

Provincial Election and Formation of Cabinet (1937)

These notes are your ultimate revision weapon to revise Provincial Election and Formation of Cabinet (1937) history. We've distilled years of previous exam questions (PYQs) into one powerful, concise resource. Everything you need to know, nothing you don't.

- **PYQs, Decoded:** All key concepts from past exams, organized and simplified.
- **Revise in Record Time:** Short, precise, and designed for last-minute review.
- **Focus on What Matters:** Master high-probability topics and boost your confidence.

The Government of India Act, 1935 & Provincial Elections (1937)



1. Constitutional Framework

- The Provincial Governments were constituted under the **Government of India Act, 1935**.
- Elections to the provincial legislatures were held in **1937** as mandated by this Act.
- *(Note: The Government of India Act, 1919, was used for the Central Legislative Assembly elections of 1926 and 1945.)*

2. Election Scope

- Elections were held in **eleven provinces**:
 - Madras
 - Central Province
 - Bihar
 - Orissa

- United Province
- Bombay Presidency
- Assam
- NWFP (North-West Frontier Province)
- Bengal
- Punjab
- Sindh

3. Indian National Congress (INC) Performance

Overall Results

- The INC emerged as the dominant party.
- It formed governments in **eight** out of the eleven provinces.
- It secured a **clear majority** in **five** provinces.

Breakdown by Province

- **Provinces where INC obtained a full majority:**
 - Madras
 - Bihar
 - Central Provinces & Berar
 - Orissa
 - United Province
- **Provinces where INC formed a ministry WITHOUT a full majority:**
 - Bombay
 - Assam
 - NWFP
- **Provinces where INC did NOT form a ministry:**
 - Bengal
 - Punjab
 - Sindh

4. The Congress Ministries (1937-1939)

Tenure

- The Congress ministries remained in power for **28 months**.
- They resigned en masse on **22nd October 1939** to protest India being dragged into the Second World War without consultation.

Key Policies and Actions

- The **Congress Working Committee of 1937** adopted a policy to abolish land ownership (Zamindari).
- **Tenancy Acts** were amended in provinces like the United Province and Bihar to aid farmers.
- Efforts were made to improve **irrigation** and protect **peasants from moneylenders**.

Example: United Province Ministry

- **Chief Minister:** Govind Ballabh Pant
- **Finance Minister:** Rafi Ahmad Kidwai
- **Law and Justice Minister:** Kailash Nath Katju

5. Muslim League's Reaction and the "Day of Deliverance"

Grievances and Reports

- The Muslim League alleged grievances against Muslims in Congress-ruled provinces.
- The following reports were published in chronological order:
 1. **Pirpur Report** (1938)
 2. **Shareef Report** (March 1939)
 3. **Fazul Haq Report** (on Muslim sufferings under Congress rule, December 1939)

Day of Deliverance

- Muhammad Ali Jinnah called for Indian Muslims to celebrate **22nd December 1939** as the "**Day of Deliverance**".
- This was to mark the resignation of the Congress ministries, which the League saw as a relief from oppressive rule.

Know More About Provincial Election and Formation of Cabinet (1937):

- [Provincial Election and Formation of Cabinet \(1937\)-Old Year Questions and Answers](#)
- [Provincial Election and Formation of Cabinet \(1937\) One Liner Questions & Answers](#)

