

IYACHAMY ACADEMY

GROUP I PRELIMS - 2026

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WORKBOOK - 01

ANSWER KEY

Topic: Historical Background, Making of the Constitution,
Objective Resolution

Answers - Fill the following

1. Regulating Act
2. Governor-General of India
3. Indian Councils Act 1861 (Lord Canning)
4. Morley-Minto Reforms
5. Government of India Act 1919
6. Three (Federal, Provincial, Concurrent)
7. no Indian members
8. Ramsay MacDonald
9. Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
10. 1934
11. 1946
12. Cabinet Mission Plan
13. 389
14. Jawaharlal Nehru
15. November 26, 1949; January 26, 1950
16. 7; Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
17. 11; 2 years, 11 months and 18 days
18. President (or Governor at State level)
19. 8 (eight)
20. India and Pakistan

Answers – Short Answer Questions

1. Key provisions of the Regulating Act of 1773

The Regulating Act of 1773 was the first step by the British Parliament to regulate the affairs of the East India Company. It designated the Governor of Bengal as the Governor-General of Bengal (Warren Hastings was the first). It established the Supreme Court at Calcutta (1774). It required the Court of Directors to report on revenue, civil, and military affairs. It prohibited Company servants from engaging in private trade or accepting bribes.

2. Significance of the Charter Act of 1833

The Charter Act of 1833 was a significant milestone. It made the Governor-General of Bengal as the Governor-General of India (Lord William Bentinck was the first). It deprived the Bombay and Madras Governors of their legislative powers. It ended the commercial activities of the East India Company, making it purely an administrative body. It attempted to introduce open competition for civil services (though not implemented until 1853). It also created the Law Commission (Macaulay Commission) for codification of laws.

3. What was Dyarchy? Why did it fail?

Dyarchy was a system introduced by the Government of India Act 1919 (Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms) at the provincial level. Under this system, provincial subjects were divided into 'Transferred' subjects (administered by ministers responsible to the legislature) and 'Reserved' subjects (administered by the Governor and his Executive Council). It failed because ministers had no control over finance, the Governor could override decisions, reserved and transferred subjects were not clearly demarcated, and the system created friction between the two halves of the government.

4. Main features of the Government of India Act 1935

The Government of India Act 1935 was the longest Act of British Parliament with 321 sections and 10 schedules. Key features include: It provided for an All-India Federation (never implemented). It abolished Dyarchy at the provinces and introduced Provincial Autonomy. It introduced Dyarchy at the Centre. It established a Federal Court. It divided subjects into three lists - Federal, Provincial, and Concurrent. It introduced bicameralism in 6 provinces. It established the Reserve Bank of India.

5. Communal Award and Poona Pact

The Communal Award was announced by British PM Ramsay MacDonald on August 16, 1932. It extended the principle of separate electorate to Depressed Classes (Scheduled Castes), giving them separate electorates in addition to votes in general constituencies. Mahatma Gandhi opposed this as it would permanently divide Hindu society and went on a fast unto death. This led to the Poona Pact (September 1932) between Gandhi and Ambedkar, which replaced separate electorates with reserved seats for Depressed Classes within joint electorates, and increased the number of reserved seats.

6. Composition and working of the Constituent Assembly

The Constituent Assembly was constituted under the Cabinet Mission Plan of 1946. It had a total membership of 389 (296 from British India, 93 from Princely States). Members were elected by provincial legislatures through indirect election using the method of proportional representation with single transferable vote. The first session was held on December 9, 1946, chaired by Dr. Sachidanand Sinha as temporary President. Dr. Rajendra Prasad was later elected as permanent

President. B.N. Rau served as Constitutional Advisor. The CA held 11 sessions over 2 years, 11 months and 18 days.

7. Objective Resolution and its key declarations

The Objective Resolution was moved by Jawaharlal Nehru on December 13, 1946, and adopted on January 22, 1947. Its key declarations were: India shall be an Independent Sovereign Republic; all power and authority is derived from the people; all people shall be guaranteed justice (social, economic, political), equality, freedom of thought, expression, belief, faith, worship, vocation, association, and action; adequate safeguards for minorities, backward and tribal areas, depressed classes; integrity of territory and sovereign rights over land, sea and air maintained; the country shall attain its rightful place in the world. It later formed the basis of the Preamble.

8. Distinguish between Rule of Law and Constitutionalism

Rule of Law (propounded by A.V. Dicey) means that the law is supreme and everyone, including the government, is subject to law. Its three principles are: supremacy of law, equality before law, and predominance of legal spirit (individual rights flow from court decisions). Constitutionalism is a broader concept that means the government should be limited in its powers and authority, operating within a constitutional framework. Louis Henkin identified 8 principles including government according to constitution, separation of powers, sovereignty of people, constitutional review, independent judiciary, limited government, individual rights, and civilian control of military.

9. Written vs Unwritten Constitutions

A Written Constitution is one where the fundamental principles of governance are codified in a single document or a series of documents (e.g., India, USA). It provides clarity, certainty, and stability. An Unwritten Constitution is one where the principles are not codified in a single document but are found in conventions, judicial decisions, customs, and scattered statutes (e.g., UK, New Zealand). Written constitutions tend to be more rigid, while unwritten ones are more flexible and adaptable to changing circumstances.

10. Role and composition of the Drafting Committee

The Drafting Committee was established on August 29, 1947. It had 7 members: Dr. B.R. Ambedkar (Chairman), N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar, Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar, K.M. Munshi, Syed Mohammad Sadulla, N. Madhava Rau (replaced B.L. Mitter), and T.T. Krishnamachari (replaced D.P. Khaitan after his death). The Committee was tasked with preparing a draft Constitution based on the decisions of the Constituent Assembly. It prepared the draft constitution which was published in February 1948, considered over 7,635 amendments (of which 2,473 were actually discussed), and finalized the document that was adopted on November 26, 1949.

Answers - Right or Wrong (Acts and Provisions)

S.No	Act	Provision Given	Correct Provision	Verdict
1	Regulating Act 1773	Established Supreme Court at Bombay	<i>Supreme Court at Calcutta</i>	[Wrong]
2	Pitt's India Act 1784	Created Board of Control	<i>Board of Control (correct)</i>	[Right]
3	Charter Act 1813	Ended EIC trade monopoly with India	<i>Ended trade monopoly with India (correct)</i>	[Right]
4	Charter Act 1833	Created Governor-General of India	<i>Governor-General of India (correct)</i>	[Right]
5	Charter Act 1853	Introduced open competition for civil services	<i>Open competition for civil services (correct)</i>	[Right]
6	Indian Councils Act 1861	Introduced communal electorate	<i>Started process of decentralisation. Communal electorate was 1909.</i>	[Wrong]
7	Indian Councils Act 1909	Also known as Morley-Minto Reforms	<i>Morley-Minto Reforms (correct)</i>	[Right]
8	GoI Act 1919	Introduced Dyarchy at the Centre	<i>Dyarchy at Provinces, not Centre</i>	[Wrong]
9	GoI Act 1935	Provided for an All India Federation	<i>All India Federation (correct, though never implemented)</i>	[Right]
10	Indian Independence Act 1947	Abolished the office of Secretary of State	<i>Abolished Secretary of State for India (correct)</i>	[Right]
11	Regulating Act 1773	Made Gov of Bengal as Gov-General of Bengal	<i>Governor-General of Bengal (correct)</i>	[Right]
12	Charter Act 1793	Extended Company's rule by 20 years	<i>Extended by 20 years (correct)</i>	[Right]

Answers - Fact Check

1. The Regulating Act 1773 established the Supreme Court at Calcutta. **[Right]**
2. The Charter Act of 1853 introduced the portfolio system for the first time. **[Wrong]** - *The portfolio system was introduced by the Indian Councils Act 1861 under Lord Canning.*
3. The Indian Councils Act 1892 introduced the principle of election for the first time. **[Right]**
4. The Morley-Minto Reforms introduced Dyarchy in the provinces. **[Wrong]** - *Morley-Minto Reforms (1909) introduced separate electorate. Dyarchy was introduced by GoI Act 1919.*
5. The Simon Commission (1927) had all British members and no Indian members. **[Right]**
6. The Government of India Act 1935 had 321 sections and 10 schedules. **[Right]**
7. The Constituent Assembly was established under the Indian Independence Act 1947. **[Wrong]** - *It was established under the Cabinet Mission Plan 1946.*
8. The first session of the Constituent Assembly was held on December 9, 1946. **[Right]**
9. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was elected as the permanent Chairman of the Constituent Assembly. **[Wrong]** - *Dr. Rajendra Prasad was the permanent President. Ambedkar was Chairman of the Drafting Committee.*
10. The Objective Resolution was moved by Jawaharlal Nehru. **[Right]**
11. The Constitution of India was handwritten by Prem Behari Raizada. **[Right]**
12. The total expenditure on making the Constitution was Rs. 46 lakh. **[Wrong]** - *The total expenditure was Rs. 64 lakh, not Rs. 46 lakh.*
13. The Constituent Assembly adopted the national flag on July 22, 1947. **[Right]**
14. B.N. Rau served as the Constitutional Advisor to the Constituent Assembly. **[Right]**
15. India has an unwritten and flexible constitution. **[Wrong]** - *India has a written and partly rigid, partly flexible constitution.*
16. The concept of Rule of Law was propounded by A.V. Dicey. **[Right]**

Answers - Match the following (Acts and Key Features)

S.No	Act / Reform	Correct Match	Key Feature
1	Regulating Act 1773	E	Created Governor-General of Bengal
2	Pitt's India Act 1784	B	Established dual government
3	Charter Act 1833	H	Made GoG-B as GoG of India
4	Indian Councils Act 1909	A	Introduced separate electorate
5	GoI Act 1919	F	Dyarchy in provinces
6	GoI Act 1935	D	Provided for All India Federation
7	Charter Act 1853	C	Open competition for civil services
8	Indian Independence Act 1947	G	Abolished East India Company rule

Answers - Match the following (Committees and Chairmen)

S.No	Committee	Match	Chairman
1	Union Powers Committee	B	Jawaharlal Nehru
2	Drafting Committee	A	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
3	Union Constitution Committee	E	Jawaharlal Nehru
4	Advisory Committee on Fundamental Rights	C	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
5	Provincial Constitution Committee	G	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
6	Steering Committee	D	Dr. Rajendra Prasad
7	Rules of Procedure Committee	F	Dr. Rajendra Prasad

Answers - Right / Wrong (Constituent Assembly Facts)

1. The Constituent Assembly was constituted under the Cabinet Mission Plan of 1946. **[Right]**
2. The Constituent Assembly initially had 389 members. **[Right]**
3. Dr. Sachidanand Sinha was the first permanent President of the Constituent Assembly. **[Wrong]** - He was the temporary President. Dr. Rajendra Prasad was the permanent President.
4. The Constituent Assembly took 2 years, 11 months and 18 days to frame the Constitution. **[Right]**
5. The total expenditure on making the Constitution was Rs. 64 lakh. **[Right]**
6. The Constituent Assembly had 11 sessions. **[Right]**
7. The Constitution was enacted on January 26, 1950. **[Wrong]** - It was enacted on November 26, 1949. January 26, 1950 was the date of enforcement.
8. The national anthem was adopted on January 24, 1950. **[Right]**
9. Elephant was chosen as the symbol on the seal of the Constituent Assembly. **[Right]**
10. The original Constitution was preserved in a helium-filled case. **[Right]**

Answers - Right / Wrong (Types of Constitutions)

1. India has a written and rigid constitution. **[Wrong]** - India has a written constitution but it is partly rigid and partly flexible.
2. The British Constitution is an example of a written constitution. **[Wrong]** - UK has an unwritten constitution.
3. A rigid constitution can be amended by ordinary legislative process. **[Wrong]** - A rigid constitution requires special procedure for amendment. Flexible constitutions can be amended by ordinary process.
4. India follows a Presidential system of government. **[Wrong]** - India follows a Parliamentary system of government.
5. A federal constitution divides power between centre and states. **[Right]**
6. India is a secular republic with a parliamentary system. **[Right]**
7. A theocratic state has no official religion. **[Wrong]** - A theocratic state has an official religion (e.g., Pakistan, Iran). A secular state has no official religion.
8. The USA has a rigid and written constitution. **[Right]**
9. Unitary constitutions concentrate all powers in the central government. **[Right]**
10. India's constitution is often described as quasi-federal. **[Right]**

Answers - Identify correct statements (Objective Resolution)

S.No	Statement	Verdict	Explanation
1	The Objective Resolution declared India as a Sovereign Democratic Republic.	[Wrong]	<i>It declared India as an Independent Sovereign Republic. The word 'Democratic' was added later in the Preamble.</i>
2	The Objective Resolution was moved by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.	[Wrong]	<i>It was moved by Jawaharlal Nehru on December 13, 1946.</i>
3	The Objective Resolution was adopted on January 22, 1947.	[Right]	
4	The Objective Resolution guaranteed justice, equality, and freedom to all citizens.	[Right]	
5	The Objective Resolution provided for adequate safeguards for minorities.	[Right]	
6	The Objective Resolution maintained the integrity of the territory of the Republic.	[Right]	
7	The Objective Resolution was later modified to include the words 'Socialist' and 'Secular'.	[Right]	<i>Added by the 42nd Amendment Act, 1976.</i>
8	The Objective Resolution forms the basis of the Preamble to the Constitution.	[Right]	
9	The Objective Resolution was adopted unanimously without any debate.	[Wrong]	<i>It was debated over several days before being adopted.</i>
10	The Objective Resolution provided for the ancient rights of India over land, sea and air.	[Right]	

Answers - Which of the following (Correct Act)

S.No	Feature	Correct Answer	Option
1	All India Federation	GoI Act 1935	C
2	Dyarchy in Provinces	GoI Act 1919	A
3	Separate Electorate	Indian Councils Act 1909	B
4	Supreme Court at Calcutta	Regulating Act 1773	A
5	Open Competition for Civil Services	Charter Act 1853	B
6	Board of Control	Pitt's India Act 1784	B
7	Portfolio System	Indian Councils Act 1861	B
8	Provincial Autonomy	GoI Act 1935	B

Answers - Exam Quick Points

1. Calcutta
2. Governor-General of India
3. Separate electorate
4. Dyarchy
5. Federal Court at the Centre; Provincial Autonomy in provinces
6. Cabinet Mission Plan
7. Sachidanand Sinha
8. Rajendra Prasad
9. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
10. Constitution of the USA
11. July 22, 1947
12. January 24, 1950
13. January 24, 1950
14. Prem Behari Raizada
15. Shantiniketan (Nandalal Bose and his students)
16. Rs. 64 lakh
17. 7,635 (of which 2,473 were discussed)
18. 395 articles and 8 schedules

DAY SHEET - 01