

Political Organisations Before Congress

Zamindari Association 1838 • British India Association • Poona Sarvajanik Sabha • Indian Association • Ilbert Bill • Road to INC 1885

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लक्ष्य आपका , साथ हमारा , लक्ष्य AI का सहारा

t.me/lakhyaAI | @lakshyai_in
instagram: @lakshyai.in

1. Introduction – Pre-Congress Political Awakening (कांग्रेस से पूर्व राजनीतिक संगठन)



Dwarkanath Tagore
Zamindari
Assoc. 1838 |
Calcutta



Debendranath Tagore
British India
Assoc. 1851 |
Bengal



Dadabhai Naoroji
Grand Old Man
| East India
Assoc. 1866



M.G. Ranade
Poona
Sarvajanic
Sabha 1870



Surendranath Banerjee
Indian
Association
1876 | Nation
Maker



Anand Mohan Bose
Indian
Association
1876 | Co-
founder



Pherozeshah Mehta
Bombay
Presidency
Assoc. 1885



Badruddin Tyabji
Bombay
Presidency
Assoc. | 3rd
INC Pres.



Gopal K. Gokhale
Moderate |
Gandhi's Guru
| Servants of
India



Annie Besant
Theosophical
Soc. | Home
Rule 1916



Bal Gangadhar Tilak
Extremist |
Lokmanya |
Kesari
newspaper



Lord Ripon
Viceroy 1880–84 |
Ilbert Bill 1883



Lord Lytton
Viceroy 1876–80 |
Vernacular Press
Act 1878

1838

First Political Org

11+

Orgs Before INC

1876

Indian Association

1885

INC Born

Context: The Indian National Congress (1885) did not arise in a vacuum. For nearly **50 years before it**, educated Indians had been forming political associations to articulate their grievances — submitting petitions, publishing journals, influencing British Parliament, and building a political consciousness. These organisations were mostly **regional and elite**; they lacked mass base and national reach. Yet they laid the **intellectual and organisational foundation** for the INC. Key catalysts: **Vernacular Press Act 1878** (gagged Indian press) and **Ilbert Bill 1883** (exposed racial discrimination) — both radicalised educated Indians and made a national political body essential.

Why Were Pre-Congress Organisations Limited?

Limitation	Explanation
Regional/Local scope	Each city/province had its own org; no all-India platform till INC
Elite/Upper class	Mostly lawyers, zamindars, educated professionals — no mass peasant/worker base
No common programme	Each org had different demands; no unified charter or leadership
British-loyalty	Most orgs professed loyalty to the Crown while asking for reforms
Occasional, not continuous	Activated by specific issues (Charter Acts, etc.); not permanent political parties

“Each pre-Congress organisation was a brick; A.O. Hume laid them into the arch of the Indian National Congress in 1885.”

2. Early Organisations 1838–1851 – Bengal (प्रारंभिक संगठन — बंगाल)



17 1838

Zamindari Association / Landholders' Society

📍 Calcutta (88.37°E, 22.57°N)

Founder: Dwarkanath Tagore (grandfather of Rabindranath), Prasanna Kumar Tagore, Radhakanta Deb

Purpose: Protect zamindars' interests; petition against Bengal rent laws; demand reform of revenue system

Significance: **FIRST political association of Indians** – pioneered the idea of organised political representation. Basis for future bodies.

17 1843

Bengal British India Society

📍 Calcutta (88.37°E, 22.57°N)

Founder: George Thompson (British MP, abolitionist), W.S. Seton-Karr, Indians as members

Purpose: Collect and disseminate information on conditions in India; promote the interests of all classes

Significance: First organisation with **broader national aims** beyond zamindars; included British liberal supporters of Indian rights

17 1851

British India Association

📍 Calcutta (88.37°E, 22.57°N)

Founder: Radhakanta Deb (President); Debendranath Tagore (Vice-President); merger of above two

Purpose: Represent Indian opinion to British Parliament; comment on constitutional changes; send petitions on Charter Act 1853

Significance: **Most powerful pre-Congress body for 20 years.** Submitted detailed memoir to Parliament on Charter Act 1853 renewal. Predecessor of Surendranath Banerjee's Indian Association.

⚡ Charter Act Petitions – 1853

- Charter Act 1853 renewed the East India Company's charter – critical moment for constitutional changes
- **British India Association** (Calcutta), **Bombay Association** (1852), and **Madras Native Association** (1852) all sent petitions
- Key demands: **Separation of executive and judicial functions**; expansion of Legislative Council; Indianisation of services; direct election element
- Shows these regional orgs were acting in parallel – need for coordination was becoming clear

🧠 Memory Trick

Calcutta Triple: Zamindari Assoc. (1838) + Bengal British India Soc. (1843) → merged into British India Assoc. (1851).
Remember: **ZBB** – Zamindari → Bengal British → BIA. All in Calcutta. Dwarkanath Tagore = grandfather of Rabindranath.

🔔 PYQ Alert – Previous Year Questions

Q1	The first political association of Indians was:	BPSC 2020 / SSC CGL
Q2	The British India Association (1851) was formed by merging:	SSC CHSL 2019
Q3	Who was the President of the British India Association (1851)?	RRB NTPC 2020
Q4	The British India Association sent a petition to British Parliament on:	BPSC 2021

Answers: Q1→Zamindari Association / Landholders' Society (1838); Q2→Zamindari Association + Bengal British India Society; Q3→Radhakanta Deb; Q4→Charter Act 1853 renewal

3. Regional Organisations 1852–1870 (क्षेत्रीय संगठन)

1852

Bombay Association

Bombay (72.87°E, 18.97°N)

Founder: Jagannath Shankarsheth (founder); Dadabhai Naoroji (key member, 22 years old at founding)

Purpose: Represent Bombay presidency interests; petition on Charter Act 1853; promote Indian welfare

Significance: First major political body in Bombay Presidency. Naoroji's political debut. Submitted petition on Charter Act. Later overshadowed by Bombay Presidency Association (1885).

1852

Madras Native Association

Madras / Chennai (80.28°E, 13.09°N)

Founder: Gazulu Lakshminarasu Chetty (founder); prominent Madras professionals

Purpose: Voice of Madras presidency educated class; petition on Charter Act 1853; civil service reform

Significance: Third major regional body (alongside Calcutta's BIA and Bombay Association). Represented South Indian educated opinion. Forerunner of Madras Mahajan Sabha 1884.

1866

East India Association

London, UK (Indian branches later in Bombay, Calcutta, Madras)

Founder: Dadabhai Naoroji (founder — 'Grand Old Man of India')

Purpose: Present Indian grievances directly to British Parliament and British public; lobby for Indian interests in London

Significance: **First Indian political organisation in Britain.** Naoroji used it as platform to get elected to Parliament (1892). Published reports on India's economic exploitation. Foundation of Naoroji's Drain Theory campaign.

1870

Poona Sarvajanik Sabha

Pune / Poona (73.86°E, 18.52°N)

Founder: M.G. Ranade (chief organiser); Ganesh Vasudeo Joshi (co-founder); Justice Ranade

Purpose: 'Public association of all people' — collect grievances from villagers; present to government; social reforms; publish quarterly journal

Significance: **Most effective regional body in Maharashtra.** 'Sarvajanik' means public/of all people — wider base than other elitist orgs. Published *Quarterly Journal*. Precursor of Tilak's mass politics in Maharashtra.

Memory Trick

4 Orgs 1852–1870: Bombay Assoc. (1852) + Madras Native (1852) + East India (1866 London) + Poona Sarvajanik (1870). Mnemonic: **BMEP** = 'Big Men Explore Politics'. Naoroji connects both Bombay Assoc. AND East India Assoc.

PYQ Alert — Previous Year Questions

Q1	The East India Association (1866) was founded by:	BPSC 2019 / SSC CGL
Q2	Poona Sarvajanik Sabha (1870) was founded by:	RRB NTPC 2021
Q3	'Sarvajanik' in Poona Sarvajanik Sabha means:	SSC CHSL 2018
Q4	The Bombay Association (1852) was founded by:	BPSC 2020

Answers: Q1→Dadabhai Naoroji (in London); Q2→M.G. Ranade (and Ganesh Vasudeo Joshi); Q3→'Of all the people' / Public; Q4→Jagannath Shankarsheth (Dadabhai Naoroji was a key member at 22)

4. National-Level Organisations 1875–1876 (राष्ट्रीय संगठन)

1875

Indian League

📍 Calcutta (88.37°E, 22.57°N)

Founder: Sisir Kumar Ghosh (founder); journalist and editor of *Amrita Bazar Patrika*

Purpose: Stimulate national feelings among Indians; encourage political education; promote interests of Indians

Significance: Short-lived but important – established the idea of a purely **Indian** political league. Directly inspired Surendranath Banerjee to create a more durable body the following year.

1876

Indian Association (Indian National Association)

📍 Calcutta (88.37°E, 22.57°N)

Founder: Surendranath Banerjee ('Nation Maker') & Anand Mohan Bose

Purpose: Build a strong body of public opinion; unite Indian people on a common political platform; lower age limit for civil service; simultaneous exams in India and England

Significance: **Most important pre-Congress national organisation.** Organised mass agitations on: Vernacular Press Act 1878, Ilbert Bill 1883. Called first **Indian National Conference** (1883) – a direct precursor of INC. Merged with INC later.

Why Surendranath Banerjee Founded Indian Association

Personal grievance: Surendranath Banerjee had passed the ICS exam but was dismissed on a technicality (age dispute) – a case of racial discrimination. He felt Indians needed an organised political voice.

Civil Service demand: The ICS exam was held only in London – impossible for most Indians. Banerjee demanded **simultaneous exams in India** and a higher age limit (from 19 to 21) so more Indians could compete.

⚡ Indian Association – Mass Agitation Record

- **1878:** Organised mass meetings against **Vernacular Press Act** (Lord Lytton) – 20+ cities mobilised
- **1883:** Led campaign against dilution of **Ilbert Bill** (Lord Ripon) – showed national potential
- **1883:** Organised first **Indian National Conference** at Calcutta – 100+ delegates from all parts of India
- **1885:** Second Indian National Conference held at Calcutta – same year as first INC session at Bombay
- **1886:** Indian National Association merged with INC – Surendranath joined Congress

🧠 Memory Trick

Surendranath Banerjee = 'Nation Maker' + 'Surrender-not' Banerjee (British called him this for refusing to surrender). Founded Indian Association 1876 with Anand Mohan Bose. Indian National Conference 1883 = direct prototype of INC.

🔔 PYQ Alert – Previous Year Questions

Q1	The Indian Association (1876) was founded by:	BPSC 2022 / SSC CGL
Q2	Surendranath Banerjee was nicknamed 'Surrender-not' because:	SSC CHSL 2020
Q3	The Indian League (1875) was founded by:	RRB NTPC 2019
Q4	The Indian National Conference (1883) was organised by:	BPSC 2021

Answers: Q1→Surendranath Banerjee and Anand Mohan Bose; Q2→He refused to surrender to the British – fought his ICS dismissal case; Q3→Sisir Kumar Ghosh; Q4→Surendranath Banerjee (Indian Association)

5. Vernacular Press Act 1878 & Ilbert Bill Controversy 1883 (वर्नाकुलर प्रेस एक्ट और इल्बर्ट बिल)



Vernacular Press Act (VPA) 1878 – Lord Lytton

⚡ Vernacular Press Act 1878 – 'Gagging Act'

- **Introduced by:** Viceroy **Lord Lytton** (also known for Delhi Durbar 1877 during famine)
 - **Provision:** Magistrates could demand **security deposits** from Indian-language newspaper editors
 - If "seditious content" published → deposit forfeited + printing machinery confiscated – **NO RIGHT OF APPEAL**
 - Applied only to **vernacular (Indian language) press** – NOT to English-language press (racial double standard)
 - **Amrita Bazar Patrika** (Bengali) converted to **English overnight** to escape the Act – famous act of defiance
 - **Repealed 1882** by Lord Ripon – who reversed Lytton's repressive policies
- **Response:** Indian Association mobilised mass meetings across 20+ cities against the Act
 - Showed Indians could organise nationally – key motivation for INC formation

Ilbert Bill Controversy 1883 – Lord Ripon

Background: Lord Ripon (Viceroy 1880–84) – liberal, sympathetic to Indians. His Local Self-Government Act (1882) was progressive. He introduced the Ilbert Bill to **allow Indian judges and magistrates to try European British subjects** in criminal cases.

- **Introduced by:** Sir Courtenay Ilbert (Law Member of Viceroy's Council) – hence "Ilbert Bill"
- **White community's reaction:** Furious – Europeans launched **counter-agitation**; demanded "the right to be tried by their own kind"
- European planters, merchants and officials organised – shows **racial arrogance** of British in India
- **Result:** Ripon caved – diluted the bill. Compromise: Europeans could demand a jury with majority of European/American members
- **Impact on Indians:** Deeply radicalising – proved British racial discrimination was entrenched; Indians could not get justice even with educated Indian judges
- **Surendranath Banerjee** led Indian counter-agitation *in support of* the original bill; mass meetings; petition campaigns
- This agitation directly inspired A.O. Hume and others to create a **permanent national political body** → INC (1885)

🧠 Memory Trick

VPA 1878 = Lord Lytton = Gagging Act = Only Indian-language press targeted = Amrita Bazar Patrika converted to English overnight to escape. Ilbert Bill 1883 = Lord Ripon = Indian judges to try Europeans = White backlash = Diluted = Radicalised Indians → inspired INC formation.

🔔 PYQ Alert – Previous Year Questions

Q1	The Vernacular Press Act (1878) was introduced by which Viceroy?	BPSK 2022 / SSC CGL
Q2	Which newspaper converted to English overnight to escape the Vernacular Press Act?	RRB NTPC 2021
Q3	The Ilbert Bill (1883) proposed to:	SSC CHSL 2019
Q4	Who led the Indian agitation IN FAVOUR of the original Ilbert Bill?	BPSK 2020

Answers: Q1→Lord Lytton; Q2→Amrita Bazar Patrika (Bengali newspaper, Sisir Kumar Ghosh); Q3→Allow Indian judges to try European British subjects in criminal cases; Q4→Surendranath Banerjee (Indian Association)

6. Final Organisations 1884–85 & Birth of INC (अंतिम संगठन और कांग्रेस की स्थापना)

17 1884

Madras Mahajan Sabha

📍 Madras / Chennai (80.28°E, 13.09°N)

Founder: M. Viraraghavachariar, B. Subramaniya Aiyer, P. Ananda Charlu

Purpose: Represent Madras presidency's educated Indians; political meetings; connection with A.O. Hume's INC plans

Significance: Sent delegates to **first INC session 1885**. Its leaders became early Congress presidents. Showed South India was ready for a national body.

17 1885

Bombay Presidency Association

📍 Bombay (72.87°E, 18.97°N)

Founder: Pherozeshah Mehta, Kashinath Trimbak Telang, Badruddin Tyabji

Purpose: Political body for Bombay Presidency; protest against Age of Consent issues; represent Bombay at national level

Significance: Founded the **same year as INC**. Its three founders were pillars of early Congress. **Badruddin Tyabji** became the **3rd President of INC** and first Muslim president of Congress.

A.O. Hume & the Safety Valve Theory

⚡ Why A.O. Hume Founded INC

- **A.O. Hume** (Allan Octavian Hume) — retired British ICS officer; former District Collector of Etawah
- He claimed to have found **7 volumes of intelligence reports** as Collector showing deep unrest — India on brink of revolution
- **Safety Valve Theory (later historians):** INC was created to provide a *safety valve* — let Indians vent frustration peacefully and prevent revolution
- **Hume wrote to Calcutta University graduates (1883):** "If fifty men cannot be found with sufficient power of self-sacrifice... then there is no hope for India"
- Met with **Lord Dufferin** (Viceroy) — Dufferin reportedly encouraged INC as loyal opposition
- **First INC session:** 28 December 1885, Gokuldas Tejpal Sanskrit College, Bombay; 72 delegates; W.C. Bonnerjee presided

Pre-Congress Organisations → INC: The Chain

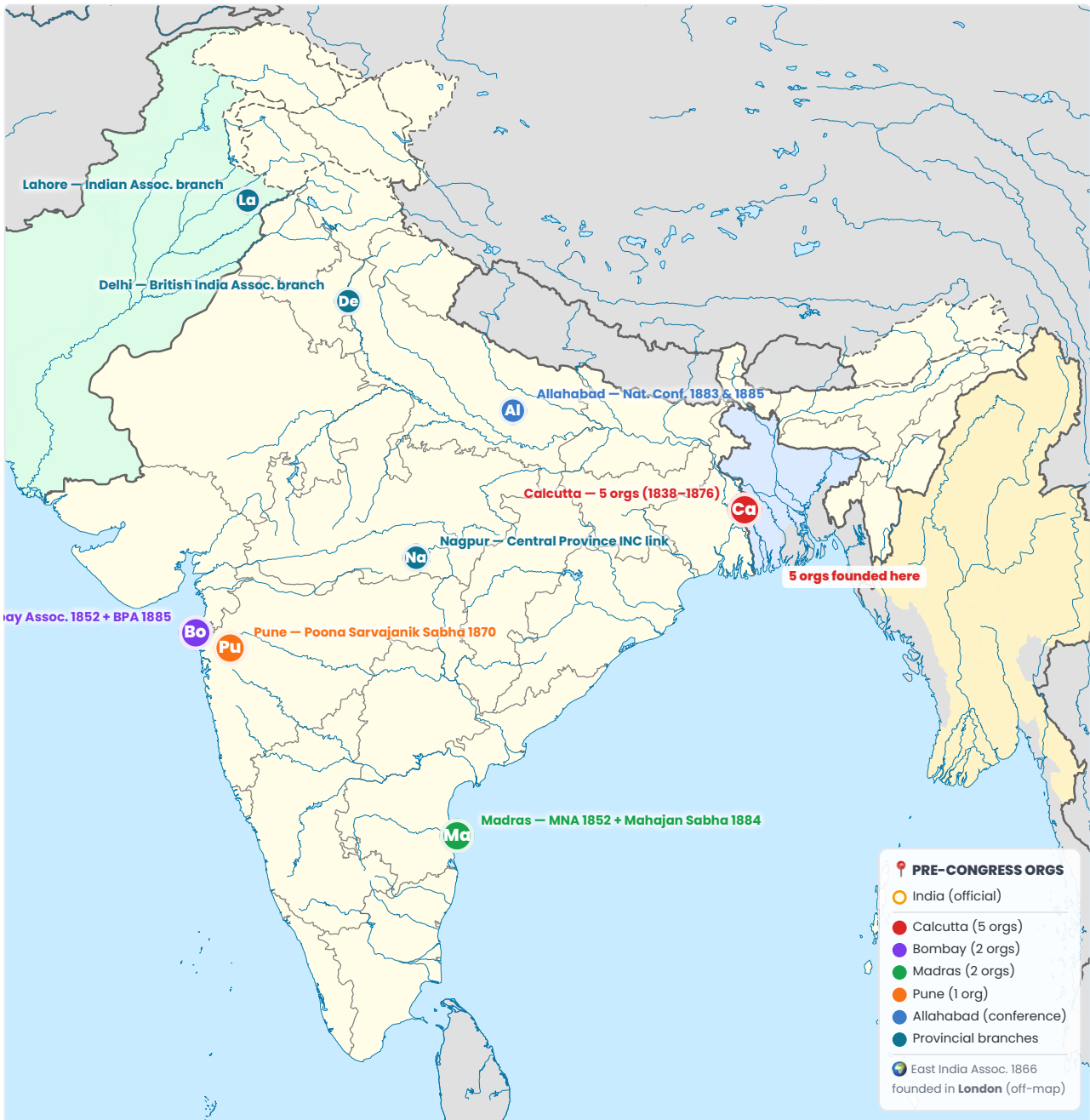
Organisation	Year	Connection to INC
British India Association	1851	Model for all-India petitioning; Calcutta base of INC
Poona Sarvajanik Sabha	1870	Ranade's reform tradition; Maharashtra base of Congress
Indian Association	1876	National Conference 1883 = direct INC prototype; Banerjee joined INC 1886
East India Association	1866	Naoroji lobbied in London; became INC's link to British Parliament
Madras Mahajan Sabha	1884	Sent delegates to INC 1885; South Indian base
Bombay Presidency Assoc.	1885	Mehta, Tyabji = founding Congress leaders; Bombay was INC's first venue

🧠 Memory Trick

Final 2 orgs before INC: Madras Mahajan Sabha (**1884**) + Bombay Presidency Assoc. (**1885** — same year as INC).
Tyabji = 1st Muslim INC president (3rd overall). Mehta = Lion of Bombay.

7. Map – Headquarters of Pre-Congress Political Organisations (संगठनों के मुख्यालय)

HEADQUARTERS OF PRE-CONGRESS POLITICAL ORGANISATIONS (Survey of India)



MAP

8. Master Chronological Table – All 11 Pre-Congress Organisations

#	Year	Organisation	City	Founder(s)	Key Significance
1	1838	Zamindari Association (Landholders' Society)	Calcutta	Dwarkanath Tagore, Prasanna Kumar Tagore	FIRST political association of Indians
2	1843	Bengal British India Society	Calcutta	George Thompson (British), W.S. Seton-Karr	First with broader national aims; included British liberals
3	1851	British India Association	Calcutta	Radhakanta Deb (Pres.), Debendranath Tagore	Merger of 1 & 2; most powerful for 20 years; Charter Act 1853 petition
4	1852	Bombay Association	Bombay	Jagannath Shankarsheth; Dadabhai Naoroji (member)	First major Bombay body; Naoroji's debut; Charter Act petition
5	1852	Madras Native Association	Madras	Gazulu Lakshminarasu Chetty	First South Indian political body; Charter Act 1853 petition
6	1866	East India Association	London (UK)	Dadabhai Naoroji	First Indian political org in Britain; Drain Theory platform; Naoroji MP 1892
7	1870	Poona Sarvajanic Sabha	Pune	M.G. Ranade, Ganesh Vasudeo Joshi	'Public' body – wider base; quarterly journal; Maharashtra base
8	1875	Indian League	Calcutta	Sisir Kumar Ghosh (Amrita Bazar Patrika)	Inspired Indian Association; stimulate national feelings
9	1876	Indian Association (Indian National Assoc.)	Calcutta	Surendranath Banerjee, Anand Mohan Bose	Most important pre-Congress national body ; VPA agitation; Ilbert Bill; Nat. Conference 1883
10	1884	Madras Mahajan Sabha	Madras	M. Viraraghavachariar, B. Subramaniya Aiyer, P. Ananda Charlu	Sent delegates to INC 1885; South India base of Congress
11	1885	Bombay Presidency Association	Bombay	Pherozeshah Mehta, K.T. Telang, Badruddin Tyabji	Founded same year as INC; Tyabji = 1st Muslim INC president

9.16 Quick Facts for Last-Minute Revision (त्वरित तथ्य)

01

First political association

Zamindari Association (1838), Calcutta — founded by Dwarkanath Tagore (grandfather of Rabindranath Tagore)

02

British India Association 1851

Most powerful pre-Congress body; President = Radhakanta Deb; merged Zamindari Assoc. + Bengal British India Society

03

Charter Act petitions

British India Assoc. + Bombay Assoc. + Madras Native Assoc. all sent petitions to Parliament for Charter Act 1853

04

East India Association 1866

Founded by Dadabhai Naoroji in London — first Indian political org in Britain; later branches in Bombay, Calcutta, Madras

05

Drain Theory + East India Assoc.

Naoroji used East India Association to publish and spread his Drain Theory — wealth being drained from India to Britain

06

Poona Sarvajanik Sabha 1870

'Sarvajanik' = 'of all people'; founded by M.G. Ranade; published quarterly journal; wider social base than other orgs

07

Indian Association 1876

Surendranath Banerjee + Anand Mohan Bose; most important national org before INC; agitated on VPA and Ilbert Bill

08

Vernacular Press Act 1878

Lord Lytton; only Indian-language press targeted; Amrita Bazar Patrika converted to English overnight to escape it; repealed 1882

09

Ilbert Bill 1883

Lord Ripon's bill to allow Indian judges to try Europeans; white community revolted; bill diluted; radicalised educated Indians

10

Indian National Conference

1883 — organised by Surendranath Banerjee (Indian Association); direct prototype of INC; met same year as first INC session (1885)

11

Madras Mahajan Sabha 1884

M. Viraraghavachariar + B. Subramaniya Aiyer + P. Ananda Charlu; sent delegates to first INC session 1885

12

Bombay Presidency Association 1885

Founded same year as INC; Pheroze Shah Mehta + K.T. Telang + Badruddin Tyabji

13

Badruddin Tyabji

Co-founded Bombay Presidency Association 1885; became 3rd INC President (1887) = FIRST Muslim INC President

14

Safety Valve Theory

Historians argue A.O. Hume created INC as a 'safety valve' to prevent revolution — give Indians a legal platform to vent frustration

15

Surendranath Banerjee nickname

'Nation Maker' and 'Surrender-not' (British couldn't break his spirit). Founded Indian Association; first Indian National Conference 1883

16

Amrita Bazar Patrika

Founded by Sisir Kumar Ghosh (also Indian League 1875); converted to English overnight in 1878 to escape Vernacular Press Act

10. Common Exam Traps — Don't Fall For These!

Common Trap

Wrong belief: Indian National Congress was the first political association of Indians

Correct fact: The FIRST political association of Indians was the Zamindari Association (Landholders' Society) founded in 1838 in Calcutta by Dwarkanath Tagore — 47 years before INC

Why it matters: A very common confusion — INC (1885) was the first national body, but NOT the first political org. Zamindari Association 1838 = first ever.

Common Trap

Wrong belief: Dadabhai Naoroji founded the Bombay Association

Correct fact: The Bombay Association (1852) was founded by Jagannath Shankarsheth. Naoroji was a key member at 22 years old but NOT the founder. Naoroji founded the East India Association (1866) in London

Why it matters: Two Bombay orgs: Bombay Association 1852 (Shankarsheth) vs Bombay Presidency Association 1885 (Mehta, Tyabji, Telang). Naoroji is linked to both but founded neither.

Common Trap

Wrong belief: The Vernacular Press Act targeted ALL newspapers in India

Correct fact: The VPA 1878 targeted ONLY Indian-language (vernacular) newspapers — English-language papers were exempt. This racial double standard was one reason Indians were outraged

Why it matters: Amrita Bazar Patrika's overnight conversion to English is the classic example showing the double standard. English papers like The Statesman were untouched.

Common Trap

Wrong belief: Indians opposed the Ilbert Bill because they didn't want Indian judges

Correct fact: It was the WHITE COMMUNITY (European planters, merchants, officials) who opposed the Ilbert Bill. Indians and Surendranath Banerjee actively SUPPORTED the original bill

Why it matters: The Ilbert Bill controversy is about racial discrimination. Europeans didn't want to be tried by Indians. Indians rightly supported the bill. Direction of opposition is the key fact.

Common Trap

Wrong belief: Badruddin Tyabji was the first President of INC

Correct fact: Badruddin Tyabji was the THIRD President of INC (1887), and the first Muslim president. The FIRST president was W.C. Bonnerjee (1885). The SECOND was Dadabhai Naoroji (1886)

Why it matters: INC presidents order: 1st = Bonnerjee, 2nd = Naoroji, 3rd = Tyabji (first Muslim). Very frequently asked.

Common Trap

Wrong belief: Indian National Conference (1883) was the same as Indian National Congress

Correct fact: The Indian National Conference (1883) was organised by SURENDRANATH BANERJEE (Indian Association), not A.O. Hume. INC was founded by Hume in 1885 at Bombay. These are two separate organisations

Why it matters: The confusion arises because both have 'National' in the name and happened close in time. Conference = Banerjee, 1883. Congress = Hume, 1885.

11. MCQ Practice – Political Organisations Before Congress

1. The FIRST political association of Indians was:

- (A) Indian National Congress (1885) (B) British India Association (1851)
 (C) Zamindari Association / Landholders' Society (1838) (D) Indian Association (1876)

BPSC 2020 / SSC CGL / RRB NTPC | Easy ●●●

2. The East India Association (1866) was founded in London by:

- (A) M.G. Ranade (B) Dadabhai Naoroji
 (C) Surendranath Banerjee (D) Pherozeshah Mehta

BPSC 2019 / SSC CGL | Easy ●●●

3. The Poona Sarvajanik Sabha (1870) was founded by:

- (A) Bal Gangadhar Tilak (B) Gopal Krishna Gokhale
 (C) M.G. Ranade and Ganesh Vasudeo Joshi (D) Dadabhai Naoroji

SSC CHSL 2021 / RRB NTPC | Easy ●●●

4. Which newspaper converted to English overnight to escape the Vernacular Press Act (1878)?

- (A) Kesari (B) The Statesman
 (C) Amrita Bazar Patrika (D) Hindu Patriot

SSC CGL 2019 / BPSC 2022 | Easy ●●●

5. The Indian Association (Indian National Association) was founded in 1876 by:

- (A) Dadabhai Naoroji and M.G. Ranade (B) Surendranath Banerjee and Anand Mohan Bose
 (C) Pherozeshah Mehta and Badruddin Tyabji (D) Sisir Kumar Ghosh and Rajnarain Bose

BPSC 2021 / SSC CHSL | Easy ●●●

6. The Ilbert Bill (1883) was introduced during the viceroyalty of:

- (A) Lord Lytton (B) Lord Dufferin
 (C) Lord Ripon (D) Lord Curzon

SSC CGL 2020 / RRB NTPC | Med ●●●

7. Who was the first Muslim President of the Indian National Congress?

- (A) Muhammad Ali Jinnah (B) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad
(C) Badruddin Tyabji (D) Rahimtulla Sayani

SSC CGL 2018 / BPSC 2020 | Med ●●○

8. The Vernacular Press Act (1878) was introduced by which Viceroy and for what reason?

- (A) Lord Ripon – to protect Indian press (B) Lord Lytton – to suppress Indian-language press critical of government
(C) Lord Curzon – to regulate all newspapers (D) Lord Dufferin – to prevent sedition in English press

BPSC 2022 / SSC CHSL | Med ●●○

9. The 'Safety Valve Theory' about the formation of the Indian National Congress suggests that:

- (A) INC was created to be a safety valve for Indian nationalist steam against the British (B) INC was created to prevent British officers from being attacked
(C) INC provided a legal safety net for political prisoners (D) INC was founded to suppress revolutionary organisations

SSC CGL 2021 / BPSC | Med ●●○

10. The British India Association (1851) was formed by the merger of which two organisations?

- (A) Bombay Association + Madras Native Association (B) Zamindari Association + Bengal British India Society
(C) Indian League + Poona Sarvajanik Sabha (D) East India Association + Indian National Association

BPSC 2021 / RRB NTPC | Hard ●●●

11. Consider: (I) Surendranath Banerjee organised the Indian National Conference in 1883. (II) The Indian National Conference merged with INC in 1886. Both correct?

- (A) Only I is correct (B) Only II is correct
(C) Both I and II are correct (D) Neither is correct

SSC CHSL 2022 / BPSC | Hard ●●●

12. Arrange in correct chronological order: (P) Indian Association; (Q) Zamindari Association; (R) Poona Sarvajanik Sabha; (S) East India Association

- (A) Q → S → R → P (B) Q → R → S → P
(C) P → Q → R → S (D) R → Q → S → P

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12. Answer Key with Explanations

✓ Answer Key with Explanations

- Q1. (C)** Zamindari Association (1838), Calcutta – Dwarkanath Tagore – FIRST political association of Indians, 47 years before INC
- Q2. (B)** Dadabhai Naoroji founded East India Association in London (1866) – used it to campaign for Indian rights in British Parliament
- Q3. (C)** M.G. Ranade + Ganesh Vasudeo Joshi founded Poona Sarvajanik Sabha 1870 – 'Sarvajanik' = of all people
- Q4. (C)** Amrita Bazar Patrika (Calcutta Bengali newspaper) – Sisir Kumar Ghosh converted it to English overnight in 1878
- Q5. (B)** Surendranath Banerjee + Anand Mohan Bose founded Indian Association 1876 – most important pre-Congress national org
- Q6. (C)** Lord Ripon (1880–84) – liberal Viceroy. Ilbert Bill was his measure to allow Indian judges to try Europeans
- Q7. (C)** Badruddin Tyabji – 3rd INC President (1887) – first Muslim president of Congress. Co-founded Bombay Presidency Assoc. 1885
- Q8. (B)** Lord Lytton (1876–80) introduced VPA 1878 to suppress Indian-language press – English press was exempt
- Q9. (A)** Safety Valve Theory: INC was created to channel Indian political frustration peacefully and prevent revolution – benefit to British
- Q10. (B)** British India Association (1851) = Zamindari Association (1838) + Bengal British India Society (1843) merged
- Q11. (C)** Both correct: I – Banerjee called Indian National Conference 1883 (and 1885). II – Indian National Association merged with INC in 1886
- Q12. (A)** Correct order: Q=Zamindari Assoc.(1838) → S=East India Assoc.(1866) → R=Poona Sarvajanik Sabha(1870) → P=Indian Association(1876)

“Before 1885, India spoke in whispers through regional associations. The INC gave the nation one thundering voice.”



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