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Q49

The 'Swadeshi' and 'Boycott' were adopted as methods of struggle for the first time during the (a) Agitation against the Partition of Bengal (b) Home Rule Movement (c) Non-Cooperation Movement (d) Visit of the Simon Commission to India Official key: A.

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) Official key**

Agitation against the **Partition of Bengal**. Swadeshi and boycott were first adopted as mass methods in 1905-08 against Curzon's Partition, with boycott of British goods and promotion of swadeshi. That stored letter is the official key.

(b)

Home Rule Movement. Tilak and Besant's **Home Rule (1916)** used propaganda and leagues, not the first use of swadeshi-boycott. This letter is not the key.

(c)

Non-Cooperation Movement. 1920-22 reused boycott on a larger Gandhian scale, after 1905. This letter is not the key.

(d)

Simon Commission visit. 1928 boycott of Simon was later. This letter is not the key.

Summary

Official key is (a) agitation against the **Partition of Bengal**. Swadeshi and boycott entered nationalist method in 1905. Home Rule, Non-Cooperation and Simon were later chapters. Honour the stored letter (a).

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Partition of Bengal

Announced 1905; came into effect 16 October 1905

Annulment

1911, Delhi Durbar

Boycott resolution

Formalised in Calcutta and other meetings, 1905-06

Moderates vs Extremists

Split over extending boycott-Surat 1907 neighbour

National education / swadeshi mills

Parallel constructive programmes of 1905

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