

Q.1 What was the attitude of the nationalists movement towards the Second World War?

Ans. The Second World War broke out in Europe in 1939. England declared war against Germany on September 3, 1939 and the same day Viceroy, Lord Linlithgow dragged India into war without consulting the leaders of Indian political parties. The INC was strongly opposed to Fascism and Nazism on the one hand and British imperialism on the other. The INC made it clear that India was always willing to help England to the best of her might and ability provided the latter makes a clear declaration to free India after the war. But the British attitude remains ease. Consequently all the congress ministers resigned. Hence, Gandhiji launched an elaborate plan to launch the third mass movement against British Rule, which is known as "Quit India Movement".

Q.2 Why was the Indian National Army formed? What did it do for the freedom of the country?

Ans. Rash Bihari Bose, the famous Indian revolutionary had organised an Indian National Army in Singapore from among the Indian prisoners of war with the help of Japan. Subhash Chandra Bose took over the leadership of the Independence League and reorganized the INA (Azad Hind Fauj) to liberate India from the British yoke. The INA made the battle cries like "Delhi Chalo" "Jai Hind" along with the Japanese troops in the north-eastern India in 1944. Netaji celebrated the "Martyrs' Day" addressing the soldiers of Indian National Army he said, "Our Motherland is in search of freedom. Give me blood, I will give you freedom." His daring move gave a severe headache to the British Government and brought country very near to the portals of freedom.

Q.3 Under what circumstances did India gain Independence?

Ans. The British govt. were ready to end their rule over India. A cabinet mission was sent to hold negotiations with Indian leaders on the transfer of power. It proposed the formation of an interim govt. and the convening of a constituent assembly. An interim govt. was formed, but the Muslim league did not cooperate, rather riots took place. Muslim league pressed its demand for a separate state strongly. Lord Mountbatten announced his plan of dividing India into two parts i.e India and Pakistan. In order to give effect to Mountbatten plan, British Parliament passed the Indian independence Act in July 1947. According to the British rule in India came to an end on August 15, 1947 and two sovereign states namely India and Pakistan came into existence.

Q.4 What were the problems facing the Indian people immediately after independence?

Ans. Indian people faced many problems immediately after Independence.

- i) **The problems of the refugees:** Due to the division of the country into two parts many people migrated to India from Pakistan. To rehabilitate these people and providing them with employment was a very great problem.
- ii) **The problem of the Indian state:** With the independence of India, more than 500 Indian states also became independent. The independence of India was incomplete without the merger of these states.
- iii) **The problems of food grains:** After the partition a greater part of wheat and rice growing areas went to Pakistan. A large portion of the irrigated land too remained with Pakistan. The food problem was created.
- iv) **Industrial Problems:** Before independence jute and textile industries had made great progress in India. But after partition, jute and cotton producing areas remained in Pakistan and there was scarcity of raw material for the industries. Feeding the industries with raw materials was a big problem.
- v) **Framing of the New Constitution:** After independence India was to make an ideal and workable constitution for the country.
- vi) **Kashmir problem:** Soon after the independence, raiders from Pakistan invaded Kashmir, However the people of the state J&K considered themselves a part of the Indian nation. Thus, J&K became a part of India.

Q.5 What was the position of Pondicherry and Goa -during the period of British rule? When and how did they become independent?

Ans. Pondicherry was under French control where as Goa was under Portuguese domination .People of there territories had to struggle many more years to free themselves for the rule of French and Portuguese Powers after the independence of India .

- a) **Integration of Pondicherry:** After the Second World War, the struggle for freedom in the French colonial possessions was intensified. In 1948 there was a revolt against the French and the French administration had to surrender. In 1949 Chander Nagar got itself merged with India. In 1954, representations of the people in French controlled territories including Pondicherry voted for merger with India. According, the govt. of India and French reached an agreement under which all the territories under French control were merged with Indian Union on 1954.
- b) **Integration of Goa:** Tristao Braganza Cunha, the father of the nationalist movement in Goa, had formed the Goa Congress Committee in 1928. It intentioned struggle against Portuguese domination. The freedom fighters succeeded in liberating Dadra and Nagar Haveli from Portuguese domination in 1954. The struggle continued as Portugal refused to liberate Goa, Daman and Diu. At last "Operation Vijay" began at midnight on 17-18 Dec. 1961, under the command of General J.N. Chaudhari. Thus with the help of Indian troops Goa, Daman and Diu northern the Portuguese domination and became part of India with this liberation of all parts of India from colonial rule was finally achieved.

Q.6 What is meant by the Quit India Movement? When was it started? What is its importance in the history of the Indian struggle for Independence?

Ans. After the departure of the Cripps Mission, the situation in India had become tense. Gandhiji availed himself of the ripe opportunity. A resolution was passed on 9th August 1942 under Gandhiji leadership demanding the immediate ending of the British rule in India. Gandhiji started the Quit India Movement and asked the English to quite India and to leave India alone. They raised slogan 'Do or Die'. The Indians grew intolerant. They rose in open rebellion. Thousands of Indians became targets of the British bullets. The suppression of the Quit India Movement passed the path of freedom. This movement opened the eyes of the govt. and convinced the British that there days were numbered.

End of the Lesson.....