Modern Indian History

CREATOR ACADEMIA

Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)

(1939 – 1945 CE)



Forward Bloc

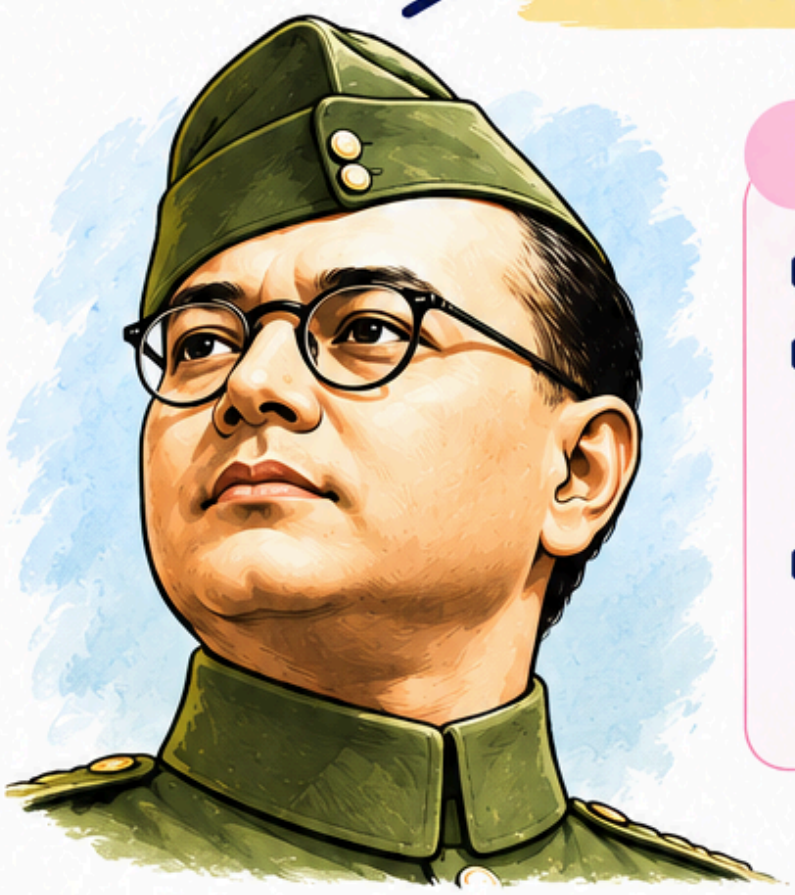


Indian National Army (INA)

Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

CREATOR ACADEMIA

Introduction



Background

- **Period:** 1939 – 1945 CE (during World War II).
- A decisive phase when Subhas Chandra Bose took a different path from the Congress leadership.
- He mobilized international support, raised the Indian National Army (INA) and gave a military dimension to India's freedom struggle.

Core Focus of the Topic

- Bose's ideological difference with the Gandhian approach.
- Formation of the Forward Bloc.
- His escape from British custody and international efforts.
- Creation, reorganization and role of the INA.



Significance

- Gave a new direction and militant energy to the freedom struggle.
- Inspired Indians at home and abroad, including the armed forces.
- The INA trials and its legacy further weakened British authority in India.

Key Themes Covered

- Ideological divergence with Gandhian leadership
- The Forward Bloc
- The Great Escape
- Formation and role of the INA
- INA trials and their impact

Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

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1. Ideological Divergence and the Great Escape (1939 – 1941 CE)



Overview

- A decisive phase when differences within the national movement became more pronounced.
- It led Bose to chart an independent and more militant course for India's freedom.

Key Phases

Ideological Divergence
(Bose vs. Gandhian approach)

→

Formation of the Forward Bloc
(May 1939)

→

House Arrest and the Great Escape
(1939 – January 1941)

Significance

- Marked Bose's break from the mainstream Congress leadership.
- Paved the way for international efforts to seek support against British rule.
- Ultimately led to the formation of the INA in the later phase.



Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

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1. Ideological Divergence and the Great Escape (1939 – 1941 CE)

A. Subhas Chandra Bose vs. The Gandhian Philosophy



Subhas Chandra Bose

Key Differences



Mahatma Gandhi

Subhas Chandra Bose		Mahatma Gandhi
Immediate and complete independence.	Goal	Swaraj through gradual mass awakening.
Believed in the need for militant and active struggle, including external support.	Method	Non-violent mass resistance (Satyagraha).
Favoured a strong, centralized and modern state.	Vision of India	A decentralized and self-reliant (Gram Swaraj) India.
Urgency due to World War II — viewed it as an opportunity to oust the British.	View of WWII	Opposed taking advantage of the war; stressed moral and peaceful means.

Impact

- The divergence led to Bose's exit from the mainstream Congress leadership.
- It set the stage for the formation of the Forward Bloc and his independent course for India's freedom.



Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

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1. Ideological Divergence and the Great Escape (1939 – 1941 CE)

B. The Forward Bloc and House Arrest (1939 – 1940 CE)



Formation of the Forward Bloc

- Formed by Subhas Chandra Bose on 3 May 1939.
- Aimed at consolidating the left, nationalist and anti-imperialist forces.
- Sought to carry forward the goal of complete independence (Purna Swaraj) with a more radical and action-oriented approach.



Forward Bloc

Growing Tensions

- Bose's increasing radical stance and independent political course led to conflict with the Congress leadership.
- He was gradually isolated within the organization.

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House Arrest (1939 – 1940)

- The British government viewed Bose's activities as a serious threat.
- He was arrested in July 1939.
- Later released but kept under strict house arrest at his residence in Calcutta (Elgin Road) from 1940.



Significance

- The Forward Bloc provided a platform for Bose's independent line of struggle.
- House arrest pushed Bose to plan a daring escape, which eventually took him abroad to seek international support for India's freedom.



Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
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1. Ideological Divergence and the Great Escape (1939 – 1941 CE)

C. "The Great Escape" (Mahanishkraman — January 1941)



Context

- Bose was kept under house arrest in Calcutta (after his release from jail in 1938).
- The British closely monitored him and restricted his movements.
- He decided to escape to continue the freedom struggle from abroad.



A daring escape for a greater cause...

The Escape – Key Steps

1 Disguise



- Bose changed his appearance, wearing a Pathan disguise (beard, cap and long coat).

2 Departure



- Left his residence in Calcutta on the night of 16–17 January 1941 and travelled to Gomoh by car.

3 By Train



- Boarded a train from Gomoh to Peshawar under a false identity.

4 Crossing Afghanistan



- With the help of local contacts, he crossed Afghanistan and reached the Soviet Union.

5 Further Journey



- From the Soviet Union, he travelled to Germany to seek support for India's freedom struggle.

Significance

- Showed Bose's determination, courage and strategic vision.
- Helped him reach Germany and later Japan to build the INA.
- Inspired millions of Indians and strengthened the global support for India's independence.



Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

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2. In Axis Europe: The Free India Centre and Indian Legion (1941 – 1943 CE)

Arrival in Europe

- Bose reached Germany in April 1941 (via the Soviet Union).
- Sought Axis support, particularly from Germany, for India's independence.



Free India Centre

- Established in Berlin in 1941.
- Functioned as an exile government and propaganda centre.
- Aimed to mobilize international support for India's freedom.



Berlin

Azad Hind Radio

- Bose used "Azad Hind Radio" (from Berlin) to address Indians.
- Broadcast messages in multiple languages to inspire resistance against British rule.



Azad Hind Radio

Indian Legion (Indische Legion)

- Formed in 1942 with the support of Germany.
- Composed mainly of Indian POWs (prisoners of war) captured in North Africa.
- Aimed to fight the British in Asia when the opportunity arose.



Indian Legion

Significance

- Kept the ideology of an armed struggle for independence alive.
- Laid the foundation for Bose's later shift to Southeast Asia and the reorganization of the INA in 1943.



Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

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The Epic Underwater Passage (1943)



About the Passage

- A daring submarine journey by Subhas Chandra Bose in 1943.
- Connected Europe to Asia with the support of German and Japanese navies.
- An exceptionally rare wartime submarine-to-submarine passenger transfer.

Key Persons

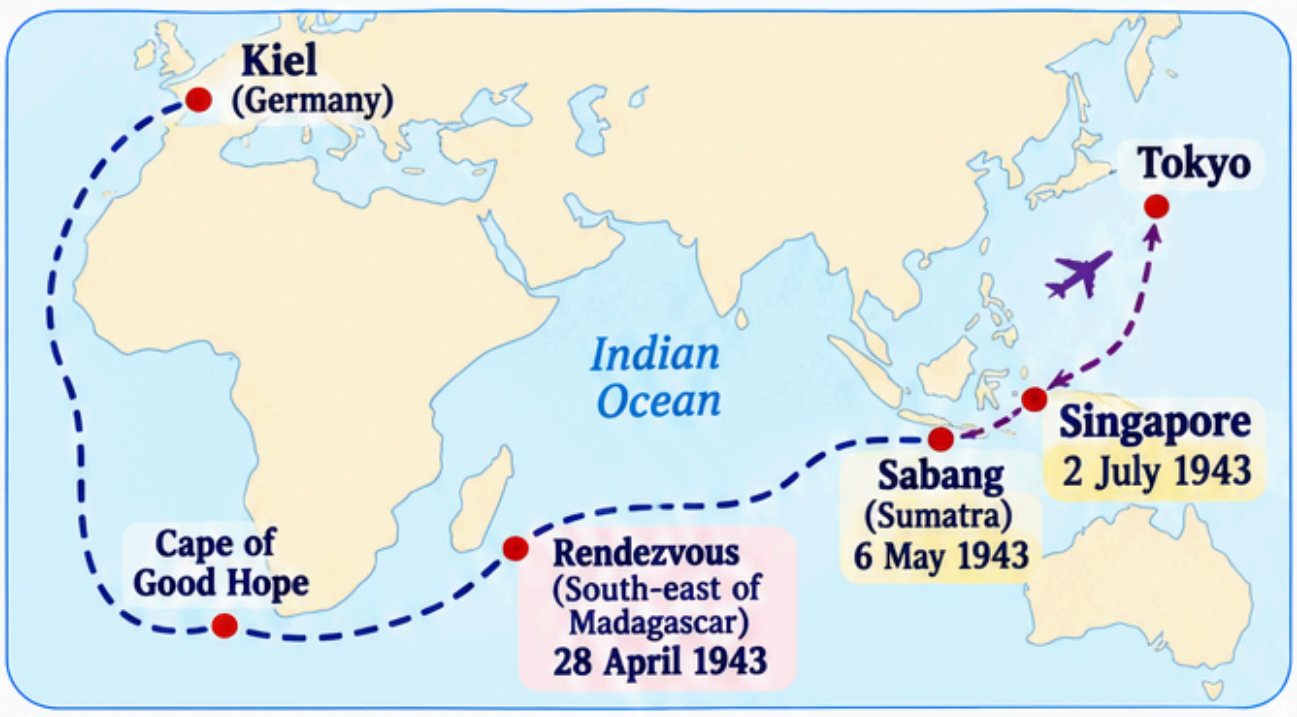
- Subhas Chandra Bose (Netaji)
- Abid Hasan (his aide)



German Submarine U-180



Japanese Submarine I-29



Route & Key Dates

- **8 Feb 1943** – Departed Kiel (Germany) on U-180.
- **Around Cape of Good Hope** – Sailed into the Indian Ocean.
- **28 April 1943** – Met I-29 south-east of Madagascar; transfer by raft.
- **6 May 1943** – Reached Sabang (northern Sumatra) on I-29.
- **After 6 May** – Proceeded to Tokyo and later to Singapore (2 July 1943).

Journey at a Glance

8 Feb 1943



Departed Kiel on German submarine U-180

→

Feb – Apr 1943



Sailed around the Cape of Good Hope into the Indian Ocean

→

28 April 1943



Met Japanese submarine I-29 and transferred by raft

→

6 May 1943



Reached Sabang (northern Sumatra) on I-29

→

After 6 May 1943



Proceeded to Tokyo and later reached Singapore (2 July 1943)

Key Takeaway

- A bold and rare operation that took Bose from Europe to Asia, enabling him to lead the INA in Southeast Asia.

Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

CREATOR ACADEMIA

3. The Indian National Army (Azad Hind Fauj): Genesis and Restructuring

GENESIS (1942)

- After the fall of Singapore (15 February 1942), Indian prisoners of war (POWs) came under Japanese custody.
- Japanese officer Major Fujiwara facilitated their transfer to Captain Mohan Singh.
- Mohan Singh proposed forming an Indian force to fight British rule.



POLITICAL ORGANIZATION

- Rash Behari Bose helped organize the Indian Independence League (IIL).
- **Bangkok Conference, June 1942:** INA recognized as the League's military wing.
- Rash Behari Bose led the political movement and Captain Mohan Singh was appointed commander/GOC (General Officer Commanding).



Three Principles of the INA

Unity • Faith • Sacrifice



INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY (INA) / AZAD HIND FAUJ

FIRST INA & CRISIS (1942)

- INA formally inaugurated on 1 September 1942 under Captain Mohan Singh.
- Tensions arose due to differences with the Japanese command and over the army's leadership and autonomy.
- Mohan Singh was arrested in late December 1942; the first INA was dissolved/disbanded.



REORGANIZATION & NETAJI (1943)

- Rash Behari Bose worked to revive/reorganize the INA from February 1943.
- Subhas Chandra Bose arrived in Singapore on 2 July 1943.
- On 4 July 1943, Rash Behari Bose handed over the leadership of the Indian independence movement to Netaji.
- Netaji assumed leadership and rebuilt the INA into a more organized force.



Takeaway

- The INA's foundations were laid under Captain Mohan Singh; Rash Behari Bose sustained the movement; Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose gave it renewed leadership and direction.

Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

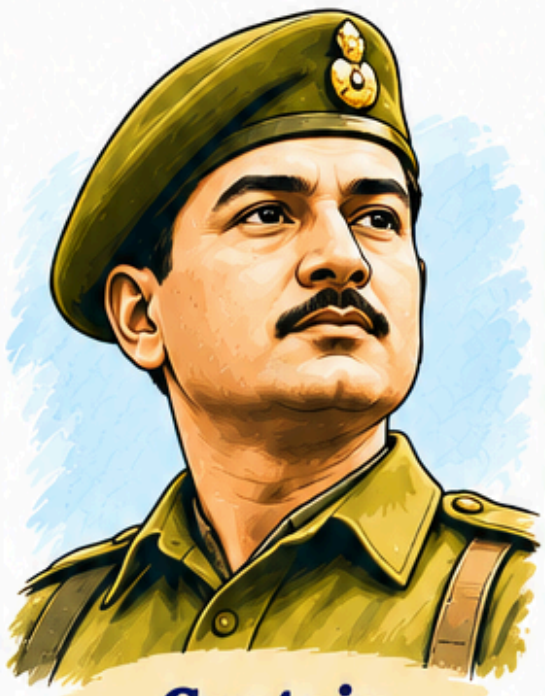
CREATOR ACADEMIA

3. The Indian National Army (Azad Hind Fauj): Genesis and Restructuring

A. The First Phase of the INA: Captain Mohan Singh (1942 CE)

Background

- An officer of the British Indian Army.
- Taken as a prisoner of war (POW) by the Japanese during the fall of Singapore (15 February 1942).



Captain Mohan Singh

Formation of the INA

- With Japanese support, Mohan Singh proposed a force of Indian POWs to fight for India's independence.
- The Indian National Army (INA) was formally inaugurated on 1 September 1942.

Role & Objectives

- Raised an army mainly from Indian POWs (about 40,000).
- Aimed to fight the British rule in India with Japanese support.
- Sought recognition as a national army of a free India.

The First Phase of INA (1942)

Crisis and Dissolution

- Differences arose with the Japanese over:
  - control and autonomy of the INA,
  - its use in Japanese military strategy.
- Mohan Singh was arrested in late December 1942.
- The first INA was dissolved by the Japanese.



Significance

- First organized military attempt to use Indian POWs for India's freedom.
- Laid the foundation for the later, stronger INA under Subhas Chandra Bose (1943).



Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

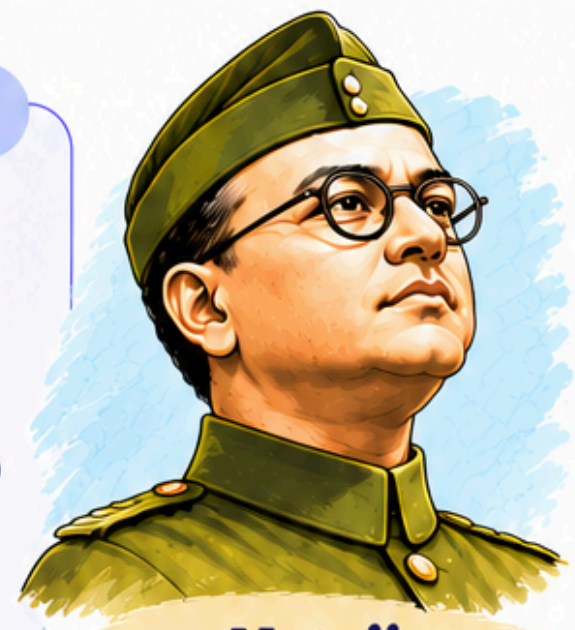
CREATOR ACADEMIA

3. The Indian National Army (Azad Hind Fauj): Genesis and Restructuring

B. The Arrival of Netaji and Reorganization (1943 CE)

Netaji's Arrival

- Subhas Chandra Bose arrived in Singapore on 2 July 1943.
- On 4 July 1943, he assumed the leadership of the Indian Independence Movement in Southeast Asia and the INA.



Netaji
Subhas Chandra Bose

Reorganization of the INA

- Netaji restructured and revitalized the INA into a disciplined, modern force.
- Expanded recruitment from Indian soldiers, workers, and expatriates across Southeast Asia.
- Gave the INA a clear political and military direction.

Revival of the INA (1943)

Key Initiatives

- Instilled a renewed spirit of patriotism and sacrifice.
- Strengthened training, organization, and military discipline.
- Integrated the INA with the larger goal of a Provisional Government of Free India (Azad Hind Government).



Mass Mobilization

- Mobilized strong support from the Indian diaspora in Southeast Asia (Singapore, Malaya, Burma, etc.).
- Popularized the rallying cries:

"Jai Hind!"

"Dilli Chalo!"

Significance

- Marked the real transformation of the INA into a strong and popular force under Netaji's charismatic leadership.
- Laid the foundation for the INA's military campaigns in 1944.



Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

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The Rani of Jhansi Regiment

About the Regiment

- A women's military unit of the Indian National Army (INA).
- Named after Rani Lakshmi Bai of Jhansi – a symbol of courage, patriotism, and resistance.



Formation

- Formed by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in July 1943 in Singapore.
- Aimed to ensure the active participation of Indian women in the struggle for independence.

Leadership

- Led by Dr. (Captain) **Lakshmi Swaminathan** (later known as Captain Lakshmi Sahgal).



Captain Lakshmi Sahgal



Rani of Jhansi Regiment

Composition and Role

- Composed of volunteers, mainly from the Indian diaspora in Southeast Asia.
- Received military training, including drill, weapons, and field tactics.
- Intended for combat support, medical services, and logistical roles.

Significance

- A pioneering step in involving women in a military force for India's independence.
- A powerful symbol of women's empowerment, nationalist spirit, and the inclusive vision of Netaji.



Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

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4. The Provisional Government of Free India (Arzi Hukumat-e-Azad Hind)

Establishment

- Formed by Subhas Chandra Bose on **21 October 1943** in Singapore.
- Known as the Provisional Government of Free India (Arzi Hukumat-e-Azad Hind).





Netaji
Subhas Chandra Bose
(Head of the Government)

Key Features

- A government-in-exile to wage a complete war for India's independence.
- Declared the immediate goal of total liberation of India from British rule.
- Functioned with a cabinet, departments, flag, and currency.



Provisional Government of Free India (Azad Hind)

Structure & Offices

- Netaji as Head of the Government, Prime Minister, and Minister for War and Foreign Affairs.
- A Council of Ministers to look after key departments (Finance, Propaganda, etc.).



International Recognition

- Recognized by Axis powers, including Japan, Germany, Italy, and several other countries.
- Gained diplomatic legitimacy, strengthening the Indian freedom movement abroad.

Territorial Control

- Assumed nominal control over the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, which were renamed:
  - **Shaheed Dweep** (Andaman)
  - **Swaraj Dweep** (Nicobar).



Significance



- Gave the Indian freedom struggle a government, army, and international standing.
- A bold assertion of India's claim to sovereignty and an important chapter in the history of the independence movement.

Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

CREATOR ACADEMIA

5. The Military Campaign: Imphal, Kohima, and Defeat (1944 – 1945 CE)

Background

- After forming the Provisional Government of Free India (1943), Netaji planned a military offensive into India.
- The campaign was launched jointly by the INA and the Japanese Army in 1944.





The Campaign (1944)

- Began in March 1944 (Operation U-Go) with the aim of entering India via Manipur and Nagaland.
- INA units fought alongside the Japanese 15th Army.
- Sought to capture Imphal (Manipur) and Kohima (Nagaland) to open a route to the Indian plains.

The Military Campaign: Imphal, Kohima and Defeat (1944 – 1945)

Imphal & Kohima

- Fierce battles were fought at Imphal (March – July 1944) and Kohima (April – June 1944).
- The British-Indian forces, with strong air support and logistics, successfully held both positions.



Reasons for Defeat

- Severe shortage of food, weapons, and medical supplies.
- Disruption of Japanese supply lines.
- Overextended front and difficult terrain (hills, forests, and heavy rains).
- Strong and well-supplied British counteroffensive.

Outcome (1945)

- The offensive collapsed by mid-1944.
- INA was forced to retreat with heavy losses.
- By 1945, the INA's military operations came to an end with the overall defeat of Japan in World War II.



Significance

- Though it ended in defeat, the campaign showcased the courage, patriotism, and determination of the INA.
- It gave a powerful boost to the Indian independence movement and inspired widespread support across India.



Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

CREATOR ACADEMIA

The Retreat and Mystery of Netaji's Death

The Retreat (1944 – 1945)

- After the failures at Imphal and Kohima (1944), the INA and Japanese forces began a gradual retreat.
- By early 1945, the INA withdrew from Burma and moved towards Southeast Asia (Malaya, Thailand, Singapore).





Netaji
Subhas Chandra Bose

The Last Journey

- In August 1945, with Japan's surrender imminent, Netaji left Singapore for Taipei (Taihoku) via Saigon.
- On 18 August 1945, he boarded a Japanese plane from Taipei, reportedly heading to Manchuria to seek support from the Soviet Union.



The Retreat and Mystery of Netaji's Death

The Official Account

- According to the Japanese version, the plane crashed at Taipei (Taihoku) on 18 August 1945.
- Netaji was seriously burnt and died later the same day in a military hospital.



Alternative Theories

- Netaji did not die in the plane crash and survived under an assumed identity.
- He went to the Soviet Union for support.
- Some theories suggest he lived in India in secrecy (e.g., the Gumnami Baba claim).

Inquiries into the Death

- **Shah Nawaz Committee (1956)** – Concluded that Netaji died in the air crash.
- **Khosla Commission (1970)** – Upheld the air-crash theory.
- **Mukherjee Commission (1999 – 2005)** – Cast doubt on the crash; said Netaji's death was not conclusively proved.



Significance

- The mystery surrounding Netaji's death has continued for decades.
- It adds to his enduring legacy as a symbol of sacrifice, courage, and the uncompromising pursuit of India's independence.



Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

CREATOR ACADEMIA

6. The Historic INA Red Fort Trials (1945 – 1946 CE)

Background

- After the collapse of the INA in 1945, the British arrested its officers.
- Decided to try them for "waging war against the King-Emperor" and "treason".
- The trial was held at the Red Fort (Delhi) from November 1945 to May 1946.



Netaji
Subhas Chandra Bose

The Accused Officers

- The first and most famous trial was against three senior INA officers:
  - **Col. Shah Nawaz Khan**
  - **Col. Prem Kumar Sahgal**
  - **Maj. Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon**
- They represented the religious unity and national character of the INA.

The Trial

- Began on 5 November 1945 at the Red Fort.
- The British charged the officers under the Indian Army Act for treason and waging war.
- The defence was led by a team of eminent lawyers, including Bhulabhai Desai, Tej Bahadur Sapru, and Kailash Nath Katju.

The INA Red Fort Trials (1945 – 1946 CE)



Public Response

- The trial triggered widespread public support for the INA across India.
- Massive meetings, protests, and solidarity campaigns were held.
- It united people across religion, region, and political lines, boosting the nationalist movement.

Outcome

- The three officers were convicted in January 1946 but were not severely punished.
- Under strong public and political pressure, the British commuted the sentences and released them in May 1946.



Significance

- A turning point in the Indian freedom struggle.
- Rekindled national spirit and popularized the INA's legacy.
- Weakened the morale of the British and hastened their decision to leave India.

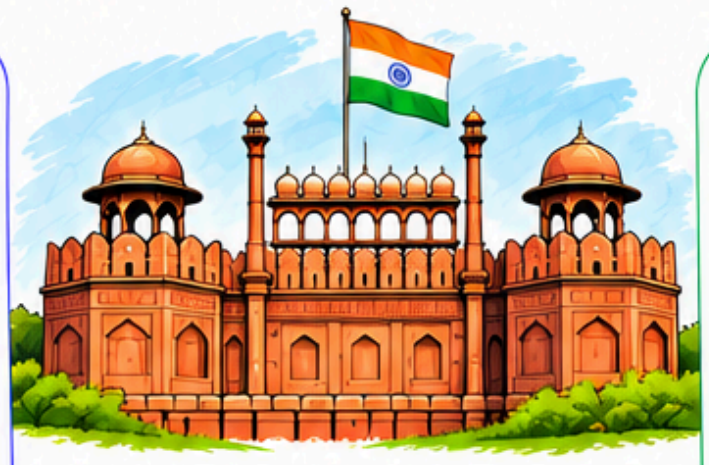


Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

CREATOR ACADEMIA

6. The Historic INA Red Fort Trials (1945 – 1946 CE)

A. The Congress INA Defense Committee



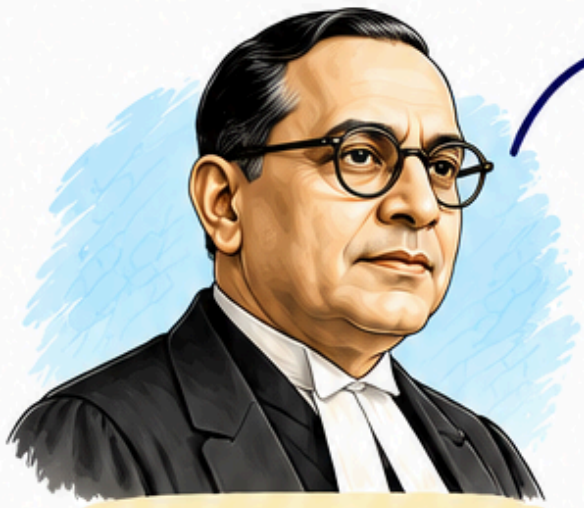
The Congress INA Defense Committee

Formation

- Formed by the Indian National Congress in 1945 to defend the INA officers in the Red Fort trials.
- Aimed to provide legal, political, and moral support to the accused.

Key Members

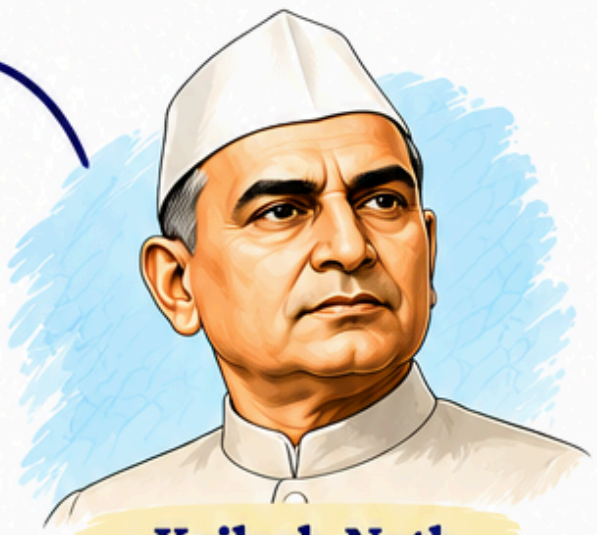
- A distinguished team of national leaders and lawyers, including:
  - **Bhulabhai Desai** (Lead Counsel)
  - **Tej Bahadur Sapru**
  - **Kailash Nath Katju**
- Supported by senior Congress leaders.



Bhulabhai Desai
(Lead Counsel)



Tej Bahadur Sapru



Kailash Nath Katju

Role and Activities

- Led the legal defence of the INA officers in the Red Fort trials (Nov 1945 – May 1946).
- Argued that the INA fighters were patriots fighting for India's freedom, not traitors.
- Gained massive public support for the INA across the country.



Significance

- Gave the INA trial a national dimension and turned it into a major political issue.
- Strengthened the image of the INA and Netaji among the masses.
- Contributed to a wave of nationalist unity and intensified pressure on the British to leave India.

Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
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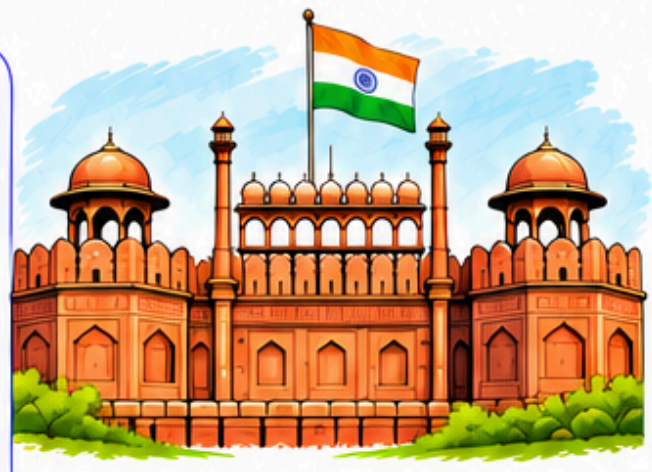
CREATOR ACADEMIA

6. The Historic INA Red Fort Trials (1945 – 1946 CE)

B. The Popular Tempest: "Lal Qile Se Aayi Aawaz"

Meaning & Context

- "Lal Qile Se Aayi Aawaz" (The voice from the Red Fort) became a popular slogan during the INA trials.
- It symbolized the resurgence of nationalism across India.



The Popular Tempest: "Lal Qile Se Aayi Aawaz"

Nationwide Response

- Massive public protests, rallies, and meetings in major cities (Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay, Lahore, Madras, etc.).
- Widespread support for the INA officers and Netaji's legacy.
- Students, workers, professionals, and ordinary citizens joined the movement.

Slogan & Sentiment

- The slogan captured the emotional and nationalist fervor of the time.
- It united people across regions, communities, and political ideologies in support of the INA.

Broader Impact

- Revived the spirit of anti-colonial resistance.
- Exposed the declining moral authority of British rule.
- Strengthened the demand for immediate independence.



Result

- Created immense pressure on the British government.
- The trials, instead of discrediting the INA, turned its officers into national heroes.



Significance

- A major turning point in the freedom struggle.
- Showed the enduring influence of Netaji and the INA on the Indian masses.
- Accelerated the eventual British decision to quit India.

Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
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CREATOR ACADEMIA

7. The Royal Indian Navy (RIN) Mutiny (February 1946)

Background

- A large-scale revolt by Indian sailors (ratings) of the Royal Indian Navy (RIN) in February 1946.
- A major expression of discontent against British rule in the final phase of the freedom struggle.



Causes

- Racial discrimination and poor treatment by British officers.
- Poor quality of food and living conditions.
- Low pay and stern discipline.
- Inspiration from the INA trials and the growing nationalist upsurge.

The Royal Indian Navy (RIN) Mutiny (February 1946)

Course of the Mutiny

- Began on 18 February 1946 at HMIS Talwar (Bombay) over the issue of food.
- Quickly spread to other ships and naval establishments.
- Sailors hoisted the tricolour and adopted slogans like “Jai Hind” and “Inquilab Zindabad”.

Major Centres

- Started in Bombay (now Mumbai).
- Spread to Karachi, Calcutta (Kolkata), Madras (Chennai), and Vizagapatam (Visakhapatnam).
- Over 20,000 sailors participated, involving ships and shore establishments.



Outcome

- The British suppressed the mutiny using military force.
- Many sailors were arrested, court-martialled, and dismissed from service.
- The revolt was brought under control by the end of February 1946.



Significance

- A major setback to British authority and morale.
- Showed the erosion of loyalty among the Indian armed forces.
- Reflected the growing influence of the INA and the national movement.
- Convinced the British that their hold on India was no longer secure.



Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
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CREATOR ACADEMIA



QUICK EXAMINATION FACTS



- Subhas Chandra Bose was elected Congress President for a second term in 1939, defeating Pattabhi Sitaramayya.



- Bose resigned as Congress President in April 1939 after the Tripuri crisis.



- Bose founded the All India Forward Bloc on 3 May 1939.



- Bose escaped from house arrest in Calcutta on the night of 16–17 January 1941, travelling under the name "Ziauddin".



- The Free India Centre was established in Berlin in 1941.



- The Indian Legion was organized in Germany from Indian prisoners of war, with German support, during 1941–42.



- Captain Mohan Singh began organizing the first INA in Southeast Asia in 1942 from Indian prisoners of war captured by Japan.



- The first INA was formally inaugurated on 1 September 1942 under Captain Mohan Singh.



- Rash Behari Bose presided over the Indian Independence League and helped provide the political framework for the INA.



- Subhas Chandra Bose arrived in Singapore on 2 July 1943 and took charge of the INA soon afterwards.



- The Rani of Jhansi Regiment was formed in 1943 under the leadership of Captain Lakshmi Sahgal.



- The Provisional Government of Azad Hind was proclaimed in Singapore on 21 October 1943.



- The Andaman and Nicobar Islands were handed over to the Provisional Government in December 1943 and renamed Shaheed and Swaraj.



- The INA and Japanese forces launched the U-Go offensive towards Imphal and Kohima in 1944.



- The first INA Red Fort trial began on 5 November 1945; the three accused were Shah Nawaz Khan, Prem Kumar Sahgal and Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon.



- The Congress formed an INA Defence Committee in 1945, with Bhulabhai Desai among the leading defence lawyers.



- The Royal Indian Navy mutiny began at HMIS Talwar in Bombay on 18 February 1946.



MEMORY LINK

1939 → 1941 → 1942 → 1943 → 1944 → 1945 → 1946

Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
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CREATOR ACADEMIA

MCQs

1. When was the All India Forward Bloc formed by Subhas Chandra Bose?

(a) 1938
(b) 1939
(c) 1941
(d) 1942



Answer: (b) 1939

Explanation:

- Subhas Chandra Bose founded the All India Forward Bloc on 3 May 1939 to consolidate the left-wing and radical elements within the national movement.

2. Under whose leadership was the Rani of Jhansi Regiment of the INA formed?

(a) Captain Lakshmi Sehgal
(b) Aruna Asaf Ali
(c) Sarojini Naidu
(d) Sucheta Kriplani



Answer: (a) Captain Lakshmi Sehgal

Explanation:

- The Rani of Jhansi Regiment, the women's unit of the INA, was formed in 1943 under the leadership of Captain Lakshmi Sehgal.

3. The Provisional Government of Azad Hind was proclaimed on which date?

(a) 21 October 1943
(b) 1 September 1942
(c) 5 July 1943
(d) 18 February 1944



Answer: (a) 21 October 1943

Explanation:

- Subhas Chandra Bose proclaimed the Provisional Government of Azad Hind (Arzi Hukumat-e-Azad Hind) on 21 October 1943 in Singapore.

4. The military campaign of the INA in 1944 was directed towards which two key places?

(a) Rangoon and Mandalay
(b) Imphal and Kohima
(c) Akyab and Chittagong
(d) Sangai and Tiddim



Answer: (b) Imphal and Kohima

Explanation:

- In 1944, the INA, with Japanese support, launched an offensive towards Imphal and Kohima to enter India and trigger a wider uprising against British rule.

5. When did the first INA Red Fort trial begin?

(a) 21 October 1943
(b) 5 November 1945
(c) 18 February 1946
(d) 1 January 1946



Answer: (b) 5 November 1945

Explanation:

- The first INA trial began on 5 November 1945 at the Red Fort, with Shah Nawaz Khan, Prem Kumar Sahgal and Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon as the accused.

Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

CREATOR ACADEMIA

6. Which of the following islands were handed over to the Provisional Government of Azad Hind in December 1943?

(a) Lakshadweep and Minicoy
(b) Andaman and Nicobar
(c) Maldives and Addu
(d) Sri Lanka and Maldives



Answer: (b) Andaman and Nicobar

Explanation:

- The Andaman and Nicobar Islands were handed over to the Provisional Government of Azad Hind by Japan in December 1943 and were renamed Shaheed and Swaraj.

7. Which of the following slogans was closely associated with the INA and Netaji?

(a) Vande Mataram
(b) Do or Die
(c) Jai Hind
(d) Inquilab Zindabad



Answer: (c) Jai Hind

Explanation:

- "Jai Hind" was the official salutation and a widely popular slogan of the INA, introduced and popularized by Subhas Chandra Bose.

8. The Royal Indian Navy (RIN) Mutiny took place in which month and year?

(a) August 1945
(b) December 1945
(c) February 1946
(d) March 1946



Answer: (c) February 1946

Explanation:

- The Royal Indian Navy (RIN) Mutiny began on 18 February 1946 at HMIS Talwar in Bombay and soon spread to other naval establishments.

9. Who among the following was not one of the three INA officers tried in the first Red Fort trial?

(a) Shah Nawaz Khan
(b) Prem Kumar Sahgal
(c) Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon
(d) Lakshmi Sahgal



Answer: (d) Lakshmi Sahgal

Explanation:

- The first INA Red Fort trial (November 1945) was against Shah Nawaz Khan, Prem Kumar Sahgal and Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon. Lakshmi Sahgal was the commander of the Rani of Jhansi Regiment.

10. In which year did Subhas Chandra Bose reportedly die in an air crash at Taihoku (Taipei)?

(a) 1943
(b) 1944
(c) 1945
(d) 1946



Answer: (c) 1945

Explanation:

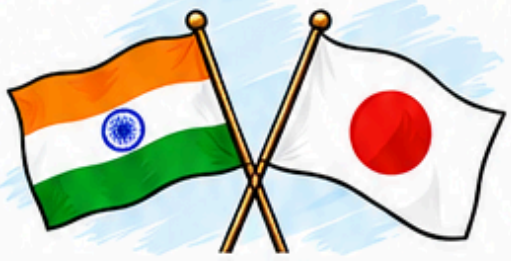
- Subhas Chandra Bose was reportedly killed in an air crash at Taihoku (now Taipei, Taiwan) on 18 August 1945, though his death remains a subject of debate.

Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

CREATOR ACADEMIA

11. Which country provided major support to the INA under Subhas Chandra Bose?

(a) Germany
(b) Japan
(c) Italy
(d) Soviet Union



Answer: (b) Japan

Explanation:

- Japan gave significant military, financial and logistic support to the INA, enabling it to be reorganized under Subhas Chandra Bose.

12. The Azad Hind Radio, used by Netaji to address Indians, was established at which place?

(a) Rangoon
(b) Singapore
(c) Berlin
(d) Tokyo



Answer: (c) Berlin

Explanation:

- Subhas Chandra Bose began broadcasting from the Azad Hind Radio in Berlin in 1941 to mobilize Indians for the struggle for freedom.

13. Which of the following was the motto (ideal) of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind?

(a) Swaraj for All
(b) Liberty and Equality
(c) Ittehad, Itmad, Qurbani
(d) Satyagraha and Swadeshi



Answer: (c) Ittehad, Itmad, Qurbani

Explanation:

- The motto of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind was "Ittehad, Itmad, Qurbani" meaning "Unity, Faith and Sacrifice".

14. Which place served as the headquarters of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind?

(a) Rangoon
(b) Singapore
(c) Bangkok
(d) Saigon



Answer: (b) Singapore

Explanation:

- The Provisional Government of Azad Hind was headquartered at Singapore after its proclamation on 21 October 1943.

15. Which of the following was a major impact of the INA Red Fort Trials?

(a) Strengthened British rule
(b) Divided the Indian people
(c) Generated widespread nationalist sympathy
(d) Led to the immediate independence of India



Answer: (c) Generated widespread nationalist sympathy

Explanation:

- The INA Red Fort Trials evoked massive public sympathy and strengthened the nationalist spirit across India, uniting people beyond regional, religious and political lines.

Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

CREATOR ACADEMIA

16. Who was the first President of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind?

(a) Rash Behari Bose
(b) A. C. Chatterjee
(c) Subhas Chandra Bose
(d) Lakshmi Sehgal



Answer: (c) Subhas Chandra Bose

Explanation:

- Subhas Chandra Bose was the President (Head of State) of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind from 21 October 1943.

17. The women's regiment of the INA, named after Rani Lakshmi Bai, was called?

(a) Jhansi Brigade
(b) Rani Regiment
(c) Rani of Jhansi Regiment
(d) Azad Women's Corps



Answer: (c) Rani of Jhansi Regiment

Explanation:

- The women's unit of the INA was called the Rani of Jhansi Regiment, formed in 1943 under the leadership of Captain Lakshmi Sehgal.

18. Which of the following leaders appealed for the release of INA prisoners during the Red Fort Trials?

(a) Mahatma Gandhi
(b) Jawaharlal Nehru
(c) Sardar Patel
(d) All of the above



Answer: (d) All of the above

Explanation:

- Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Sardar Patel, along with other leaders, demanded the release of INA prisoners and supported the cause of the INA.

19. Which of the following was a major cause of the RIN Mutiny in February 1946?

(a) Poor food and harsh treatment
(b) Demand for higher pay
(c) Influence of INA trials
(d) All of the above



Answer: (d) All of the above

Explanation:

- The RIN Mutiny (February 1946) was triggered by poor food, racial discrimination, harsh treatment, and was also inspired by the INA trials and the growing nationalist sentiment.

20. In which year did Subhas Chandra Bose resign as Congress President after the Tripuri crisis?

(a) 1938
(b) 1939
(c) 1940
(d) 1941



Answer: (b) 1939

Explanation:

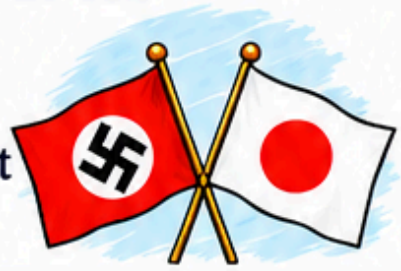
- Subhas Chandra Bose resigned as Congress President in April 1939 after differences with the Gandhian leadership at the Tripuri session.

Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

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21. Which treaty enabled Subhas Chandra Bose to travel from Germany to Japan in 1943?

(a) Tripartite Pact
(b) Axis Agreement
(c) Berlin–Tokyo Arrangement
(d) None of the above



Answer: (c) Berlin–Tokyo Arrangement

Explanation:

- Subhas Chandra Bose travelled from Germany to Japan in 1943 through a special Berlin–Tokyo Arrangement with the help of Axis powers.

22. The INA mainly recruited Indian prisoners of war captured by which power?

(a) Britain
(b) Japan
(c) Germany
(d) Italy



Answer: (b) Japan

Explanation:

- The INA was primarily formed from Indian soldiers who were prisoners of war captured by the Japanese during World War II.

23. Which of the following was NOT a military unit of the INA?

(a) Gandhi Brigade
(b) Nehru Brigade
(c) Azad Brigade
(d) Rani of Jhansi Regiment



Answer: (b) Nehru Brigade

Explanation:

- The INA had several units, including the Gandhi Brigade, Azad Brigade and the Rani of Jhansi Regiment. 'Nehru Brigade' was not a unit of the INA.

24. Who was the Commander-in-Chief of the INA after the reorganization under Subhas Chandra Bose?

(a) Mohan Singh
(b) A. C. Chatterjee
(c) Subhas Chandra Bose
(d) Prem Sahgal



Answer: (c) Subhas Chandra Bose

Explanation:

- After taking charge in 1943, Subhas Chandra Bose reorganized the INA and became its Commander-in-Chief, giving it a broader military and political direction.

25. Which of the following best reflects the significance of the INA trials in India's freedom struggle?

(a) Strengthened the British Army
(b) Weakened nationalist unity
(c) Rekindled nationalist sentiment across India
(d) Led to the formation of the Cabinet Mission



Answer: (c) Rekindled nationalist sentiment across India

Explanation:

- The INA Red Fort Trials (1945–46) created massive public sympathy for the INA, united people across political, regional and religious lines, and gave a fresh momentum to the independence movement.

Subhas Chandra Bose, the Forward Bloc, and the Indian National Army (INA)
(1939 – 1945 CE)

26. In which year was the Forward Bloc founded by Subhas Chandra Bose?

(a) 1938
(b) 1939
(c) 1940
(d) 1941



Answer: (b) 1939

Explanation:

- Subhas Chandra Bose founded the Forward Bloc in 1939 within the Indian National Congress to mobilize a more radical and militant nationalist front.

27. The INA government established by Subhas Chandra Bose was known as:

(a) Government of Free India
(b) Provisional Government of Azad Hind
(c) Indian National Government
(d) Azad Hind Council



Answer: (b) Provisional Government of Azad Hind

Explanation:

- Subhas Chandra Bose established the Provisional Government of Azad Hind on 21 October 1943 in Singapore.

28. The historic INA trials (1945–1946) were held at:

(a) Alipore Jail, Kolkata
(b) Red Fort, Delhi
(c) Fort William, Kolkata
(d) Cellular Jail, Andaman



Answer: (b) Red Fort, Delhi

Explanation:

- The INA trials were conducted at the Red Fort in Delhi from November 1945 to May 1946 against INA officers.

29. Which of the following best represents the immediate impact of the RIN Mutiny (February 1946)?

(a) Formation of the Cabinet Mission
(b) Strengthening of British rule
(c) Increased pressure for Indian independence
(d) Declaration of India's independence



Answer: (c) Increased pressure for Indian independence

Explanation:

- The RIN Mutiny revealed the growing disaffection in the Indian armed forces and intensified pressure on the British to transfer power to Indians.

30. Which slogan is most closely associated with the INA and Subhas Chandra Bose?

(a) Do or Die
(b) Swaraj is my Birthright
(c) Jai Hind
(d) Inquilab Zindabad



Answer: (c) Jai Hind

Explanation:

- 'Jai Hind' was a popular slogan coined and widely used by Subhas Chandra Bose and the INA, which became a powerful symbol of nationalism and unity.

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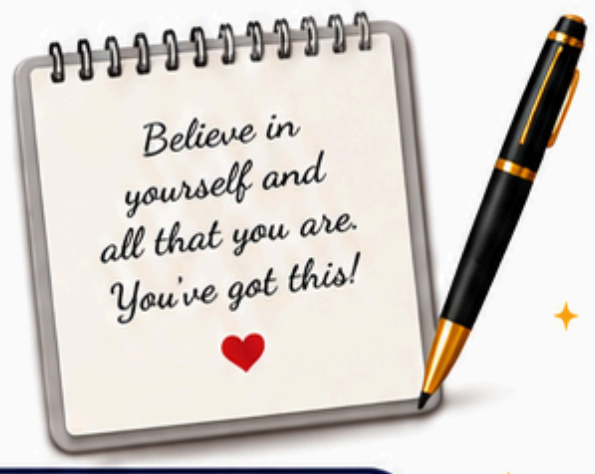
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