

Nehru Report 1928.

What is the Nehru Report:

- ↳ Nehru Report of 15 August 1928 was a memorandum that proposed constitutional changes. The All Parties Conference were the ones that prepared this report.
- ↳ Motilal Nehru was the Chairman & his son Jawaharlal Nehru was the secretary. The committee consisted of nine other members.

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Background:

In Nov 1927 → British Govt appointed Simon Commission → to give constitutional Reforms in India. Many leaders revolted against the Simon Commission. Even after revolt the British didn't make any changes to the commission. Instead, they asked the Indians to frame their own constitution.

Lord Birkenhead, the sec of state for India, challenged Indians by saying, ... let the Indians produce a constitution which carries behind it a fair measure of general agreement among the great peoples of India.

This challenge was accepted & many nationalists gathered for preparation of Nehru Report.

The "Nehru Committee Report" was prepared as draft constitution. → presented to Lucknow conference of all parties on Aug 28, 1928. However Jinnah voted against the report.

Nehru Report - Recommendations:

1. Dominion Status for India. (Bicameral legislature)
2. Senate → 200 members elected for Seven Years & HOR → 500 members
3. Governor Gen will make decision → collectively accountable to legislature.
4. no separate electorate for minorities
5. Federal form of govt → Centre retaining residuary powers.
6. no reserved seats for Punjabi & Bengali communities.
7. Judiciary separate from executive.
8. Sind can be separated if financially independent.

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Muslim Leagues Reaction:

Muslim Leaders → rejected Nehru's proposal
In response, Muhammad Ali Jinnah drafted his 14 points in 1929, → core demands made by the Muslim community.
Their main concerns were as follows.

1/ Separate Electorate → which was provided to Muslims in Lucknow pact, rejected by Nehru Report.

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2/ Residuary powers → Muslims realised they would be minority at centre.
→ Residuary powers → devolved to province

3/ Committee → adopted narrow-minded policy to ruin the political future of Muslims.

Outcome:

- ↳ Infuriated Muslim political circles in Bengal.
- ↳ Separate electorate rejection also infuriated the Muslims
- ↳ Muslims → wanted majority in provincial legislature as well as central legislature
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