

POLITICAL SCIENCE

CLASS:- 12th,NOTES.

CHAPTER:-10

CHALLENGE OF NATION BUILDING.

Challenges for the New Nation

India became independent in August 1947 immediately after independence, there were three challenges in nation building

- The first and the immediate challenge was to shape nation that was united, yet accommodative of the diversity existing in***

the society and eradication of poverty and unemployment.

- ***The second challenge was to establish democracy.***
- ***The third challenge was to ensure the development and well-being of the entire society and not only of some sections.***

Partition: Displacement and Rehabilitation

- ***On 14th to 15th August, 1947, two nation-states India and Pakistan came into existence. Lakhs of people from both sides lost their homes, lives and properties and became victim of communal violence.***
- ***On the basis of Muslim majority belt West and East Pakistan was created which were separated by a long expanse of Indian Territory.***

- *Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan also known as 'Frontier Gandhi' was the undisputed leader of the North-West Frontier Province (NWFP). Despite his opposition NWFP was merged with Pakistan.*
- *The portion of Punjab and Bengal caused the deepest trauma of partition.*

Consequences of Partition

- *The year 1947 was the year of one of the largest, most abrupt, unplanned and tragic transfer of population of human history as known.*
- *Minorities on both sides of the border fled their home and secured temporary' shelter in 'refugee camps'.*
- *Women were often abducted, raped, attacked and killed. They were forcefully converted to other , religion.*
- *Political and administrative machinery failed on both sides.*

- *There was huge loss of lives and property. Communal violence was on its culmination.*

Integration of Princely States

- *There were two types of provinces in British India—The British Indian Provinces (directly under the control of the British Government) and Princely states (governed by Indian princes).*
- *Immediately after independence there were almost 565 princely states. Many of them joined Indian Union.*
- *Travancore, Hyderabad, Kashmir and Manipur initially refused to join Indian Union.*

Government's Approach

- *The then interim government took a firm steps against the possible division of India into small principalities of different sizes.*

- *The government's approach was guided by three considerations*
- *The people of most of the princely states clearly wanted to become part of the Indian Union.*
- *The government was prepared to be flexible in giving autonomy to some regions.*
- *Consolidation of the territorial boundaries of the nation had assumed supreme importance.*

Instrument of Accession

- *The rulers of the most of the states signed a document called the 'Instrument of Accession' but accession of the Junagarh, Hyderabad, Kashmir and Manipur proved more difficult than the rest.*

- *After initial resistance, in September 1948, Hyderabad was merged with Indian Union, by a military operation.*
- *The Government of India succeeded in pressurising the Maharaja of Manipur into signing a Merger Agreement in September, 1949. The government did so without consulting the popularly elected Legislative Assembly of Manipur.*

Reorganisation of States

- *During national movement Indian National Congress recognised the demand of state reorganisation on linguistic basis.*
- *After Independence, this idea was postponed because the memory of partition was still fresh and the fate of the Princely states had not been decided.*

- *After a long movement, in December 1952 Andhra Pradesh was created on linguistic basis.*
- *Creation of this state gave impetus to reorganise states on linguistic basis. As a result, Government of India appointed States Reorganisation Commission in 1953.*
- *This commission accepted that the boundaries of the state should reflect the boundaries of different languages.*
- *On the basis of its report the States Reorganisation Act was passed in 1956. This led to the creation of 14 States and 6 Union Territories.*