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Q51

With reference to the Cabinet Mission, which of the following statements is/are correct? 1. It recommended a federal government. 2. It enlarged the powers of the Indian courts. 3. It provided for more Indians in the ICS. Select the correct answer using the code given below (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 (c) 1 and 3 (d) None Official key: A.

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) Official key**

• **Statement 1 is correct:** the **Cabinet Mission (1946)** recommended a three-tier federal structure with a Union of India, groups of provinces, and provinces, and a weak Centre limited to foreign affairs, defence and communications. That federal plan is the only accurate claim among the three. Statements 2 and 3 are not part of the Mission's scheme. This option (1 only) is therefore the official key.

(b)

This pairing treats statements 2 and 3 as correct. The Mission did not enlarge the powers of the Indian courts, nor did it provide for more Indians in the ICS; those were not Cabinet Mission recommendations. Because 2 and 3 fail, this option is not the key.

(c)

This pairing keeps statement 1 (federal government) but adds statement 3 (more Indians in the ICS). The ICS expansion claim is false, so 1 and 3 together cannot be the answer. This option is therefore wrong.

(d)

None would be right only if statement 1 also failed. The Mission did recommend a federal Union, so 'none' is incorrect. This option is not the key.

Summary

Official key is (a) 1 only. The Cabinet Mission Plan proposed a federal Union with grouped provinces and a Centre confined to a few subjects. It did not recast the powers of Indian courts. It also did not lay down a scheme to increase Indians in the ICS. Hence only statement 1 stands. Options that add 2 or 3, or that reject all three, miss the Plan.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Cabinet Mission year

1946; Pethick-Lawrence, Stafford Cripps and A.V. Alexander

Union subjects

Foreign affairs, defence and communications under the Plan

Grouping

Sections A, B and C of provinces in the Mission scheme

Constituent Assembly

Mission proposed a constitution-making body elected by provincial assemblies

Interim government

Mission also envisaged an interim executive at the Centre

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