

Crown Rule in India

History of the Crown Rule in India

The Crown Rule in India did not always exist. Below are brief pointers to recapitulate the events;

- The Revolt of 1857 was not simply a Sepoy Mutiny; it was a manifestation of the accumulated wrath, fury, and grievances of the Indian people against British rule.
- It was obvious that there needed to be a change in the way people were managed.
- As a consequence, the British government made the decision to dissolve the East India Company and take direct control of India.
- India was ruled by the British Crown from 1858 to 1947.

Important Acts Brought by the Crown Rule in India

The British Parliament ended the operations of the East India Company in 1857 as a result of the Sepoy revolt. The British crown came to reign as a result of the transfer of the Indian government's authority, territories, and income.

Let's examine the acts that were enacted during this time;

- **The Government Of India Act 1858**
 - Following the insurrection in 1857, the company's control came to an end, and the British Crown regained possession of the estates it had owned in India.
 - The post of the Indian Secretary of State was created. A council composed of 15 representatives supported him.
 - The Viceroy served as his agent, and he was in control of the Indian administration. Viceroy was also awarded to the Governor-General (Lord Canning).
 - Both the Court of Directors and the Board of Control were abolished.
- **Indian Councils Act 1861**
 - Native Americans had representatives in the Viceroy's Councils. The Legislative Council now includes three Native Americans.
 - Indians were permitted to participate as unofficial members of the Viceroy's Executive Council.
 - The system of portfolios was recognised.
 - The return of legislative authority to the Madras and Bombay presidency marked the beginning of decentralisation.
- **Indian Councils Act 1892**
 - Elections by nomination (indirect voting) were conducted.
 - There are now more legislative councils than before. New duties were assigned to legislative councils, including the ability to question the administration and review the budget.
- **Indian Councils Act 1909**
 - Direct elections for provincial legislatures were held for the first time.
 - In its place, the Central Legislative Council was replaced by the Imperial Legislative Council.

- The number of members on the legislative council has increased from 16 to a total of 60.
- The concept of a single electorate was warmly received.
- For the first time, an Indian was elected to the Viceroy's Executive Council. (Member of the Law Satyendra Prasad Sinha)
- **The Government Of India Act 1919 (Montague-Chelmsford Reforms)**
 - Two groups of subjects were created: central and provincial.
 - Diarchy was implemented in provincial administrations, with ministers responsible for the transferred list of issues and executive councillors in control of the reserved list.
 - The ministers were selected from among the elected members of the legislative council and were answerable to the legislature.
 - A bicameral legislature was constituted for the first time at the centre. Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha were then changed to their respective names (Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha).
 - It called for the Viceroy's executive council to consist of three Indians.
 - This statute made it possible to create a public service commission for the first time in India.
 - With the help of this legislation, more people—roughly 10%—are now able to use their voting rights.
- **The Government Of India Act 1935**
 - It was suggested that an all-India federation be created between British India and the princely states. This, however, never happened.
 - The central government and the districts each had a different set of subjects. The Concurrent List served both the Federal List and the Provincial List, which were in control of the Centre and the Provinces, respectively.
 - At the national level, monarchy took the place of diarchy after it was eliminated at the provincial level.
 - Provinces were given increased power, and 6 of the 11 provinces now have bicameral legislatures.
 - A federal court was established, and the Indian Council was disbanded.
 - The remainder of India was cut off from Burma and Aden.
 - This measure led to the creation of the RBI.
 - Up until the adoption of the new Indian Constitution, this Act was in force.
- **Indian Independence Act 1947**
 - India was proclaimed to be independent and sovereign.
 - The designation of constitutional (nominal) rulers was bestowed upon the Viceroy and Governors.
 - Establish accountable national and provincial governments.
 - There have been delegations of both executive and legislative powers.

The various laws that were passed during Crown Rule served as a foundation for the constitution that modern-day India formed. As is frequently claimed, the 1935 Act is the source of the majority of the provisions in the current Indian Constitution, including the Federal Scheme and the List system of jurisdiction.