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STATIC REVISION SIMPLIFIED

For UPSC CSE Prelims & Other Competitive Exams





Indian PolityStatic Revision Simplified

A quick revision booklet of Polity for UPSC Prelims and other competitive exams

Study IQ Education Pvt. Ltd.

Indian Polity: Static Revision Simplified 1st Edition by Study IQ Publications

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Preface

Dear Aspirants,

CSE Prelims is just around the corner. It is considered to be the iron gate toward your goal to become a civil servant. Prelims is the most competitive part of UPSC CSE, and therefore, reading-revising and testing one's knowledge is imperative for clearing Prelims. According to the present competition, around 1 in 100 people who attempt UPSC Prelims clear it. Given the growing competition, there is an urgent requirement for content specially curated to crack Prelims. The need of the hour is simplified content that helps in a guick and complete revision of the UPSC syllabus.

Taking inspiration from the overwhelmingly positive response to our UPSC CSE books, we are taking another leap towards simplifying Prelims preparation. To fulfill our aspirants' demand, Study IQ Publications is delighted to present you with the first edition of 'SIP+ Static Revision Simplified booklets'.

The SIP+ booklet series has been strategically divided into 2 parts; SIP+ Static Revision Simplified and SIP+ Current Revision Simplified. The UPSC syllabus is huge, it is further complicated by information overload and increasingly difficult questions. These booklets have been created especially keeping in mind, the concerns and challenges that students face during their Prelims preparation. This is an honest attempt to tackle all of the student's issues and save their precious time before Prelims.

Special Features of This Book:

This booklet aims to make your preparation focused and relevant based on UPSC's current trends and patterns, revision-friendly, and up-to-date.

- The requirements of the UPSC Prelims are the exclusive focus of this book.
- We have taken great care to ensure that the material is written in a clear; ready revision format so that students can learn and recall key concepts and facts to their advantage.
- Wherever necessary, we've incorporated relevant tables, charts and mind-maps to help students grasp and revise key concepts and facts.
- The special feature of SIP+ booklet series is the availability of ready revision charts which students can take out and paste on their wall or study table to revise key concepts and facts anytime on their own discretion.

With all sincerity and humility, the StudylQ team wishes you the best in your preparation, and we are hopeful that this book will help you in your journey.

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CHAPTER 1

Historical background of Indian constitution

The British rule had a great impact on Indian constitution and its polity. Various acts were brought by the British to regulate the Indian affairs, these laid down the legal framework for organization and functioning of government in British India. These acts form the historical background of Indian constitution and can be studied under two heads i.e.

- 1. The Company rule (1773 1858)
- 2. The Crown rule (1858 1947)

COMPANY RULE (1773 - 1858)

- 1600 → 'East India Company' (It was a private company) was founded. The company was given an 'exclusive right' to trade in India under a charter granted by the Queen Elizabeth.
- 1765 → The East India company obtained 'diwani rights' of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa after its victory in the Battle of Buxar.
- 'Diwani rights'' refer to the rights over revenue and civil justice. These rights gave excessive powers to the East India company, servants of the company utilised these powers for corrupt activities. Thus, British government felt the need to regulate the company affairs in India by laying down a legal framework.

Acts	Regulation of EIC	Administrative changes	Other changes	Significance
Regulating act of 1773	 Prohibited the servants of the company to engage in private trade. Court of Directors (Governing body of the company) had to report about Indian affairs (Revenue, civil, military) to the British government. 	 Designated Governor of Bengal as Governor -General of Bengal. First 'Governor General of Bengal' was Lord Warren Hastings Governor of Bombay + Madras presidencies were made subordinate to Governor General of Bengal. 	 Provided for Supreme court which had jurisdiction over all inhabitants of Calcutta. SC had power to administer personal laws of the defendants i.e. trial of Hindus and Muslims was done according to their own personal laws. 	 First step by British government to regulate + control the East India company. Recognized for the 1st time the political and administrative functions of the company. Laid the foundation for central administration in India
Pitt's India act of 1784	 It clearly distinguished the commercial and political functions of the company. It made mandatory for all civil + military officers disclose their property in India and Britain. 	 Created a system of Double government → Court of Directors and Board of control. Court of Directors - Commercial affairs, Board of Control - Political affairs 		 For the first time the company territories were called 'British possessions in India'. Supreme control over Company's affairs + administration was given to British Government.
Charter Act of 1793	 The company's trade monopoly in India was extended for another 20 years. EIC → had to make payment of the employees + Board of Control from Indian revenues. EIC to pay British govt. 5 lakh Pounds each year. 	Governor General was given over - riding power over governor of presidencies.	 Royal approval was mandated for the appointment of Governor-General + Governors + Commander-in-Chief. 	

Acts	Regulation of EIC	Administrative changes	Other changes	Significance
Charter Act of 1813	Trade monopoly of East India company in India was abolished (exception include trade in Tea and trade with China).	Sovereignty of British crown over Indian company territories was asserted. Empowered Local Governments to impose taxes and punish those who did not pay them.	 Christian missionaries were allowed in India to preach their religion. Western education needed to spread among inhabitants of British territories in India. Allocation of 1 Lakh rupees was done to achieve the same 	 British assumed a new responsibility of providing education to the Indian people. The strict control on missionary activities was relaxed by the act.
Charter Act of 1833 - (Also known as Saint Helena Act)	Ended the activities of East India company as a commercial body, making it a purely administrative body.	 Governor General of Bengal' was made 'Governor General of India.' Lord William Bentick was First Governor General of India. Governor General was vested with all civil + military powers. Exclusive legislative power was given to Governor General of India for the entire British India. The act deprived the Governor of Bombay and Madras of their legislative powers. Strength of Governor General's Council was increased to 4 from earlier 3 with the inclusion of Law member Lord Macaulay. Indian laws were codified and consolidated. 	 Principle of non-discrimination introduced 1) No Indian to be denied employment under company based on religion, colour. 2) Provision for abolition of Slavery.(It was abolished in 1843) Restrictions on immigration of Europeans and acquiring property were lifted. Provision for open competition negated (civil service). 	 Final step towards centralization in British India. EIC → became the trustee of crown in the field of British administration. India first law commission was constituted which drafted the Indian penal code (IPC), in 1860.
Charter Act of 1853	Last act enacted by the British parliament to regulate the company affairs. The company rule was abolished after the Revolt of 1857.	 Separated the legislative and executive function of Governor General council. (Legislation was treated as a special function). Indian (central) Legislative council: functioned as a 'mini parliament'. For this 6 new members were provided in the council who were known as legislative councillors. Local representation was introduced for the first time (4 out of 6 members were appointed by the local/provincial government — Madras, Bombay, Bengal, Agra). 	Introduced an open competition for selection and recruitment of civil service – Thus, the civil service was made open to Indians too	 legislative wing of the Governor- General's Council laid the foundation of Indian Parliamentary government. Led to the birth of Indian civil services. Local representation in legislative council was introduced for the first time. First step was laid for inclusion of Indians in the administrative affairs.

CROWN RULE (1858 - 1947)

After the Revolt of 1857 or the 'sepoy mutiny' the British government decided to abolished the East India Company, and transferred the powers of Government, territories and revenues to the British Crown. This was done by the Government of India Act, 1858 also known as the 'Act for Good government'.

Acts	Executive/Administrative changes	Legislative changes	Other changes
Government of India act 1858 (Act of Good govt.)	 Designation of Governor General of India changed to Viceroy of India. First viceroy and the last Governor General of India → Lord Canning. A new office 'Secretary of State' for India was given complete control over Indian administration. 15-member council (advisory) was established for assisting Secretary of the state 		 System of Dual Government abolished (Board of control + Court of Directors done away it). Dissolved East India company → Administration came under direct British rule. Did away with policies like doctrine of lapse. Independent status to Indian princes and chiefs provided they accept British suzerainty.
Indian Council Act of 1861	 Portfolio system (introduced by Lord Canning) was given Statutory recognition. Viceroy was empowered to issue ordinances. 	 Representative Institutions - Indian Legislative Council would comprise of 6 to 12 members. Half of them would be non-officials. These Non-officials could include Indians (not explicitly mentioned in the act). Viceroy appointed 3 Indians -Raja of Benares, Maharaja of Patiala, and Sir Dinkar Rao - as non-officials in legislative council. Decentralisation: Legislative powers of Bombay and Madras Presidencies was restored. 	New legislative council established for Bengal, northwestern province and Punjab
Indian Council Act of 1892		 Number of members (non-official) → Increased in central + provincial legislative assemblies. Official majority was still maintained. Empowered Legislative councils → Power of discuss the Budget. 	 Limited + indirect provision for use of elections was made. The word 'election' was not used. Process was described as nomination based on recommendation of certain bodies (district council, Municipality)
Indian council Act 1909 - (Morley – Minto reforms)	 First time → Provision was made for associating Indians to the executive council of viceroy and Governor. Satyendra Prasad Sinha → first Indian to join Viceroy's executive council (Law member). Two Indians were nominated to the Council of the Secretary of State for Indian affairs 	 Indians were given the membership to the Imperial Legislative council for the first time. The provincial legislative assembly had to have non - official majority. (Mostly Indians). Increased the size of legislative council (16 to 60 seats in central legislative assembly). Enlarged deliberative functions of legislative council i.e., power to discuss budget, ask supplementary questions, move resolutions etc. 	 Separate electorates were given to the Muslims – Under this the Muslim members were to be elected only by Muslim voters. It also provided separate representation for presidency corporations, chamber of commerce and zamindars.

Acts

Government of India Act 1919 - (Montagu

- Chelmsford

reforms)

Executive/Administrative changes

Central government

Viceroy executive council → three out of six members of the viceroy executive council were to be Indians

Provincial government (Dyarchy)

- Governor is head of the executive.
- Under the system two classes of administrators → Executive councillors and ministers.
- Administration of reserved list
 → Governor + executive council
 (not responsible to legislature).
- Secretary of State + Governor General could interfere in matters under the reserved list.
- Administration of transferred list → Governor + Ministers (responsible to legislature).
- These ministers were nominated from among the elected members of the legislative council.
- Interference of Secretary of State + Governor-General is restricted in matters under the transferred list.

Legislative changes Central government

- Bicameralism was introduced: Upper house (council of state) and a Lower house (Legislative assembly).
- Majority of the members both houses chosen by direct elections

Provincial government

- Increased size of provincial legislative assemblies. Now about 70% of the members were elected.
- Division of subjects in provinces was done under two lists reserved list and transferred list.
- Reserved Subjects: Law and order, irrigation, finance, land revenue, etc.
- Transferred Subjects: Education, local government, health, excise, industry, public works, religious endowments, etc.

Other changes

- For the first time → provincial budgets was separated from the central budget.
- Thus, the provincial legislatures were authorized to enact budgets
- Extended the principle of communal electorates – Sikhs, Indian Christians, Europeans, and Anglo-Indians.
- New office of the High commissioner for India in London was established.
- Establishment of a public service commission. (Central public service commission – 1926).

Government of India act 1935

- Creation of an All-India
 Federation
- Federation was to consist of British India + princely states willing to join it
- Federation never came into being because of lack of support from the required number of princely states.
- Governor had to act on the advice of ministers responsible for provincial legislature (diarchy ended).
- Dyarchy was adopted at the Centre

Division of powers (Between centre and provinces) under 3 lists

- Federal List (Centre) Provincial List (Provinces) Concurrent List (Both)
- Residual powers was vested in the Viceroy (Power over subjects not mentioned in any of the lists).
- Introduction of bicameralism in six out of eleven provinces
- Provided 'Provincial autonomy'
- Extension of principle of communal representation to women, depressed classes, and workers.
- Establishment of the Reserve Bank of India to control credit and currency of the country.
- Establishment of Federal, Provincial and Joint public service commission.
- Provided for the establishment of 'federal court' which was set up in 1937

Government of India act 1947 (ended British rule)

- Partition of India and created
 2 independent dominion India and Pakistan
- Abolition of office of Secretary of the State
- Empowered the constituent assemblies of 2 dominions to adopt their own constitution and repeal any British rule.
- Assigned dual functions (constituent and legislative) to the constituent assembly formed in 1946.
- It granted freedom to Indian princely states to join either dominion (India or Pakistan) or remain independent.