

Rowlatt Act 1919 General Knowledge

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Rowlatt Act bill (1918) is also known as the **Anarchical and Revolutionary Crimes Act of 1919** or the **Black Act** of 1919. This bill was introduced at the Imperial Legislative Council of Delhi on **10th March 1919**.

At the end of World War I, The British government was preparing to suppress the Indian revolutionaries. At this time the oppression of nationalists was going on. Also, Terrorists and revolutionaries were found out and put into Jail. Many nationalist leaders like Abdul Kalam Azad were kept in jail. At that time, the British government decided to suppress the Indian side with more power and as a result, The Rowlatt Act bill was passed by British judge **Sir Sidney Rowlatton** on 10th March 1919. This act was passed to extend the **Defense of India Regulations Act 1915**.

Purposes of Rowlatt Bill 1919:

⇒ Even though every member of the Legislative Assembly opposed, the British government forced to pass the law.

⇒ Through this law, the government could have kept any person in jail for up to two years without trial and could convict him in court.

⇒ The purpose of the act was to restrain the growing nationalist upheaval within the country.

⇒ Through this act, police can search any palace or home without any warrant.

By this act, the British government could dominate the rights of a habeas corpus on any Indian.

Effects of Rowlatt Act 1919:

⇒ **Rowlatt Satyagraha:** Rowlatt Act was a big blow to the people of India. As a result, strong and powerful movements were developed in India against this law. During this movement, Mahatma Gandhi asserted the national movement of India. To protest this bill Gandhiji started **Rowlatt Satyagraha on 6th April** that year. He started a new kind of struggle that was **non-cooperation movement**.

⇒ **Jaliwanwallabagh massacre:** At that time the viceroy of India was **Lord Chelmsford**. On 13th April a large number of non-violative people were gathered to protest this act at Jaliwanwalabagh public garden in Amritsar situated in the state Punjab. General Dyer came there, closed the narrow gate and ordered without any warning to shoot down the innocent people gathered there. As a result, around a thousand people were instantly dead

including children and women. More than 1600 people were injured. This incident is known as the **Jaliwanwallabagh massacre**.

Important Points to Know About Rowlatt Act 1919:

Dear reader, if you are preparing for any kind of competitive examinations such as IAS, UPSC Civil Service, Railway NTPC, Banking SSC, CGL, etc then these points given below are very important. These points are essential for general knowledge purposes.

⇒ Anarchical and Revolutionary Crimes Act of 1919 is also known as the Rowlatt Act or Black bill.

⇒ Rowlatt Act was passed on 10th March 1919 by Sir Sidney Rowlatt.

⇒ The main objective of this act is to suppress the Indian revolutionaries by any efforts.

⇒ To oppose this bill Mahatma Gandhi assured to non-cooperate with British across India by starting satyagraha and Non-Cooperative movement.

⇒ The most atrocious or brutal effect of the Rowlatt Act in Indian history is the Jaliwanwallabagh massacre on 13th April 1919.

⇒ During this period the viceroy of India was Lord Chelmsford.