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Q64

The Montague-Chelmsford Proposals were related to (a) Social reforms (b) Educational reforms (c) Reforms in police administration (d) Constitutional reforms Official key: D.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2016 · General Studies · 2 marks · History (Ancient, Medieval, Modern)

Ancient, medieval and modern Indian history - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation**(a)**

Social reforms in this period are associated with other strands (age of consent, sati already abolished, temple entry later). The Montagu-Chelmsford proposals were not a social-reform package. This option is not the key.

(b)

Educational reforms of the colonial era include Wood's Despatch, Hunter, Raleigh and Sadler. Montagu-Chelmsford did not primarily recast education. This option is wrong.

(c)

Police administration was touched in various colonial statutes, but the 1918 Montagu-Chelmsford Report was not a police-reform document. This option is not the key.

(d) Official key

The Montagu-Chelmsford proposals (Montagu's 1917 declaration and the 1918 Report) led to the **Government of India Act, 1919: dyarchy** in the provinces, a bicameral central legislature, and other constitutional changes. They are therefore constitutional reforms, which is the official key.

Summary

Official key is (d) constitutional reforms. Edwin Montagu's August 1917 announcement promised responsible government by stages; the Chelmsford-Montagu Report designed the 1919 Act. **Dyarchy**, transferred and reserved subjects, and an enlarged legislature are constitutional devices, not social, educational or police codes. The later **Government of India Act, 1935** continued the same constitutional track. Only (d) is accurate.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

August Declaration, 1917

Increasing association of Indians and gradual development of self-governing institutions

Dyarchy

Provincial subjects split into transferred and reserved

Government of India Act, 1919

Statutory fruit of the Montagu-Chelmsford reforms

Rowlatt Act / Jallianwala

1919 political backdrop that soured reception of the reforms

Diarchy vs federation

1935 Act moved to provincial autonomy and an all-India federation scheme

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