

Cabinet Mission Plan (1946)

These notes are your ultimate revision weapon to revise Cabinet Mission Plan (1946) 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 Cabinet Mission (1946)

1. Composition and Leadership



- The mission consisted of three British Cabinet Ministers.
- **Leader:** Sir Pethick-Lawrence (Secretary of State for India)
- **Members:**
 - Sir Stafford Cripps (President of the Board of Trade)
 - A.V. Alexander (First Lord of the Admiralty)
- Viceroy Lord Wavell was also present during the discussions.

2. Origin and Context

- **Sent by:** British Prime Minister Clement Attlee (Labour Party).
- **Announced:** February 19, 1946, by Secretary of State Pethick-Lawrence.
- **Arrived in India:** March 24, 1946.
- **Primary Purpose:** To discuss and facilitate the transfer of power from British to Indian leadership.

3. Key Proposals of the Plan (Announced May 16, 1946)

- **Rejection of Pakistan:** Rejected the Muslim League's demand for a full, independent Pakistan.
- **Proposed State Structure:** Proposed a united India as a single dominion.
- **Three-Tier Administrative Structure:**
 - **A weak Federal Union (Central Government)** with powers limited to:
 - Foreign Affairs
 - Defence
 - Communications
 - **Groups of Provinces:**
 - **Group A:** Madras, Bombay, U.P., Bihar, C.P., Orissa.
 - **Group B:** Punjab, N.W.F.P., Sindh.
 - **Group C:** Bengal, Assam.
- **Interim Government:** Proposed the reconstitution of the Viceroy's Executive Council to form an interim government of entirely Indian leaders, including the portfolio of War Member.
- **Constitution Making:** Granted Indians the right to frame their own Constitution via a Constituent Assembly.

4. Reception and Aftermath

- **Indian National Congress:**
 - Initially accepted the plan for forming a Constituent Assembly.
 - Mahatma Gandhi was fully in favour, calling it the best possible plan.
 - Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (Congress President) was the chief negotiator with the Mission and Lord Wavell.
- **Muslim League:**
 - Initially accepted the plan in June 1946.
 - Withdrew its acceptance in July 1946 after disagreements over the formation and representation in the interim government.

- Eventually joined the interim government in October 1946 after the Viceroy's intervention.
- **Outcome:** The plan ultimately failed due to conflicting interpretations by the Congress and the League, leading to the eventual partition of India.

Know More About Cabinet Mission Plan (1946):

- [Cabinet Mission Plan \(1946\) -Old Year Questions and Answers](#)
- [Cabinet Mission Plan \(1946\) One Liner Questions & Answers](#)

