

1. Examine how Subhash Chandra Bose tried to give the Indian National Congress a socialist direction? (250 words)

Answer:

Background:-

- Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was an Indian nationalist whose defiant patriotism made him a hero in India. Since joining the freedom movement of the country in 1921, Subhash Chandra Bose had been speaking in clear terms in support of socialism.

How Bose gave Congress a push towards socialism:-

- The statements of Bose, both within and outside the Congress platform, coupled with political radicalization which was taking shape towards the end of 1920s, paved the way for the Congress to gradually encompass socialist content within its policies and programmes.
- Bose along with Nehru and younger section of the congress acted as a pressure group and insisted for the inclusion of and for making economic issues an integral part of the Congress policies and programmes.
- The AICC at Bombay session held in 1929 stated in a resolution that the poverty and misery of the Indian people is not only due to foreign exploitation in India, but also the economic structure of society which the alien rulers supported so that the exploitation continues.
- In order to remove the poverty it is essential to make revolutionary changes in the present economic and social structure of society and to remove gross inequality. This resolution is significant to the extent that within the Congress party the seeds of a socialist programme were sown for the first time.
- Bose had been a leader of the younger, radical, wing of the Indian National Congress in the late 1920s and 1930s, rising to become Congress President in 1938 and 1939 during which he pursued socialist agenda.

Impact:-

- Subhash Chandra Bose declared the formation of a platform within the Congress, the Forward Bloc, with an aim to consolidate the leftist forces of the country and to march them forward with the action against the British, in order to achieve Indian independence.
- Bose had launched the National Planning Committee for drawing up a comprehensive plan of industrialization and of development.
- Bose believed that his launching of the National Planning Committee as the Congress President, in 1938, for drawing up a comprehensive plan of industrialisation and of development caused further annoyance to Mahatma Gandhi who was opposed to industrialization
- His radical ideology conflicted with many leaders of congress especially Gandhi due to which he had to resign from congress presidency in 1939.

- He wanted complete independence for India instead of dominion status especially on the onset of World War II.
- His socialist and patriotism is even respected today as he created a sense of enthusiasm, made women participated in the Indian national army, tried to make India a true place for all castes and classes.

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Answer the following Questions

1. Compare and contrast Gandhi and Bose's view on the future of the nation in general and national movement in particular? (250 words)
2. Temple movements in India have shifted focus from being caste based to gender based. Examine. (250 words)