western India suffered heavy taxation under the Ryotwari system.

- Here again the peasants found themselves trapped in a vicious network with the moneylender as the exploiter and the main beneficiary.
- These moneylenders were mostly outsiders—Marwaris or Gujaratis.

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- The conditions had worsened due to a crash in cotton prices after the end of the American Civil War in 1864, the Government's decision to raise the land revenue by 50% in 1867, and a succession of bad harvests.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.9) The All India Kisan Congress/Sabha was founded by?

- a) N. G. Ranga
- b) Swami Sahjanand Saraswati
- c) Sarojini Naidu
- d) C R Rajagopalachari

ANS: B

Explanation: All India Kisan Congress/sabha was founded in Lucknow in April 1936 with Swami Sahjanand Saraswati as the president and N.G. Ranga as the general secretary. A kisan manifesto was issued and a periodical under Indulal Yagnik started.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.

Q.10) Karshak Sanghams was come into existence in 1930's in which of the following area?

- a) United Province
- b) North West Frontier Province
- c) Malabar area
- d) Coromondal Area

ANS: C

Explanation: In the Malabar region, the peasants were mobilised mainly by the Congress Socialist Party activists.

- Many "Karshak Sanghams" (peasants' organisations) came into existence.
- The most popular method was the marching of jaths or peasants groups to the landlords to get their demands accepted.
- One significant campaign by the peasants was in 1938 for the amendment of the Malabar Tenancy Act, 1929.

Source: Spectrum Modern India.