

QUICK REVISION MODULE
(UPSC PRELIMS 2021) MODERN INDIAN HISTORY

GOVERNOR GENERAL AND VICEROYS

GOVERNOR GENERALS AND VICEROYS



(1774 - 1833)
GOVERNOR GENERAL
OF BENGAL



(1833 - 1858)
GOVERNOR GENERAL
OF INDIA



(1858 - 1947)
VICEROYS

GOVERNOR GENERALS OF BENGAL

WARREN HASTINGS (1773-1785)



- › Became **Governor of Bengal** in 1772 and then **1st Governor General of Bengal** through the **Regulating Act of 1773**.
- › **Supreme Court at Fort William** was established in 1774.
- › **Act of 1781**, under which the powers of jurisdiction between the governor-general-in-council and the Supreme Court at Calcutta, were clearly divided.
- › **Pitt's India Act** of 1784.
- › Strained relationships with Chait Singh, the Maharaja of Benaras, led to Warren Hasting's **impeachment** in England.
- › Founded the **Asiatic Society of Bengal (1784)** with **William Jones**.

Established **Diwani and Fauzdari adalats** at district level and **Sadar Diwani and Nizamat adalats** at Calcutta.

Abolished the dual government established by Robert Clive.

REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

Translation of code in Sanskrit to English in 1776, under the title of "**Code of Gentoo laws**"

Divided Bengal into districts. Appointed **collectors** and other revenue officials.

Second Mysore War in 1780-84.

The **Rohilla War** of 1774.

REPRESSIVE ACTIONS

Treaty of Salbai in 1782.

The **First Maratha War** in 1775-82.

LORD CORNWALLIS (1786-1793)



- › Known as "**father of civil services In India**" because of Europeanisation of administrative machinery and introduction of civil services.

REPRESSIVE ACTIONS

- » **Third Mysore War** (1790-92) and **Treaty of Seringapatam** (1792).

Created **post of district judge**.

Separation of revenue administration and civil jurisdiction.

REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

First person to codify laws as **Cornwallis Code (1793)**.

Introduced **Permanent Settlement of Bengal** in 1793.

SIR JOHN SHORE (1793-1798)

- › Introduced the **1st Charter Act of 1793**.
- › Battle of Kharda between the Nizam and the Marathas in 1795.

LORD WELLESLEY (1798-1805)

- › Original Name: **Richard Colley Wellesley, 1st Marquess Wellesley**.
- › Established **Fort William College** at Calcutta in 1800.
- › **Madras Presidency** was formed during his tenure in 1801.



Fourth Mysore War (1799).

Started the policy of **Subsidiary Alliance** System in 1798. The first alliance was with Nizam of Hyderabad (Nizam Ali) in 1798.

REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

Treaty of Bassein with Marathas (1802). **Second Maratha War** (1803-05) defeat of the Scindia, the Bhosle and the Holkar.

Took over the administration of **Tanjore** (1799), **Surat** (1800) and **Carnatic** (1801).

SIR GEORGE BARLOW (1805-1807)

- › **Vellore Mutiny** (1806) happened during his tenure.

LORD MINTO I (1807-1813)

- › **Treaty of Amritsar with Ranjit Singh** (1809) was signed during his tenure.
- › **Charter Act** of 1813 was passed.

LORD HASTINGS (1813-1823)



- › He adopted the **policy of intervention and war**.
- › **Strife with Pindaris** (1817-1818) and complete destruction of Pindari Clan in India.
- › **Creation of Bombay** presidency in 1818.
- › Establishment of **Ryotwari System by Thomas Munro**, governor of Madras (1820) and **Mahalwari System** in Northern India (1822).

Third Maratha War (1817-19) and dissolution of Maratha Confederacy.

Anglo-Nepal War (1814-16) and the **Treaty of Sagauli, 1816**.

REPRESSIVE ACTIONS

Creation of **Bombay Presidency** (1818).

Treaty with Sindhia (1817).

LORD AMHERST (1823-1828)

- › Establishment of **Sanskrit College** at Calcutta (1824).
- › **First Burmese War** (1824-1826) and **Treaty of Yandabo** (1826) Acquisition of territories of **Malay Peninsula**.
- › Capture of **Bharatpur** (1826).

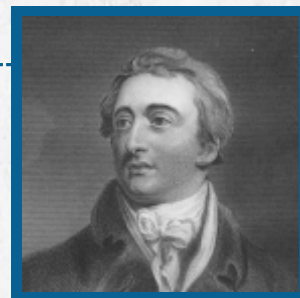
Copyright © by Vision IAS

All rights are reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior permission of Vision IAS.

GOVERNOR GENERALS OF INDIA

LORD WILLIAM BENTINCK (1828-1835)

- **Most liberal and enlightened** Governor General of India.
- Till 1833, served as Governor General of Bengal and from 1833-1835, served as the **first Governor General of India**.
- **Suppression of Thugi** (1830).
- **Charter Act of 1833**: It provided that no Indian subject of the Company will be debarred from holding an office on account of his religion, place of birth, descent and colour.
- Regarded as **"father of modern western education in India."**



REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

- **Resolution of 1835**, and educational reforms and introduction of English as the official language (**Macaulay's minutes on education**).
- **Abolition of sati and other cruel rites** (1829).
- **Abolition of the provincial courts of appeal** and circuit set up by Cornwallis and appointment of the commissioners of revenue and circuit.

REPRESSIVE ACTIONS

- Annexation of **Mysore** (1831), **Coorg** (1834) and **Central Cachar** 1834).
- **Treaty of 'perpetual friendship'** with Ranjeet Singh in 1831.



LORD METCALFE (1835-1836)

REPRESSIVE ACTIONS

- New press law removing restrictions on the press in India were passed by him.
- **Repealed Licensing Regulation of 1823**.
- Known as **"liberator of press in India."**
- Established **Calcutta Public Library in 1836**.



LORD ELLENBOROUGH (1842-1844)

- **Death of Ranjit Singh (1839)** during his tenure.
- **Tripartite Treaty in 1838** between British, Shah Shuja and Ranjit Singh against Dost Muhammad Khan.
- **First Afghan War (1838-42)**. This was a great blow to the prestige of British in India.
- **Bank of Bombay** was established in 1840. (This later became, Imperial Bank of India and now SBI).



LORD AUCKLAND (1836-1842)

REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

- › Abolished slavery in 1843

REPRESSIVE ACTIONS

- › He brought an end to **Afghan War**. Annexation of Sindh (1843).
- › **War with Gwalior** (1843).

LORD HARDINGE I (1844-1848)

REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

- › Abolition of **female infanticide and human sacrifice**.
- › Establishment of **Roorkee Engineering College** in 1847.

REPRESSIVE ACTIONS

- › **First Anglo-Sikh War** (1845-46) and the Treaty of Lahore (1846).
- › **Preferred to English educated** in employment.



LORD DALHOUSIE (1848-1856)

- › Original Name: **James Andrew Brown Ramsay**.
- › **Railway Minute of 1853**; and 1st passenger train connecting Bombay and Thane in 1853.
- › **Telegraph** (4000 miles of telegraph lines to connect Calcutta with Bombay, Madras and Peshawar) and **postal** (Post Office Act, 1854) **reforms**.
- › **Ganges Canal declared open (1854)**.
- › Establishment of separate **public works department** in every province.

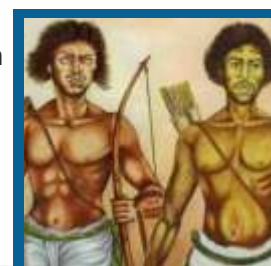


REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

- › **"Wood's Educational Despatch"** of 1854 and opening of Anglo-vernacular schools and government colleges
(**Note:** Charles Wood was President of the Board of Control).
- › **Widow Remarriage Act** (1856).
- › **Banned Female Infanticide completely and Human Sacrifice** in Central province, Odisha and Maharashtra.

REPRESSIVE ACTIONS

- › Fought **Second Anglo-Sikh War** (1848-49 that led to annexation of Punjab (1849).
- › **2nd Aglo-Burmese war** and annexation of Lower Burma or Peg (1852).
- › **Santhal Rebellion** of 1855 happened.



GOVERNOR GENERALS OF INDIA

LORD CANNING (1856-1857)

- › Till 1858 served as **Governor General of India** and after 1858, served as **Viceroy of India**.
- › **Revolt of 1857** happened during his tenure.
- › **Government of India Act 1858** was passed as an Act of Good Governance in India.
- › White Mutiny' by European troops in 1859.
- › **Indian Council Act** of 1861 was passed.
- › **System of Budget and Portfolio** System was introduced.



REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

- › **Hindu Widows Remarriage Act of 1856** was passed.
- › Establishment of **three universities at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay** in 1857.
- › Formation of **Imperial Civil Services**.
- › Establishment of **Archaeological Survey of India** by Alexander Cunningham in 1861.

REPRESSIVE ACTIONS

- › Revolt of 1857 was crushed with all might of the empire.
- › **Indigo Revolt (1859-60)** occurred because of British atrocities.



LORD ELGIN I (1862-1863)

REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

Establishment of **High Courts at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras**.

REPRESSIVE ACTIONS

Wahabi Movement was suppressed.

LORD JOHN LAWRENCE (1864-1869)

- › **Tabernacle of New Dispensation** was setup by Keshub Chandra Sen.

REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

- › Establishment of **Shimla as India's summer capital** in 1863.
- › **Allahabad High Court** was setup in 1866.

REPRESSIVE ACTIONS

- › **Bhutan War (1865)**: The British defeated Bhutan and annexed Assam and Bengal Duars.

LORD MAYO (1869-1872)

- He was **assassinated** during his tenure.
- He **started financial decentralisation**.
- **Sedition Act of 1870** to tackle the Wahabi movement.



REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

- » Opened the **Rajkot College** in Kathiawar and the **Mayo College** at Ajmer for political training of Indian princes.
- » Establishment of **Statistical Survey of India** and **Department of Agriculture and Commerce**.
- » Introduction of **state railways**.

LORD NORTHBROOK (1872-1876)

- Jyotiba Phule launched **Satyashodhak Samaj** in 1873.
- **Prince of Wales** visited India in 1875.
- **Trial of Gaekwar of Baroda** happened during his tenure.
- **Kuka Movement** in Punjab.
- He **resigned** because of Afghanistan issue.



LORD LYTTON (1876-1880)

Under **Royal Titles Act (1876)**, Queen Victoria assumed the title of '**Kaiser-i-Hind**' or Queen Empress of India.

Famine Commission under the presidency of Richard Strachey (1878).

1st Delhi Durbar happened during his tenure 1877.

Deccan Agrarian Relief Act 1876.

Famine of 1876-78.



REPRESSIVE ACTIONS

- » Decreased the maximum age for ICS from 21 years to 16 years.
- » **The Vernacular Press Act (1878).**
- » **The Arms Act (1878).**
- » **The Second Afghan War (1878-80).**



LORD RIPON (1880-1884)

- The **Ilbert Bill controversy** (1883-84) happened during his tenure.
- Rendition of Mysore.
- He is known as **father of Local self governance** in India.



REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

- » He **repealed of the Vernacular Press Act** (1882).
- » The **first Factory Act** (1881) to improve labour conditions.
- » Government **resolution on local self-government** (1882).
- » **First complete** census was conducted.
- » Hunter Commission (1882).



LORD DUFFERIN (1884-1888)

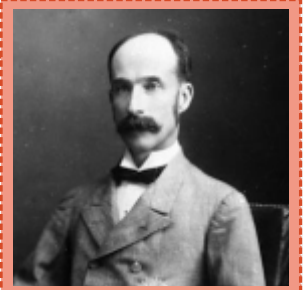
- The **Third Burmese War** (1885-86).
- **Bengal Tenancy Act** of 1885.
- During his tenure the **Indian National Congress (INC)** was formed.



LORD LANSDOWNE (1888-1894)

Set up of **Durand Commission** (1893) to define the boundary, i.e. Durand Line, between India and Afghanistan.

NOTE: The current Durand line is between Pakistan and Afghanistan. A small portion of the line touches India in Pakistan occupied Kashmir.



REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

- » **Factory Act** (1891).
- » **Age of Consent Act**, 1891, also known as **Act X** of 1891, prohibited the marriage of below 12 years girls.
- » Categorisation of civil services into **imperial, provisional** and **subordinate**.
- » **Indian Councils Act** (1892).

LORD ELGIN II (1894-1899)

- **Indian Famine of 1896-97** happened. **Lyall commission** appointed after famine.
- **Santhal and Munda Uprisings** under Birsa Munda.
- Spreading of plague in Bombay and assassination of two British officials the **Chapekar brothers** (1897).

LORD CURZON (1899-1905)

- Indian Famine of 1899-1900. Famine commission under **Macdonell** was setup.
- In 1901, created **North West Frontier Province** to curb the uprising by frontier tribes.
- **Curzon-Kitchener controversy**.
- **2nd Delhi Durbar** was held in 1903.
- **Swadesi Movement** against the partition of Bengal was launched by Congress.



REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

- » **Calcutta Corporation Act (1899).**
- » Appointment of **Police Commission (1902)** under **Sir Andrew Frazer** to review police administration.
- » Appointment of **Universities Commission (1902)** and passing of Indian Universities Act (1904).
- » **PUSA Agricultural Institute** was setup in 1903.
- » Establishment of **Department of Commerce and Industry**.
- » **Ancient Monuments Preservation Act (1904).**

REPRESSIVE ACTIONS

- » **Official Secrets Act 1904** was launched to curb the free speech.
- » **Partition of Bengal (1905).**
- » **Younghusband's Mission to Tibet** was sent in 1904.



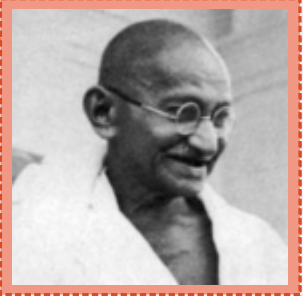
LORD MINTO II (1905-1910)

- » Popularisation of **anti-partition and Swadeshi Movements**.
- » **Split in Congress** in the annual session of 1907 in Surat.
- » **Muslim League** was formed in 1906.
- » **Jamsetji Tata** established TISCO in 1907.
- » **Morley Minto Reforms** of 1909 of the Indian Council Act of 1909. It also provided separate electorates.
- » **Seditious Meeting (Prohibition) Act 1909** to curb the rise of extremists.
- » **Indian Press Act, of 1910** to curb the free speech.



LORD HARDINGE II (1910-1916)

- › **Creation of Bengal Presidency** (like Bombay and Madras) in 1911.
- › **Transfer of capital** from Calcutta to Delhi (1911).
- › Establishment of the **Hindu Mahasabha** (1915) by Madan Mohan Malaviya.
- › Coronation durbar of King George V was held at **Delhi Durbar III** (1911).
- › Creation of **McMohan Line** between India and China in 1914.
- › **Ghadar Mutiny** of 1915.
- › **Arrival of Gandhiji** to India in 1905.
- › A bomb was thrown at him near Chandni Chowk but he escaped unhurt.



LORD CHELMSFORD (1916-1921)

- › **Home Rule Movement** by Annie Besant and Tilak (1916).
- › **Lucknow session** of the Congress (1916) and coming together of moderates and extremists.
- › **Lucknow pact** between the Congress and Muslim League (1916).
- › Foundation of **Sabarmati Ashram** (1916) after Gandhi's return from South Africa.
- › Launch of **Champaran** Satyagraha (1916), **Kheda** Satyagraha (1918), and Satyagraha at **Ahmedabad** (1918).
- › Launch of **Non-Cooperation and Khilafat Movements**.
- › **Death of Bal Gangadhar Tilak** (August 1, 1920).



REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

- » **Montagu's August Declaration** (1917) and Government of India Act (1919).
- » Foundation of **Women's University at Poona** (1916) and appointment of **Saddler's Commission** (1917).
- » Appointment of **S.P. Sinha as governor of Bihar** (the first Indian to become a governor).
- » **Imperial Bank of India (now SBI)** was formed in 1921.

REPRESSIVE ACTIONS

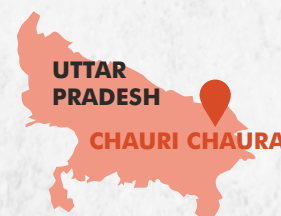
- » **The Rowlatt Act** (1919) was opposed by launch of Rowlatt Satyagraha.
- » **Jallianwalla Bagh massacre** (1919).

Copyright © by Vision IAS

All rights are reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior permission of Vision IAS.

LORD READING (1921-1926)

- **Chauri Chaura incident** (February 5, 1922) and the subsequent withdrawal of Non-Cooperation Movement.
- **Moplah rebellion** in Kerala (1921).
- Rabindra Nath Tagore founded **Visva Bharati University** in 1921.
- **Formation of Swaraj Party** by C.R. Das and Motilal Nehru (1922).
- **Communal riots** in Multan, Amritsar, Delhi, Aligarh, Arvi and Calcutta.
- **Kakori train robbery** (1925).
- **Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS)** was formed in 1925.
- Murder of **Swami Shraddhanand** (1926).



REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

- » **Repeal of the Press Act of 1910 and the Rowlatt Act of 1919.**
- » Criminal Law Amendment Act and **abolition of cotton excise.**
- » **Lee Commission** for public services was appointed in 1923.
- » Decision to hold **simultaneous examinations for the ICS** both in Delhi and London, with effect from 1923.

LORD IRWIN (1926-1931)

- Appointment of the **Harcourt Butler Indian States Commission** (1927).
- Visit of **Simon Commission** to India (1928) and the boycott of the commission by the Indians. Death of **Lala Lajpat Rai**.
- **Murder of Saunders**, the assistant superintendent of police of Lahore. Bomb blast in the Assembly Hall of
- Delhi (1929). Bomb accident in train in Delhi (1929).
- **Lahore Conspiracy Case** and death of Jatin Das after prolonged hunger strike (1929).
- **Lahore session of the Congress** (1929) and Purna Swaraj Resolution.
- '**Deepavali Declaration**' by Lord Irwin (1929).
- **Dandi March** (March 12, 1930) by Gandhi to launch the **Civil Disobedience Movement**.
- **Gandhi-Irwin Pact (1931)** and suspension of Civil Disobedience Movement.
- **Execution of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev (1931).**



LORD WILLINGDON (1931-1936)

- **Second Round Table Conference (1931)** and failure of the conference.
- Resumption of Civil Disobedience Movement.**
- Announcement of **Communal Award (1932)**
- under which separate communal electorates were set up.
- **'Fast unto death' by Gandhi** in Yeravada prison, broken after **the Poona Pact (1932)**.
- Third Round Table Conference (1932).
- The **Government of India Act of 1935**.
- Establishment of **All India Kisan Sabha (1936)**.
- **Congress Socialist Party** by **Acharya Narendra Dev and Jayaprakash Narayan** in 1934.
- **Burma separated from India (1935)**.
- **Reserve Bank of India** was established.



LORD LINLITHGOW (1936-1944)

- **Resignation of the Congress ministries** after the outbreak of the Second World War (1939).
- **Subhash Chandra Bose** elected as the president of Congress at the fifty-first session of the Congress (1938).
- Resignation of Bose in 1939 and formation of the **Forward Bloc (1939)**.
- **Lahore Resolution (March 1940)** by the **Muslim League**, demand for separate state for Muslims.
- **Winston Churchill** elected prime minister of England (1940).
- **Escape of Subhash Chandra Bose from India (1941)** and organisation of the **Indian National Army**.
- Passing of the **'Quit India Resolution' by the Congress (1942)** and outbreak of 'August Revolution' or Revolt of 1942 after the arrest of national leaders.
- **Divide and Quit' slogan** at the Karachi session (1944) of the Muslim League.



REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

- » **First general elections (1936-37)** were held in which Congress attained absolute majority.
- » **'August Offer' (1940)** by the viceroy and its criticism by the Congress and endorsement by the Muslim League.
- » **Cripps Mission's** to offer dominion status to India and setting up of a Constituent Assembly. It was rejected by the Congress.

REPRESSIVE ACTIONS

- » Imperialist's used their force to crush the Quit India Movement.
- » **Bengal Famine of 1943** due to diversion of food grains to feed soldiers during World War II.

LORD WAVELL (1944-1947)

- **CR Formula** (1944) and failure of Gandhi - Jinnah talks (1944).
- End of Second World War (1945).
- Observance of '**Direct Action Day**' (August 16, 1948) by the Muslim League.
- **Wavell Plan** and the Shimla Conference (1942).
- Proposals of the **Cabinet Mission (1946)** and its acceptance by the Congress.
- Trials of soldiers of INA and suppression of Royal Indian Navy Mutiny.



REFORMATIVE ACTIONS

- » **Elections to the Constituent Assembly**, formation of **Interim Government** by the Congress (September 1946).
- » **Announcement of end of British rule** by Clement Attlee on February 20, 1947.

LORD MOUNTBATTEN (1947-1948)

- **June Third Plan** (June 3, 1947) announced.
- Introduction of **Indian Independence Bill** in the House of Commons and its passing.
- Appointment of **two boundary commissions** under **Sir Cyril Radcliff** for the partition of Bengal and Punjab.
- He became the **1st Governor General of Dominion of India** (1947-1950).



Copyright © by Vision IAS

All rights are reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior permission of Vision IAS.

