

Subhas Chandra Bose

INA • Forward Bloc • Azad Hind Sarkar • Imphal–Kohima • Netaji's Legacy

1. Introduction & Key Leaders	2
2. Early Life, Congress & Forward Bloc	3
3. The Great Escape — 1941	4
4. Germany: Indian Legion & Azad Hind Radio	5
5. INA Formation & Azad Hind Sarkar (1942–43)	6
6. INA Structure & Rani of Jhansi Regiment	7
7. INA Campaign — Imphal & Kohima 1944	8
8. INA Trials, Bose's Death & Legacy	9
9. Timeline, Tables, Facts, Traps & MCQs	10–15

BPSG

SSC CGL

SSC CHSL

RRB NTPC

State PSC

Police SI

★★★★★ Very High Frequency | 4–6 questions per paper in most exams

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1. Introduction – Who Was Netaji? (नेताजी सुभाष चंद्र बोस)



Subhas Chandra Bose
Netaji | INA Chief |
Azad Hind



Rash Behari Bose
INA Founder | Tokyo
1942



Dr. Lakshmi Sahgal
RoJ Regiment
Commander



Shah Nawaz Khan
INA General | Red
Fort Trial



Mahatma Gandhi
Congress | Non-
Violence



Jawaharlal Nehru
INA Defence
Counsel 1945



Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
Home Minister | Iron
Man

23 Jan

Born 1897

85,000

INA Peak Strength

9 Nations

Recognized Azad Hind

18 Aug

Death 1945

Context: Subhas Chandra Bose is one of the most towering figures of India's independence struggle. Unlike Gandhi's non-violent path, Bose believed in armed resistance. He founded the **Forward Bloc**, escaped British house arrest, organized the **Indian National Army (INA)**, and proclaimed the **Provisional Government of Free India (Azad Hind Sarkar)**. His famous slogan – *"Give me blood and I will give you freedom"* – continues to inspire generations.

Why This Topic is Critical for Exams

- **Forward Bloc (1939):** Founded 3 May 1939 – dates, purpose, merger with other groups
- **Great Escape (1941):** Disguise, route (Calcutta → Kabul → Berlin), code name – very frequently asked
- **INA Formation:** Mohan Singh (1942) vs. Rash Behari Bose (reorganized) vs. Bose took command (July 1943)
- **Azad Hind Sarkar:** Date, venue, recognizing nations, renamed islands
- **Imphal-Kohima (1944):** Operation U-Go, reasons for defeat, Moirang flag hoisting
- **Bose's Death:** 18 August 1945, Taipei – plane crash controversy
- **INA Trials:** Red Fort, Nov 1945 – Shah Nawaz, Sahgal, Dhillon – Bhulabhai Desai defence

PYQ Alert – Previous Year Questions

1	Subhas Chandra Bose founded the Forward Bloc in which year?	SSC CGL 2020
2	Bose escaped from house arrest disguised as whom in 1941?	BPSC 2019
3	The Rani of Jhansi Regiment of the INA was led by?	RRB NTPC 2021
4	The Indian National Army was originally formed by which officer?	SSC CHSL 2022

Answers: 1→1939; 2→Muhammad Ziauddin (Pathan insurance agent); 3→Dr. Lakshmi Sahgal; 4→Captain Mohan Singh

2. Early Life, Congress Career & Forward Bloc (प्रारंभिक जीवन और फॉरवर्ड ब्लॉक)

Early Life & Education

- **Born:** 23 January 1897, Cuttack (present-day Odisha)
- **Father:** Janakinath Bose (government pleader); **Mother:** Prabhavati Devi; 9th of 14 children
- **Education:** Ravenshaw Collegiate School → Presidency College, Calcutta (expelled for assaulting Prof. Oaten, 1916) → Scottish Church College → Cambridge University (1919)
- **ICS Exam (1920):** Passed 4th in merit rank; **Resigned 1921** – refused to serve British Empire
- **Inspiration:** Swami Vivekananda, Sri Aurobindo, Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- **Joined Congress:** Under Deshbandhu **Chittaranjan Das** (1921); became his loyal lieutenant

Congress Career & Conflict with Gandhi

- **1928:** Led youth demand for complete independence (Purna Swaraj) at Calcutta Congress against Dominion Status
- **1930–32:** Arrested during Civil Disobedience Movement; jailed multiple times
- **1938:** Elected Congress President at **Haripura Session** – first term (unopposed)
- **1939 – Tripuri Congress:** Re-elected defeating Gandhi's candidate **Pattabhi Sitaramayya** by 203 votes; Gandhi declared it "my personal defeat"
- **Resignation:** Bose resigned as President (April 1939) – entire Congress Working Committee resigned in protest; Bose isolated within Congress

All India Forward Bloc (1939)

Exam Focus: Date, full name, purpose, and what it merged with – all frequently asked.

- **Founded: 3 May 1939** at Calcutta (within Congress initially)
- **Full Name:** All India Forward Bloc
- **Purpose:** Unite all left-wing, anti-imperialist forces against the Congress leadership's compromising approach; fight for complete independence through militant means
- **Expelled from Congress:** August 1939 – Bose organised "Anti-Compromise Day" against Congress's resolution on war; CWC suspended him for 3 years
- **Merger (Oct 1939):** Merged with the **All India Kisan Sabha (Peasant Front)** and other left groups at Nagpur
- **Symbol:** Red torch; **Slogan:** "Unite and Fight"
- **Still Exists:** Active political party in West Bengal today

Memory Trick

Forward Bloc Trick: 3-M-1939 = 3 May, founded at Calcutta, 1939. Remember: Forward Bloc was Bose's answer after losing the Congress battle. He moved *forward* on his own path!

3. The Great Escape — January 1941 (महाप्रयाण — 1941)

Critical Exam Fact: Every detail of Bose's escape — the disguise, the route, code names — is frequently asked in SSC, BPSC, and State PSC exams. Memorize the step-by-step journey.

House Arrest & Escape

- **July 1940:** Bose arrested for organising protests against British war effort; went on **hunger strike** (11 days) — British released him to avoid martyr-making
- **Under Surveillance:** Kept under house arrest at **38/2 Elgin Road, Calcutta**
- **16 January 1941:** Bose escaped from house arrest, disguised as **"Muhammad Ziauddin"** — a deaf-mute Pathan insurance agent
- **Accomplice:** Nephew Sisir Kumar Bose drove him out of Calcutta in a car

Route of the Great Escape

Step	From → To	Mode	Key Detail
1	Calcutta → Gomoh (Jharkhand)	Car + Train	Boarded Kalka Mail at Gomoh station, disguised as Pathan
2	Gomoh → Delhi → Peshawar	Train	Met Mian Akbar Shah (Forward Bloc contact) in Peshawar
3	Peshawar → Kabul, Afghanistan	Car/foot	Disguised as deaf-mute Pathan; guided by Uttam Chand Malhotra
4	Kabul → Soviet border	Italian & German diplomats	Contacted Italian & German consulates in Kabul; coded as 'Ziauddin'
5	Moscow → Berlin (Germany)	Soviet rail + German transport	Arrived Berlin, April 1941 ; code name: ' Orlando Mazzotta '

⚡ Meeting Hitler

Bose met **Adolf Hitler on 29 May 1941** in Berlin. Hitler was dismissive — said Indians were not capable of fighting; refused to issue a declaration supporting Indian independence. Bose was deeply disappointed but continued building the Indian Legion in Germany.

Significance of the Escape

- Proved Bose's total commitment — willing to risk death to fight for independence through armed means
- British intelligence was humiliated — lost track of him for months
- Showed INA and Indian soldiers abroad that their supreme leader had reached them

🧠 Memory Trick

Escape Route Mnemonic: C-G-P-K-B = Calcutta → Gomoh → Peshawar → Kabul → Berlin. Code name in Europe: **Orlando Mazzotta** (Italian). At home: 'Muhammad Ziauddin'.

🔔 PYQ Alert — Previous Year Questions

1	Subhas Bose escaped from house arrest at which address in Calcutta?	State PSC 2021
2	What was Bose's disguise/code name during his escape from India in 1941?	SSC CGL 2019
3	Through which country did Bose travel to reach Berlin in 1941?	BPSC 2020
4	Bose arrived in Berlin in which month/year after his escape?	RRB NTPC 2021

Answers: 1→38/2 Elgin Road; 2→Muhammad Ziauddin (Pathan); 3→Afghanistan then via Soviet Union; 4→April 1941

4. Germany – Indian Legion & Azad Hind Radio (1941–43) (जर्मनी में संघर्ष)

Free India Centre, Berlin (1941)

- **April 1941:** Bose established the **Free India Centre** (Freies Indien) in Berlin to organise Indian POWs and spread propaganda
- **Code name in Germany:** "**Orlando Mazzotta**" (Italian identity); later widely called **Netaji** ("Respected Leader") by his troops
- **German support:** Promised German assistance for Indian independence if Germany won the war

Indian Legion (Indische Legion)

- **Formed:** 1941–42 from **Indian POWs** captured by Rommel in North Africa (mainly from British Indian Army)
- **Official name:** 950th Infantry Regiment / **Legion Freies Indien**
- **Strength:** ~3,000 soldiers at peak
- **Limitation:** German high command never fully committed the Legion to Indian theater; kept in France/Netherlands guarding Atlantic Wall
- **Oath:** Sworn allegiance to Hitler AND Bose – dual-loyalty created tensions

Azad Hind Radio (1942)

- **Launched:** January 1942 from Berlin
- **Broadcasts:** In **Hindi, Bengali, Tamil, Telugu, Gujarati, Marathi, Punjabi** – targeting Indian audiences and soldiers
- **Purpose:** Inspire revolt among Indian troops in British service; spread revolutionary ideas to masses inside India
- **Bose's broadcasts:** Reached millions of Indians – "Give me blood and I will give you freedom"
- **British reaction:** Tried to jam broadcasts; declared Bose a traitor; hanged people found with his pamphlets

Journey from Germany to Japan (1943)

- **8 February 1943:** Bose left Kiel, Germany aboard German submarine **U-180**
- **Transfer point:** Off the coast of **Madagascar** (Indian Ocean) – transferred to Japanese submarine **I-29**
- **This was the only wartime exchange** of a VIP between Germany and Japan by submarine
- **13 May 1943:** Arrived at Sabang, Sumatra (Indonesia)
- **2 July 1943:** Arrived **Singapore** – base of the Indian Independence League and INA

⚡ Submarine Transfer

The mid-ocean transfer between German U-180 and Japanese I-29 off Madagascar (April 1943) was the **only passenger exchange between Axis submarines during WWII**. Bose was the passenger. The German sub also transferred gold to Japan as payment.

5. INA Formation & Azad Hind Sarkar (1942–43) (आज़ाद हिंद फ़ौज और सरकार)

INA: Three-Stage Formation

Stage	Who	When	What Happened
Stage 1	Captain Mohan Singh	Feb–Dec 1942	Formed INA from 45,000 Indian POWs after Fall of Singapore (Feb 1942). 1st INA – about 40,000 soldiers.
Stage 2	Rash Behari Bose (in Japan since 1915)	Sep 1942	Organized Indian Independence League (IIL) in Singapore; reorganized INA under civilian leadership after Mohan Singh's arrest (Dec 1942)
Stage 3	Subhas Chandra Bose	4 July 1943	Rash Behari Bose transferred INA command to Subhas Bose at Singapore. 2nd INA – reorganized, enlarged to 85,000.

Exam Trap: Many students confuse who *founded* the INA with who *led* it to fame. **Mohan Singh founded (1942); Rash Behari Bose reorganized; Subhas Bose gave it fame and commanded the campaign (1943–45).**

Azad Hind Sarkar – Provisional Government of Free India

- **Date: 21 October 1943** – proclaimed at **Cathay Building, Singapore**
- **Bose's roles:** Head of State, Prime Minister, War Minister, Foreign Minister (held all key portfolios)
- **Recognized by: 9 Axis nations** – Japan, Germany, Italy, Thailand, Burma, Croatia, Philippines, Manchukuo (Manchuria), Nanking China
- **Andaman & Nicobar Islands:** Renamed "**Shaheed Dweep**" (Andaman) and "**Swaraj Dweep**" (Nicobar) – first Indian territory under the provisional govt (Bose visited Dec 30, 1943)
- **Declared war on:** United Kingdom and United States of America
- **INA Motto:** *Ittehad, Itmad aur Qurbani* (Unity, Faith, Sacrifice)
- **INA Seal:** Charging tiger – "Jai Hind"

"Give me blood and I will give you freedom! – Subhas Chandra Bose, Singapore 1943"

🔔 PYQ Alert – Previous Year Questions

1	The Azad Hind Sarkar was proclaimed at which city on 21 October 1943?	SSC CGL 2021
2	Andaman Islands were renamed by Bose as what?	BPSC 2022
3	How many Axis nations recognized the Azad Hind Sarkar?	RRB NTPC 2020
4	Which Viceroy of India arrested Subhas Bose in 1940?	State PSC 2019

Answers: 1→Singapore (Cathay Building); 2→Shaheed Dweep; 3→9 nations; 4→Lord Linlithgow

6. INA Structure & Rani of Jhansi Regiment (INA संरचना और रानी झाँसी रेजिमेंट)

INA Brigades & Units

Unit / Brigade	Named After	Role / Notes
1st Brigade (Gandhi Brigade)	Mahatma Gandhi	Main combat infantry brigade
2nd Brigade (Nehru Brigade)	Jawaharlal Nehru	Combat infantry; Nehru later defended them in court
3rd Brigade (Azad Brigade)	Maulana Azad	Combat brigade
Subhas Brigade (4th)	Subhas Chandra Bose himself	Elite assault unit; spearheaded Imphal offensive
Rani of Jhansi Regiment	Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi	All-women unit — first in Asia; ~1,500 volunteers
Bahadur Group	—	Intelligence, guerrilla warfare, sabotage behind enemy lines

Rani of Jhansi Regiment (RoJ)

- **Founded:** 1943 by Subhas Chandra Bose in Singapore
- **First Commander:** **Dr. Lakshmi Swaminathan** (later known as Dr. Lakshmi Sahgal) — Tamil surgeon from Madras
- **Historic Significance:** **First all-women combat regiment in Asia**
- **Strength:** ~1,500 women volunteers — mostly Tamil plantation workers from Malaya
- **Training:** Received full military training in Singapore; participated in INA campaigns in Burma
- **Bose's words:** "Women of India, come forth and fight alongside your brothers"
- **Dr. Lakshmi Sahgal:** Later became a respected surgeon in Kanpur; ran for President of India in 2002 (supported by Left parties)

INA Key Statistics

85,000 Peak INA strength	~1,500 Women in RoJ Regt	3,000 Indian Legion (Germany)	45,000 POWs after Singapore fall
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⚡ INA's Three Communities

The three defendants at the Red Fort INA Trials — **Shah Nawaz Khan (Muslim)**, **P.K. Sahgal (Hindu)**, **G.S. Dhillon (Sikh)** — were deliberately chosen by the British as the first batch to show INA included all communities. This backfired: it actually united all communities in sympathy for the INA!

🧠 Memory Trick

INA Brigades GNAZ: **G**andhi + **N**ehru + **A**zad + **Z**... wait — 4th is **S**ubhas. So: **GNAS** = Gandhi, Nehru, Azad, Subhas. And the women's unit = **R**ani of Jhansi Regiment.

7. INA Campaign – Imphal & Kohima 1944 (इम्फाल और कोहिमा का युद्ध)

"Dilli Chalo" (March on Delhi): The INA's main military campaign (1944) – codenamed **Operation U-Go** by the Japanese – was the most ambitious military operation of INA. Though it failed, it created the legend of Netaji.

Timeline of the Campaign

Date	Event
Feb 1944	INA troops cross Chindwin River into Indian territory alongside Japanese forces
Mar 1944	Battle of Imphal begins – INA's Subhas Brigade leads; Nehru Brigade supports
14 Apr 1944	INA flag hoisted at Moirang, Manipur – first Indian soil 'liberated'
4 Apr–22 Jun 1944	Battle of Kohima – called 'Stalingrad of the East'; fierce house-to-house fighting on a tennis court
Jul 1944	Allied counteroffensive; British RAF dominance; Japanese supplies cut off
Aug 1944	INA and Japanese forces begin full retreat back into Burma
Dec 1944–Aug 1945	INA disintegrates; mass surrenders; Japan retreating across Burma

Why the Campaign Failed

- **Allied Air Superiority:** British Spitfires and supply aircraft – INA had NO air cover
- **Supply Failure:** Japanese promised supplies but couldn't deliver; INA soldiers starved
- **Monsoon Rains:** Destroyed roads, spread cholera, dysentery – more soldiers died of disease than battle
- **No Artillery:** INA lacked heavy weapons; British had superior firepower
- **Japanese Defeat:** Japan's overall war position deteriorating; Hiroshima/Nagasaki ended the war (Aug 1945)

⚡ Moirang Flag Hoisting

14 April 1944: Col. Shaukat Malik of the INA's Subhas Brigade hoisted the INA's tricolour flag (with charging tiger) at **Moirang, Manipur**. This is considered the first Indian soil where the Indian national flag flew independently – though briefly.

Bose's Last Days

- **May 1945:** INA effectively defeated; Bose fled Rangoon before British recapture
- **Bose moved:** Bangkok → Saigon → Singapore → Taipei (Taiwan)
- **18 August 1945:** Bose's plane crashed on takeoff from **Taihoku (Taipei)** airport, Taiwan
- Bose suffered third-degree burns; died at **Nanmon Military Hospital, Taipei** (9 PM)
- **Ashes:** Enshrined at **Renkoji Temple, Tokyo** – remain there to this day

🧠 Memory Trick

INA Campaign Memory: U-Go → Moirang Flag → Imphal-Kohima → Defeat → Bose's Death. Dates: Moirang = 14 April 1944; Bose died = 18 August 1945.

8. INA Trials, Bose's Death & Legacy (INA मुकदमे, मृत्यु और विरासत)

Red Fort INA Trials (November 1945)

- **Location:** Red Fort, Delhi — opened 5 November 1945
- **First defendants (symbolic choice):** **Shah Nawaz Khan** (Muslim), **P.K. Sahgal** (Hindu), **G.S. Dhillon** (Sikh)
- **Defence team:** Led by **Bhulabhai Desai** (Congress) — included Nehru, Tej Bahadur Sapru, Asaf Ali, Kailash Nath Katju
- **Nehru wore barrister's gown** for the first time in 25 years to defend INA officers
- **Public mood:** Massive nationwide sympathy — INA soldiers seen as patriot-heroes, NOT traitors
- **British dilemma:** Harsh punishment would inflame India further; leniency showed British weakness
- **Outcome:** All charges dropped/dissolved due to massive public pressure
- **Consequence:** Led directly to **Royal Indian Navy Mutiny (February 1946)**

Bose's Death (18 August 1945)

- Bose's **Mitsubishi Ki-21** bomber crashed on takeoff from **Taihoku (Taipei) airport**, Taiwan
- Suffered third-degree burns; died at 9 PM at Nanmon Military Hospital, Taipei
- **Ashes:** At **Renkoji Temple, Tokyo** (since September 1945)
- **Commissions:** Samnath Committee (1946), Shah Nawaz Committee (1956), Khosla Commission (1970) — all confirmed death; Justice Mukherjee Commission (2005) controversially said he did NOT die; Supreme Court (2011) upheld 1945 death

INA's Historic Legacy

- **Military impact:** INA broke the myth of British military invincibility; showed Indian soldiers could fight for India
- **Navy Mutiny trigger:** INA trials' popularity inspired the **RIN Mutiny (Feb 1946)** — 20,000 naval ratings mutinied across India; showed even armed forces were anti-British
- **Attlee's admission:** British PM Clement Attlee (1956) said the activities of Bose and the INA had a greater impact on British decision to leave India than Gandhi's movements
- **Posthumous honour:** India Post issued stamps; Netaji birthday (23 January) declared **Parakram Diwas** (Bravery Day) from 2021
- **Netaji files:** Declassified 2016 — confirmed surveillance on his family by IB even after independence

"Ittehad, Itmad aur Qurbani — Unity, Faith, Sacrifice. INA's motto that outlived defeat."

11. Master Timeline & Key Facts Table (मास्टर टाइमलाइन)



Event / Fact	Date	Key Detail
Born	23 January 1897	Cuttack, Odisha; 9th of 14 children
ICS Resigned	1921	4th in merit rank; refused to serve British Empire
Congress President (1st)	1938 – Haripura	Elected unopposed; gave famous economic planning resolution
Congress President (2nd)	1939 – Tripuri	Defeated Pattabhi Sitaramayya; Gandhi called it 'my personal defeat'
Forward Bloc founded	3 May 1939	All India Forward Bloc – Calcutta; still active in West Bengal
Arrested (last time)	July 1940	11-day hunger strike; released on health grounds
Great Escape	16-17 January 1941	Disguise: Muhammad Ziauddin; escaped 38/2 Elgin Road, Calcutta
Reached Berlin	April 1941	Via Kabul → Moscow; code name Orlando Mazzotta
Met Hitler	29 May 1941	Disappointed – Hitler dismissive about Indian independence
Azad Hind Radio	January 1942	Berlin; broadcasts in 7 Indian languages
Left Germany	8 Feb 1943	German submarine U-180; transferred to Japanese sub I-29 off Madagascar
Reached Singapore	2 July 1943	Took INA command from Rash Behari Bose on 4 July
Azad Hind Sarkar	21 October 1943	Singapore (Cathay Building); 9 nations recognized
Moirang flag	14 April 1944	First INA flag on Indian soil – Manipur
INA defeat	July 1944	Withdrew from Imphal-Kohima; supply failure + Allied air power
Death	18 August 1945	Plane crash, Taipei; ashes at Renkoji Temple, Tokyo
INA Trials	5 November 1945	Red Fort; Shah Nawaz, Sahgal, Dhillon; defence by Bhulabhai Desai

12. 16 Quick Facts for Last-Minute Revision (त्वरित तथ्य)

01

Birthday

23 January 1897 – Cuttack (Parakram Diwas from 2021)

02

ICS rank

4th in merit (1920); resigned 1921 to join freedom struggle

03

Congress President twice

Haripura (1938) and Tripuri (1939)

04

Tripuri Congress

Defeated Patabhi Sitaramayya; Gandhi said 'my personal defeat'

05

Forward Bloc

Founded 3 May 1939; full name: All India Forward Bloc

06

Escape disguise

Muhammad Ziauddin – deaf-mute Pathan insurance agent

07

Escape route

Calcutta → Gomoh → Peshawar → Kabul → Moscow → Berlin (Apr 1941)

08

Code name Europe

Orlando Mazzotta (Italian); later universally called Netaji

09

Submarine transfer

German U-180 → Japanese I-29 off Madagascar (Apr 1943)

10

INA command taken

4 July 1943 from Rash Behari Bose at Singapore

11

Azad Hind Sarkar

21 October 1943, Cathay Building, Singapore; 9 nations recognized

12

Rani of Jhansi Regt

Led by Dr. Lakshmi Sahgal; first all-women unit in Asia

13

INA Motto

Ittehad, Itmad aur Qurbani (Unity, Faith, Sacrifice)

14

Moirang

14 April 1944 – first INA flag on Indian soil (Manipur)

15

Bose's death

18 August 1945 – plane crash over Taipei; ashes in Renkoji Temple, Tokyo

16

INA Trials verdict

Nov 1945 Red Fort – all charges dropped due to massive public pressure

13. Common Exam Traps – Subhas Chandra Bose (परीक्षा के जाल)

🚫 Common Trap

Wrong belief: Subhas Chandra Bose founded the INA

Correct fact: Captain Mohan Singh founded the INA (1942). Rash Behari Bose reorganized it. Subhas Bose took command in July 1943.

Why it matters: The question 'Who formed the INA?' → Answer: Mohan Singh (1942). 'Who commanded INA to fame?' → Subhas Bose.

🚫 Common Trap

Wrong belief: Bose left India by plane in 1941

Correct fact: Bose escaped by car, then train, then overland through Afghanistan – NO plane. He reached Berlin via Kabul and Moscow.

Why it matters: The plane crash relates to his DEATH (1945), not his escape (1941).

🚫 Common Trap

Wrong belief: Bose was defeated at Haripura Congress (1939)

Correct fact: Bose was elected UNOPPOSED at Haripura (1938). He was re-elected DEFEATING Pattabhi Sitaramayya at Tripuri (1939).

Why it matters: Haripura = first presidency (1938, unopposed). Tripuri = second (1939, controversial victory).

🚫 Common Trap

Wrong belief: Azad Hind Sarkar was recognized by all major world powers

Correct fact: It was recognized by only 9 AXIS nations – Japan, Germany, Italy, Thailand, Burma, Croatia, Philippines, Manchukuo, Nanking China.

Why it matters: The Allies (UK, USA, USSR) never recognized it. No neutral country recognized it.

🚫 Common Trap

Wrong belief: Rash Behari Bose and Subhas Chandra Bose are the same person

Correct fact: They are two different people. Rash Behari Bose was a revolutionary who lived in Japan since 1915. Subhas Chandra Bose was the Congress leader and INA commander.

Why it matters: Both share the surname Bose and are connected to INA – a very common confusion in MCQs.

🚫 Common Trap

Wrong belief: The INA flag was hoisted at Imphal on 14 April 1944

Correct fact: The INA flag was hoisted at MOIRANG (Manipur), not Imphal, on 14 April 1944.

Why it matters: Moirang is near Imphal but a different location – exam papers specifically test this distinction.

🚫 Common Trap

Wrong belief: Bhulabhai Desai was the lead defence counsel for all INA trials

Correct fact: Bhulabhai Desai led the defence for the FIRST batch (Shah Nawaz, Sahgal, Dhillon). Nehru participated but was not the chief counsel.

Why it matters: Bhulabhai Desai died before many later trials concluded. Nehru's role was significant but secondary.

14. MCQ Practice – Set 1 (Q1–Q6) (MCQ अभ्यास)

1. Subhas Chandra Bose was born on 23 January 1897 at which city?

- (A) Cuttack (B) Calcutta
(C) Bhubaneswar (D) Patna

SSC CGL / State PSC | Easy ●○○

2. Subhas Bose was elected Congress President for the second time at which session?

- (A) Tripuri Session 1939 (B) Haripura Session 1938
(C) Lahore Session 1929 (D) Lucknow Session 1936

SSC CGL / BPSC | Easy ●○○

3. What was Bose's disguise during his escape from India in January 1941?

- (A) Muhammad Ziauddin, a Pathan (B) A Bengali merchant named Roy
(C) A Sikh soldier (D) An Italian journalist

BPSC / RRB NTPC | Easy ●○○

4. The Indian National Army (INA) was originally formed in 1942 by which officer?

- (A) Captain Mohan Singh (B) Rash Behari Bose
(C) Shah Nawaz Khan (D) Subhas Chandra Bose

SSC CGL / SSC CHSL | Easy ●○○

5. The Azad Hind Sarkar was proclaimed on 21 October 1943 at which location?

- (A) Cathay Building, Singapore (B) Tokyo, Japan
(C) Bangkok, Thailand (D) Rangoon, Burma

SSC CGL / BPSC | Med ●●○

6. Through which pair of submarines did Bose travel from Germany to Singapore?

- (A) U-180 (German) → I-29 (Japanese) (B) U-96 → I-400
(C) U-180 → I-400 (D) U-552 → I-29

State PSC / BPSC | Med ●●○

15. MCQ Practice – Set 2 (Q7–Q12) (MCQ अभ्यास)

7. Rani of Jhansi Regiment of INA was the first all-women military unit in which region?

- (A) Asia (B) Southeast Asia only
(C) British India (D) The entire world

SSC CGL / RRB NTPC | Med ●●○

8. The INA flag was hoisted on Indian soil for the first time at which location in 1944?

- (A) Moirang, Manipur (B) Imphal, Manipur
(C) Kohima, Nagaland (D) Dimapur, Nagaland

BPSC / SSC CGL | Med ●●○

9. Match: Rash Behari Bose's connection to INA: (A) Founded INA (B) Reorganized INA in Singapore (C) Led Imphal campaign

- (A) Only (B) (B) Only (A)
(C) Both (A) and (B) (D) Both (B) and (C)

State PSC / BPSC | Hard ●●●

10. The Andaman Islands were renamed by Subhas Bose as:

- (A) Shaheed Dweep (B) Swaraj Dweep
(C) Azad Dweep (D) Jai Hind Dweep

SSC CGL / RRB NTPC | Hard ●●●

11. According to which British PM did INA activities have more impact than Gandhi's movements in deciding to quit India?

- (A) Clement Attlee (B) Winston Churchill
(C) Anthony Eden (D) Harold Macmillan

BPSC / State PSC | Hard ●●●

12. Which statement about INA trials at Red Fort (1945) is INCORRECT?

- (A) Bhulabhai Desai led the prosecution (B) Shah Nawaz Khan was a Muslim officer
(C) Nehru wore barrister robes to defend INA (D) All three defendants were eventually released

SSC CGL 2022 | Hard ●●●

16. Answer Key with Explanations (उत्तर कुंजी)

✓ Answer Key with Explanations

Q1. (A) Subhas Chandra Bose was born at Cuttack (present-day Odisha), not Calcutta.

Q2. (A) Bose was re-elected at Tripuri Session (1939) defeating Pattabhi Sitaramayya. Haripura (1938) was his first term.

Q3. (A) Bose disguised as 'Muhammad Ziauddin' – a deaf-mute Pathan insurance agent – to escape British surveillance.

Q4. (A) Captain Mohan Singh of the British Indian Army founded the INA in 1942 from Indian POWs after Singapore fell.

Q5. (A) Azad Hind Sarkar proclaimed at Cathay Building, Singapore on 21 October 1943, not in Tokyo or Bangkok.

Q6. (A) Bose left Kiel, Germany on German submarine U-180; transferred to Japanese submarine I-29 off Madagascar in April 1943.

Q7. (A) Rani of Jhansi Regiment was the first all-women combat regiment in Asia (not just Southeast Asia or whole world).

Q8. (A) INA flag hoisted at Moirang (Manipur) on 14 April 1944, NOT Imphal. A very common exam trap.

Q9. (A) Rash Behari Bose reorganized the INA in Singapore (B is correct). He did NOT found it (Mohan Singh did) and did NOT lead the Imphal campaign (Subhas Bose did).

Q10. (A) Andaman = Shaheed Dweep; Nicobar = Swaraj Dweep. Many confuse these two – the question asks only about Andaman.

Q11. (A) Clement Attlee (British PM 1945–51) in a 1956 interview stated that INA's activities were the primary reason for British decision to leave India.

Q12. (A) Bhulabhai Desai led the DEFENCE (not prosecution). The prosecution was the British military prosecutor. All other options are correct.





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