

4 Marks —

Q1) What controversy was raised regarding the behaviour of the Government of India in rehabilitating the refugees?

Ans) After the Independence and partition of India in 1947, a large number of people ~~were~~ from West and East Pakistan termed as 'Refugees' were compelled to migrate to India. It was the largest immigration of humanity in the history of the world. India being a newly formed ~~state~~ nation was overburdened with the economic and other responsibilities due to the exodus of the refugees.

Controversy raised regarding the attitude of the government in rehabilitating the refugees:-

The Government of India's initiative in rehabilitating the refugees was not beyond controversy. The sincere efforts the government had taken in settling and rehabilitating the refugees from West Pakistan was found missing in case of the refugees who had to leave their homeland in East Pakistan.

The two states of Punjab and West Bengal were flooded with the refugees. In Punjab, the Indian Government took several measures in rehabilitating the refugees and could reduce the problem to a certain extent. The Hindu and Sikh refugees moving from West Pakistan was found missing in case of ~~refugees moving from West Pakistan~~ ^{west Pakistan} occupied deserted houses or fallow lands in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. In Punjab, about 200 two hundred camps or tenements were raised for rehabilitating the refugees. Besides, nineteen suburban towns were built for rehabilitation of the refugees.

But in case of West Bengal, the central government failed to provide adequate rehabilitation facilities to the refugees who were ultimately forced to take shelter on refugee colonies, roads, pavements etc. These colonies were inadequate to accommodate all the people and some were sent to government camps. Thus a step-motherly attitude of the government towards rehabilitating the refugees in West Bengal was noticeable.

The only difference raised due to the difference in the attitude of the Government during the migration in Punjab and that of West Bengal was that the former was a one-time affair while the influx of refugees from East Pakistan to West Bengal continued in waves for several years.

Q2) How was Hyderabad annexed?

Ans) Hyderabad was the largest of the princely states and was surrounded by Indian Territory. At the time the British left India, Mir Osman Ali Khan Asaf Jah VII was the ruling Nizam of Hyderabad.

The Nizam refused to join either India or Pakistan and preferred to remain ~~Independent~~ as a ruler of the Independent Kingdom. But an independent Kingdom of Hyderabad was a dagger pointed to the heart of India. It was not desirable for the Government of India from the consideration of defense, security as well as solidarity of the Indian Nation. The prevailing internal chaos and confusion in Hydera-

bad, which was a cause of alarm to the Government of India further complicated the situation. The ~~Raza~~ fanatical group 'Razakars' under Qasim Rizvi carried on depredation on the borders of the Indian provinces of Madras, Central Province and Bombay and launched a reign of terror in Hyderabad. As repeated protests and attempts to arrive at peace yielded no result, the government of India finally resorted to police action and the Indian Military forces under J.N. Chaudhuri, established control over Hyderabad on 16th September (1949) and Nizam surrendered. In November, the Nizam formally joined the Indian Union. This was how Hyderabad was annexed to India.

Q3) What was the problem of ^{Maharaja} Hari Singh in acceding to Indian Union?

Ans) The state of Kashmir was bordered on both sides by India and Pakistan. Its ruler, Maharaja Hari Singh was a Hindu while ^{seventy percent} ~~70%~~ of his subjects were Muslim. When he was approached by both India and Pakistan to accede into their ~~to~~ respective nations after India won independence in 1947, he refused both and preferred to remain independent which gave birth to a number of problems.

On October 22nd 1947, Pakistan with the help of the Pathan tribal raiders attacked Kashmir and proceeded to Srinagar. This left the Maharaja in no other option but to sign the Instrument of Accession on October 26th 1947, following which the Indian army drove out the infiltrators from the larger parts of Kashmir. Sheikh Abdullah, the leader of the National Conference assumed control

of the state with the help of Indian army. Maharaja Hari Singh ~~at~~ abdicated voluntarily. Pakistan, however, could not reconcile itself to the accession of Kashmir to the Indian Union. The Government of Pakistan also refused to vacate the part of Kashmir that it had occupied forcibly, which is known as POK or 'Pak-occupied Kashmir'.

As a result, conflicts between two countries on 'Kashmir Issue' are continuing till date and several major wars had taken place between India and Pakistan.

Q4
Ans

How was Junagadh annexed?

Junagadh was situated on the coast of Saurashtra and surrounded by Indian territory. ~~By the Indian Independence~~

By the Indian Independence Act of 1947, the princely states in India were free to join either the Union of India or Pakistan.

The Muslim ruler of Junagadh, Muhammad Mahabat Khanji III ignoring the wishes of his subjects who were mostly Hindus entertained the idea of joining Pakistan. As a result terrible protests were launched and unable to resist the protests, the Nawab fled to Pakistan.

In November 1947, the Government of India took over the administration at the express desire of the people of Junagadh. Later on, Junagadh was merged into Saurashtra according to the desire of the people.

This was how Junagadh was included to India.