

- Thus the British tried to educate a small section of upper and middle class and thereby create a class of persons who were Indians by blood and colour, but English in tastes, in opinions, in morals and in intellect. This was known as the downward filtration theory.
- The Lieutenant Governor of North West Provinces, James Thomson made efforts to develop the village education through the vernacular medium.
- In order to train people for the revenue and public works department, subjects such as mensuration, agriculture were included in the curriculum.

## Wood's Despatch Of 1854

- In 1854, Charles Wood, the President of the Board of Control of the East India Company, issued a comprehensive despatch on the educational system for India. This came to be known as the Wood's Despatch.
- This was considered as the Magna Carta of English Education in India. It marked the triumph of those who oppose oriental learning.
- Recommendations of Wood's Despatch were,
  1. Recommended English as the medium of instruction in higher education
  2. Proposed setting up of vernacular primary schools, Anglo-Vernacular high schools and affiliated colleges at district level
  3. Proposed setting up of universities at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras on the model of London university.
  4. Emphasised on the vocational instructions and establishment of technical schools and colleges.
  5. Recommended the establishment of teacher training institutions based on the model that exists in England.
  6. It recommended the system of grants-in-aid, in order to foster private enterprise in the education sector.
  7. It extended support for the education of women.

## Education System In India Under Crown Rule

### Hunter Educational Commission (1882-1883)

- The British Government appointed a commission under the chairmanship of W.W.Hunter in 1882, in order to review the progress of education in India, since the Wood's Dispatch of 1854.
- The remarks made by the commission were mostly confined to primary and secondary education.
- The important recommendations made by the Hunter commission were:
  1. It emphasised that special care of the state is necessary for the extension and improvement of primary education.
  2. It recommended that the medium of instruction for primary education should be vernacular.
  3. The commission also recommended that the control of primary education be transferred to the newly established District and Municipal boards.
  4. It recommended the division of secondary education into two
    - Literary education – for the university entrance examination

- Practical education – for commercial and vocational careers
1. Recommended steps to encourage the private players in the education sector. For example, liberalization of the grants in aid systems, recognition of aided schools as equivalent to the government schools.
  2. It also drew attention to inadequacies in female education and made recommendations on that front.

## Indian Universities Act (1904)

- In 1901, a round table conference was held at Shimla in which the highest educational officers and representatives of universities participated.
  - Following this conference, a commission was established under the presidency of Sir Thomas Raleigh in 1902, to inquire into the condition and prospects of the universities in India and recommend measures for its improvement.
  - Based on the recommendations passed by Raleigh Commission, the Indian Universities Act of 1904 was passed
  - Main Provisions of the Indian Universities Act of 1904 are as follows:
1. The Universities were asked to make provisions in order to promote study and research, to appoint professors and lecturers.
  2. Most of the Fellows of the university were to be nominated by the government and their tenure was reduced to six years .
  3. The number of Fellows at the university should neither be less than 50 nor more than 100 .
  4. The Government was given the power
    1. To veto the regulations passed by the Senate of the university
    2. To make amendments to the resolution
    3. To frame and pass its own resolution
  5. A grant of 5 lakh rupees for five years was sanctioned for the improvement of higher education and universities.
  6. The affiliation of colleges to universities and defining the territorial limits of these universities was to be done by the Governor-General in council.

## Government Resolution On Education Policy (1913)

- In 1906, the State of Baroda introduced compulsory primary education throughout its territories. On seeing this, the nationalists demanded the Government of India to implement the same throughout the country.
- However, in the government resolution on education policy of 1913, it refused compulsory education. Instead it was accepted to remove illiteracy in the country.

- Some of the other resolutions made by the government were:
  - To urge provincial governments to provide free elementary education for the poor and backward sections of the society
  - Improve the quality of secondary education schools
  - Establishment of universities in every province.

## **Saddler University Commission (1917-1919)**

- The Government of India appointed a committee under the chairmanship of M.E.Sadler to report on the problems of Calcutta University.
- However the Sadler commission reviewed the education system completely from school to college.
- Important recommendations of the Saddler commission are as follows:
  1. A twelve year school course is a must.
  2. After the intermediate examination, students can enter university instead of matric.
  3. Establishment of a separate board for the secondary and intermediate education in order to administer and regulate the secondary and intermediate education.
  4. The duration of intermediate education was limited to three years
  5. It recommended less rigidity in framing regulations of universities.
  6. It emphasised on woman education, teacher training, courses in applied science and technology

## **Education System in India Under Dyarchy**

### **Hartog Committee (1929)**

- With the increase in the quantity of educational institutions, there was a deterioration in the quality of the education
- Thus Hartog committee was established in 1929 to make recommendations for the development of the education in India
- The recommendations of the Hartog committee were:
  - Primary education should be given importance. It was against the hasty expansion and compulsory education system.
  - The commission criticised the indiscriminate admission of universities which led to the lowering of its standards.
  - Recommended establishment of selective system for admission
  - Retention of average students and divert them into the courses leading to commercial and industrial careers

### **Wardha Scheme Of Basic Education**

- In 1937, Mahatma Gandhi introduced a scheme of education in his newspaper, The Harijan. This scheme was known as the Wardha scheme of basic education.
- The concept of this scheme was learning through activity.
- Zakir Hussain Committee submitted a report which contained detailed syllabi for various crafts and also made recommendations regarding the training of teachers, supervision, examination and administration.
- Some of the provisions of the committee were:
  1. The basics of handicraft to be included in the syllabus
  2. First seven years of schooling to be an integral part of free and compulsory education
  3. Teaching to be done in English medium only from class VIII.

## Sergeant Plan Of Education

- The Central advisory board of education drew up a plan known as the Sergeant plan which was named after Sir John Sargeant, the then educational advisor to the government of India.
- Some of its important recommendations were:
  1. 20 years of education:
    1. Pre – Primary education for 3 – 6 years old
    2. Free and compulsory elementary education for 6 – 11 years age group
    3. High school education for the eligible students of age 17 years old
    4. 3 Years university course
  2. Abolition of intermediate course
  3. Classification of high school education into academic and vocational.

## Education System In India During British Rule NCERT Notes FAQs

### Q.1 What were the main provisions of Wood's Despatch?

**Ans.1** The main provision of Wood's Despatch were English as the medium of instruction in higher education, setting up of vernacular primary schools, followed by Anglo-Vernacular high schools and affiliated colleges at district level, setting up of universities at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras on the model of London university, support for women education, establishment of teacher training institutes.

### Q.2 Who wrote the minutes on education?

**Ans.2** The Minutes on education was written by the then Governor General, Thomas Banbington Macaulay in 1835.