

1. Trace the political and administrative developments that culminated in the integration of Hyderabad State into the Indian Union in 1948.

Introduction:

The integration of **Hyderabad State into the Indian Union in 1948** was a critical development in post-independence nation-building. Governed by the Nizam, Hyderabad resisted joining India after 1947. However, a series of political, administrative, and socio-economic developments ultimately led to its merger through **Operation Polo** in September 1948.

1. Hyderabad's Refusal to Join the Indian Union:

- After independence, the **Nizam of Hyderabad**, Mir Osman Ali Khan, chose to remain **independent**, defying the Indian government's expectation of accession.
- Hyderabad's strategic location—**landlocked within Indian territory**—posed a serious challenge to India's territorial integrity and internal security.

2. Political and Communal Turmoil under the Nizam:

- The Nizam's rule was marked by **authoritarian governance, censorship, and discrimination**, especially against Hindus, who comprised nearly 85% of the population.
- The rise of the **Razakars**, a private militia led by **Kasim Razvi**, unleashed **terror, communal violence, and mass atrocities**, further destabilizing the region and alarming the Indian leadership.

3. Administrative Breakdown and Peasant Uprisings:

- From 1946 onward, the **Telangana Peasant Armed Struggle**, led by Communist groups, challenged feudal oppression and exposed the **Nizam's inability to maintain civil order**.
- Widespread protests and armed resistance signaled **popular disenchantment**, paving the way for intervention.

4. Diplomatic Efforts and Failure of Negotiations:

- The Government of India, under **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel** and **V.P. Menon**, initially pursued **negotiations** through the Standstill Agreement of 1947.
- However, the Nizam's efforts to seek **international recognition** and even **approach the UN** for mediation were viewed as hostile and provocative.

5. Operation Polo – The Final Act:

- On **17th September 1948**, the Indian Army launched "**Operation Polo**", a five-day "**police action**" to annex Hyderabad.
- The Nizam surrendered without major resistance, and **Hyderabad was placed under military administration**, led by Major General J.N. Chaudhuri.

6. Post-Merger Administrative Integration:

- Following the surrender, Hyderabad was administered by a **civil administrator** (K.M. Munshi) and later integrated into the Indian Union as a **Part B state**.
- The **Pandit Sunderlal Committee** was appointed to assess the aftermath of violence, while steps were taken to restore civil administration and normalcy.

Conclusion:

The integration of Hyderabad into India was not a single event but a **culmination of political failures, administrative collapse, popular resistance, and strategic military action**. It marked a **watershed moment** in India's post-colonial consolidation, reinforcing the **primacy of national unity over princely autonomy**.

2. Trace the historical background, course and events associated with the Mulki agitation in 1952.

Introduction

The **Mulki Agitation of 1952** was a significant political movement in the erstwhile **Hyderabad State**, aimed at safeguarding the rights of **native residents (Mulkis)** in government employment. Sparked by the **neglect of Mulki rules** post-India's integration of Hyderabad, this agitation marked the **first organized expression of Telangana's regional identity**, laying the groundwork for future political mobilizations in the region.

Historical Background

The **Mulki rules** were introduced by the **Nizam's administration through the Farman of 1919**, which stipulated that only those who had resided in Hyderabad for at least **15 years** or whose fathers had served in the government for a similar duration could be considered Mulkis. These rules were intended to protect locals in public employment and education.

After Hyderabad's merger into the Indian Union in **1948**, the Indian government appointed **M.K. Vellodi** as the Chief Minister. His administration appointed a large number of **non-locals from Andhra, Bombay, and Madras presidencies** to government posts, often ignoring the Mulki rules. Additionally, the **sudden shift from Urdu to English** as the official language disadvantaged many Urdu-educated locals, exacerbating feelings of alienation and marginalization.

Course of the Agitation

The agitation formally began on **July 26, 1952**, in **Warangal**, over the transfer of local teachers. What started as a localized protest quickly spread across Telangana, especially in **Hyderabad**, where it gained widespread student and political support.

The movement was marked by the active participation of **student groups, youth associations**, and local political outfits such as the **Hyderabad State Congress** and **Communist Party**. The core demand was the **strict enforcement of the Mulki rules** to ensure local representation in employment.

Key Events

- **City College Incident:** A student-led protest in Hyderabad turned violent when police attempted to disperse demonstrators, leading to widespread unrest.
- **Popular Slogans:** Slogans like "Non-Mulkis Go Back" and "Idli-Sambar Ghar Ko Jao" reflected the cultural tensions between Telangana locals and outsiders.
- **August 29–September 3, 1952:** Violent protests and police action, including lathi charges, arrests, and prohibitory orders, intensified the agitation.

Government Response

Initially, the state resorted to **repression and arrests**. However, in response to mounting public pressure, the **Justice Jagan Mohan Reddy Committee** was appointed to investigate the grievances. The committee validated the locals' concerns and recommended steps for the **effective implementation of Mulki rules**.

Conclusion

The Mulki agitation of 1952 was not merely about jobs but about **regional identity, autonomy, and justice**. Though it did not lead to immediate systemic change, it significantly contributed to **Telangana's political consciousness**, influencing later movements that culminated in **statehood in 2014**.