

Q.1 Write a Précis of the following passage and suggest a suitable title. (20+5=25)

Not all the rulers signed the Instrument of Accession at once. Afraid that the Socialist Congress Party would strip him of his amusements flying, dancing girls and conjuring delights which he had only just begun to indulge since he had only recently succeeded his father to the throne, the young Maharajah of Jodhpur arranged a meeting with Jinnah. Jinnah was aware that both Hindu majority and geographical location meant that most of the Princely states would go to India, but he was gratified by the thought that he might be able to snatch one or two from under Patel's nose. He gave Jodhpur a blank sheet of paper.

"Write your conditions on" then he said, "and I'll sign it".

Elated, the Maharajah returned to his hotel to consider. It was an unfortunate move on his part, for V.P. Menon was waiting for him. Menon's agents had alerted him to what Jodhpur was up to. He told the young ruler that his presence was requested urgently at Viceroy's House, and reluctantly the young man accompanied him there. The urgent summons had been an excuse, and once they had arrived, Menon had to go on a frantic search for viceroy, and tell him what had happened. Mount Batten responded immediately. He solemnly reminded Jodhpur that Jinnah could not guarantee any conditions he might make, and that accession to Pakistan would spell disaster for his state, at the same time, he assured him that accession to India would but automatically mean end of his pleasure. Mountbatten left him alone with Menon to sign a provisional agreement.

Precis:

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The rulers of princely states were reluctant to accession as afraid that their enjoyments would end. Young Maharajah of Jodhpur decided to meet with Jinnah. Jinnah knew that princely states would accede to India due to Hindu majority and geographical location but he thought that Pakistan may succeed in getting one or two. Jinnah asked the Maharajah to write down his conditions. V.P. Menon got to know about intentions of Maharajah. V.P. Menon asked the Maharajah to meet with Viceroy. Upon meeting him Viceroy told that Jinnah could not fulfill any conditions and accession to India would end his enjoyments. Then, the Maharajah signed the agreement with V.P. Menon. (90 words)

Title: - Accession of Princely states.

Division of subcontinent: process of accession of states.