CBSE EXAMINATION PAPER-2024

POLITICAL SCIENCE

(Solved)

Time allowed : 3 hours | Maximum Marks : 107

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions carefully and follow them :

i. This question paper contains **43 questions.** All questions are **compulsory.**

ii. This question paper is divided into **6 sections.**

iii. **Section A** – questions number **1 to 3** are case based questions

iv. **Section B** – questions number **4 to 15** are multiple choice questions

v. **Section C** – questions number **16 to 22** are very short answer

vi. **Section D** – questions number **23 to 28** are short answer

vii. **Section E** – questions number **29 to 35** are long answer type i

viii. **Section F** – questions number **36 to 43** are long answer type ii

ix. There is no overall choice given in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in few questions.

x. Use of calculator is NOT allowed.

Section A

Question 1.

Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

The growing focus on environmental issues within the arena of global politics was firmly consolidated at United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro of Brazil. This was also called the Earth Summit.

(1)

Which one of the following countries was exempted from the requirements of the Kyoto Protocol?

(A) USA

(B) United Kingdom

(C) France

(D) China

[1 Marks]

Answer: Among the options provided, the country that was exempted from the requirements of the Kyoto Protocol is (D) China. Under the Kyoto Protocol, developing countries like India and China were not obligated to adhere to the emission reduction targets that were set for industrialized nations. This exemption was primarily because their historical contribution to greenhouse gas emissions during the industrialization period was relatively low compared to that of developed countries.

Key Points: Exemption for developing countries - China included; Kyoto Protocol targets for industrialized nations; Historical emissions and greenhouse gases contribution.

(2)

In which year was the Earth Summit held?

(A) 1990

(B) 1991

(C) 1992

(D) 1993

[1 Marks]

Answer: The Earth Summit, formally known as the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, was held in June 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This summit marked a significant milestone in addressing global environmental issues and solidifying the focus on sustainability in global politics.

Key Points: Earth Summit, June 1992, Rio de Janeiro, United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

(3)

The Ozone hole was discovered in the mid 80's over the?

(A) Atlantic Ocean

(B) Pacific Ocean

(C) Antarctic

(D) Arctic Ocean

[1 Marks]

Answer: The ozone hole was discovered in the mid-1980s over the Antarctic region. This discovery highlighted significant environmental issues, particularly concerning ozone depletion, which became a critical topic in global discussions on environmental management, exemplified by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

Key Points: Ozone hole discovered in mid-1980s-Over the Antarctic-Highlighting environmental issues

(4)

Which one of the following was not an outcome of the Rio Summit?

(A) Agenda-21

(B) Sustainable Development

(C) Common but differentiated responsibilities

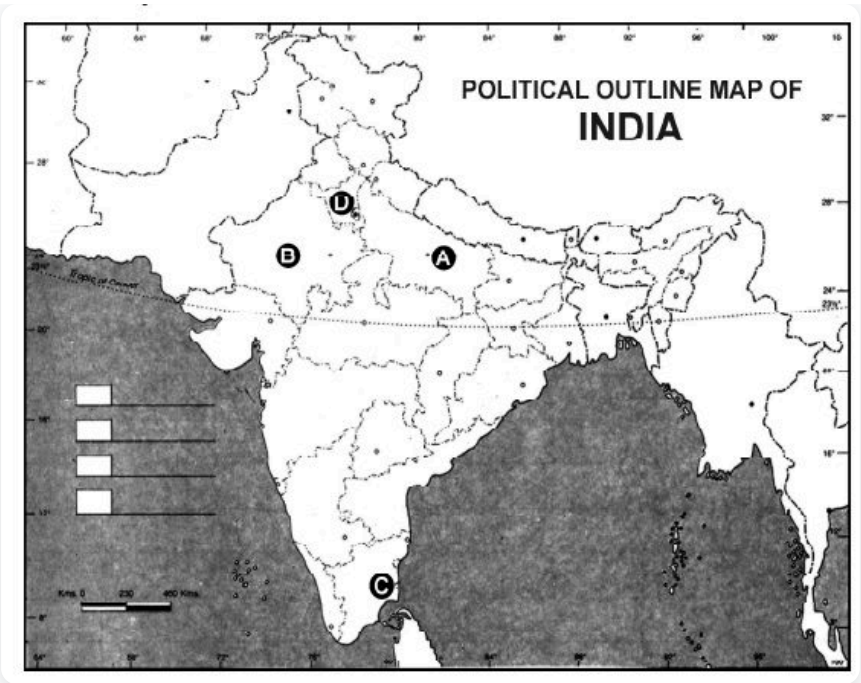
(D) Kyoto Protocol

[1 Marks]

Answer: The correct answer is (D) Kyoto Protocol. The Rio Summit, also known as the Earth Summit, primarily resulted in the establishment of Agenda 21, the concept of sustainable development, and recognized the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. However, the Kyoto Protocol, which specifically aimed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, was established later in 1997 and was not a direct outcome of the Rio Summit.

Key Points: Correct answer is Kyoto Protocol - not an outcome of Rio Summit; Outcomes included Agenda 21, Sustainable Development, Common but Differentiated Responsibilities; Rio Summit focused on integrating economic growth with ecological responsibility.

Question 2. In the given outline Map of India, four states have been marked as (A), (B), (C) and (D). Identify the States on the basis of the information given below and write their correct names in the answer book along with the respective serial numbers of the information used and the concerned alphabet as per the format that follows.



(1) The State to which the former Congress President K. Kamraj belonged.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The State to which the former Congress President K. Kamraj belonged is Tamil Nadu (formerly known as Madras State). This information is derived from the context mentioning the Congress's electoral challenges in Madras State, where the DMK came to power, indicating K. Kamraj's political affiliation with this state.

Key Points: K. Kamraj was a Congress leader, significant political figure in Tamil Nadu, former Congress President, associated with the electoral history of Madras State.

(2) The State from where the phrase ‘Aya Ram, Gaya Ram’ originated.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The phrase ‘Aya Ram, Gaya Ram’ originated from Haryana. It is linked to an incident involving Gaya Lal, an MLA from Haryana, who changed his party three times after the 1967 general election, leading to the expression's popularity to describe frequent floor-crossing by legislators.

Key Points: Origin of the phrase; Gaya Lal's party changes; Related to Haryana; 1967 general election; Describes political instability

(3) The State where the Congress Party did not get majority in 1967 assembly elections.

[1 Marks]

Answer:

The state where the Congress Party did not get majority in the 1967 assembly elections is Rajasthan. This is supported by the information from the map indicating that Congress lost majority in this state.

Key Points:

Congress Party did not get majority-1967 elections-Rajasthan-refer to map

(4) The State to which former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri belonged.

[1 Marks]

Answer: Lal Bahadur Shastri belonged to the state of Uttar Pradesh. The information used is from the provided context which highlights key political figures from various states, with Lal Bahadur Shastri specifically associated with Uttar Pradesh.

Key Points: Lal Bahadur Shastri-Uttar Pradesh-Former Prime Minister

(5)

Name the State where the Congress Party did not get majority in the 1967 assembly elections.

[1 Marks]

Answer:

The State where the Congress Party did not get the majority in the 1967 assembly elections is Rajasthan. This can be identified from point 'B' in the given context, which mentions the Congress losing power in several states during the elections.

Key Points:

Congress lost majority in 1967 elections - Rajasthan - Congress lost power in multiple states - reference to context

(6)

The phrase ‘Aya Ram, Gaya Ram’ originated from which State ?

[1 Marks]

Answer: The phrase ‘Aya Ram, Gaya Ram’ originated from Haryana. This expression became popular in the political context to describe the frequent floor-crossing by legislators in the state, notably exemplified by Gaya Lal, an MLA who notably switched parties three times in 1967.

Key Points: Origin of phrase in Haryana-Political context of floor-crossing-Gaya Lal's actions in 1967

(7)

The former Congress President K. Kamraj belonged to which State ?

[1 Marks]

Answer: K. Kamraj was from Tamil Nadu. His contributions to the Congress Party were significant during the period of Congress dominance. He played a key role in the party's expansion in the southern states of India, particularly in Tamil Nadu.

Key Points: K. Kamraj - former Congress President - belonged to Tamil Nadu - significant contributions - Congress dominance in southern states

(8)

Name the State to which the former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri belonged.

[1 Marks]

Answer:

The former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri belonged to the State of Uttar Pradesh. This can be identified from the information that mentions prominent leaders from states including Lal Bahadur Shastri. Therefore, I would write 'Uttar Pradesh' for State (A) based on the provided context regarding political figures.

Key Points: Lal Bahadur Shastri's association with Uttar Pradesh-Identification of State based on prominent political figures-Context provided mentions Shastri.

Question 3. Study the cartoon given below related to Sri Lanka and answer the questions that follow:



(1) Which community does the tiger shown in the cartoon represent?

[1 Marks]

Answer: The tiger depicted in the cartoon symbolizes the Tamil militants, who were a significant faction in Sri Lanka's ethnic conflict. This representation highlights the tensions between the Tamil minority and the Sinhala majority, illustrating the challenge faced by the Sri Lankan leadership in negotiating peace while having to balance the demands of both groups.

Key Points: Represents Tamil militants - Ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka - Tensions between Sinhala and Tamil communities

(2) Which community does the Lion shown in the cartoon represent?

[1 Marks]

Answer: The Lion depicted in the cartoon represents the Sinhala community of Sri Lanka. The cartoon illustrates the political struggle in Sri Lanka, highlighting how the Sinhala hardliners, represented by the Lion, often clashed with the Tamil militants, represented by the Tiger. The Sinhala community has historically been the majority in Sri Lanka, and their nationalistic sentiments have influenced the country's politics, especially in the context of the ethnic conflict with the Tamils. This conflict arose from the Sinhala perspective that Sri Lanka should primarily belong to the Sinhala people, leading to a reluctance to provide concessions to the Tamil population.

Key Points: Sinhala community-Political struggle-Representation of Sinhala hardliners

(3) What did the balancing act by Rajapaksa aim at? Explain.

[2 Marks]

Answer: The balancing act by Rajapaksa aimed to strike a delicate equilibrium between the Sinhala hardliners and the Tamil militants during the peace negotiations in Sri Lanka. This was significant as it addressed the underlying ethnic tensions that posed a challenge to national unity and democratic stability. By trying to appease both groups, Rajapaksa sought to prevent escalations of violence and maintain peace in the island nation. The cartoon highlights the complexities of his leadership, where one side represented the majoritarian Sinhala nationalist sentiment, often symbolized by the 'Lion', while the other represented the discontent of the Tamil population, depicted as the 'Tiger'. This balancing act was crucial for establishing a sense of security for all communities, thus enabling the government to pursue economic development while trying to achieve an enduring peace. However, it also indicated the challenges in governance when in conflict with demanding ethnic identities.

Key Points: Balancing ethnic interests-preventing conflict-maintaining peace-political stability-economic growth

(4)

Name the two main communities of Sri Lanka.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The two main communities of Sri Lanka are the Sinhala community and the Tamil community. The Sinhala people are the majority ethnic group, while the Tamils, who migrated from India, represent a significant minority. This demographic divide has been central to the ethnic conflict in the country, which arose from the dominance of Sinhala nationalist politics that often marginalized Tamil interests.

Key Points: Sinhala community - Tamil community - Ethnic conflict - Majority and minority dynamics

(5)

Write the correct expansion of LTTE.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The correct expansion of LTTE is 'Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam'. This organization was actively involved in the Sri Lankan civil conflict, advocating for an independent Tamil Eelam and representing the interests and rights of the Tamil people in Sri Lanka.

Key Points: LTTE-Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam-formed to fight for Tamil rights-involved in armed struggle

(6)

In which year did Sri Lanka get independence ?

[1 Marks]

Answer: Sri Lanka gained independence from British rule in the year 1948. This event marked the beginning of a new political era for the country, previously known as Ceylon, and set the stage for its democratic processes and challenges, particularly those arising from ethnic conflicts.

Key Points: 1948 - year of independence; previously known as Ceylon; transition to democracy; ethnic conflict challenges

(7)

Name the country which mediated in the Ethnic conflict of Sri Lanka.

[1 Marks]

Answer: India was the country that mediated in the ethnic conflict of Sri Lanka. The Indian government was deeply involved in the Sri Lankan ethnic conflict due to the significant Tamil population in India and the political concerns regarding the welfare of Tamils in Sri Lanka. This led to India's military intervention in 1987, as well as later efforts to broker peace between the warring factions.

Key Points: India mediated in the ethnic conflict-Indian government involved due to Tamil population-political concerns led to military intervention in 1987

Section B

Question 4.

Arrange the following events in chronological order and choose the correct option as answer:

(i) The Russian Revolution

(ii) The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan

(iii) The disintegration of Soviet Union

(iv) The end of the World War II

[1 Marks]

(A) (i), (iv), (ii), (iii)

(B) (i), (ii), (iv), (iii)

(C) (i), (ii), (iii), (iv)

(D) (i), (iii), (iv), (ii)

Explanation:

The Russian Revolution took place in 1917. World War II ended in 1945. The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan occurred in 1979, and finally, the disintegration of the Soviet Union happened in 1991. Hence, the correct chronological order is **(i), (iv), (ii), (iii)**.

Question 5. Which Central Asian Republic witnessed a civil war for ten years till 2001?

[1 Marks]

(A) Tajikistan

(B) Kazakhstan

(C) Uzbekistan

(D) Azerbaijan

Explanation: The correct answer is Tajikistan, as stated in the provided context, which specifically mentions that Tajikistan experienced a civil war that lasted for ten years until 2001.

Question 6. A process in which the countries share ideas and information with their rivals is called:

[1 Marks]

(A) Alliance Building

(B) Confidence Building

(C) Arms control

(D) Balance of Power

Explanation: The correct answer is 'Confidence Building' because the context explicitly defines confidence building as a process where countries share ideas and information with their rivals, informing each other about military intentions and plans to avoid misunderstandings that could lead to conflict.

Question 7.

People who seek better economic opportunities abroad are called:

[1 Marks]

(A) Immigrants

(B) Non-Residents

(C) Migrants

(D) Refugees

Explanation:

The correct answer is 'Migrants'. According to the context provided, migrants are defined as individuals who voluntarily leave their home countries in search of better economic opportunities, differentiating them from refugees who flee due to war, natural disasters, or political persecution.

Question 8.

Match List-I correctly with List-II:

[1 Marks]

List-I		List-II	
a.	Antarctic Treaty	i.	1997
b.	Montreal Protocol	ii.	1991
c.	Antarctic Environmental Protocol	iii.	1987
d.	Kyoto Protocol	iv.	1959

(A) a-iii, b-i, c-iv, d-ii

(B) a-ii, b-iv, c-i, d-iii

(C) a-iv, b-iii, c-ii, d-i

(D) a-i, b-ii, c-iii, d-iv

Explanation:

The **Antarctic Treaty** was signed in **1959** (iv). The **Montreal Protocol** was adopted in **1987** (iii). The **Antarctic Environmental Protocol** (Madrid Protocol) was signed in **1991** (ii). The **Kyoto Protocol** was adopted in **1997** (i). Hence, the correct matching is **a-iv, b-iii, c-ii, d-i**.

Question 9.

Assertion (A) : India, China and other developing countries were exempted from the requirements of Kyoto Protocol.

Reason (R) : Their contribution to the emission of green house gases during the industrialisation period was not significant.

[1 Marks]

(A) (A) is correct and (R) is incorrect.

(B) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

(C) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

(D) (A) is incorrect and (R) is correct.

Explanation: Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A). India, China, and other developing countries were indeed exempted from the Kyoto Protocol's requirements due to their historically low contributions to greenhouse gas emissions during the industrialization period. This aligns with the context stating that their per capita emissions are significantly lower compared to developed countries, thus justifying their exemption.

Question 10. For the first time the communist party came to power through democratic elections in which state of India?

[1 Marks]

(A) W. Bengal

(B) Tripura

(C) Manipur

(D) Kerala

Explanation: The correct answer is Kerala. According to the context, the Communist Party won a significant number of seats in the 1957 assembly elections in Kerala, securing 60 out of 126 seats and forming a government for the first time through democratic elections. This event marked a historical moment as it was the first instance in the world where a communist party came to power through such a method.

Question 11. The first Chief Election Commissioner of India was:

[1 Marks]

(A) S.L. Shakdhar

(B) Sukumar Sen

(C) R.K. Trivedi

(D) K.V.K. Sundaram

Explanation: The correct answer is Sukumar Sen, as stated in the provided context that he became the first Chief Election Commissioner when the Election Commission of India was established in January 1950.

Question 12. In which year did China annex Tibet?

[1 Marks]

(A) 1950

(B) 1960

(C) 1962

(D) 1954

Explanation: The correct answer is 1950, as the context explicitly states that China annexed Tibet in 1950, which removed a historical buffer between India and China.

Question 13.

Assertion (A) : The Mizo National Front (MNF) started an armed campaign for independence.

Reason (R) : After independence the Mizo Hill area was made an autonomous district within Assam.

[1 Marks]

(A) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

(B) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

(C) (A) is incorrect and (R) is correct.

(D) (A) is correct and (R) is incorrect.

Explanation:

The Mizo National Front (MNF) did start an armed movement for independence in 1966. It is also true that after independence, the Mizo Hills were made an autonomous district within Assam. However, this administrative arrangement was not the direct reason for the armed campaign. Therefore, both statements are correct, but (R) does not correctly explain (A).

Question 14. India made earnest effort for the early realization of freedom of Indonesia from the colonial regime of the:

[1 Marks]

(A) British

(B) French

(C) Dutch

(D) Portuguese

Explanation: The correct answer is 'Dutch' because India, under Nehru's leadership, actively supported Indonesia's struggle for freedom from Dutch colonial rule. This is specifically mentioned in the context where it states that India convened an international conference in 1949 to help Indonesia achieve its independence.

Question 15. 'Karbis' community belongs to which State of India?

[1 Marks]

(A) Manipur

(B) Assam

(C) Nagaland

(D) Arunachal Pradesh

Explanation: The correct answer is Assam. The provided context explains that the Karbis community, along with the Dimasas, has been granted autonomy under District Councils while remaining in Assam, indicating that they are primarily located in this state.

Section C

Question 16.

Which region of India is referred to as the 'Seven Sisters'?

[1 Marks]

Answer: The region of India referred to as the 'Seven Sisters' consists of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura, Mizoram, and Meghalaya. This designation highlights the unique cultural and geographical diversity of these northeastern states. Additionally, Sikkim is considered the 'Brother' to these states, completing the region's representation. This combination of states has significant cultural and social distinctiveness, enhancing India's diversity.

Key Points: Seven sisters are Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura, Mizoram, Meghalaya-Sikkim is the 'Brother'-Northeast's cultural diversity.

Question 17.

Who led the 'People's March' to the Parliament in 1975?

[1 Marks]

Answer: The 'People's March' to the Parliament in 1975 was led by Jayaprakash Narayan, commonly known as JP. He mobilized a significant number of citizens and various non-Congress opposition parties, uniting them against the issues of rising prices, food scarcity, unemployment, and corruption. This march marked one of the largest political rallies in the history of the capital, showcasing widespread public dissatisfaction with the government's policies.

Key Points: Jayaprakash Narayan (JP)-1975 'People's March'-largest political rally-non-Congress opposition-unemployment-corruption

Question 18.

Which two states witnessed student agitations against rising food prices in 1974?

[1 Marks]

Answer: The two states that witnessed student agitations against rising food prices in 1974 were Gujarat and Bihar. In Gujarat, the agitation began in January 1974, focusing on the rising prices of food grains and corruption. Similarly, in Bihar, students protested in March 1974 against the economic hardships, including food scarcity and unemployment. These movements marked significant student unrest during that period, showcasing widespread dissatisfaction with the prevailing political and economic conditions.

Key Points: Gujarat- Bihar- Student agitations- Rising food prices- Corruption- January 1974- March 1974- Economic hardships

Question 19.

Which two states witnessed student agitations against rising food prices in 1974?

[1 Marks]

Answer: In 1974, student agitations against rising food prices were prominent in Gujarat and Bihar. In Gujarat, students initiated protests in January to address the escalating prices of food grains and corruption. Following this, in March, students in Bihar joined the movement to contest widespread food scarcity, unemployment, and corruption. Both movements reflected the broader dissatisfaction with economic conditions across India during that time.

> **Key Points: Gujarat-student agitation began in January 1974-rising food prices-corruption; Bihar-student protests in March 1974-food scarcity-unemployment-corruption; general dissatisfaction with economic situation in India**

Question 20.

Which political party secured the second most Lok Sabha seats in India's first general elections?

[1 Marks]

Answer: The party that secured the second most Lok Sabha seats in India's first general elections in 1952 was the Indian National Congress. Although many opposition parties garnered a significant percentage of votes across the country, the first-past-the-post electoral system meant that they could not convert those votes into a proportional number of seats. Thus, the Congress maintained its dominance by winning a vast majority of seats despite other parties having substantial voter support.

> **Key Points: Indian National Congress-second most Lok Sabha seats-1952 elections-first-past-the-post system-impact on seat distribution**

Question 21.

When were the first general elections in India finally held?

[1 Marks]

Answer: The first general elections in India were held in 1952. The Election Commission of India was established in January 1950, and preparations began for these historic elections. They represented a significant milestone in India's democratic journey, as 17 crore eligible voters participated. Observers noted this unprecedented scale of electoral activity, marking India's elections as the largest democratic exercise in the world.

> **Key Points: First general elections in 1952-Election Commission established in January 1950-17 crore eligible voters participated**

Question 22.

Which regional organization is associated with Southeast Asian nations?

[1 Marks]

Answer: The regional organization associated with Southeast Asian nations is the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Established to promote economic growth, political stability, and cultural cooperation among member countries, ASEAN emphasizes principles of non-interference and respect for national sovereignty. It facilitates dialogue both among its ten member states and with external partners to enhance regional peace and security. The organization plays a vital role in addressing collective regional challenges.

> **Key Points: ASEAN is a regional organization; promotes economic growth; emphasizes non-interference; respects national sovereignty; facilitates dialogue among member states; addresses regional challenges.**

Section D

Question 23.

Why did the people of East Pakistan resent the domination of West Pakistan? Explain the reason.

[2 Marks]

Answer: The people of East Pakistan resented the domination of West Pakistan due to several reasons. Firstly, there was unfair treatment towards the Bengali culture and language, with the imposition of Urdu leading to significant protests. The Bengalis demanded fair representation in administration and political power, which was continually denied by the West Pakistani rulers. Sheikh Mujib-ur Rahman emerged as a leader advocating for autonomy and a federation. The situation escalated when the Pakistani army arrested him and initiated terror against the East Pakistani populace, prompting a struggle for independence, which ultimately led to the creation of Bangladesh in 1971.

> **Key Points: Unfair treatment of Bengali culture and language - Demand for fair representation in administration - Sheikh Mujib-ur Rahman's leadership - Imposition of Urdu - Arrest of Mujib and rise of terror - Struggle for independence forming Bangladesh**

Question 24.

“Terrorism is a new threat to security.” Support the statement.

[2 Marks]

Answer: Terrorism has evolved into a significant and contemporary threat to global security, especially since the attacks on September 11, 2001. These attacks heightened awareness and concern about potential threats, leading to a reevaluation of security protocols across the globe. Unlike traditional forms of violence, terrorist acts often target civilians in crowded places, creating widespread fear and instability. Additionally, modern terrorists utilize advanced communication technologies, forming international networks that can orchestrate attacks from various geographical locations. This complexity and the unpredictability of terror acts challenge traditional security measures, making terrorism a distinct and alarming phenomenon in today's world.

> **Key Points: Impact of 9/11 attacks-Heightened global awareness-New communication technologies-International terrorist networks-Targeting civilians-Need for modern security measures**

Question 25. Name the two models of development before India on the eve of independence.

[2 Marks]

Answer: On the eve of India's independence, two prominent models of development were prominently considered: the liberal-capitalist model and the socialist model. The liberal-capitalist model, prevalent in Europe and the United States, emphasized economic growth, individual entrepreneurship, and material progress, encouraging competition and trade. In contrast, the socialist model, primarily associated with the USSR, advocated for state intervention in the economy, aiming for equitable distribution of resources and welfare for all citizens. These models represented distinct ideological paths for post-independence India.

> **Key Points: liberal-capitalist model; socialist model; economic growth; individual entrepreneurship; state intervention; equitable distribution of resources**

Question 26.

Why was India’s experiment with universal adult franchise described as 'bold and risky'? Explain.

[2 Marks]

Answer: India's experiment with universal adult franchise was termed 'bold and risky' due to the prevailing social and economic conditions. At the time of independence, India hosted a large population of illiterate individuals, which led many critics to doubt the feasibility of such a democratic measure. A British civil servant even predicted that such an attempt would be seen as absurd in the future. Furthermore, many countries were still grappling with gender and class-based voting rights, making India’s approach revolutionary. Despite skepticism, India's electoral process has largely succeeded, proving critics wrong and showcasing the political maturity of its populace. The establishment of an independent Election Commission has underscored the seriousness with which India approached this bold initiative.

Key Points: High illiteracy rates at independence-Global context of limited voting rights-Concerns raised by critics-Impact of universal franchise on democracy-Success of electoral process-Establishment of Election Commission

Question 27. Explain ‘Balance of Power’ as a component of traditional security.

[2 Marks]

Answer: The balance of power is a vital component of traditional security, focusing on preventing military threats among nations. It operates on the premise that countries constantly assess their relative strength against others, particularly nearby states. A nation that perceives a potential threat from a stronger neighbor may strengthen its military capabilities to maintain this balance. Additionally, forming alliances plays a critical role in managing power dynamics. Through formal coalitions, countries coordinate strategies to repel threats and bolster mutual security. By maintaining a favorable balance of power, nations aim to deter aggression and ensure stability, making military capability a core element of their security policies.

Key Points: Definition of balance of power-Role in preventing threats-Military buildup to maintain strength-Importance of alliances in security-Deterrence through maintained balance

Question 28. Highlight any two recommendations of the Mandal Commission.

[2 Marks]

Answer: The Mandal Commission, established in 1978, is known for its significant recommendations aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in India. One of its primary recommendations was to reserve 27% of seats in educational institutions and government jobs for these backward classes, thus providing them with better access to opportunities. Additionally, the Commission also suggested implementing land reforms to help improve living conditions for the OBC population, aiming to empower and uplift these communities economically and socially.

Key Points: Reservation of 27% seats in educational institutions and government jobs; Land reforms to improve conditions for OBCs.

Section E

Question 29. Explain the challenging and difficult conditions prevailing in the world at the time of India’s independence.

[4 Marks]

Answer: At the time of India's independence in 1947, the world was in turmoil. Following World War II, nations were focused on reconstruction, grappling with the legacies of colonialism and the emergence

of new nations. India faced extraordinary challenges as it became independent. The partition led to mass violence and a humanitarian crisis, resulting in millions of displaced individuals. Moreover, the new nation had to address the vast diversity of cultures, languages, and religions within its borders while aiming for unity. Additionally, the British colonial legacy left unresolved international disputes and significant issues like poverty and social inequality. This complex backdrop made India's journey toward nation-building exceptionally challenging.

> **Key Points: Post-World War II reconstruction challenges- Emergence of nations from colonialism- Partition causing violence and displacement- Diversity in languages, cultures, and religions in India- Need for unity and accommodation- Legacy of unresolved international disputes- Task of poverty alleviation and addressing social inequalities**

Question 30. India has maintained good relations with Russia after the end of Cold War. Justify the statement with four examples.

[4 Marks]

Answer: India has maintained strong relations with Russia post-Cold War through various significant examples. First, the Indo-Russian Strategic Agreement of 2001 established over 80 bilateral agreements, strengthening cooperation in defense, trade, and technology. Second, Russia has been a reliable ally for India on the Kashmir issue, consistently supporting India's stance in international forums. Third, Russia plays a crucial role in India's energy security, providing essential nuclear and hydrocarbon resources. Lastly, the military relationship remains robust, with India being one of Russia's largest arms importers, ensuring technological and defense collaboration that reinforces both nations' interests. These examples highlight the enduring partnership between India and Russia, characterized by mutual benefits and shared geopolitical goals.

> **Key Points: Indo-Russian Strategic Agreement of 2001; Support on Kashmir issue; Energy security cooperation; Strong military ties and arms trade**

Question 31. Highlight any two lessons learnt from the imposition of Emergency in India in 1975.

[4 Marks]

Answer: The imposition of Emergency in India from 1975 to 1977 offers significant lessons for democracy. Firstly, it highlighted the resilience of democratic practices. Despite the suspension of constitutional rights and democratic processes, the restoration to normal political functioning post-Emergency demonstrated that the core principles of democracy were deeply ingrained in the Indian populace. Secondly, it underscored the need for checks and balances within the government. The blatant misuse of power by the ruling party during the Emergency illustrated the importance of judicial independence and a vigilant media in safeguarding democracy. These lessons have shaped the understanding of democratic governance in India.

Key Points: Resilience of democracy, Restoration of democratic processes post-Emergency, Need for checks and balances, Misuse of power by the ruling party, Importance of judicial independence, Role of media in safeguarding democracy

Question 32. Highlight any four consequences of the imposition of Emergency in India in 1975.

[4 Marks]

Answer: The imposition of Emergency in India in 1975 had significant consequences that shaped the political landscape of the country. Firstly, it curtailed civil liberties, leading to the suppression of dissent and political opposition, with many leaders and activists imprisoned. Secondly, it resulted in the centralization of power under Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, as her government bypassed democratic norms. Thirdly, it created a backlash against the Congress Party, culminating in its defeat in the 1977 elections, reflecting the people's desire for a return to democratic governance. Lastly, the Emergency highlighted ambiguities in the Constitution regarding the declaration of emergency, prompting reforms that ensure such measures can only be invoked under clearly defined circumstances. Overall, the Emergency significantly impacted Indian democracy, emphasizing the need for vigilance in protecting democratic rights.

Key Points: Curtailment of civil liberties; Centralization of power; Backlash leading to Congress defeat in 1977; Highlighted constitutional ambiguities; Prompted reforms for future emergencies

Question 33. Explain the difference between cultural homogenisation and cultural heterogenisation.

[4 Marks]

Answer: Cultural homogenisation and cultural heterogenisation are two concepts that describe the effects of globalization on cultures. Cultural homogenisation refers to the process where cultures become more uniform, primarily under the influence of dominant cultures, often Western in nature. This results in a decline of local traditions and an increase in shared global practices. For instance, Western clothing styles have become prevalent globally, sometimes overshadowing indigenous attire. In contrast, cultural heterogenisation is the phenomenon where globalization leads to cultures becoming distinct and diverse as they interact and influence one another. This could be seen in the adaptation of cultural elements, like the fusion of Western and indigenous practices, creating hybrid cultures. While homogenisation threatens the uniqueness of cultures, heterogenisation emphasizes cultural exchange and the emergence of new identities. Understanding both processes highlights the complex interplay of cultural dynamics in the age of globalization.

Key Points: Cultural homogenisation leads to uniform cultures; it often promotes Western culture; an example is global clothing trends. Cultural heterogenisation emphasizes increased cultural diversity and distinctiveness; it creates hybrid cultures through interaction; it reflects cultural exchange rather than dominance.

Question 34. Explain any two economic consequences of globalisation.

[4 Marks]

Answer: Globalisation has significant economic consequences that can be both beneficial and detrimental. Firstly, it facilitates increased trade and market access for countries, allowing them to sell their goods and services on a global stage. This can boost a nation's economy, create jobs, and increase overall wealth. However, a negative consequence is the potential job loss in certain sectors, particularly in industries that cannot compete with cheaper foreign imports. As companies move production to countries with lower labor costs, workers in developed nations may face unemployment or wage stagnation. Secondly, globalisation can lead to economic inequality. While some nations and sectors thrive, others may fall behind, widening the gap between the rich and the poor. This disparity can create social tensions and hinder overall development, leading many to argue that the negative aspects of globalisation may outweigh the positive, particularly for disadvantaged communities. Thus, while globalisation enhances global connectivity and economic opportunities, it also poses risks to job security and income equality.

Key Points: Increased trade and market access; Job loss in non-competitive sectors; Economic inequality between nations and communities; Social tension due to wealth disparity; Balancing positive and negative impacts of globalisation.

Question 35. How did India address the regional aspirations of the people? Explain with the help of any two examples.

[4 Marks]

Answer: India has addressed the regional aspirations of its people through a democratic and flexible constitutional framework that encourages political expression without labeling it as anti-national. One prominent example is the Dravidian movement in Tamil Nadu, which sought to voice regional identities and political autonomy through peaceful means like public debates and elections. This movement successfully gained political power, influencing both state and national politics. Another example is the Punjab conflict, where the government intervened to address the aspirations of the Sikh community by granting more autonomy and creating a separate state. Despite facing challenges, the Indian state has maintained a balance between respecting regional aspirations and preserving national unity, demonstrating the strength of its democratic ethos.

Key Points: Democratic approach to diversity; Dravidian movement's use of democratic means; Example of Punjab and Sikh aspirations; flexible constitutional framework; maintaining balance between regionalism and national unity

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Section F

Question 36.

Analyse any four factors that make the European Union an influential regional organisation of the world.

[6 Marks]

Answer: The European Union (EU) is an influential regional organisation due to several key factors. First, its substantial economic power is exemplified by a projected GDP of approximately $19.35 trillion in 2024, positioning it as a significant player in global trade. Second, the EU's common currency, the euro, enhances its economic stability and competitiveness, challenging the dominance of the US dollar. Third, the EU's political and diplomatic influence is evident through its active participation in international organisations like the WTO and in global diplomatic relations. Lastly, the EU's shared foreign and security policies fortify its collective stance, enabling it to project military influence and maintain regional stability. This combination of economic, political, and military strengths contributes to the EU's role as a major alternative power in a multipolar world.

Key Points: Economic power and GDP, Common currency (euro), Political and diplomatic influence in organizations, Shared foreign and security policies

Question 37.

Analyse any four objectives of establishing the regional organisations.

[6 Marks]

Answer: Regional organisations play a vital role in enhancing cooperation and development among member countries. Firstly, one key objective is to foster economic integration, allowing member states to create a seamless trading environment that boosts regional economies and enhances global competitiveness. Secondly, these organisations aim to ensure regional stability and security by promoting dialogue and peaceful conflict resolution among nations. Thirdly, they facilitate cultural exchange, promoting mutual understanding and cooperation on social issues, which is critical in today's globalized world. Lastly, regional organisations often act as a collective voice for member states in international forums, ensuring that their interests are represented and their concerns addressed on a global scale. This multifaceted approach not only supports the development of member countries but also contributes to a more stable and cooperative international environment.

Key Points: 1. Foster economic integration among member countries 2. Promote regional stability and security through dialogue 3. Facilitate cultural exchange and mutual understanding 4. Act as a collective voice in international forums

Question 38.

Describe the composition of the United Nations Security Council and the suggested reforms to make it more relevant.

[6 Marks]

Answer: The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) currently consists of fifteen members: five permanent members (the United States, Russia, China, France, and the United Kingdom) and ten non-permanent members elected for two-year terms. This structure heavily favors the interests of these five permanent members, failing to adequately represent modern geopolitical realities and neglecting the voices of emerging powers and developing nations. Suggested reforms include expanding the number of permanent members to include countries such as India, Brazil, and Germany, reflecting their significant economic and political influence. Furthermore, reforms advocate for enhanced representation from Africa and Latin America, thereby ensuring a more equitable balance of power. These changes aim to align the UNSC's structure with the contemporary global political landscape, ensuring that its decisions reflect a broader array of values and interests. The challenge lies in reaching consensus among member states on the criteria and number of new members.

> **Key Points: Composition: 5 permanent members, 10 non-permanent members; Dominance of Western powers; Lacks equitable representation; Suggested reforms include expanding permanent membership; Consideration for emerging powers like India and Brazil; Ensure representation from Africa and Latin America; Align UNSC with contemporary political realities.**

Question 39.

Describe any four changes that occurred in world politics after the end of Cold War.

[6 Marks]

Answer: The end of the Cold War brought significant transformations in world politics. Firstly, the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 led to the dissolution of the Second World and the withdrawal of socialist regimes in Eastern Europe, fundamentally altering the global power dynamics. Secondly, the United States emerged as the unipolar superpower, establishing a dominance that reshaped international relations and led to concerns about unchecked American power. Thirdly, the role of the United Nations evolved, with increased expectations for it to manage global peace and security in a new context dominated by the US. Lastly, there was a growing emphasis on promoting democracy and capitalism worldwide, as nations began transitioning from authoritarian regimes to more democratic governance structures, influenced by Western ideals. These changes set the stage for a new era of global politics marked by both opportunities and challenges.

Key Points: Collapse of the Soviet Union; Emergence of the US as a superpower; Evolution of the UN's role; Promotion of democracy and capitalism worldwide

Question 40.

Describe any four consequences of the partition of British India in 1947.

[6 Marks]

Answer: The partition of British India in 1947 led to several significant consequences. Firstly, it caused massive displacement, with millions of people forced to migrate across the newly drawn borders, leading to one of the largest human migrations in history. Secondly, the violence that erupted resulted in extensive communal riots, leaving hundreds of thousands dead and many more injured, creating a legacy of mistrust between communities. Thirdly, the partition necessitated the urgent integration of numerous princely states into the Indian Union, a complex process that required careful negotiation and intervention. Finally, the partition profoundly impacted the notion of secularism in India, as the violent religious nature of partition raised concerns about communal harmony and the protection of minority rights in the new nation-states.

Key Points: Massive displacement and migration; widespread communal violence and casualties; integration of princely states into Indian Union; challenges to secularism and minority rights

Question 41.

Describe any three problems that were faced during the process of partition of British India.

[6 Marks]

Answer: The partition of British India in 1947 was fraught with numerous challenges. Firstly, the division was based on religious majorities, leading to significant violence and communal riots. As communities were forced to relocate, millions faced persecution and loss of life. Secondly, the bifurcation of provinces like Punjab and Bengal was highly contentious due to overlapping populations, resulting in many individuals discovering they were now minorities in their own homes. Lastly, the integration of princely states posed a complex issue, as many princely rulers were reluctant to join either India or Pakistan, creating further instability. These problems not only caused immediate suffering but also had lasting effects on both nations.

Key Points: Communal violence due to religious majority principle; Bifurcation of Punjab and Bengal and the dilemmas of displaced populations; Challenges in integrating princely states into India.

Question 42.

Explain any three important issues on which a consensus has émerged among most political parties of India.

[6 Marks]

Answer: In recent years, several key issues have garnered broad consensus among the political parties in India, highlighting a collective approach to pressing national concerns. Firstly, the need for economic reform has gained traction among major parties. This includes an agreement on liberalizing the economy to boost growth and compete globally. Secondly, there is an emerging consensus on the importance of national unity and integrity, particularly in addressing regional demands and autonomy movements, especially in Northeast India. Lastly, most parties concur on the significance of social justice, especially in addressing the needs and aspirations of marginalized communities. Such political agreements not only reflect a commitment to democratic processes but also ensure the stability and progress of the nation amidst diversities.

Key Points: Economic reforms, National unity and integrity, Social justice

Question 43.

Explain any three benefits of the coalition governments formed in India since 1989.

[6 Marks]

Answer: Coalition governments in India since 1989 have brought several benefits to the political landscape. Firstly, they promote inclusivity by allowing diverse regional parties to participate in governance, which ensures representation of varied interests and perspectives in decision-making processes. Secondly, coalition governments foster stability through consensus-building, as they require cooperation and negotiation among different parties, helping to smoothen contentious issues. Finally, they enhance accountability, as these governments must cater to the needs of multiple stakeholders, leading to more diligent governance. This multi-party approach can mitigate the dominance of a single party and encourage collaborative politics, leading to policies that better reflect the multifaceted needs of India's diverse population.

Key Points: Inclusive representation of diverse regional interests; fosters consensus and political stability; enhances accountability and collaborative governance.