# CBSE EXAMINATION PAPER-2026

## SOCIAL SCIENCE

### (Solved)

Time allowed : 3 hours | Maximum Marks : 89

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**General Instructions :**

Read the following instructions carefully and follow them :

i. This question paper contains **45 questions.** All questions are **compulsory.**

ii. This question paper is divided into **5 sections.**

iii. **Section A** – questions number **1 to 4** are case based questions

iv. **Section B** – questions number **5 to 25** are multiple choice questions

v. **Section C** – questions number **26 to 31** are very short answer

vi. **Section D** – questions number **32 to 37** are short answer

vii. **Section E** – questions number **38 to 45** are long answer

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

ix. Use of calculator is NOT allowed.

## Section A

**Question 1.**

Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow :

Print and Censorship

After the revolt of 1857, the attitude of the colonial government towards freedom of the press changed. Enraged Englishmen demanded a clamp down on the 'native' press. As vernacular newspapers became assertively nationalist, the colonial government began debating measures of

stricter control. In 1878, the Vernacular Press Act was passed, modelled on the Irish Press Laws. It provided the government with extensive rights to censor reports and editorials in the vernacular press. From now on the government kept regular track of the vernacular newspapers published in different provinces. When a report was judged as seditious, the newspaper was warned, and if the warning was ignored, the press was liable to be seized and the printing machinery confiscated.

**(1) Which Act was the inspiration of the 'Vernacular Press Act' ?**

[1 Marks]

**(2) Which two powers were given by the Vernacular Press Act to the colonial government ?**

[2 Marks]

**(3) Why was the colonial government not in favour of freedom of the press ?**

[1 Marks]

**Question 2.**

Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow :

Cropping Pattern

Rabi crops are sown in winter from October to December and harvested in summer from April to June. Kharif crops are grown with the onset of monsoon in different parts of the country and these are harvested in September-October. In between the rabi and the kharif seasons, there is a short season during the summer months known as the zaid season.

**(1) Rice cultivation is an example of which type of agricultural season ?**

[1 Marks]

**(2) Mention any two zaid crops.**

[2 Marks]

**(3) Name any one crop which is harvested between April to June in India.**

[1 Marks]

**Question 3.**

Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow :

How many political parties?

In some countries, only one party is allowed to control and run the government. These are called one-party systems. In some countries, power usually changes between two main parties. Several other parties may exist, contest elections and win a few seats in the national legislatures. Such a party system is called two-party system. If several parties compete for power, and more than two parties have a reasonable chance of coming to power either on their own strength or in alliance with others, we call it a multiparty system.

**(1) Explain the main feature of 'multi-party system'.**

[1 Marks]

**(2) Why is a 'one-party system' not compatible with democracy?**

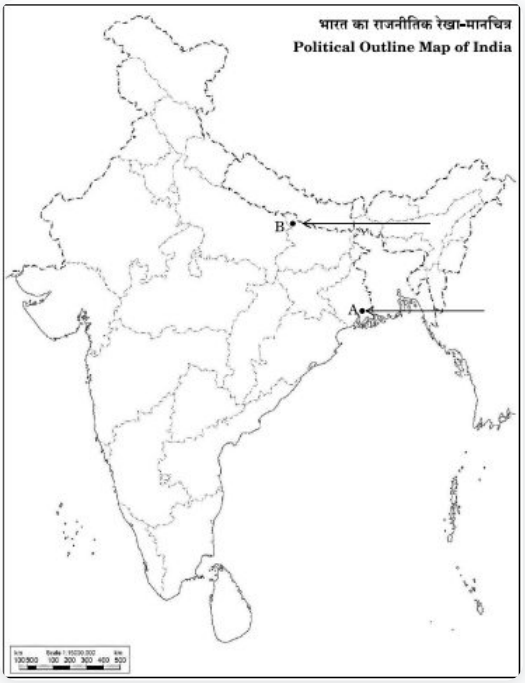
[1 Marks]

**(3) Explain the main characteristics of a coalition government.**

[2 Marks]

**Question 4.**

On the outline map of India , locate and label any three of the following with suitable symbols :




**(1) A major dam built on the Mahanadi river**

[1 Marks]

**(2) A major sea port located in Tamil Nadu**

[1 Marks]

**(3) A Software Technology Park located in Uttar Pradesh**

[1 Marks]

**(4) Eastern-most terminal station of East-West Corridor of India.**

[1 Marks]

## Section B

**Question 5.**

Which country was the most affected by the potato famine during 1845–1849 ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Sweden

(B) Ireland

(C) United States of America

(D) France

**Question 6.**

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

I. Publication of Bengal Gazette

II. Publication of Diamond Sutra

III. Publication of Bible by Johan Gutenberg

IV. Return of Marco Polo to Italy from China

[1 Marks]

(A) I, II, III, IV

(B) IV, III, II, I

(C) II, IV, III, I

(D) II, IV, I, III

**Question 7.**

Two statements labelled as Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are given below. Read both the statements carefully and choose the correct option :

Assertion (A) : Giuseppe Mazzini was a revolutionary from Italy.

Reason (R) : He founded underground organisations.

[1 Marks]

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(C) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

(D) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false

**Question 8.** Between which two leaders was the Poona Pact signed in 1932 ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Bhimrao Ambedkar and Mahatma Gandhi

(B) Bhimrao Ambedkar and Jawaharlal Nehru

(C) Mahatma Gandhi and M.A. Jinnah

(D) Mahatma Gandhi and Lord Irwin

**Question 9.**

Whom does this picture represent? Choose the correct option.

[1 Marks]



(A) Columbia

(B) Britannia

(C) Germania

(D) Marianne

**Question 10.**

Which of the following deadly disease spread in America through Portugal and Spain in mid-sixteenth century?

[1 Marks]

(A) Cholera

(B) Malaria

(C) Yellow fever

(D) Smallpox

**Question 11.**

In which Indian state is ‘Bamboo drip irrigation’ system used ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Kerala

(B) Meghalaya

(C) Himachal Pradesh

(D) Rajasthan

**Question 12.** Choose the correct option to fill in the blank. The largest wind farm cluster in India is located between _____.

[1 Marks]

(A) Nagercoil to Madurai

(B) Hazira to Jhabua

(C) Jaipur to Jodhpur

(D) Bokaro to Raniganj

**Question 13.**

Identify the plantation crop from the following :

[1 Marks]

(A) Rubber

(B) Wheat

(C) Rice

(D) Bajra

**Question 14.**

Read the following statements about the functions of political parties and choose the correct option :

I. Political parties build public opinion.

II. Political parties play the role of the opposition.

III. Political parties present their programmes to the public.

IV. Political parties make foreign policy.

[1 Marks]

(A) Only I, III and IV are correct.

(B) Only I, II and IV are correct.

(C) Only I, II and III are correct.

(D) Only II, III and IV are correct.

**Question 15.**

Match Column I with Column II and choose the correct option :

Column I (List) ---------- Column II (Subject)

a. Union List ---------- i. Police

b. State List ---------- ii. Computer software

c. Concurrent List ---------- iii. Adoption

d. Residuary subjects --------- iv. Defence

[1 Marks]

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

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

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

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

**Question 16.**

In Sri Lanka, which one of the following changes to the 1956 law gave rise to the possibility of civil war ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Declaring Sinhala as the official language.

(B) Ensuring power sharing among all sections.

(C) Implementing a policy of preference for Sinhalese in government jobs.

(D) Declaring Tamil as the official language.

**Question 17.**

Which one of the following countries is an example of a 'coming together federation' ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Australia

(B) Spain

(C) Belgium

(D) India

**Question 18.**

Study the following table and arrange the States from lower to higher on the basis of 'Life Expectancy at Birth' and choose the correct option :

[1 Marks]

| States | Life Expectancy at Birth (2018) | Enrolment in Higher Education (2017 – 18) |
|---|---|---|
| Haryana | 69·7 | 23 |
| Kerala | 75·2 | 37 |
| Bihar | 68·9 | 13·6 |
| Odisha | 68·4 | 22·1 |

(A) Haryana, Kerala, Bihar, Odisha

(B) Odisha, Bihar, Haryana, Kerala

(C) Odisha, Bihar, Kerala, Haryana

(D) Kerala, Haryana, Bihar, Odisha

**Question 19.**

Two statements labelled as Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are given below. Read both the statements and choose the correct option :

Assertion (A) : Agricultural production related activities are included in the tertiary sector.

Reason (R) : Tertiary sector is called as service sector.

[1 Marks]

(A) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

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

(C) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true

**Question 20.**

Why do some countries impose tariffs on imported goods in the context of globalization? Choose the correct reason from the following options :

[1 Marks]

(A) To support free trade

(B) To attract investment

(C) To lower import costs

(D) To protect local industries

**Question 21.** Why is Rupee accepted as a medium of exchange in India ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Because it is issued by the Reserve Bank of India on behalf of the State Government.

(B) Because it is issued by the Reserve Bank of India on behalf of the Central Government.

(C) Because it is issued by the Reserve Bank of India on behalf of the World Bank.

(D) Because it is issued by the State Bank of India on behalf of the Central Government.

**Question 22.**

Which of the following is an example of public sector ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Tata Iron and Steel Company

(B) Indian Railways

(C) Reliance Industries Limited

(D) Birla Cement

**Question 23.**

Smt. Deepti is a resident of X country. Her country is a developed country. Which of the following would be a characteristic of her country ?

[1 Marks]

(A) High Infant Mortality Rate

(B) Low Literacy Rate

(C) Low Net Attendance Ratio

(D) High Per Capita Income

**Question 24.**

Which one of the following is the purpose of collateral in a loan ?

[1 Marks]

(A) To avoid repayment on the loan

(B) To secure the loan for the lender

(C) To increase the interest for the lender

(D) To reduce paperwork for the lender

**Question 25.**

Which of the following countries was granted autonomy by the Habsburg rulers in 1867 ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Italy

(B) Hungary

(C) England

(D) Russia

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## Section C

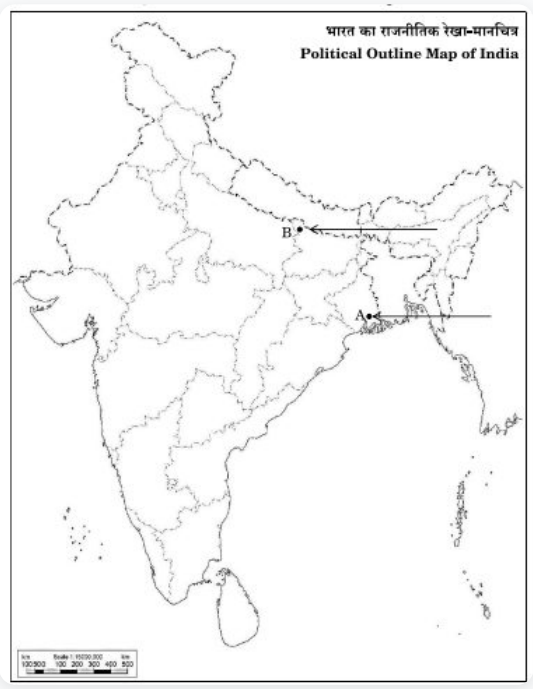
**Question 26.**

10. Two places ‘A’ and ‘B’ have been marked on the given political outline map of India . Identify them with the help of the following information and write their correct names on the lines drawn near them :

**A.** The place where the session of the Indian National Congress was held in September 1920.

**B.** The place where Mahatma Gandhi led the Peasant Movement against Indigo Cultivation.

[2 Marks]




**Question 27.**

Describe the role of communities in the conservation of forests in India.

[2 Marks]

**Question 28.**

Describe any two steps taken by the Government of India to protect forests and wildlife.

[2 Marks]

**Question 29.**

Suggest any two reforms to strengthen ‘party system’ in India.

**Question 30.**

“Complaints are the testimony to the success of Democracy.” Explain the statement with examples.

[2 Marks]

**Question 31.**

Explain ‘Disguised Unemployment’ with example.

[2 Marks]

## Section D

**Question 32.**

Analyse the role of language in the development of nationalism in Poland during the nineteenth century.

[3 Marks]

**Question 33.**

Analyse the main provisions of the Treaty of Vienna of 1815.

[3 Marks]

**Question 34.**

Explain any three main factors responsible for land degradation.

[3 Marks]

**Question 35.**

“The creation of linguistic states was the first and a major test for democratic politics in India.” Explain the statement.

[3 Marks]

**Question 36.**

Suggest any three measures for labour safety in the unorganised sector.

[3 Marks]

**Question 37.**

Define the term ‘Body Mass Index’. Explain the method of its calculation.

[3 Marks]

## Section E

**Question 38.**

“Women played an important role during the Civil Disobedience Movement.” Support the statement with appropriate arguments.

[5 Marks]

**Question 39.**

“The revival of Indian folklore strengthened nationalism in India.” Support the statement with appropriate arguments.

[5 Marks]

**Question 40.**

Explain the reasons why most of the Jute industries in India are located in West Bengal.

[5 Marks]

**Question 41.**

Explain the measures to reduce industrial pollution.

[5 Marks]

**Question 42.**

Compare the Belgian model and the Sri Lankan model of power sharing.

[5 Marks]

**Question 43.**

Why is power sharing necessary in a democracy? Explain.

[5 Marks]

**Question 44.**

Differentiate between the formal and informal sources of credit.

[5 Marks]

**Question 45.**

Explain the functioning of ‘Self-Help Groups’.

[5 Marks]