

CHAPTER - 01 CHALLENGES

Of Nation Building

- India got Independence :- 15 August 1947.
The speech titled "Trust with destiny" was given by Jawaharlal Nehru at a special session of Constituent Assembly.

- Two main goals after Independence :-

- i) Firstly, we must run our country through democratic government.

- ii) The govt must run for good of all.

Three Challenges of Independent India :-

- i) To shape a united Nation :- Although the people spoke different language and different religion and different culture.

ii) To establish a democracy :- India adopted representative democracy based on the parliamentary form of government.

iii) The third Challenge was to ensure the development and well-being of the entire society and of some section. - The Constitution also set out in DPSP the welfare goals that democratic nation must achieve.

• The Real Challenge now was to evolve effective policies on economic development and eradication of poverty.

→ Partition : displacement & Rehabilitation

On 14-15 August 1947, not one but two nation states came into existence :-
India and Pakistan.

This was the result of partition, the division of British India.

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→ Process of Partition
↳ Partition was about creation of a separate nation for muslim.

* Problems Created during Partition.

- i) First, there was no single belt of muslim majority areas.
- ii) There were two areas of concentration one in the west & one in the east.
- iii) Not all muslims wanted to be part of pakistan.
- iv) The two of the Muslim majority province of British India, Punjab and Bengal, had very large area where non-muslims were in majority.
- v) The problem of minorities on both side of border. Like muslim in Hindu majority areas and hindu and sikh in muslim majority areas especially Punjab and Bengal.

* Consequences of partition

- 1) Cities like Lahore, Amritsar and Kolkata became centre for communal violence..
- 2) Muslim would avoid going into an area of Hindu majority and vice-versa.
- 3) People were forced to abandon their homes and move across borders.
- 4) They often found unhelpful local administration and police in what was till recently their own country.
- 5) Thousands of women were abducted on both sides of border.

→ Integration of Princely States.

1) British India was divided into what were called the British India provinces or the princely states. The British govt directly dominated the princely states.

2) The problem.

↳ Just before independence it was announced by the British that with the end of their rule over India & Crown over princely states would also lapse.

→ This meant that all these states as many as 565 in all would become legally independent. The British govt took the view that all these states were free to join either India or Pakistan or remain independent.

↳ But these decision was not left to the people but to princely ruler of their states. This caused a very serious problem and could threaten the very existence of united India.

→ Affects of Integration -

- First of all, the ruler of Travancore announced that state had decided on Independence.



Then Nizam of Hyderabad.

The Govt's approach was guided by the three considerations.

- Firstly, the people of most of the princely states clearly wanted to become part of the Indian union.
- Secondly, the govt was prepared to be flexible in giving autonomy to some region.
- Thirdly, in the backdrop of partition which brought into focus the contest over demarcation of territory and integration of territorial boundaries.

→ Hyderabad

- The largest of the princely states was surrounded entirely by Indian territory.

2) Its ruler carried the title of 'Nizam' and he was one of the world's richest man.

3) He entered into what was called the Standstill Agreement with India in November 1947.

4) The peasantry in the Telangana region in particular was the victim of Nizam's oppressive rule and rose against him.

5) The atrocities and communal nature of the Razakars knew no bounds.

6) They murdered, raped and looted targeting particularly Non-Muslims.

7) In September 1948, Indian army moved in to control the Nizam forces. [Police action or Operation polo].

Mir Asman Ali Khan [Nizam].

⇒ Manipur

i) Maharaja Bodhchandra Singh had signed the instrument of Accession, agreeing to merge with India.

(ii) However popular opinion in Manipur was divided.

(iii) Election held in 1948 had created a constitutional monarchy with an elected legislature opposed the merger. Praja Shanti party

⇒ Reorganization of States.

i) Most persistent demands in early independent India was for states to be reorganized along linguistic lines.

(ii) This demand was back put in Nagpur session of 1920.

(iii) They feared that drawing boundaries based on language would deepen regional identities and threaten national unity.

⇒ State Reorganization Commission.

→ i) It was set up in 1953 under Fazal Ali

ii) It suggested language should be the primary basis for reorganization.

ND Its report led to the state Reorganisation ~~Report~~ Act of 1956.

- 14 States and 6 U.T were Created.

Chapter Questions

What are the reasons being used by Nehru for keeping India secular? Do you think these reasons were only ethical and sentimental? or were there some prudential reasons as well?

Reasons for keeping India Secular.

1) All the muslims did not leave India during partition, some muslims stayed in India as a minority.

↳ Nehru wanted to deal with them in a very civilised and dignified manner.