CBSE EXAMINATION PAPER-2026

POLITICAL SCIENCE

(Solved)

Time allowed : 3 hours | Maximum Marks : 100

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions carefully and follow them :

i. This question paper contains **36 questions.** All questions are **compulsory.**

ii. This question paper is divided into **5 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 21** are short answer

vi. **Section D** – questions number **22 to 28** are long answer type i

vii. **Section E** – questions number **29 to 36** are long answer type ii

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 following passage carefully and answer the questions based on it :

‘‘The defeat of the Congress party in 1989 marked the end of Congress dominance over the Indian party system. It did not, however, mean the emergence of any other single party to fill in its place. Thus, began an era of multi-party system, in which regional parties played a crucial role in forming the alliances.’’

(1)

In which year did the Congress party face a setback for the first time and lose power in some states ?

(A) 1962

(B) 1967

(C) 1971

(D) 1977

[1 Marks]

Answer: The Congress party faced a setback for the first time in the year 1967 when it lost power in some states. This marked the beginning of the decline of Congress dominance and the rise of other regional parties as mentioned in the case passage.

Key Points: Congress faced setback in 1967 - Lost power in some states - Beginning of decline of Congress dominance

(2)

Which one of the following regional parties never formed a government in any state ?

(A) Bahujan Samaj Party

(B) Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam

(C) Bharatiya Kranti Dal

(D) Shiromani Akali Dal

[1 Marks]

Answer: The correct answer is (C) Bharatiya Kranti Dal. According to the passage, many regional parties played crucial roles after 1989, but Bharatiya Kranti Dal never formed a government in any state. Other parties like Bahujan Samaj Party, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, and Shiromani Akali Dal have formed governments.

Key Points: Era of multi-party system - Role of regional parties - Bharatiya Kranti Dal never formed state government

(3)

Which party was the largest party in the Lok Sabha after the 1989 elections ?

(A) National Front

(B) Indian National Congress

(C) Bharatiya Janata Party

(D) Janata Party

[1 Marks]

Answer: Answer: After the 1989 elections, the Indian National Congress was still the largest party in the Lok Sabha. Although it lost its majority and was defeated, no other single party got a majority. Therefore, Congress remained the largest party but chose to sit in opposition as per the case passage.

Key Points: Congress was defeated in 1989 - No other single party had majority - Congress remained the largest party - Congress chose to sit in opposition

(4)

Which political party/alliance formed the first coalition government in December 1989 ?

(A) National Conference

(B) National Front

(C) Indian National Congress

(D) United Front

[1 Marks]

Answer: Answer: The first coalition government in December 1989 was formed by the **National Front**. After the defeat of the Congress party in 1989, no single party had a clear majority. The National Front, an alliance of Janata Dal and some regional parties, formed the government with support from other parties. This marked the beginning of the era of coalition governments in India.

Key Points: Defeat of Congress in 1989 - No single party formed majority - National Front formed first coalition government in 1989 - Beginning of coalition era in Indian politics

Question 2.

In the given political outline map of India (on page 15), four States have been marked as(□, □, □,and □) . Identify these States on the basis of the information given below and write their correct names in your answer-book along with the respective serial number of the information used and the concerned alphabets given in the map as per the following format :

Serial number of the information used	Concerned alphabet given in the map	Name of the State
(i)		
(ii)		
(iii)		
(iv)		



(1) The state which was bifurcated between India and Pakistan at the time of the partition.

[1 Marks]

Answer: Answer: The state marked as A on the map is Punjab. Punjab was bifurcated between India and Pakistan during the partition of British India in 1947, as mentioned in the case paragraph. This division separated the western part of Punjab to Pakistan and the eastern part remained in India.

Key Points: Punjab was bifurcated during partition - Punjab marked as A on the map - Partition divided Punjab between India and Pakistan

(2) The state which was created in 1966.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The state created in 1966 is Haryana. According to the case paragraph, Haryana was carved out of Punjab in 1966. Therefore, the state marked as the one created in 1966 on the map is Haryana.

Key Points: State created in 1966 - Haryana carved out of Punjab - Identification based on the map

(3) The state to which the first Deputy Prime Minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel belonged.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The first Deputy Prime Minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel belonged to the state of Gujarat, which can be identified as State A on the map based on the information given. This is confirmed by the mention of Patel in the passage and the labeling of Gujarat as one of the states. Therefore, State A is Gujarat.

Key Points: Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel belonged to Gujarat - Gujarat is labeled among states in the passage - State A corresponds to Gujarat

(4) The state to which Maharaja Bodhchandra Singh belonged.

[1 Marks]

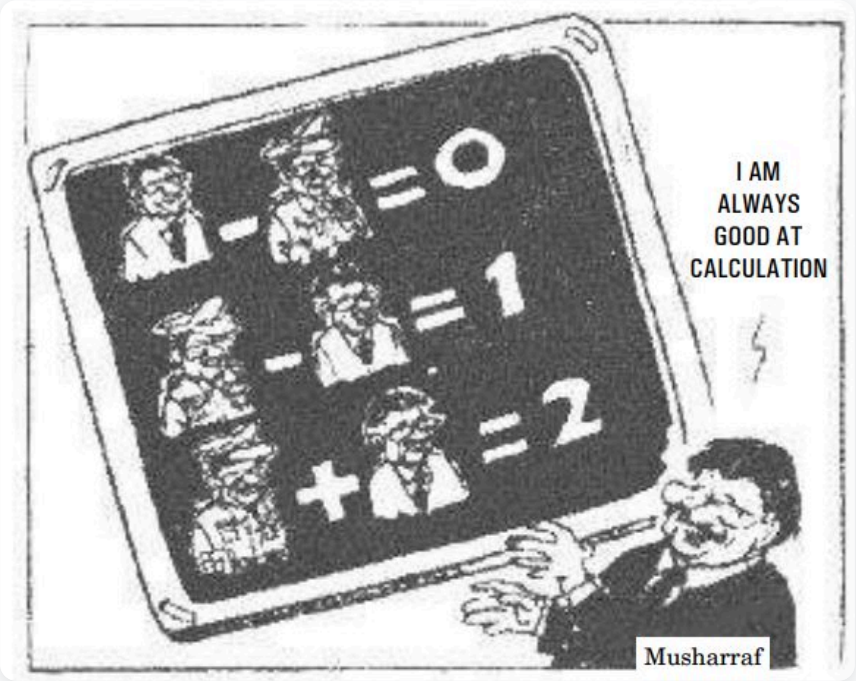
Answer: Maharaja Bodhchandra Singh belonged to the princely state of Manipur, which is identified in the map as one of the marked States. Using the information about princely states in the case passage, the State marked as C is Manipur, related to Maharaja Bodhchandra Singh's rule during British India as shown on the political outline map (page 15).

Key Points: Maharaja Bodhchandra Singh belonged to Manipur - Manipur is a princely state on the political map - State C is identified as Manipur

Question 3.

Study the cartoon given below and answer the questions based on it

Note : The man shown in the suit is President Musharraf and the same man shown in the cap is General Musharraf. On the basis of politics in Pakistan, answer the following questions.



(1) What message is given by the uppermost equation ? Explain.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The uppermost equation shows that when the same face of a man wearing a cap is subtracted from itself, it equals zero. This means anything minus itself becomes nothing. **It conveys that the identity of General Musharraf minus General Musharraf leaves no difference.** Hence, it represents the dual roles of Musharraf as both President and General where his presence in both roles cancel each other out in political terms.

Key Points: Uppermost equation shows same face minus itself equals zero - Represents dual roles of Musharraf as both President and General - Meaning anything minus itself is zero in the cartoon context

(2) Explain the message given by the middle line.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The middle line in the cartoon shows a simple equation with faces representing Musharraf, indicating his dual roles as President and General. It symbolizes how political calculations in Pakistan involve balancing his military and presidential identities, as mentioned in the case. This reflects the complex nature of leadership during Musharraf's rule.

Key Points: Musharraf's dual role - use of faces as symbols - political calculations in Pakistan

(3) Highlight the message conveyed by the whole cartoon.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The cartoon shows how Pervez Musharraf played a dual role as both the army General and the President of Pakistan. It uses faces as symbols to represent the confusing politics involving Musharraf's rule.
The cartoon's message is that calculating or understanding Pakistan's politics under Musharraf was like solving a simple but tricky math problem.
This reflects how Musharraf controlled the country through military power while presenting a democratic image as President.

> **Key Points: Dual role of Musharraf - Politics shown as simple calculation - Army rule with democratic image**

(4) Explain the message given by the lowest line.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The lowest line in the cartoon shows Musharraf saying 'I am always good at calculation,' which is a satire on his dual role as both General and President. It suggests that he controls the political situation by calculating or managing his power cleverly, as shown by the simple equations with faces symbolizing the political players. This reflects how Musharraf combined military and political power to govern Pakistan, as described in the case passage.

> **Key Points: Musharraf's dual role - Satire on power control - Calculation of political situation**

Section B

Question 4.

Which one of the following was not a republic of the Soviet Union ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Tajikistan

(B) Uzbekistan

(C) Afghanistan

(D) Azerbaijan

Explanation:

Afghanistan was never part of the Soviet Union and therefore was not one of its republics. The Soviet Union consisted of republics such as Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Azerbaijan, which are mentioned in the context as Central Asian republics or other member republics that joined the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) after the USSR dissolved in 1991.

Question 5.

Who among the following was the General Secretary of the Communist Party of Soviet Union in 1985 ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Joseph Stalin

(B) Nikita Khrushchev

(C) Leonid Brezhnev

(D) Mikhail Gorbachev

Explanation:

Mikhail Gorbachev was elected as the General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in March 1985. This position made him the leader of the Soviet Union at that time. The other options, Joseph Stalin, Leonid Brezhnev, and Nikita Khrushchev, were leaders of the Soviet Union at different earlier periods.

Question 6.

Assertion (A) : In April 2006, there were massive countrywide pro-democracy protests in Nepal.

Reason (R) : In 2002, the king abolished the parliament and dismissed the government.

[1 Marks]

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

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

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

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

Explanation:

Both the Assertion and Reason are true. In 2002, the king of Nepal abolished the parliament and dismissed the government, which ended the limited democracy that existed in Nepal. This action led to widespread dissatisfaction and ultimately resulted in massive countrywide pro-democracy protests in April 2006. Therefore, the reason given correctly explains the assertion.

Question 7.

Match the following correctly :

A - B

1. General Zia-ul-Haq - (i) Bangladesh

2. Ziaur Rahman - (ii) Nepal

3. Rajapaksa - (iii) Pakistan

4. Seven Party Alliance - (iv) Sri Lanka

[1 Marks]

(A) 1-(i), 2-(iii), 3-(iv), 4-(ii)

(B) 1-(iii), 2-(i), 3-(iv), 4-(ii)

(C) 1-(iv), 2-(ii), 3-(i), 4-(iii)

(D) 1-(iii), 2-(iv), 3-(ii), 4-(i)

Explanation:

General Zia-ul-Haq was a military ruler of Pakistan, so he matches with (iii) Pakistan. Ziaur Rahman was a military ruler of Bangladesh, so he matches with (i) Bangladesh. Rajapaksa is a political leader from Sri Lanka, so he matches with (iv) Sri Lanka. The Seven Party Alliance is a political coalition in Nepal, so it matches with (ii) Nepal.

Question 8.

Choose the correct full form of the ‘SALT’ treaty from the options given below :

[1 Marks]

(A) Secret Arms Limitation Treaty

(B) South Asia Local Treaty

(C) Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty

(D) Special Arms Limited Treaty

Explanation:

The correct full form of SALT is Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty. This is supported by the context which mentions that the US and Soviet Union signed several arms control treaties including the Strategic Arms Limitations Treaty II (SALT II). Other options like Secret Arms Limitation Treaty or South Asia Local Treaty are incorrect and do not relate to the arms control agreements between the US and the Soviet Union.

Question 9.

Which one of the following is not a new source of threat to security ?

[1 Marks]

(A) War

(B) Terrorism

(C) Poverty

(D) Migration

Explanation:

According to the context, new sources of threats to security include terrorism, poverty, and migration, which are non-traditional threats focusing on human and global security beyond conventional military conflict. War is an older, traditional source of security threat, whereas the other options represent new kinds of security challenges.

Question 10.

Who among the following advanced the 'Two-nation theory' ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Muslim League

(B) British Government

(C) Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan

(D) Lord Mountbatten

Explanation:

The 'Two-nation theory' was advanced by the Muslim League, which stated that India consisted of two separate nations - Hindus and Muslims. The Muslim League was formed to protect the interests of Muslims and was at the forefront of the demand for a separate Muslim nation, which ultimately led to the creation of Pakistan. Other options like Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan opposed the theory, and the British Government and Lord Mountbatten played administrative roles but did not propose the theory.

Question 11.

Assertion (A) : There were killings and atrocities on both sides of the border of India in 1947.

Reason (R) : The planned transfer of the population had failed.

[1 Marks]

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

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

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

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

Explanation:

The assertion is true because in 1947, during the partition of India, there were killings and atrocities on both sides of the border due to communal violence. The reason is also true as the planned transfer of population between India and Pakistan did not work smoothly, leading to widespread violence and massacre. Therefore, the failure of the planned transfer of populations directly caused the killings and atrocities, making the Reason (R) the correct explanation of the Assertion (A).

Question 12. ‘NITI Aayog’ came into existence on :

[1 Marks]

(A) 1 st January, 2015

(B) 26th January, 2015

(C) 1 st November, 2015

(D) 15th August, 2015

Explanation: According to the provided context, NITI Aayog was established on 1 January 2015, replacing the Planning Commission of India. This makes the option '1 st January, 2015' the correct answer.

Question 13.

Arrange the following events in chronological order :

(i) P.C. Mahalanobis led a Five-Year Plan.

(ii) K.N. Raj was involved in drafting the First Five-Year Plan.

(iii) The 'Bombay Plan' was drafted

(iv) The Planning Commission was set up.

[1 Marks]

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

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

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

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

Explanation:

The correct chronological order is: (iii) The 'Bombay Plan' was drafted first, in 1944, which was a proposal for India's post-independence economic future. (iv) The Planning Commission was set up next, in 1950, to formulate and monitor Five-Year Plans. (ii) K.N. Raj was involved in drafting the First Five-Year Plan after the Commission was set up, around 1951. (i) P.C. Mahalanobis led the Second Five-Year Plan which began in 1956, focusing on industrial development. Thus, the sequence (iii), (iv), (ii), (i) correctly represents the historical order.

Question 14.

The government of which political party/alliance decided to implement the recommendations of the Mandal Commission ?

[1 Marks]

(A) National Front

(B) Indian National Congress

(C) Janata Party

(D) United Front

Explanation:

The National Front government, led by V.P. Singh in 1990, decided to implement the recommendations of the Mandal Commission. The National Front was an alliance that included the Janata Dal and other regional parties, and it received support from both the BJP and the Left Front. This decision marked an important development in Indian politics related to reservation policies for Other Backward Classes (OBCs).

Question 15.

Choose the name of that political party which has Gandhian Socialism along with cultural nationalism as its ideology.

[1 Marks]

(A) Socialist Party

(B) Janata Party

(C) National Conference

(D) Bharatiya Janata Party

Explanation:

According to the context, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) initially adopted a platform embracing 'Gandhian Socialism' along with cultural nationalism as its ideology. This sets BJP apart from the other parties mentioned, as the Socialist Party and others focused more on socialism without the cultural nationalism aspect, and BJP later emphasized nationalism and Hindutva. Therefore, BJP combines Gandhian Socialism with cultural nationalism.

Section C

Question 16.

Name any four principal organs of the United Nations.

[2 Marks]

Answer: The four principal organs of the United Nations are:

1. General Assembly: It includes all the member countries and acts as a forum for discussion

and decision-making.
2. Security Council: Responsible for maintaining international peace and security. It has 15 members including 5 permanent members with veto power.
3. Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC): Deals with international economic and social cooperation and development.
4. Secretariat: Provides administrative support to the UN and is headed by the Secretary-General, who is appointed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council.

> **Key Points: General Assembly - Security Council - Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) - Secretariat**

Question 17.

Explain the meaning of globalisation.

[2 Marks]

Answer: Globalisation means the process by which the world becomes more connected through the exchange of ideas, goods, capital, and people across countries. It involves constant flows that link different parts of the world and create worldwide interconnectedness. This is why globalisation is called a multidimensional concept because it includes economic, cultural, political, and social interactions among countries. It helps people, companies, and governments to interact more closely and depend on each other, making the world a smaller place in terms of communication and trade.

> **Key Points: Worldwide interconnectedness - Flows of ideas, capital, goods, and people - Multidimensional concept**

Question 18.

Analyse any two reasons for resistance to globalisation in India.

[2 Marks]

Answer: Resistance to Globalisation in India
(a) Economic Inequality: One major reason for resistance to globalisation in India is the fear that it may increase economic inequality. While globalisation brings new opportunities for growth, it tends to benefit large corporations and rich individuals more, leaving small farmers, artisans, and workers vulnerable. This growing gap between the rich and the poor creates unrest and opposition.
(b) Cultural Impact and Loss of Identity: Another important reason is the concern over the loss of cultural identity. Globalisation often promotes western values and lifestyles, which may threaten India's diverse cultural heritage and traditional practices. Many people fear that their

customs, languages, and local arts could be overshadowed or diminished by global culture, leading to resistance against globalisation.

> Key Points: Economic inequality fears - Threat to cultural identity - Benefits skewed towards rich and corporations

Question 19.

Show the ideology of the Jana Sangh that makes it different from other parties.

[2 Marks]

Answer: Ideology of Jana Sangh

The Jana Sangh was different from other parties because it emphasised the idea of one country, one culture and one nation. It believed that India could become modern, progressive and strong by following Indian culture and traditions. It traced its lineage to the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and Hindu Mahasabha.

Unlike other parties, Jana Sangh focused on cultural nationalism and nationalism as the core of its ideology. It stood for the unity of the country and promoted the concept of Hindutva for political mobilisation. Over time, it merged into the Janata Party and later its supporters formed the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which adopted a broader political platform including Gandhian socialism along with cultural nationalism.

> Key Points: One country one culture one nation - Emphasis on Indian culture and traditions - Core ideology of nationalism and cultural nationalism

Question 20.

Highlight any two features of the nature of the Congress party as a social and ideological coalition.

[2 Marks]

Answer: The Congress party was a social and ideological coalition because (a) it accommodated a wide range of leaders and groups with different and sometimes opposing ideologies such as revolutionaries and pacifists, conservatives and radicals, extremists and moderates; (b) it acted as a platform for various interests and parties to participate in the national movement, showing tolerance to internal differences and accommodating ambitions of different leaders during the freedom struggle and after Independence.

> Key Points: Accommodated diverse ideological groups - Acted as a platform for various social and political interests - Showed tolerance to internal differences

Question 21.

Explain any two immediate consequences of the implementation of the recommendations of the Mandal Commission in August 1990.

[2 Marks]

Answer: Two immediate consequences of the implementation of the Mandal Commission recommendations in August 1990 are:
(a) Widespread protests and agitations: The decision to reserve 27 per cent of educational seats and government jobs for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) led to violent protests and demonstrations, especially in northern India. Many students and youth groups opposed the reservation policy, leading to strikes and unrest.
(b) Legal challenges and the Supreme Court case: The implementation faced legal opposition and was challenged in the Supreme Court, resulting in the famous Indira Sawhney case. The Court upheld reservations for OBCs but also imposed limits like the 50 per cent cap on total reservations. This case became a landmark judgement on affirmative action in India.

> **Key Points: Widespread protests and agitations - Violent demonstrations in northern India - Legal challenge in Supreme Court - Indira Sawhney case - Upheld OBC reservations with limits**

Section D

Question 22.

‘‘Indo-Russian relations are embedded in the history of trust and common interests.’’ Support the statement with four examples.

[4 Marks]

Answer: Indo-Russian relations have been based on mutual trust and shared interests over many decades.
(1) Economic Cooperation: During the Soviet era, Russia helped India's public sector companies when assistance was hard to find globally. More than 80 bilateral agreements have been signed under the Indo-Russian Strategic Agreement of 2001, strengthening economic ties.
(2) Defense Collaboration: India and Russia have maintained strong defense cooperation, with Russia being a key supplier of military equipment to India. This cooperation has helped India enhance its defense capabilities.
(3) Cultural Exchange: Indian film stars like Raj Kapoor and Amitabh Bachchan are very popular in Russia and post-Soviet countries, reflecting a long-standing cultural bond.
(4) Strategic Cooperation: Both countries cooperate on important global issues like counter-terrorism, stability in Central Asia, and balancing China's influence, showing their common

geopolitical interests.
Thus, the relationship is multifaceted, built on trust, economic and defense ties, cultural affinity, and shared strategic goals.

> Key Points: Economic cooperation - Defense collaboration - Cultural exchange - Strategic cooperation

Question 23.

Soviet system was to ensure the welfare of the people.'' Support the statement with four examples.

[4 Marks]

Answer: Answer: The Soviet system aimed to ensure the welfare of the people through various measures.
(1) The government provided a minimum standard of living for all citizens, meaning no one was left without basic needs.
(2) It subsidised essential services like health care, education, and childcare, making these accessible and affordable to everyone.
(3) The Soviet state controlled industries to produce consumer goods from pins to cars, ensuring availability of basic commodities.
(4) Welfare schemes were implemented to support families, the unemployed, and the elderly, promoting social security and equality.
These examples show how the Soviet system was designed to care for its people and guarantee their basic welfare.

> Key Points: Minimum standard of living for all citizens - Subsidised healthcare, education, and childcare - Production of consumer goods by the state - Welfare schemes for social security

Question 24.

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

[4 Marks]

Answer: Four major changes that occurred in the world after the end of the Cold War are:
(a) The collapse of the Soviet Union: The Soviet Union, which was one of the two superpowers during the Cold War, collapsed in 1991. This resulted in the emergence of multiple independent countries and the end of the communist ideology in Eastern Europe.
(b) The United States became the sole superpower: With the collapse of the Soviet Union, the US emerged as the strongest power in the world. This changed the global balance of power and influenced international relations.

(c) The unification of Germany: After being divided for decades, East and West Germany were unified in 1990. This was a significant event showing the end of division caused by ideological differences.
(d) The shift in international relations and the role of the United Nations: The end of the Cold War changed the global political context. The UN's role evolved to handle new types of conflicts and promote peace in a world without the East-West confrontation. Countries in Eastern Europe replaced their communist governments through peaceful protests, indicating a major political shift.
These changes marked a new era in world history with new challenges and opportunities.

> Key Points: Collapse of the Soviet Union - US became sole superpower - Unification of Germany - Shift in international relations and UN's role

Question 25.

Highlight any four choices available to a state when its security is threatened by a possible war.

[4 Marks]

Answer: When a state's security is threatened by a possible war, it has four main choices to respond effectively:
(1) Surrender: The state may choose to surrender to avoid the cost and destruction of war, though this compromises sovereignty and independence.
(2) Deterrence: The state can prevent the other side from attacking by promising to raise the costs of war to an unacceptable level, making war unattractive.
(3) Defense: The state can prepare to defend itself militarily if war breaks out, protecting its territorial integrity and citizens.
(4) Balance of Power: The state may form alliances or increase military capacity to balance out stronger threats, reducing the chance of being attacked.
These choices help a state safeguard its sovereignty, independence, and security against external military threats.

> Key Points: Surrender - Deterrence - Defense - Balance of Power

Question 26.

Explain any two major reasons for the split in the Congress party after the 1967 elections.

[4 Marks]

Answer: Reasons for the split in the Congress party after 1967 elections:
(a) Ideological differences: The Congress party was divided into two groups - the Old Congress and the New Congress. Indira Gandhi, leading the New Congress, promoted policies

that supported the poor and socialist ideas. In contrast, the Old Congress members were conservatives and supported the rich. This ideological clash created tensions within the party.
(b) Leadership and personal ambitions: After the 1967 elections, the Congress party lost power in several states and had only a reduced majority at the Centre. This weakened the unity within the party as many leaders had personal ambitions to become more powerful. The struggle for leadership and control over the party led to a split, with Indira Gandhi forming her own faction distinct from the Old Congress members.
These reasons together caused a significant split in the Congress party, changing the political landscape of India.

> Key Points: Ideological differences between socialists and conservatives - Leadership struggles and personal ambitions - Reduced majority and loss of power after 1967 elections

Question 27.

Explain any four reasons for the popularity of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi before the fifth general elections.

[4 Marks]

Answer: Prime Minister Indira Gandhi became very popular before the fifth general elections due to several important reasons. First, she showed strong and bold leadership by recommending the dissolution of the Lok Sabha in December 1970, which was a surprising and daring move to seek a fresh mandate for her government. Second, she gained respect through her handling of the 1971 Indo-Pak war, which resulted in the creation of Bangladesh. This victory increased her popularity and demonstrated her statesmanship. Third, she introduced popular and large-scale reforms such as the nationalisation of fourteen major private banks, which appealed to the common people who wanted economic justice. Fourth, she abolished the 'privy purse', removing special privileges given to former princes, which was seen as a step towards equality and social justice. These actions helped her to strengthen her party's position and gain massive support from the masses, making her very popular before the elections.

> Key Points: Dissolution of Lok Sabha for fresh mandate - Victory in 1971 Indo-Pak war and creation of Bangladesh - Nationalisation of fourteen banks - Abolition of privy purse and removal of royal privileges

Question 28.

Was the Emergency declared in 1975 necessary ? Support your answer with two arguments.

[4 Marks]

Answer: Was the Emergency declared in 1975 necessary? Support your answer with two arguments.

The Emergency declared in 1975 was controversial and many argue it was not necessary. However, the government justified it on the grounds of internal disturbances threatening the stability of the nation.

Argument 1: The government believed that there was a serious threat of internal disturbance that could disrupt law and order and affect the security of the country. Such a situation warranted extraordinary powers to maintain stability and peace.

Argument 2: The Emergency provision was used to prevent political chaos and protect the constitutional system, as the political crisis at that time was considered more serious than the constitutional crisis. Moreover, this led to amendments that clarified and restricted the grounds and procedure for declaring Emergency in future.

Thus, although its necessity is debated, the government felt that Emergency was required to protect the nation from internal disorder and to safeguard the Constitution.

> **Key Points: Internal disturbance as a threat - Political crisis more serious than constitutional one - Reforms in Emergency provisions post 1975**

Section E

Question 29.

Analyse any four decisions made by the Chinese leadership that led to the rise of the Chinese economy.

[6 Marks]

Answer: Analysis of Four Decisions Made by Chinese Leadership Leading to Economic Rise

(a) Opening up diplomatic relations with the United States in 1972 ended China's political and economic isolation. This allowed China to engage with the global economy and paved the way for foreign trade and investment.

(b) Introduction of new economic policies marked a shift from a purely planned economy to a market-oriented system where the state still played a central role. This helped overcome economic stagnation and encouraged growth.

(c) Privatization of agriculture greatly increased agricultural production and rural incomes. This boost in rural prosperity led to higher savings and the growth of rural industries, providing a strong base for overall economic growth.

(d) Establishment of Special Economic Zones and new trading laws attracted foreign investment and technology, resulting in a phenomenal rise in foreign trade and industrial development. These zones served as experimental areas for market-oriented reforms and opening to global markets.

Key Points: Diplomatic opening with the US in 1972 - Shift to market-oriented economic policies - Privatization of agriculture - Creation of Special Economic Zones and new trading laws

Question 30.

Analyse any four reasons that make the European Union an influential regional organisation

[6 Marks]

Answer: Ans: The European Union (EU) is an influential regional organisation due to several reasons:
(1) Economic Power: The EU is one of the largest economic entities in the world, which allows it to influence economic policies and trade with its neighbours and other continents like Asia and Africa.
(2) Political and Diplomatic Influence: The EU acts as a unified political entity with member countries coordinating policies. Members like France hold permanent seats on the UN Security Council, enhancing its diplomatic strength.
(3) Role in International Organisations: The EU functions as an important bloc in organisations such as the World Trade Organisation (WTO), helping shape global trade rules.
(4) Expansion and Integration: The EU has expanded by incorporating many countries, including those from the former Soviet bloc, increasing its influence significantly in Europe.
These factors combined make the European Union a powerful and influential regional organisation.

Key Points: Economic power - Political and diplomatic influence - Role in international organisations - Expansion and integration

Question 31.

Explain the concept of 'common but differentiated responsibilities' to conserve, protect and restore the health of the environment.

[6 Marks]

Answer: Meaning: The principle of common but differentiated responsibilities means that while all countries share the responsibility to protect the environment, their obligations differ based on their development levels and contributions to environmental degradation.
Explanation: Developed countries have historically contributed more to global environmental problems due to industrialisation and therefore bear greater responsibility in taking action. They have more technological and financial resources to help conserve, protect, and restore the environment. Developing countries have special needs and fewer resources, so their responsibilities are different and adjusted accordingly. This principle was accepted at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio, highlighting that all nations must work together while recognising their

different capabilities and impacts.
Importance: It promotes fairness and cooperation in global environmental governance. For example, protecting the ozone layer, reducing pollution, and conserving forests are common goals, but developed countries are expected to lead efforts and support developing nations. This helps ensure sustainable development for present and future generations, maintaining the ecological balance and protecting natural resources that are essential for all.
In summary: The concept encourages shared commitment but recognises differing duties, helping the world address environmental challenges collectively and effectively.

> Key Points: Principle of shared but different responsibilities - Developed countries bear greater responsibility and must take lead due to higher contribution and resources - Developing countries have special needs and fewer resources, so their obligations are different

Question 32.

Explain any four steps taken by the Government of India to save the environment from degradation

[6 Marks]

Answer: Four steps taken by the Government of India to save the environment from degradation are:
1. National Auto-fuel Policy: This policy mandates the use of cleaner fuels for vehicles, which reduces air pollution and harmful emissions.
2. Energy Conservation Act, 2001: It promotes initiatives to improve energy efficiency in industries and homes, reducing overall energy consumption and lowering pollution.
3. Electricity Act, 2003: This act encourages the generation and use of renewable energy sources such as solar and wind energy, which are environment-friendly.
4. Promotion of clean coal technologies and natural gas imports: These efforts aim to reduce the environmental impact of fossil fuels by adopting cleaner technologies and using cleaner fuels like natural gas instead of coal or petrol.
These steps show that India is actively working towards controlling environmental degradation by adopting cleaner energy and fuel sources and improving energy efficiency.

> Key Points: National Auto-fuel Policy - Energy Conservation Act 2001 - Electricity Act 2003 - Promotion of clean coal technologies and natural gas imports

Question 33.

Explain any three reasons that are responsible for the strained relations between India and China.

[6 Marks]

Answer: Answer:

(a) Border Disputes: The primary reason for strained relations between India and China is their long-standing border disputes. The two countries have disagreed over the boundary lines in regions like Aksai Chin and Arunachal Pradesh. These boundary issues have led to conflicts, including the war of 1962.

(b) China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC): China's support to Pakistan through the CPEC, which passes through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, is seen by India as a violation of its sovereignty. This economic corridor has increased tensions between India and China.

(c) China's Support to Pakistan in International Forums: China has often supported Pakistan at platforms like the United Nations against India's efforts to counter terrorism. This political backing to Pakistan causes mistrust and worsens diplomatic relations between India and China.

These factors together contribute to the strained relations between the two countries despite efforts made at diplomatic talks and improving trade relations in recent years.

> Key Points: Border disputes - China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) - China's support to Pakistan in international forums

Question 34.

Explain any three important features of India's Nuclear Policy

[6 Marks]

Answer: India's Nuclear Policy has three important features:

(a) Peaceful Use: India is committed to using nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes such as generating electricity and medical research. It opposes the use of nuclear weapons for aggression.

(b) Strategic Deterrence: India maintains a credible nuclear deterrent to protect its national security. This means it has developed nuclear weapons to prevent nuclear threats and attacks from other countries, especially in the context of its relations with neighbours like China and Pakistan.

(c) Non-Proliferation Stance: India has opposed international treaties like the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) as they are selectively applied and favor only five nuclear powers. India supports strengthening international norms that protect its security interests while maintaining its right to develop nuclear technology independently.

These features together reflect India's approach to balance peaceful development with national security and sovereignty in the nuclear domain.

> Key Points: Commitment to peaceful use - Maintaining strategic nuclear deterrence - Opposition to selective international non-proliferation treaties

Question 35.

'Regional aspirations and demands are part and parcel of democratic politics.' Support the statement with three examples.

[6 Marks]

Answer: Answer: Regional aspirations and demands are an integral part of democratic politics because democracy allows diverse groups to express their identities and interests freely.
(a) In India, the demand for separate states such as Telangana arose due to distinct regional identity and developmental needs, showing that democracy accommodates regional aspirations peacefully.
(b) The rise of regional parties like the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) in Tamil Nadu highlights how regional aspirations find political expression within a democratic framework.
(c) In the United Kingdom, regional demands from Scotland and Wales for greater autonomy or independence show that even established democracies face regional aspirations but manage them through democratic processes.
These examples show that regional identities and demands are natural in diverse societies, and democratic politics provides a platform for their expression and resolution, thus strengthening democratic governance.

> **Key Points: Regional aspirations are natural in diverse societies - Democracy allows political expression of these aspirations - Examples include Telangana movement, DMK in Tamil Nadu, and Scottish autonomy demands**

Question 36.

Suggest any three measures to strengthen 'unity in diversity' in India.

[6 Marks]

Answer: Three measures to strengthen unity in diversity in India:
(a) Promoting Cultural Awareness and Respect: Educating people about different cultures, languages, and traditions helps in creating mutual respect and understanding among diverse communities. Celebrating festivals of various groups together can bring people closer.
(b) Implementing Inclusive Policies: The government should ensure that laws and policies respect and protect the rights of all communities without discrimination, such as promoting a uniform civil code that supports equality and fairness.
(c) Encouraging National Integration: Promoting the idea of India as one nation despite differences through national symbols like the flag, and encouraging people to work together for common goals helps in building a sense of unity.

Key Points: Promoting cultural awareness and respect - Implementing inclusive policies - Encouraging national integration