

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

1st Week June, 2025

HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

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India under the Company's rule (Administrative structure, Developments, reforms in various fields, etc.)

1. With reference to the Regulating Act of 1773, consider the following statements:

1. It established the office of the Governor-General of India for the first time.
2. It brought the East India Company's revenue and administrative matters under the control of the British government.
3. It established a Supreme Court in Calcutta with both original and appellate jurisdictions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 2 and 3 only
B) 1 and 2 only
C) 1 and 3 only
D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- The Regulating Act of 1773 created the **Governor-General of Bengal**, not of India. The title *Governor-General of India* came later with the **Charter Act of 1833**.
- The Act required the Company's directors to submit all correspondence related to civil, military, and revenue affairs to the British government, bringing these matters under parliamentary oversight.
- The Act established a **Supreme Court in Calcutta** with **original and appellate jurisdiction**, although its scope initially led to conflicts with the Council's authority.

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

2. With reference to Pitt's India Act of 1784, consider the following statements:

1. It established a Board of Control in Britain to supervise the civil, military, and revenue affairs of the East India Company.
2. It abolished the dual system of governance established by the Regulating Act of 1773.
3. It made the Presidencies of Bombay and Madras subordinate to the Governor-General of Bengal.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
B) 2 and 3 only
C) 1 and 3 only
D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- The Pitt's India Act created a **Board of Control** in Britain, comprising senior ministers like the Chancellor of the Exchequer and a Secretary of State, to oversee the Company's administrative and political functions in India.
- The Act did **not abolish** the dual system; rather, it **formalized** a new dual system of control—the **Company retained control over commerce**, while the **Board of Control governed political and administrative matters**.
- The Act made **Bombay and Madras Presidencies subordinate** to the **Governor-General of Bengal**, enhancing centralised control in India.

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

3. **With reference to the Charter Act of 1793, consider the following statements:**

1. The Act allowed the East India Company to grant trade licenses to private individuals and employees.
2. It separated revenue administration from judicial functions.
3. It ended the practice of paying members of the Home Government from Indian revenues.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
B) 2 and 3 only
C) 1 and 3 only
D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- The Act allowed the Company to issue '**privilege**' or '**country trade**' licences, enabling private trade by individuals and employees—especially **opium trade with China**.
- It **separated revenue and judicial functions**, which led to the **disappearance of Maal Adalats** (revenue courts).
- Instead of ending it, the Act **continued the practice** of paying **Home Government members from Indian revenues**, a provision that remained until **1919**.

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

4. **With reference to the Government of India Act of 1919, consider the following statements:**

1. The Act introduced a bicameral legislature at the Centre with both houses having a majority of elected members.
2. It introduced dyarchy at the central level, dividing subjects between reserved and transferred categories.
3. The Act provided for separate provincial and central budgets and introduced direct elections for the first time in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
B) 1 and 3 only
C) 2 and 3 only
D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- The Act created a **bicameral legislature** at the Centre consisting of the **Council of State** and the **Legislative Assembly**, with **majority of members directly elected**, though franchise was restricted.
- **Dyarchy** was introduced **only at the provincial level, not at the Centre**. Subjects were divided into **reserved and transferred** categories at the **provincial level**.
- The Act introduced **separate budgets for provinces and the centre** for the first time and also **introduced direct elections**, though limited to property-, tax-, or education-based franchise.

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

5. **With reference to the Montagu-Chelmsford (Montford) Reforms of 1919, consider the following statements:**

1. They advocated the simultaneous conduct of the Indian Civil Services (ICS) examination in both India and England.
2. They proposed that one-third of civil service recruitments be made in India itself, with a gradual annual increase.
3. They aimed to completely Indianise the public services within five years.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
B) 2 and 3 only
C) 1 and 3 only
D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- The Montford Reforms **recommended simultaneous ICS examinations** in **India and England**, a long-standing nationalist demand.
- They **recommended that one-third of recruitments** be made in **India**, with an annual increase of **1.5%** in Indian recruitment.
- The reforms did **not set any timeline** for full Indianisation of services. Rather, they proposed **gradual inclusion** of Indians without committing to complete Indianisation within five years.

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

6. With reference to the Montagu-Chelmsford (Montford) Reforms of 1919, consider the following statements:

1. They advocated the simultaneous conduct of the Indian Civil Services (ICS) examination in both India and England.
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- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- The Montford Reforms **recommended simultaneous ICS examinations** in **India and England**, a long-standing nationalist demand.
- They **recommended that one-third of recruitments** be made in **India**, with an annual increase of **1.5%** in Indian recruitment.
- The reforms did **not set any timeline** for full Indianisation of services. Rather, they proposed **gradual inclusion** of Indians without committing to complete Indianisation within five years.

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

7. With reference to the evolution of the police system in British India, consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Police Act of 1861 established a uniform police structure across provinces with ranks such as Inspector General, Deputy Inspector General, and Superintendent of Police.
2. The Police Commission of 1902–03 recommended promotion of junior police officials to senior positions and restricted village-level police inquiries.
3. Under Lord Cornwallis, a regular police force was organised with the daroga system under the supervision of a district Superintendent of Police.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- The **Indian Police Act of 1861**, following the 1860 Police Commission, introduced a **uniform police hierarchy**—Inspector General at the provincial level, Deputy Inspector General at the range level, and SP at the district level.
- The **1902–03 Police Commission** under **Andrew Frazer discouraged** promotion of junior police officials to senior posts and **recommended allowing** policemen to make village inquiries—not restricting them.

- In 1791, Lord Cornwallis organised a **regular police system**, establishing **thanas under Indian darogas**, with a **Superintendent of Police (SP)** heading each district, marking a significant modernisation step.

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

8. With reference to the judicial reforms introduced by Warren Hastings, consider the following statements:

1. District Diwani Adalats tried civil disputes and applied Hindu law for Hindus and Muslim law for Muslims.
2. The Sadar Nizamat Adalat at Murshidabad functioned as the highest criminal court and required British judges for approving capital punishment.
3. The Supreme Court established under the Regulating Act of 1773 often came into conflict with other judicial institutions in Bengal.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **District Diwani Adalats** were established to try **civil disputes** and applied **personal laws—Hindu law for Hindus and Muslim law for Muslims**. Appeals lay to the **Sadar Diwani Adalat**.
- The **Sadar Nizamat Adalat** at **Murshidabad** was the **highest criminal court**, but it was headed by an **Indian deputy nizam**, not British judges. It was **assisted by chief qazi and chief mufti**.
- The **Supreme Court at Calcutta**, set up under the **Regulating Act of 1773**, often had **jurisdictional clashes** with the existing Indian courts, causing administrative and legal confusion.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

9. With reference to Lord Ripon's Resolution of 1882, consider the following statements:

1. The resolution advocated the development of local self-governing institutions for administrative efficiency and political education.
2. It recommended that local bodies should be chaired and dominated by elected non-officials wherever possible.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C) 1 and 2

Explanation:

- Lord Ripon's Resolution of 1882 emphasized strengthening local self-governing institutions as a means to improve administrative efficiency and promote political education among Indians.
- The resolution recommended that non-officials (especially elected ones) should form a majority in local bodies and be given positions of leadership, including the role of chairperson where feasible.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

10. With reference to the British Indian military system after the Revolt of 1857, consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Army was reorganised to maintain British dominance by fixing a higher proportion of European soldiers compared to Indian soldiers.
2. The British followed a policy of classifying communities into 'martial' and 'non-martial' races to favour recruitment from certain groups.
3. Indian soldiers were gradually allowed into officer ranks from the year 1859.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
B) 2 and 3 only
C) 1 and 3 only
D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- After 1857, the British maintained a **1:2 ratio in Bengal** and **2:5 in Bombay and Madras**, ensuring **European dominance** in key military positions and locations.
- The British promoted the '**martial race**' theory, favouring recruitment of **Sikhs, Gurkhas, and Pathans** while excluding groups from **Awadh, Bihar, and South India** that had participated in the revolt.
- **Indians were not allowed in officer ranks after 1859; the highest rank until 1914 was Subedar. Only from 1918 onwards were Indians permitted into commissioned ranks**, and even then, entry into arms like **artillery remained restricted** until World War II.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

Major Changes in Administrative Structure after 1857

1. With reference to the administrative changes in post-1857 colonial India, consider the following statements:

1. The British aimed to reduce the alienation of the Indian masses by associating natives with the administration.
2. The British reduced capital investments in India during this period due to rising competition from other industrial powers.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. Both 1 and 2
D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A. 1 only

Explanation:

- After 1857, the British involved Indians in administration to reduce alienation and prevent future uprisings.
- British capital investment in India **increased**, especially in railways, plantations, and trade, despite global competition.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

2. With reference to the Government of India after the Act of 1858, consider the following statements:

1. The secretary of state for India was assisted by a council of 15 and was a member of the British Parliament.
2. The dual system of control over Indian affairs ended with the Act of 1858.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C. Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

- The secretary of state was a British cabinet member and had a 15-member advisory council.
- The dual control system (Company and Board of Control) introduced by Pitt's India Act, 1784 was abolished.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

3. With reference to the Indian Councils Act, 1861, consider the following statements:

1. The legislative council formed under the Act had real powers to influence government policies.
2. Indians could be nominated as non-official members, but they largely came from elite sections of society.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B. 2 only

Explanation:

- The council had no real powers; it was merely advisory and could not influence budget, legislation, or executive action.
- Indians were nominated as non-official members, but they were mainly elites like princes and landlords.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

4. With reference to the Indian Councils Act, 1861 and provincial governance in British India, consider the following statements:

1. Legislative powers were restored to the provinces of Bombay and Madras by the Indian Councils Act, 1861.
2. All provinces in British India were administered by governors appointed by the British Crown.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A. 1 only

Explanation:

- The Act of 1861 restored legislative powers to Bombay and Madras, which had been removed in 1833.
- Only the presidencies (Bombay, Madras, Calcutta) were governed by Crown-appointed governors; other provinces were under lieutenant governors or chief commissioners appointed by the governor general.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

5. With reference to financial decentralisation in British India, consider the following statements:

1. The financial decentralisation introduced from 1870 onwards was aimed at increasing provincial autonomy.
2. Under Lord Mayo, provincial governments were given fixed grants for certain services like police, education, and roads.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B. 2 only

Explanation:

- The reforms were meant to **increase revenue efficiency**, not to promote real autonomy.
- In 1870, Lord Mayo initiated the first step in financial decentralisation by granting provinces fixed sums for specific services.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

6. With reference to the evolution of local self-government in British India, consider the following statements:

1. Local bodies formed between 1864 and 1868 were primarily composed of elected members and were independent of district administration.
2. One of the objectives behind promoting local bodies was to associate Indians with administration without threatening British supremacy.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B. 2 only

Explanation:

- Local bodies formed during 1864–68 mostly had **nominated members** and were headed by **district magistrates**, serving more as tools for tax collection than genuine self-governance.
- A key motive for promoting local bodies was to involve Indians in administration **without compromising British control**, partly to counter rising nationalism.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

7. With reference to Mayo's Resolution of 1870, consider the following statements:

1. It marked the beginning of financial decentralisation by allowing provinces to levy local taxes to balance their budgets.
2. The Resolution aimed to reduce British control over essential services like education and sanitation by transferring them to Indian nationalists.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A. 1 only

Explanation:

- Mayo's Resolution of 1870 was a key step in financial decentralisation. It allowed provinces to raise local taxes and manage sectors like **education, sanitation, and roads**.
- The Resolution did **not** aim to empower Indian nationalists but to **improve administrative efficiency** while keeping control within the colonial framework.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

8. With reference to Lord Ripon's Resolution of 1882, consider the following statements:

1. It advocated for elected non-official majorities and minimal official interference in local self-governing bodies.
2. As a result of this resolution, district boards were fully democratised and placed under the leadership of elected Indian representatives.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A. 1 only

Explanation:

- Ripon's 1882 resolution indeed aimed to **promote elected non-official majorities**, reduce official control, and encourage **local self-governance**.
- While the resolution was progressive, in **practice, district boards remained dominated by officials, and full democratisation did not occur**. The bureaucracy continued to hold significant power.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

9. With reference to the Royal Commission on Decentralisation (1908), consider the following statements:

1. The Commission recommended strengthening village panchayats by giving them judicial and financial powers.
2. It proposed that regular grants-in-aid from provincial governments to local bodies should be increased to improve infrastructure and services.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A. 1 only

Explanation:

- The Commission emphasized empowering **village panchayats** with **judicial powers in petty cases** and authority over local works, schools, and other community needs.
- The Commission actually **recommended reducing** dependence on **regular grants-in-aid** from provincial governments and suggested giving local bodies more autonomy and **taxation powers** instead.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

10. With reference to the Resolution of May 1918 on local self-government in British India, consider the following statements:

1. The official views on the Royal Commission on Decentralisation's recommendations led to significant improvements in local bodies soon after.
2. The Resolution viewed local self-government as the initial step towards responsible government for Indians.
3. It recommended that local bodies should have real authority and be genuinely representative of the people.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B. 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- Most recommendations of the Royal Commission remained unimplemented, so there was no immediate significant improvement in local bodies.
- The 1918 Resolution emphasized that local self-government was the **first step towards responsible government**, and local bodies should have **real powers and be truly representative**.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

Socio - Religious movement in the first half of 19th Century

1. Consider the following statements regarding the abolition of Sati in colonial India:

1. The practice of Sati was declared illegal and punishable under Regulation XVII of 1829 by Governor-General William Bentinck.
2. The regulation initially applied to all Presidencies—Bengal, Bombay, and Madras.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 only
- C. 2 only
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B. 1 only

Explanation:

- Regulation XVII of 1829 under William Bentinck declared Sati illegal.
- The regulation was initially limited to Bengal Presidency and later extended to Bombay and Madras.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

2. With reference to the social reform movement for women in 19th-century India, consider the following statements:

1. Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar played a key role in legalising widow remarriage through the Hindu Widows' Remarriage Act, 1856.
2. Vishnu Shastri Pandit, Karsandas Mulji, and D.K. Karve were prominent figures in opposing widow remarriage.
3. Savitribai Phule actively campaigned against the humiliation faced by widows and advocated for their rights.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A. 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- Vidyasagar was instrumental in passing the 1856 Act and supported widow remarriage.
- Vishnu Shastri Pandit, Karsandas Mulji, and D.K. Karve **supported**, not opposed, widow remarriage.
- Savitribai Phule, along with Jyotiba Phule, campaigned for widow rights.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

3. With reference to the women's organisations in colonial India, consider the following statements:

1. The Bharat Stree Mahamandal was the first major Indian women's organisation set up by a woman.
2. The All India Women's Conference (AIWC) primarily focused on promoting religious harmony among women from different communities.

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

Answer: A) 1 only

Explanation:

- The *Bharat Stree Mahamandal*, founded in **1910** by **Sarla Devi Chaudhurani**, is considered the **first major Indian women's organisation set up by a woman**. It worked for women's education, socio-political upliftment, and abolition of purdah.
- The *All India Women's Conference (AIWC)*, founded in **1927** by **Margaret Cousins**, was focused on **social justice, equal rights, and legislative reforms** rather than promoting religious harmony. It worked on various legal reforms such as the Sarda Act, Hindu Marriage Act, Dowry Prohibition Act, etc.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

4. With reference to Raja Rammohan Roy, consider the following statements:

1. The Brahmo Samaj believed that no scripture could claim authority higher than human reason and conscience.
2. Raja Rammohan Roy's social reform efforts included active advocacy for the abolition of the caste system and support for the divine origin of avatars.

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

Answer: A) 1 only

Explanation:

- The **Brahmo Samaj** did **deny the absolute authority of any scripture**, asserting instead the **supremacy of human reason and conscience**.
- Rammohan Roy **criticised the caste system** and **discarded the belief in divine avatars**, which means he did **not** support their divine origin. In fact, one of the features of the Brahmo Samaj was **denial of divine incarnations (avatars)**.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

5. With reference to the Brahmo Samaj and its leaders, consider the following statements:

1. Debendranath Tagore led the Tattvabodhini Sabha, which merged with the Brahmo Samaj to revitalise it and promote Rammohan Roy's ideas.
2. Keshab Chandra Sen was dismissed from the Brahmo Samaj leadership due to his support for the caste system and refusal to incorporate other religious teachings.

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

Answer: A) 1 only

Explanation:

- Debendranath Tagore indeed led the Tattvabodhini Sabha, which later merged informally with the Brahmo Samaj and helped propagate Rammohan Roy's reformist ideals.
- Keshab Chandra Sen was **not** dismissed for supporting the caste system. On the contrary, he was a radical opponent of caste and supported inter-caste marriage, as well as efforts to incorporate teachings from multiple religions.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

6. With reference to the Prarthana Samaj, consider the following statements:

1. It was founded in Bombay with the help of Keshab Chandra Sen and focused more on social reforms than religious teachings.
2. The Samaj actively confronted Hindu orthodoxy through protests and legal interventions.
3. Mahadev Govind Ranade played a key role in expanding the influence of the Prarthana Samaj across India and promoting widow remarriage.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- The **Prarthana Samaj** was indeed founded in **Bombay in 1867** with the help of **Keshab Chandra Sen**, and while it embraced **monotheism**, its focus was largely on **social reform**.
- The Samaj chose the path of **education and persuasion**, and **did not confront Hindu orthodoxy directly**.
- **Mahadev Govind Ranade** was central to the Samaj's work, helping to spread its reach across India. He, along with **Dhondo Keshav Karve**, was a strong **advocate of widow remarriage** and **women's education**, founding movements and institutions for the same.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

7. With reference to the Young Bengal Movement, consider the following statements:

1. The movement drew inspiration from the French Revolution and promoted rational thinking and individual liberty.
2. The Derozians were widely supported by Indian peasants and orthodox sections of society.
3. Henry Vivian Derozio was considered one of the earliest nationalist poets of modern India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- The **Young Bengal Movement**, led by **Henry Vivian Derozio**, was deeply influenced by the **French Revolution** and emphasized **rationalism, liberty, and equality**.
- The Derozians **lacked mass support**, especially from **peasants or orthodox groups**, due to their **bookish radicalism** and **elite social base**.
- Derozio is recognized as **one of the earliest nationalist poets** in modern Indian history.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

8. With reference to the Paramahansa Mandali, consider the following statements:

1. It was founded in the 19th century in Maharashtra as a secret society to reform Hindu religion and society.
2. The Mandali promoted worship of one god, widow remarriage, and the breaking of caste rules.

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

Answer: C) Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

- The Paramahansa Mandali was indeed founded in Maharashtra in the 19th century (1849) as a secret society to bring reform in Hindu religion and society.
- It emphasized monotheism, breaking caste barriers, widow remarriage, and women's education.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

9. With reference to the efforts towards women's rights in colonial India, consider the following statements:

1. The Age of Consent Act, 1891, was passed primarily due to the efforts of B.M. Malabari and the public attention generated by the Rukhmabai case.
2. The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929, popularly known as the Sarda Act, raised the legal age of marriage for girls to 18 years.

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

Answer: A) 1 only

Explanation:

- The Age of Consent Act (1891) was indeed influenced by the reform efforts of B.M. Malabari and the famous **Rukhmabai case**, which highlighted the plight of child brides and the issue of conjugal rights being enforced on them.
- The **Sarda Act of 1929** raised the age of marriage to **14 for girls and 18 for boys, not 18 for girls**. The age for girls was later raised to 18 by the **Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Act of 1978**.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

10. With reference to Jyotirao Phule and Savitribai Phule, consider the following statements:

1. Jyotirao Phule founded the Satyashodhak Samaj in 1873 to promote education among women and lower caste communities.
2. Jyotirao Phule introduced a simple marriage ceremony called the Satyashodhak marriage to reduce Brahminical dominance.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) 1 and 2 only
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- Jyotirao Phule founded the Satyashodhak Samaj in 1873, aiming at social service and spreading education among women and lower caste people.

- Jyotirao Phule propagated the Satyashodhak marriage ceremony, which was simple, inexpensive, and aimed at removing Brahmin priests' dominance in marriages.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

Political organizations prior to 1885 and Freedom Struggle under Moderate Phase

1. Match the following personalities with the political associations they were associated with

Personality	Association
A. Raja Rammohan Roy	1. East India Association
B. Sisir Kumar Ghosh	2. Bangabhasha Prakasika Sabha
C. Dadabhai Naoroji	3. Indian League
D. Landholders of Bengal	4. Zamindari Association (Landholders' Society)

Select the correct matching

- A. A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4
- B. A-3, B-2, C-4, D-1
- C. A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3
- D. A-1, B-4, C-3, D-2

Answer A.

- The **Bangabhasha Prakasika Sabha** was formed in **1836** by associates of **Raja Rammohan Roy** for political discussions and reforms in the Bengali language.
- The **Indian League** was started in **1875** by **Sisir Kumar Ghosh** to **stimulate nationalism** and encourage **political education** among Indians.
- The **East India Association** was formed in **1866** by **Dadabhai Naoroji** in **London** to discuss Indian issues and influence British public opinion and policy in favor of Indian welfare.
- The **Zamindari Association**, also known as the **Landholders' Society**, was formed to **safeguard landlord interests**.
 - This was the **first political association** to use **constitutional methods** for voicing grievances.
 - Formed by **prominent zamindars (landholders)** in Bengal.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

2. For the Assertion (A) and Reason (R) given below, choose the correct alternative from the following
Assertion (A) The Indian Association of Calcutta is considered a forerunner of the Indian National Congress.
Reason (R) It aimed to unify Indians under a common political programme and held an all-India conference in 1883.

Options

- A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C. A is true, but R is false.
- D. A is false, but R is true.

Answer A.

Explanation

- The **Indian Association of Calcutta**, founded in **1876** by **Surendranath Banerjea** and **Ananda Mohan Bose**, indeed served as a **precursor to the Indian National Congress**.

- It took significant **all-India political initiatives**, most notably **organising the All-India Conference in 1883**, which was attended by over **100 delegates from various parts of India**—a clear attempt to **unify Indians on a common political platform**.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

3. Consider the following statements regarding Bombay Presidency Association

1. The Bombay Presidency Association was founded by leaders such as Badruddin Tyabji and Pherozeshah Mehta
2. It was founded in response to Lytton's reactionary policies and the Ilbert Bill controversy.

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

Answer C. Both 1 and 2

Explanation

- The Bombay Presidency Association was established in 1885 by prominent leaders including Badruddin Tyabji and Pherozeshah Mehta.
- It was founded in response to Lytton's reactionary policies and the Ilbert Bill controversy.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

4. Match the following early political associations with their respective years of formation

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| A. Landholders' Society | 1. 1851 |
| B. Bengal British India Society | 2. 1838 |
| C. British Indian Association | 3. 1843 |
| D. Deccan Association | 4. 1852 |

Select the correct option

- A. A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4
B. A-3, B-2, C-4, D-1
C. A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3
D. A-1, B-4, C-3, D-2

Answer A. A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4

Explanation

- The **Landholders' Society**, also known as the Zamindari Association, was established in **1838** to safeguard the interests of landlords and marked the beginning of organized political activity in India.
- The **Bengal British India Society** was formed later in **1843** with a broader aim of collecting and disseminating information about the actual condition of the Indian people under British rule.
- In **1851**, both these associations merged to form the **British Indian Association**, which aimed to represent Indian grievances and suggest reforms to the British Government.
- To further expand its reach beyond Bengal, the **Deccan Association** was set up in **1852** in Poona, although it was short-lived and could not fulfill its intended role.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

5. With reference to the Bombay Presidency Association, consider the following statements

1. It was founded in 1885 in response to the reactionary policies of Lord Ripon.
2. Pherozeshah Mehta was one of its founding members.

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

Answer B. 2 only

Explanation

- The Bombay Presidency Association was formed in **1885** as a reaction to the **policies of Lord Lytton** (not Ripon), especially the Ilbert Bill controversy and other repressive measures.
- **Pherozeshah Mehta** was indeed one of the founding members of the Association along with K.T. Telang and Badruddin Tyabji.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

6. With reference to the Madras Mahajan Sabha, consider the following statements

1. It was founded in 1884 to coordinate the activities of local associations in the Madras Presidency.
2. Badruddin Tyabji was one of its founding members.

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

Answer A. 1 only

Explanation

- The **Madras Mahajan Sabha** was formed in **May 1884** to bring together local political associations and act as a unifying body in the Madras Presidency.
- **Badruddin Tyabji** was associated with the Bombay Presidency Association, **not** the Madras Mahajan Sabha.
- The Sabha was founded by **M. V. Raghavachari, G. Subrahmanyam Aiyar, and Anand Charlu.**

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

7. With reference to the Poona Sarvajanik Sabha, consider the following statements

1. It was established to act as an intermediary between the British Government and the Indian people.
2. Its headquarters was initially set up in London.
3. It aimed to promote political education and awareness among Indians.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer B. 1 and 3 only

Explanation

- The **Poona Sarvajanik Sabha**, founded in **1867**, sought to act as a **bridge between the British Government and the Indian populace.**
- The Sabha's headquarters was located in **Poona (Pune)**, not London.
- One of its objectives was to **promote political awareness and education** among Indians, encouraging public engagement with governance issues.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

8. With reference to the British India Association, consider the following statements

1. The British India Association was established with Raja Radhakant Dev as President and Debendranath Tagore as Secretary.
2. The association demanded complete abolition of the zamindari system across India.
3. It advocated for the separation of executive and judicial functions and the reduction of salt duty.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer B. 1 and 3 only

Explanation

- The British India Association was formed in 1851 by merging the Landholders' Society and the Bengal British India Society with Raja Radhakant Dev as President and Debendranath Tagore as Secretary.
- The association did not demand the abolition of the zamindari system across India; it actually ceased to exist after the system was abolished in West Bengal in 1954.
- Among its objectives were the separation of executive and judicial functions and the abolition of the salt duty.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

9. Consider the following statements with reference to the *Indian National Association*

Statement I The Indian National Association played a crucial role in uniting Indians behind a common political agenda and promoting nationalism.

Statement II The Association was formed by Sisir Kumar Ghosh and Sambhu Charan Mukherjee in 1875 with the aim of mobilizing the working class and peasant communities in rural Bengal.

Which one of the following is correct?

- A. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- B. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- C. Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
- D. Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

Answer C

Explanation

- The Indian National Association aimed to build public opinion on political issues and unite Indians under a common agenda.
- The Indian National Association was **founded by Surendranath Banerjee and Ananda Mohan Bose in 1876**, not by Sisir Kumar Ghosh and Sambhu Charan Mukherjee. The latter founded the *Indian League* in 1875.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

10. Consider the following statements regarding the *Zamindari Association*

Statement I The Zamindari Association, also known as the Landholders' Society, advocated for the expansion of Permanent Settlement across India and used constitutional methods to achieve its objectives.

Statement II The Association gained pan-India support and played a significant role in representing the grievances of peasants and landless laborers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. Only Statement I is correct
- B. Only Statement II is correct
- C. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
- D. Neither Statement I nor Statement II is correct

Answer A.

Explanation

- The Zamindari Association aimed to protect landlords' interests, advocated for Permanent Settlement across India, and used constitutional agitation methods.
- The association **did not** represent the interests of peasants or landless laborers; it was limited to the interests of **zamindars** and had influence **mainly in Bengal**, not pan-India.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

Freedom Struggle under Extremist (1905-1917)

1. **With reference to the Anti-Partition Movement (1903–1905), consider the following statements:**

1. The Swadeshi Movement was formally proclaimed through the Boycott Resolution passed at a meeting in Calcutta Town Hall.
2. Rabindranath Tagore composed 'Amar Sonar Bangla' song during the movement
3. The initial response to the partition was led by extremist leaders through militant demonstrations across Bengal.

Which of the statements given above is/are **correct**?

- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A. 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- The **Swadeshi Movement** was formally proclaimed on August 7, 1905, through the **Boycott Resolution** at the Calcutta Town Hall.
- **Rabindranath Tagore** composed 'Amar Sonar Bangla', which became a patriotic anthem during the movement and is now the **national anthem of Bangladesh**.
- The **initial phase** of the Anti-Partition Movement was led by **Moderates** like **Surendranath Banerjea**, and the methods used were **constitutional and peaceful** (petitions, public meetings), *not* militant or extremist.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

2. **With reference to the Extremist phase of the Indian national movement, consider the following statements:**

1. The Extremists called for passive resistance, including the boycott of government institutions and services.
2. Dadabhai Naoroji declared complete independence (Purna Swaraj) as the goal at the 1906 Calcutta session of the Congress.
3. The Extremists gave the idea of political independence a central place in Indian politics.

Which of the statements given above is/are **correct**?

- A. 1 and 3 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 2 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A. 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- The **Extremists** advocated **passive resistance**, which included the **boycott of government schools, services, courts, councils, and titles**.
- At the **1906 Calcutta session**, **Dadabhai Naoroji** declared "**self-government (Swaraj)**" as the goal, *not complete independence (Purna Swaraj)*. The demand for **Purna Swaraj** was officially adopted in **1929 at the Lahore Session**.
- Extremists like **Aurobindo** made **political independence** the **central goal**, promoting **self-sacrifice** as essential to achieving it.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

3. With reference to the extent of mass participation during the Swadeshi Movement (1905–1909), consider the following statements:

1. Women from urban middle-class backgrounds began actively participating in the nationalist movement.
2. The Swadeshi Movement succeeded in gaining broad-based support among Muslim peasants across Bengal and Punjab.
3. Labour unrest during the movement led to the formation of unions, such as the Railwaymen's Union and strikes in jute and cotton mills.

Which of the statements given above is/are **correct**?

- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 1 and 3 only
C. 2 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B. 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- The movement saw **urban middle-class women**, traditionally confined to the home, **actively participating in picketing and processions**, marking a shift in their public role.
- **Most Muslim support**, especially from the **Muslim peasantry**, was **absent**. The **Muslim League** was **propped up in 1905** as an anti-Congress front. Government policies and religious symbolism in the movement limited broader Muslim participation.
- The period witnessed **labour unrest**, including the **formation of the Railwaymen's Union** (1906), and **strikes in jute mills**, cotton mills (Tuticorin, Tirunelveli), and other industrial sectors.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

3. With reference to the revolutionary activities in Bengal during 1907–1917, consider the following statements:

1. The Anushilan Samiti was involved in the Alipore Conspiracy and the Muzaffarpur bomb incident.
2. The revolutionary efforts remained largely disconnected from the broader public and had a narrow social base.
3. The Indo-German conspiracy was led by Bagha Jatin and Rash Behari Bose, successfully triggered a nationwide armed uprising during World War I.

Which of the statements given above is/are **correct**?

- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A. 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- The **Anushilan Samiti** was central to major early revolutionary incidents like the **Muzaffarpur bomb attack (1908)** by **Khudiram Bose and Prafulla Chaki**, and the **Alipore Conspiracy Case (1908–09)** involving **Barindra Ghosh, Aurobindo, and others**.
- Revolutionary efforts were **elite-led, upper-caste-dominated**, and **lacked mass involvement**, with little effort to mobilize broader society. This **limited their long-term effectiveness**.
- The **Indo-German conspiracy (Zimmerman Plan)** aimed to trigger a **mutiny** and nationwide uprising during WWI but **failed due to a police leak**. **Bagha Jatin** died in the **Balasore gunfight (1915)**, and the plan did **not succeed**.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

4. With reference to the revolutionary movement in Maharashtra, consider the following statements:

1. Vasudev Balwant Phadke organised the Ramosi Peasant Force in the late 19th century to initiate an armed uprising against British rule.
2. The Chapekar brothers were associated with Lokmanya Tilak and were involved in the assassination of the Plague Commissioner of Poona in 1897.
3. Abhinav Bharat was formed by Gopal Krishna Gokhale to promote constitutional reforms through revolutionary means.

Which of the statements given above is/are **correct**?

- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A. 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Vasudev Balwant Phadke** formed the **Ramosi Peasant Force** in **1879** with the aim of overthrowing the British through **armed rebellion and dacoities** to fund the cause.
- The **Chapekar brothers**, followers of **Tilak**, **assassinated Rand** (Plague Commissioner of Poona) and **Lt. Ayerst** in **1897**, marking an early instance of revolutionary violence in Maharashtra.
- **Abhinav Bharat** was **not formed by Gopal Krishna Gokhale**, but by **Vinayak Damodar Savarkar** and his brother. It was a **revolutionary secret society**, inspired by **Mazzini's 'Young Italy'**, advocating armed revolution—not constitutional reforms.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

5. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: Extremism in Punjab declined sharply after the deportation of Lala Lajpat Rai and Ajit Singh in 1907.

Statement II: The government cracked down on political activism in Punjab by banning political meetings and deporting key leaders in May 1907.

Which one of the following is correct?

- A. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I.
B. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I.
C. Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
D. Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

Answer: A.

Explanation:

- The **extremist phase in Punjab** lost momentum **after May 1907**, particularly due to the **deportation of Lala Lajpat Rai and Ajit Singh**, which removed key leadership.
- The **British government responded with repression** by **banning political meetings and deporting prominent leaders**, directly causing the decline of the extremist movement.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

6. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: Indian revolutionaries set up centres like India House in London and later moved to places like Paris and Berlin.

Statement II: These locations provided shelter, freedom from British press laws, and access to foreign political support for revolutionary propaganda and arms.

Which one of the following is correct?

- A. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I.
B. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I.
C. Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
D. Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

Answer: A.

Explanation:

- Revolutionary hubs like **India House in London**, followed by **centres in Paris, Geneva, and Berlin**, were established by Indian nationalists abroad.
- The **reason** for these locations was precisely because they **offered shelter, press freedom, and potential support from foreign political groups**—essential for propaganda and plans to acquire arms.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

7. With reference to the Ghadr Movement (1913–1917), consider the following statements:

1. The Ghadr Party was primarily composed of Indian expatriates, especially Punjabi peasants and ex-soldiers, and was headquartered in San Francisco.
2. The Komagata Maru incident played a significant role in galvanizing the Ghadr leadership to initiate revolutionary activities in India.
3. Key leaders of the Ghadr Party included Lala Hardayal, Kartar Singh Saraba, Sohan Singh Bhakna, Barkatullah, and Bhai Parmanand.

Which of the statements given above is/are **correct**?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D. 1, 2 and 3

Explanation:

- The **Ghadr Party** was formed by **Punjabi immigrants**, mainly **ex-soldiers and peasants**, who had settled in **USA and Canada**, with **headquarters in San Francisco**.
- The **Komagata Maru incident (1914)**, where Indian immigrants were denied entry and later attacked in Calcutta, served as a **catalyst** for the **Ghadr Party's decision to launch a revolt**.
- Prominent **Ghadr leaders** included: **Lala Hardayal, Kartar Singh Saraba, Sohan Singh Bhakna, Maulana Barkatullah and Bhai Parmanand**.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

8. With reference to the revolutionary activities of Indians in Europe during World War I, consider the following statements:

1. The Berlin Committee for Indian Independence was formed in 1915 under the support of Germany's Zimmerman Plan.
2. Indian revolutionaries like Raja Mahendra Pratap, Barkatullah, and Obaidullah Sindhi attempted to establish a provisional Indian government in Kabul.
3. The Berlin Committee primarily focused on organizing civil disobedience movements within British India through non-violent means.

Which of the statements given above is/are **correct**?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A. 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- The **Berlin Committee for Indian Independence** was formed in **1915** by **Virendranath Chattopadhyay, Bhupendranath Dutta, and Lala Hardayal** with the **support of the German foreign office** under the **Zimmerman Plan**.
- A mission led by **Raja Mahendra Pratap, Maulana Barkatullah, and Obaidullah Sindhi** went to **Kabul** and tried to set up a **Provisional Government of India** with the backing of **Crown Prince Amanullah of Afghanistan**.
- The Berlin Committee's approach was **militant and revolutionary**, aiming to **incite rebellion among Indian troops, send arms, and even organize armed invasion**, *not* to promote **non-violent civil disobedience**.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

9. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: The most notable mutiny during World War I occurred in Singapore on February 15, 1915, involving Indian soldiers of the 5th Light Infantry and the 36th Sikh Battalion.

Statement II: The Singapore mutiny was suppressed after a fierce battle, resulting in several executions and life imprisonments.

Which one of the following is correct?

- A. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I.
- B. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I.
- C. Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
- D. Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

Answer: A.

Explanation:

- On **February 15, 1915**, the **Singapore Mutiny** involved soldiers of the **5th Light Infantry (Punjabi Muslims)** and the **36th Sikh Battalion**, led by **Jamadar Chisti Khan, Jamadar Abdul Gani, and Subedar Daud Khan**.
- The mutiny was **crushed after a fierce battle**, and as a result, **37 were executed** and **41 transported for life**, which directly **explains the suppression of the mutiny**.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

10. Consider the following statements about Bal Gangadhar Tilak:

- 1. He opposed the Age of Consent Bill of 1891, viewing it as interference by a foreign government.
- 2. He introduced the Ganapati and Shivaji festivals to promote a sense of national unity.
- 3. He supported the establishment of the National Social Conference and hosted its meetings in Poona.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Explanation:

- Tilak **opposed** the Age of Consent Bill, arguing that it was an intrusion into Indian traditions by the colonial state.
- He initiated the **Ganapati (1893)** and **Shivaji (1896)** festivals to instill pride and unity among Indians.
- Tilak **challenged** the National Social Conference and **refused** to allow it to meet in the Congress pavilion in Poona, opposing its reformist agenda being tied to Congress politics.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

The Gandhian Era - I

1. With reference to the Home Rule League Movement in India, consider the following statements:

- 1. The movement emerged as a response to the First World War.
- 2. The All India Home Rule League was inspired by the Irish Home Rule League.

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

Answer: c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

- The Home Rule Movement began during World War I, responding to the changing political climate and aiming to press for self-government in India.
- The idea of the Home Rule League was inspired by the Irish Home Rule League, reflecting a similar demand for autonomy within the British Empire.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

2. With reference to the Home Rule Leagues, consider the following statements:

1. Tilak's Home Rule League had its headquarters in Pune and operated mainly in Maharashtra (excluding Bombay), Karnataka, Central Provinces, and Berar.
2. Annie Besant's Home Rule League had a pan-India presence and was founded in Madras with over 200 branches.
3. George Arundale was the founding president of Tilak's Home Rule League.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- Tilak's league was headquartered in **Pune**, and its operations were limited to **Maharashtra (excluding Bombay), Karnataka, Central Provinces, and Berar**.
- Besant's league was founded in **Madras** with a **pan-India reach**, including **Bombay City**, and had around **200 branches**.
- **George Arundale** was **not the president of Tilak's league**; he was the **organising secretary of Besant's league**.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

3. With reference to the Kheda Satyagraha of 1918, consider the following statements:

1. Kheda Satyagraha was the first instance where Gandhi experimented with non-cooperation as a political strategy in India.
2. The initial phase of the movement was led by local leaders like Mohanlal Pandya before Gandhi formally joined.
3. The government fulfilled all demands of the peasants, including full tax remission and legal guarantees.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A. 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Kheda Satyagraha** marked the **first large-scale non-cooperation movement** led by Gandhi, making it a crucial step in his political rise in India.
- The movement was **initiated by local leaders**, especially **Mohanlal Pandya**, even **before Gandhi's direct involvement**.
- The **government did not concede all demands**; while revenue was not collected from most peasants, **no formal legal guarantee or full tax remission** was granted, and Gandhi **withdrew without full success**.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

4. With reference to the Montagu's Statement of August 1917, consider the following statements:

1. It marked the first time that the British government stated responsible government as an objective for India.
2. It accepted the demand for immediate self-government and transfer of power to elected Indian legislatures.
3. The declaration led to the introduction of the system of dyarchy in the provinces.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: b) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- The August Declaration of 1917 **for the first time acknowledged responsible government** as the objective of British policy in India.
- The declaration **did not accept immediate self-government or full transfer of power** to Indians. It only talked of a **gradual development** of self-governing institutions.
- The concept of '**dyarchy**' in provincial administration was introduced as a result of the declaration and was later implemented through the **Government of India Act, 1919**.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

5. With reference to the Government of India Act, 1919, consider the following statements:

1. It introduced the system of dyarchy in the provinces, classifying subjects as reserved and transferred.
2. It introduced bicameralism at the central level for the first time in British India.
3. It provided for responsible government at both provincial and central levels.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- The Act introduced **dyarchy** in provinces, with subjects divided into **reserved** and **transferred** categories.
- It introduced **bicameralism** at the **central level** (Central Legislative Assembly and Council of State) for the first time.
- The Act did **not** provide for responsible government at the **central level**—only limited self-governance at the **provincial level** was introduced.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

6. Consider the following statements regarding Gandhi's passive resistance movement in South Africa (1906–1914):

Statement I: Gandhi's satyagraha in South Africa addressed multiple discriminatory laws including compulsory registration certificates, poll tax, and invalidation of non-Christian marriages.

Statement II: These protests ultimately led to a negotiated settlement where the South African government conceded major Indian demands.

Which one of the following is correct?

- a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I.
- b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I.
- c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
- d) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

Answer: A

Explanation:

- Gandhi's satyagraha in South Africa **targeted various unjust laws**, such as compulsory **registration certificates, restrictions on migration, poll tax**, and a **Supreme Court judgment** that **invalidated Hindu, Muslim, and Parsi marriages**.
- The movement **culminated in a compromise** where major demands were **conceded by the South African government**, including recognition of Indian marriages and **abolition of the poll tax**.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

7. With reference to the Champaran Satyagraha of 1917, consider the following statements:

1. The tinkathia system forced peasants to grow indigo on 3/20th of their land.
2. The movement marked Gandhi's first active involvement in Indian mass politics after his return from South Africa.
3. Rajendra Prasad and J.B. Kripalani were among the associates who joined Gandhi during the movement.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

- The **tinkathia system** compelled peasants to grow indigo on 3/20th of their landholding.
- The Champaran Satyagraha was Gandhi's **first mass political action** in India after returning from South Africa.
- Leaders like **Rajendra Prasad and J.B. Kripalani** actively supported Gandhi during the campaign.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

8. With reference to the Rowlatt Act of 1919, consider the following statements:

1. The Act empowered the government to arrest and detain individuals without trial merely on suspicion.
2. All elected Indian members of the Imperial Legislative Council supported the Act in the hope of constitutional reforms.
3. The Act aimed to make the temporary wartime restrictions of the Defence of India Act into a permanent feature.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B. 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- The Rowlatt Act allowed **arrest without warrant, detention without trial, and trials without juries**, based only on suspicion.
- All elected Indian members of the Council, including **Jinnah, Malaviya, and Mazhar ul Haq**, **opposed the bill and resigned in protest**.
- The Act aimed to **make permanent the repressive wartime provisions** of the **Defence of India Act (1915)**.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

9. With reference to the Satyagraha against the Rowlatt Act in 1919, consider the following statements:

1. Gandhi established a Satyagraha Sabha and included young members of the Home Rule Leagues and Pan-Islamists in the movement.
2. The national movement's orientation permanently shifted towards mass participation during this agitation.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Neither 1 nor 2
- D. Both 1 and 2

Answer: D

Explanation:

- Gandhi formed a **Satyagraha Sabha** and drew in **younger leaders** from the **Home Rule Leagues and Pan-Islamist groups**.
- This movement marked a **permanent shift** toward **mass-based participation**, especially involving peasants, artisans, and the urban poor.

Source: Spectrum's A Brief History of Modern India

10. With reference to the Hunter Committee of Inquiry, consider the following statements:

1. The Hunter Committee unanimously recommended legal prosecution and punishment of General Dyer for the Jallianwala Bagh massacre.
2. Three Indian members included Sir Chimanlal Harilal Setalvad, Pandit Jagat Narayan, and Sardar Sahibzada Sultan Ahmad Khan.
3. The British government passed an Indemnity Act before the committee's proceedings, protecting officials from legal action.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B. 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- The **Hunter Committee** condemned Dyer's actions, but **did not recommend any penal or disciplinary action**. Dyer was **relieved of command** later, but not prosecuted.
- Three Indian members included **Sir Chimanlal Harilal Setalvad, Pandit Jagat Narayan, and Sardar Sahibzada Sultan Ahmad Khan**.
- The British government had already passed an **Indemnity Act** (called the "white-washing bill") before the committee began, shielding officials from prosecution.

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