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Q28

The Government of India Act of 1919 clearly defined (a) The separation of power between the judiciary and the legislature. (b) The jurisdiction of the central and provincial governments. (c) The powers of the Secretary of State for India and the Viceroy (d) None of the above Official key: B.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2015 · General Studies · 2 marks · History (Ancient, Medieval, Modern)
Ancient, medieval and modern Indian history - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation

(a)

(a) The separation of power between the judiciary and the legislature. GoI Act 1919 did not enact a US-style separation of those two organs. That is not what the Act 'clearly defined'.

(b) Official key

(b) The jurisdiction of the central and provincial governments. The 1919 Act (Montagu-Chelmsford) classified subjects and introduced **dyarchy** in the provinces, thereby drawing a clearer line between central and provincial jurisdiction. That is the official key.

(c)

(c) The powers of the **Secretary of State** for India and the Viceroy. Those offices continued; 1919 did not newly and clearly recast that pair as its main definitional work in the sense of this question.

(d)

(d) None of the above. Because (b) is correct, 'none' is wrong.

Summary

Official key is (b) The jurisdiction of the central and provincial governments. The **Government of India Act, 1919** listed central and provincial subjects and introduced provincial **dyarchy**. It did not mainly define judiciary-legislature separation or recast **Secretary of State** versus Viceroy. The keyed content is the centre-province split.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Montagu-Chelmsford

Reforms behind the 1919 Act

Dyarchy

Transferred and reserved subjects in provinces

Bicameral centre

Council of State and Legislative Assembly

GoI Act 1935

Provincial autonomy; federal scheme

Secretary of State

Continued control from London after 1919

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