

28.10.24

Class: X Chapter 7:- Quit India Movement

Subject: History and Civics

Ms. Rameet

This Lesson is for Class X for the Subject of History and Civics Topic :- Quit India Movement which is given in Chapter 7 : Quit India Movement starting on Page number 85 of your textbook and is being submitted to you on 28.10.24

Events leading to the Quit India Movement:-

Resignation of the Congress Ministries:-

World War II broke out in September 1939. The British Government of India immediately joined the war without consulting the Congress and Indian leaders.

The failure of the Cripps Mission [1942] brought about further change in the attitude of Congress. They were now convinced that the British rule must end immediately.

The Congress resigned on the War issue. Their objection was that the Britishers had involved India in War without consulting the central legislature and the Provincial Governments. The Congress Ministries resigned in the end of October 1939. The Muslim League was very happy to see the fall of Congress Ministries at last. The League promised all help in the War on the condition that no Constitutional Scheme would be finalised without its approval.

The August offer, 1940:-

On 8 August, 1940 the Viceroy Lord Linlithgow made a new offer, known as the 'August offer'. His main proposal was that after the War was over

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Indian representative would be appointed to frame the Constitution for India.

Its Rejection:-

The offer failed to satisfy the Congress leaders, as there was no time limit within which the Constitution making body was to be set up. On the issue of the expansion of the Viceroy's Executive Council also no agreement could be made.

Causes of Quit India Movement:-

The Cripps Mission [1942]

In order to improve the relations with India the British Government sent Sir Stafford Cripps in March 1942 with a proposal for dominion status after the Second World War.

The Cripps Mission suggested the following Constitutional reforms:-

1. Dominion status would be given to India after the Second World War.
2. A Constituent Assembly would be established to frame the Constitution of India.
3. There would be a federation of British India and Indian states.
4. All issues regarding the transfer of power and responsibilities would be discussed between India and Britishers.
5. During the War an Interim or temporary government would be established. But defence and external

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affairs would be looked after by the Viceroy.

6. The rights of religious minorities would be protected.

Failure of The Cripps' Mission:-

1. It did not say when independence would be given to India.
 2. It wanted partition of India.
 3. The Muslim League rejected the proposal on the ground that it did not include any provision for the formation of Pakistan.
 4. The Hindu Mahasabha rejected the proposals because it did not want the partition of the country.
 5. The Sikhs, the Anglo-Indians, the Indian Christians and labour leaders also opposed it because it did not protect their rights.
 6. The members of the Princely states would be selected by the Britishers, who would help in the making of the Constitution of India.
 7. Gandhiji called the Cripps offer as a post-dated cheque on a crashing bank because he knew after the war nothing would be given to Indians.
 8. The Congress wanted immediate formation of an Indian government with full responsibilities. Even defence should be in the hands of Indians.
- ✓ Japanese Threat.

The conditions became worse in war in 1942 when the Japanese Army attacked Burma and rapidly marched towards India. Gandhiji said

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that the presence of the British in India was an invitation to Japan to attack India, and so Congress demanded Complete independence immediately.

The Quit India Movement:-

The Congress met at Wardha in July 1942 and passed a resolution demanding Complete Independence. It came to be known as the 'Quit India' or Bharat Choro andolan.

The Britishers were in no mood to either negotiate with the Congress or wait for the movement to be started. On 9 August all the important leaders of the Congress including Gandhiji were arrested and taken to unknown places. The Congress was declared illegal. As there was no one to give leadership to the people, violent riots began on a large scale throughout India. Mob violence was against means of communication, such as railways, posts and telegraphs. Attacks were made on police stations and other government buildings.

Government's Repressive Measures:-

1. The Press was suspended and restrictions were put on newspapers
2. The demonstrating crowds were machine-gunned and even bombed from the air.
3. Prisoners were tortured.
4. The Police became very corrupt and powerful they exploited the people.
5. Nearly ten thousand people were killed and many arrested.

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Impact of the Quit India Movement:-

1. The Quit India Movement was an important landmark in India's struggle for freedom.
2. It was symbolic of a new confidence and showed the British that they were not wanted in India.
3. There was nothing to stop Indians from attaining Freedom. It was just a matter of time.
4. The Movement made the Congress Socialist Party strong.
5. In the history of British rule in India no such revolt had occurred earlier.
6. It showed the nationalist feelings of the people of India and they were ready to sacrifice everything for the nation.
7. It made it clear that the British would no longer find it possible to rule India against the wishes of the people.

Home Work:-

- Q1. With regard to Quit India Movement, answer the following Questions:-
- (1) Why was the Quit India Movement launched?
 - (2) Mention any three proposals of the Cripps' Mission?
 - (3) State the impact of the Quit India Movement?

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