

Viceroy of India

History Notes PDF

Dear readers,

Here are the Modern History Notes PDF on Viceroy of India, which you must read. This PDF contains the list of British Viceroys during British India. The below given list is important for the upcoming Railways & SSC Exams 2020. Happy Reading!!

Viceroy of India

Lord Canning (AD 1856-62):

- **The last Governor General** and the **first Viceroy**.
- Withdrew Doctrine of Lapse.
- Revolt of 1857, Mutiny took place. Indian Penal Code 1860 was passed.
- **Passed the Act, 1858**, which ended the rule of the East India Company. The Universities of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras were established in 1857.

Lord Elgin (AD 1862) :

- Wahabi Movement

Lord John Lawrence (AD 1864-69) :

- Established the **High Courts** at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras in 1865.
- Telegraphic communication was opened with Europe. Created the Indian Forest Department.

Lord Mayo (AD 1869-72) :

- Organised the Statistical Survey of India and for the **first time** in Indian history, a **census** was held in 1871.
- Started the process of financial decentralisation in India. Established the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.
- Established the Rajkot College at Kathiawar and Mayo College at Ajmer for the Indian princes.
- He was the only viceroy to be murdered in office by a Pathan convict in the Andamans in 1872.

Lord Northbrook (AD 1872-76) :

- **Kuka Rebellion** in Punjab, Famine in Bihar.

Lord Lytton (AD 1876-80) :

- Known as the '*Viceroy of Reverse Character*'
- **Royal Titles Act of 1876** and the assumption of the title of 'Empress of India' by Queen Victoria, the Delhi Durbar in January 1877.
- **Vernacular Press Act** (also called the 'Gagging Act' to restrain the circulation of printed matter) and the **Arms Act** (made it mandatory for Indians to acquire license in arms) of 1878.

Lord Rippon (AD 1880-84) :

- **First Factory Act** of 1881 (prohibited labour). **Local Self-Government** was introduced in 1882.
- Repealed the **Vernacular Press Act** in 1882. Finances of the centre were divided.
- Lord Rippon is regarded as '**the founding father of local self-governance**' in India.
- An Education Commission was appointed under **Sir William Hunter** in 1882 to improve primary and secondary education.
- The **Ilbert Bill Controversy** (1883) enabled Indian district magistrates to try European criminals.

Lord Dufferin (AD 1884-88) :

- **Third Burmese War** (AD 1885-86). Establishment of the Indian National Congress in 1885.

Lord Lansdown (AD 1888-94) :

- **Factory Act of 1891** granted weekly holiday and stipulated working hours for women and children.
- Civil services were divided into Imperial, Provincial and Subordinate Services.
- **Indian Councils Act** of 1892.
- The **Durand Commission** defined the Durand Line between British India and Afghanistan (now between Pakistan and Afghanistan) in 1893.



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Lord Elgin II (AD 1894-99) :

- Southern uprisings of 1899. **Great famine** of 1896-1897 and **Lyal Commission** on famine was established.

Lord Curzon (AD 1899-1905) :

- A Commission was appointed under **Sir Thomas Raleigh** in 1902, to suggest reforms regarding universities, the Indian Universities Act of 1904 was passed on the basis of its recommendations.
- **Ancient Monuments Preservation Act** of 1904. Thus, Archaeological Survey of India was established.
- **Agricultural Research Institute** was established at Pusa in Delhi. Partitioned Bengal in 1905.

Lord Minto (AD 1905-10) :

- Swadeshi Movement (1905-08); Foundation of Muslim League (1906); Surat Session and split in the Congress (1907). Morley-Minto Reforms (1909).

Lord Hardinge (AD 1910-16) :

- Capital shifted from Calcutta to Delhi (1911); Delhi Durbar; Partition of Bengal was cancelled. The **Hindu Mahasabha** was founded in 1915 by Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya.

Lord Chelmsford (AD 1916-21) :

- Gandhi returned to India (1915) and founded the **Sabarmati Ashram** (1916), Champaran Satyagraha, Satyagraha at Ahmedabad, Kheda Satyagraha (1918).
- **August Declaration** (1917) by Montague, the then Secretary of State, and Montford reforms or the Government of India Act of 1919.
- **Rowlatt Act** (March 1919) and the **Jallianwala Bagh Massacre** (13th April 1919).
- **Khilafat Committee** was formed and Khilafat Movement started (1919-20).
- **Non-Cooperation Movement** started (1920-22). Women's University was founded at Poona (1916).

Lord Reading (AD 1921-26):

- Repeal of Rowlatt Act. Chauri-Chaura incident. RSS, founded in 1925. Suppressed Non-Cooperation Movement. Formation of Swaraj Party.
- Moplah Rebellion (1921) took place. **Kakori Train Robbery** on 1st August 1925. **Communal Riots** of 1923-25 in Multan, Amritsar, Delhi etc.

Lord Irwin (AD 1926-31) :

- **Simon Commission** visited Indian in 1927. Congress passed the Indian Resolution in 1929.
- Dandi March (12th March, 1930). Civil Disobedience Movement (1930).
- **First Round Table** Conference was held in England in 1930. Gandhi-Irwin Pact.
- Lahore Session of Congress and **Poorna Swaraj Declaration** (1929).

Lord Willingdon (AD 1931-36) :

- Second Round Table Conference in London in 1931 and third in 1932.
- Government of India Act (1935) was passed. Communal Awards (16th August 1932) assigned seats to different religious communities. Gandhiji went on an **epic fast** to protest against this division.

Lord Linlithgow (AD 1936-43) :

- Congress Ministries resignation celebrated as 'Deliverance Day' by the Muslim League (1939), the Lahore Resolution (23rd March 1940) of the Muslim League demanding a separate state for the Muslims. (It was at this session that Jinnah propounded his **Two-Nation Theory**). The outbreak of World War II in 1939. Cripps Mission in 1942. Quit India Movement (8th August 1942).

Lord Wavell (AD 1943-47) :

- Cabinet Mission Plan (16th May 1946).
- First meeting of the Constituent Assembly was held on **9th December 1946**.
- Arranged the Shimla Conference on **25th June 1945** with the failure of the Indian National Congress and Muslim League.



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- Election to the Constituent Assembly was held and an interim government was appointed under Nehru.

Lord Mountbatten (March to August 1947) :

- Last Viceroy of British India and the first Governor-General of free India.
- Partition of India decided by the **3rd June Plan or Mountbatten Plan.**
- Retired in June 1948 and was succeeded by C Rajagopalachari, the first and the last Indian Governor-General of Free India.
- Indian Independence Act was passed by the British Parliament on **4th July 1947**, by which India became independent on **15th August 1947.**



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