



## READING NOTES

### Government of India Act 1909

Indian Councils Act 1909 was an act of the British Parliament that introduced a few reforms in the legislative councils and increased the involvement of Indians (limited) in the governance of British India. It was more commonly called the Morley-Minto Reforms after the Secretary of State for India John Morley, and the Viceroy of India. It introduced for the first time the method of election, an attempt to widen the scope of legislative councils, placate the demands of moderates in the Indian National Congress and to increase the participation of Indians in the governance.

### Anglo-Indians Reservation

Between 1952 and 2020, two seats were reserved in the Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Parliament of India, for members of the Anglo-Indian community. These two members were nominated by the President of India on the advice of the Government of India. In January 2020, the Anglo-Indian reserved seats in the Parliament and State Legislatures of India were abolished by the 104th Constitutional Amendment Act 2019.

### The Indian Parliament

The Indian Parliament is a bicameral legislature consisting of two houses – the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. The members of the Lok Sabha (House of the People) are directly elected by the people through the voting process. The members of the Rajya Sabha (Council of States) are elected by the members of the states' legislative assemblies. The Parliament consists of the two Houses and the President of India. The functions of the Parliament are mentioned in the Indian Constitution in Chapter II of Part V. Violet Alva was the first woman speaker of the Rajya Sabha.