
Mass Phase of the Indian National Movement (Continued)

9

The National Movement (1935–42)

Exercises

Multiple Choice Questions

1. (a) 2. (c) 3. (c) 4. (d) 5. (c)
6. (a) 7. (c) 8. (c) 9. (b)
10. (i) (a), (ii) (b), (iii) (c) 11. (b) 12. (d)
13. (d)

Short-Answer Questions

1. When did the Cripps Mission come to India?

Ans. March 22, 1942.

2. Why did Gandhiji reject the Cripps Mission?

Ans. Gandhiji rejected the Cripps Mission as 'a post dated cheque'.

3. What is meant by the Quit India Movement?

Ans. The Quit India Movement means the immediate ending of British rule in India.

4. Give one reason for passing the Quit India Resolution in 1942.
- Ans.** The Cripps Mission (March, 1942) failed to solve the constitutional problem of India.
5. What new slogan was given to the nation by Mahatma Gandhi while launching the Quit India Movement?
- Ans.** 'Do or Die.'
6. Which was the last mass uprising against the British Rule in India?
- Ans.** Quit India Movement.
7. In which two ways did the Quit India Movement influence the National Movement?
- Ans.** (i) During Quit India Movement almost all parts of India witnessed the same enthusiasm in breaking the citadel of foreign rule.
- (ii) People from all walks of life, students, teachers, lawyers, workers and even women took part in the processions and demonstrations against the Government.
8. How did the Quit India Movement demonstrate that the national feelings had become too deep-rooted?
- Ans.** (i) Its effects was seen everywhere in India.
- (ii) People belonging to all different religions participated in this movement with all zeal and enthusiasm.
9. How did the Quit India Movement make the British feel that their days were numbered in India?
- Ans.** The pace and depth of the Quit India Movement made the English realise that their days were numbered in India.
10. Which two Congress leaders introduced socialist ideas in the Congress?
- Ans.** Jawaharlal Nehru and Subhash Chandra Bose.
11. When was Subhash Chandra Bose elected as the President of the Congress?
- Ans.** 1938.
12. Give one reason which led to the split in the Congress in 1939.

Ans. In the election to the President of the Congress held in January 1939, Gandhiji supported Pattabhi Sitaramayya against Subhash Chandra Bose. S.C. Bose won the election but he was not allowed to function independently. As a result split in the Congress took place in 1939.

13. When and why did Subhash Chandra Bose resign from the presidentship of the Congress?

Ans. Subhash Chandra Bose resigned from the presidentship of the Congress on April 29, 1939 because he came into conflict with Gandhiji and majority of the delegates who had supported him for presidentship reaffirmed their faith in the leadership of Gandhiji.

14. Name the party whose foundation was laid by Subhash Chandra Bose after leaving the Congress.

Ans. Forward Bloc

15. When was this progressive party founded by Subhash Chandra Bose?

Ans. 1939

16. Who founded the Forward Bloc?

Ans. Subhash Chandra Bose.

17. Give one objective of the Forward Bloc.

Ans. To organise all the progressive and radical elements in the Congress under one head.

18. Who was the person who planned to fight for the freedom of his country from abroad?

Ans. Subhash Chandra Bose.

19. Who formed the Provisional Government of Free India at Singapore in 1943?

Ans. Subhash Chandra Bose.

20. Name any three countries who recognised the Provisional Government.

Ans. Germany, Italy and Japan.

21. Who gave the call "Dilli Chalo"?

Ans. Subhash Chandra Bose.

22. Name the two places captured by the INA on the Indian borders.

Ans. Ukhral and Kohima.

23. What was the objective of the Indian National Army?

Ans. (i) To organize an armed rebellion and to attack the British army with modern arms.

(ii) The rebellion to be organised by the Indians living in East Asia.

(iii) To set up a provisional government of Free India in order to mobilize the forces effectively.

24. Name three officers of the INA who were prosecuted for treason by the British.

Ans. Sehgal, Dhillon and Shahnawaz.

25. What was the contribution of the INA to the Freedom Movement of India?

Ans. (i) The INA set an inspiring example of patriotism before the Indian people.

(ii) The heroic deeds and sacrifices led to political consciousness among the Indian forces.

(iii) The British now realised that they could not rely on the Indian forces to continue their rule in India.

Structured Essay-Type Questions

1. With reference to the Cripps Mission, explain :

(a) Why was the Cripps Mission sent to India?

(b) Mention four causes of their proposals.

(c) Why did both Congress and Muslim League reject it?

Ans. (a) To solve the Constitutional problems, the British Government sent Sir Stafford Cripps to India. He arrived in India on 22 March 1942.

(b)(i) After the war, India would be given the same status as the other Dominions (Examples : Canada, Australia).

(ii) A Constituent Assembly would be set up after the war. This elected assembly would frame the Constitution of free India.

(iii) It proposed that 'Interim Government' would be formed during the war.

- (iv) Until the new Constitution was framed the government wanted Indian leaders to take effective part in the Viceroy's Executive Council.
 - (c) The proposals disappointed both the Congress and the Muslim League. Gandhiji rejected it as 'a post-dated cheque.' The Muslim League rejected it as it felt the prospects of achieving Pakistan were remote. It demanded 'a definite pronouncement in favour of Pakistan.'
2. The All India Congress Committee which met at Bombay on 8th August, 1942 passed the famous Quit India Resolution. In this context, answer the following questions :
- (a) Mention the reasons that led to the passing of the Resolution.
 - (b) Explain the spread of the Quit India Movement.
 - (c) State the repressive measures practised by the British Government.
 - (d) State the importance of the Movement.

Ans. (a) The Quit India Movement started in 1942. The reasons for starting the same were the following :

- (i) The Cripps Mission (March, 1942) failed to solve the constitutional problem of India. It led to discontent, dissatisfaction and anger. The Indian people were filled with distrust and hostility towards the British. The failure of the Mission had deprived the leaders of the opportunity to cooperate fully in war efforts.
- (ii) The war situation worsened in the summer of 1942. Japan was rapidly advancing towards India and there was a growing threat of Japanese invasion on India. The Congress leaders were of the view that to save India from the Japanese attack it is necessary that the British withdrew from India. The responsibility of the Japanese attack on India lay on the British because the English were the rulers of India. The Indians were anxious to save their

country but their slavery was a great hindrance in their way. So they decided to launch a movement calling upon the British to handover power to the Indians and quit the country.

- (iii) Gandhiji firmly believed that an orderly and peaceful withdrawal of the British can save India from internal anarchy and foreign aggression.
- (b) A meeting of the All India Congress Committee (AICC) was held at Bombay on August 8, 1942. It passed the famous *Quit India* resolution. It authorised Gandhiji to launch the Quit India Movement against the British on non-violent lines on the widest possible scale. Gandhiji raised the slogan 'Do or Die' and declared that it would be his final struggle for the freedom of the country. In his own words, "*I am not going to be satisfied with anything short of complete freedom We shall do or die. We shall either free India or die in the attempt.*"
- (c) The official machinery moved with the lightning speed and arrested Gandhiji and other leaders of the Congress in the early hours of the morning of August 9, 1942. A large number of Congressmen were also put behind the bars. The Government declared the Congress illegal and banned all its activities. The funds of the Congress were confiscated. About 10,000 people died in police firing and about 70,000 were put behind bars.
- (d) (i) **It Demonstrated the Depth of the National Feelings :** In the Quit India Movement people from all walks of life took part. It was like a mass revolt in which the Hindus, the Muslims, the Sikhs and even the Christians took part. Then people of the British provinces as well as the Indian states were all there to oppose British imperialism. Almost all parts of India witnessed the same enthusiasm in breaking the citadel of foreign rule. People from all walks of life, students, teachers, lawyers,

workers, peasants and even women took part in the processions and demonstrations against the Government. It was now fully demonstrated to the foreign rulers that the national feelings had become too deep-rooted to be uprooted by any one.

- (ii) **People Acquired Great Capacity for Struggle and Sacrifice :** The British Government was simply taken by surprise to see the great capacity of the people for struggle and sacrifice. The people were lathi-charged, heavily fined, openly flogged, imprisoned and even fired from the air but still they were not disheartened. The show of such an exemplary courage and sacrifice by the Indian volunteers forced the foreign imperialists to draw the conclusion that the day was not far off when they would have to leave the country with bag and baggage. They could never think of ruling the country against the wishes of such a resolute people.
- (iii) **It Made the English Realise that Their Days were Numbered in India :** The pace and depth of the Quit India Movement made the English realise that their days were numbered in India. The tremor, though short-lived, left the British quite aghast and they read the writing on the wall.

3. There was a split in the Congress in 1939 which led to the formation of Forward Bloc by Subhash Chandra Bose. In this connection, explain the following :
- (a) What causes led to the split in the Congress in 1939?
 - (b) What were the points of differences between Mahatma Gandhi and Subhash Chandra Bose?
 - (c) What were the objectives of the Forward Bloc formed by Subhash Chandra Bose?

Ans. (a) In the election to the President of the Congress held in January, 1939, Gandhiji supported Pattabhi Sitaramayya against Subhash. Subhash was, however, elected President of the Congress by a vast majority of delegates who supported his views. All 13 members of

the CWC resigned and S.C. Bose was called upon to nominate CWC as per the wishes of Gandhiji.

- (b) By 1937, Subhash Chandra Bose had attained good reputation in India. He differed with Gandhiji's policy and his methods of dealing with the Government. He advocated a radical reorganisation of the Congress on a new principle, with a new method and under a new leadership. Under the influence of socialist ideas, the younger section of the Congress had lost faith both in the non-violent programme which had made very slow progress and yielded poor results and in its leader Gandhiji. Naturally, Subhash became the hero of the younger Congressmen who believed in socialism and in aggressive methods.
- (c) Forward Bloc was formed by Subhash Chandra Bose. Its objective were
 - (i) to organise all the progressive and radical elements in the Congress under one head.
 - (ii) to vehemently oppose the British Government.
 - (iii) to struggle for immediate liberation of the country and
 - (iv) Establishing a socialistic society after achieving the independence.

4. Describe the growth of the National Movement between 1935 to 1939, with reference to the following points :

- (a) The causes for the split in the Congress in 1939.
- (b) The formation and ideals of the Forward Bloc.

Ans. (a) In the election to the President of the Congress held in January, 1939, Gandhiji supported Pattabhi Sitaramayya against Subhash. Subhash was, however, elected President of the Congress by a vast majority of delegates who supported his views. As a result split in the Congress took place.

- (b) Forward Bloc was formed by Subhash Chandra Bose. Its objective were
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- (iii) to struggle for immediate liberation of the country and
- (iv) Establishing a socialistic society after achieving the independence.

5. The Indian National Army (INA) has immortalised the name of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. In this context, briefly describe :

- (a) Formation of the Indian National Army.
- (b) Its effects to liberate India from foreign rule.

Ans. (a) Formation of the Indian National Army : The Second World War broke out in 1939. Because of his national zeal and revolutionary ideas, the British Government interned Subhash in his house at Calcutta in January, 1941. He escaped from India in March, 1941 and went to Russia for help. But when Russia joined the Allies, he went to Germany. In February, 1943, he left for Japan to organise an armed struggle against the English with the help of the Japanese. In Singapore, he organised the *Azad Hind Fauj* (the Indian National Army or INA) for the freedom of his country. It was helped by Ras Behari Bose, an old revolutionary. He had already organised the Indian Independence League to attain the complete and immediate independence of India.

(b) Subhash Chandra became the President of the Indian Independence League as well as the Supreme Commander of the Indian National Army. The INA was joined in large numbers by the Indians living in South East Asia and by the Indian soldiers and officers captured by the Japanese forces in Burma, Malaya and Singapore. He was called *Netaji* by the soldiers. He gave the call to his soldiers, "*Give me blood and I shall give you freedom.*" His battle-cry was, "*Dilli Chalo.*" He set up Recruitment and Training Departments as well. Training Camps were opened for men and women. He also founded the Provisional

Government of Free India at Singapore in October, 1943. The Government was recognised by nine world powers including Germany, Italy, Japan and Burma.

Thereafter, he started his military campaign against the English. The Japanese handed over the Andaman and Nicobar Islands to Netaji. He renamed them as 'Shahid' and 'Swaraj' Islands, respectively. Thus, he acquired the first stretch of territory in free India.

6. Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose played a great part in the National Movement. In this context, explain the following :

- (a) Political aims of Netaji.
- (b) Part played by him in liberating India from the British yoke.

Ans. (a) (i) He spread the socialist ideas.
(ii) He favoured the policy of large-scale industrialisation.
(iii) He wanted to provide freedom to Indians from the British rule.

- (b) The Second World War broke out in 1939. Because of his national zeal and revolutionary ideas, the British Government interned Subhash in his house at Calcutta in January, 1941. He escaped from India in March, 1941 and went to Russia for help. But when Russia joined the Allies, he went to Germany. In February, 1943, he left for Japan to organise an armed struggle against the English with the help of the Japanese. In Singapore, he organised the Azad Hind Fauj (the Indian National Army or INA) for the freedom of his country. It was helped by Ras Behari Bose, an old revolutionary. He had already organised the Indian Independence League to attain the complete and immediate independence of India.

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