

Contemporary South Asia

Fastrack Revision

► Introduction of South Asia

- 'South Asia' usually includes the following countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
 - The mighty Himalayas in the North and the vast Indian Ocean, the Australian sea and the Bay of Bengal in the South, West and East respectively provide a natural insularity to the region, which is largely responsible for the linguistic, social and cultural distinctiveness of the sub-continent.
 - Despite many problems and limitations, Sri Lanka and India have successfully operated a democratic system since their independence from the British.
 - Despite of many limitations of India's democracy, we have to remember the fact that India has remained a democracy throughout its existence as an independent country.
 - Pakistan and Bangladesh have experienced both civilian and military rule.
 - Pakistan began the post-cold war period with successive democratic governments under Benazir Bhutto and Nawaz Sharif respectively.
 - Pakistan suffered a military coup in 1991.
- Till 2006, Nepal was a constitutional monarchy with the danger of the king taking over executive power.

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In 2008, the monarchy was abolished and Nepal emerged as a democratic republic.

- Bhutan became a constitutional monarchy in 2008. Under the leadership of the king, it emerged as a multi-party democracy.
 - Despite the mixed record of the democratic experience, the people in all these countries share the aspiration for democracy.
- ### ► The Military and Democracy in Pakistan
- General Ayub Khan took over the administrations of Pakistan and got himself elected just after the framing of its first Constitution.
 - General Ayub Khan had to give up his office due to the dissatisfaction against his rule.
 - Military takeover under general Yahya Khan.
 - Pakistan faced the Bangladesh crises and a war with India in 1971, during general Yahya Khan's military rule.
 - Zulfikar Ali Bhutto came to power from 1971 to 1977, which was removed by general Zia-ul-Haq in 1977.

- An elected democratic government was established in 1988 under the leadership of Benazir Bhutto, after removing general Zia-ul-Haq in Pakistan.
- The competitive politics in Pakistan lasted till 1999 between Benazir party, the Pakistan People's Party and the Muslim League but was again ruled by army under General Pervez Musharraf.

► Factors that contributed to Pakistan's failure in Building a stable democracy.

- The social dominance of the military, clergy and landowning aristocracy has led to the frequent overthrow of elected governments and establishment of military government.
- Pakistan's conflict with India has made pro-military groups more powerful.
- Pro-military groups consider political parties and democracy as flawed and country's security would be harmed by selfish-minded parties.
- The lack of genuine international support has further encouraged the military to continue its dominance in the country.

► Democracy in Bangladesh

- Bangladesh was a part of Pakistan from 1947 to 1971.
- The people of East Pakistan resented the domination of West Pakistan and the imposition of the Urdu language.
- Sheikh Mujib-ur-Rahman led the popular struggle against West Pakistani domination.
- In the 1970 elections, the Awami League led by Sheikh Mujib won all the seats in East Pakistan and secured a majority in the proposed constituent assembly.
- Sheikh Mujib was arrested as the West Pakistani leaders refused to convene the assembly.
- Under the military rule of general Yahya Khan, the Pakistani army tried to suppress the movement of the Bengali people.
- A large scale migrants started to move to India creating a huge refugee problem.
- The Government of India supported the demands of the people of East Pakistan (financially and militarily) resulting in a war between India and Pakistan in December 1971.
- Bangladesh became an independent country in the year 1971.
- In 1975, Sheikh Mujib got the constitution amended to shift from the parliamentary to presidential form of government.



- Sheikh Mujib also abolished all parties except his own, the Awami League.
 - In August 1975, Sheikh Mujib was assassinated in a military uprising.
 - Ziaur Rahman, a new military ruler formed his own Bangladesh National Party and won elections in 1979.
 - Another military takeover followed under the leadership of Lt. General H.M. Ershad after the assassination of Ziaur Rahman.
 - The people of Bangladesh soon rose in support of the demand for democracy.
 - Mass public protests made Ershad step down in 1990 and elections were held in 1991. Since then representative democracy based on multi-party elections has been working in Bangladesh.
- ▶ **Monarchy and Democracy in Nepal**
- Nepal was a Hindu kingdom in the past and then a constitutional monarchy in the modern period for many years.
 - The king, with the help of the army, retained full control over the government and restricted the expansion of democracy in Nepal.
 - The king accepted the demand for a new democratic constitution in 1990, in the wake of a strong pro-democracy movement.
 - During the nineties, the Maoists of Nepal were successful in spreading their influence in many parts of Nepal.
 - Maoists believed in armed insurrection against monarch and the ruling elite which led to violent conflict between Maoist Guerrillas and Armed forces of king.
 - In 2002, the king abolished the parliament dismissed the government, thus ending the limited democracy that existed in Nepal.
 - In April 2006, there were massive country-wide, pro-democracy protests.
 - The largely non-violent movement was led by the Seven Party Alliance (SPA), the Maoists and social activists.
 - In 2008, Nepal became a democratic republic after abolishing the monarchy and adopted a new constitution in 2015.
- ▶ **Ethnic Conflict and Democracy in Sri Lanka**
- Politics in Sri Lanka (then known as Ceylon), after its independence was dominated by forces that represented the interest of the majority Sinhala community.
 - Sri Lankans were hostile to a large number of Tamils who had migrated from India to Sri Lanka and settled there.
 - The neglect of Tamil concerns led to militant Tamil Nationalism.
 - From 1983 onwards, the militant organisation, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) has been fighting an armed struggle with the army of Sri Lanka and demanding 'Tamil Eelam' or a separate country for the Tamils of Sri Lanka.
- The Sri Lankan problem involves people of Indian origin, due to which there is considerable pressure from the Tamil people in India in order to protect the interests of the Tamil in Sri Lanka.
 - India signed an accord with Sri Lanka and sent troops to stabilise relations between the Sri Lankan government and the Tamils.
 - In 1987, the government of India for the first time got directly involved in the Sri Lankan Tamil question.
 - In 1989, the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) pulled out of Sri Lanka without attaining its objective.
 - In spite of the conflict, Sri Lanka has registered considerable economic growth and recorded high levels of human development.
 - Sri Lanka was one of the first developing countries.
- ▶ **India-Pakistan Conflicts:** The two countries have a common history and cultural heritage, yet the Pakistan government has usually been hostile to us.
- **Kashmir Dispute**
 - Soon after the partition, the two countries got embroiled in a conflict over the fate of Kashmir.
 - The Pakistani government claimed that Kashmir belonged to it. Wars between India and Pakistan in 1947-48 and 1965 failed to settle the matter.
 - The 1947-48 war resulted in the division of the province into Pakistan occupied Kashmir and the Indian province of Jammu and Kashmir divided by the Line of Control.
 - In 1971, India won a decisive war against Pakistan but the Kashmir issue remained unsettled.
 - **Conflict over Siachen Glacier**
 - India's conflict with Pakistan is also over strategic issues like the control of the Siachen glacier and over acquisition of arms.
 - Pakistan sent troops in large numbers with a view to strengthening its hold over the glacier.
 - **Arms Race**
 - The arms race between two countries assumed a new character with both states acquiring nuclear weapons and missiles to deliver such arms against each other in the 1990s.
 - In 1998, India conducted nuclear explosion in Pokaran.
 - Pakistan responded by carrying out nuclear tests in the Chagai Hills.
 - India and Pakistan seems to have built a military relationship in which the possibility of a direct and full scale war was declined.
 - **Sharing River Water Dispute**
 - India and Pakistan also have had problems over the sharing of river waters.
 - Until 1960, they have locked in a fierce argument over the use of the rivers of the Indus basin.
 - In 1960, with the help of the World Bank, India and Pakistan signed the Indus Water Treaty.
 - **Other Issues**
 - The Indian government also believes that Pakistan had aided the pro-Khalistani militants with arms and ammunitions during the period 1985-1995.



- Its Spy agency, Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) is alleged to be involved in various anti-India campaigns in India's North-East, operating secretly through Bangladesh and Nepal.
- The two countries are not in agreement over the demarcation line in Sir Creek in the Rann of Kutch.

► India and its other Neighbours

- **India and Bangladesh:** The government of India and Bangladesh have had differences over several issues including the sharing of the Ganga and the Brahmaputra river waters.

► Issues of Conflicts

- The Indian government has been unhappy with Bangladesh's denial of illegal immigration to India, its support for anti-Indian Islamic fundamentalist groups.
- Bangladesh's refusal to allow Indian troops to move through its territory to North-Eastern India.
- Its decision not to export natural gas to India or allow Myanmar to do so through Bangladeshi territory.
- Bangladeshi governments have felt that the Indian government behaves like a regional bully over the sharing of river waters, encouraging rebellion in the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

► Cooperation Among the Countries

- Economic relations have improved considerably in the last 20 years.
- Bangladesh is a part of India's Look East Policy that wants to link up with South-East Asia *via* Myanmar.
- On disaster management and environmental issues, the two states have cooperated regularly.
- In 2015, they exchanged certain enclaves.
- Efforts are on to broaden the areas of cooperation further by identifying common threats and being more sensitive to each other's need.

► India and Nepal

- Nepal and India enjoy a very special relationship that has very few parallels in the world.
- A treaty between the two countries allows that citizens of the two countries can travel to and work in the other country without visa and passport.

► Issues of Conflict

- The Indian government has often expressed displeasure at the warm relationship between Nepal and China and at the Nepal government's inaction against anti-Indian elements.
- Many leaders and citizens in Nepal think that the Indian government interferes in its internal affairs, has designs on its river waters and hydro-electricity, and prevents Nepal, a landlocked country, from getting easier access to the sea through Indian territory.
- Despite differences, trade, scientific cooperation, common natural resources, electricity generation and interlocking water management grids hold the two countries together.

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The relations between India and Sri Lanka are centuries old. They have shared a common history of colonial exploitation.

► India and Sri Lanka

- The government of India and Sri Lanka have difficulties mostly over ethnic conflict in the island nation.
- Indian leaders and citizens find it impossible to remain neutral when Tamils are politically unhappy and are being killed.
- After the military intervention in 1987 the Indian government now prefers a policy of this disengagement vis-à-vis Sri Lanka's internal troubles.
- Signed a free trade agreement with Sri Lanka which strengthened relations between the two countries.
- India's help in post-tsunami reconstruction in Sri Lanka has also brought the two countries closer.

► India and Bhutan

- India enjoys a very special relationship with Bhutan.
- The efforts made by the Bhutanese monarch to weed out the guerrillas and militants from North-Eastern India that operate in his country have been helpful to India.
- India is involved in big hydroelectric project in Bhutan and remains the Himalayan Kingdom's biggest source of development aid.

► Peace and Cooperation in South Asia

- The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) is a major regional initiative by the South Asian states to evolve cooperation through multilateral means.
- SAARC members signed the South Asian Free Trade (SAFTA) agreement which promised the formation of a free trade zone for the whole of South Asia.
- The Agreement was signed in 2004 and came into effect on 1 January, 2006.
- SAFTA aims at lowering trade tariffs.
- But some of our neighbours fear that SAFTA is a way for India to invade their market and to influence their societies and politics through commercial ventures and commercial presence in the countries.
- The Indian analysts think that SAFTA is not worth the trouble since India already has bilateral agreements with Bhutan, Nepal and Sri Lanka.
- Although India-Pakistan relations seem to be a story of endemic conflict and violence, there have been a series of efforts to manage tensions and build peace.
- India-Pakistan have agreed to undertake confidence building measures to the risk of war.
- Trade between the two parts of Punjab has increased substantially in the last five years.



Important Dateline

Date/Year	Important Events
1947	— India and Pakistan got independence and emerged as independent states from the British rule.
1947-1971	— Bangladesh was a part of Pakistan known as East Pakistan.



- 1948 — Sri Lanka got independence, starting of Indo-Pak conflict over Kashmir.
- 1960 — India and Pakistan signed the Indus Water Treaty.
- 1962 — Border conflict between India and China.
- 1965 — War between India and Pakistan.
- 1966 — Tashkent Agreement signed between India and Pakistan.
- 1971 — Bangladesh proclaimed independence after Indo-Pak war.
— A treaty of friendship signed between India and China and Soviet Union for 20 years.
- 1972 — In July, Shimla Agreement signed between India and Pakistan.

- 1974 — First nuclear test conducted by India.
- 1985 — SAARC charter was signed by South Asian leaders at the first summit in Dhaka.
- 1987 — Indo-Sri Lanka Accord (operation by IPKF).
- 1988-91 — Democracy restored in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal.
- 1998 — Free trade agreement was signed by India and Sri Lanka.
- 2004 — SAFTA signed at the 12th SAARC Summit in Islamabad.
- 2007 — Afghanistan joins SAARC.
- 2014 — The 18th SAARC Summit in Kathmandu, Nepal.



Practice Exercise

Multiple Choice Questions

Q 1. Which among the following statement about South Asia is wrong?

- a. Bangladesh and India have signed an agreement on river water sharing
- b. The US and China play an Influential role in South Asian politics
- c. Pakistan never had a democratic government
- d. SAFTA was signed at the 12th SAARC summit in Islamabad

Q 2. Which of the following is the largest country of South Asia?

- a. Bangladesh
- b. Sri Lanka
- c. Pakistan
- d. India

Q 3. South Asia usually includes the following:

- a. Bangladesh, Ukraine, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka
- b. Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka
- c. Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka
- d. Bangladesh, Bhutan, Ukraine, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka

Q 4. Which factor contributed to Pakistan's failure in building a stable democracy? (CBSE 2020)

- a. Dominance of the landowning aristocracy
- b. Dominance of the clergy
- c. Dominance of the military
- d. All of the above

Q 5. gave up the office because of the popular dissatisfaction against his rule.

- a. General Ayub Khan
- b. Imran Khan
- c. Benazir Bhutto
- d. Zubaida Jalal Khan

Q 6. Which of the following is not a feature of Bangladesh?

- a. Majority of Muslim population
- b. There have been pro-democracy movement on some occasions
- c. It is a nuclear power
- d. There have been military take over some time.

Q 7. In 2001, General Musharraf got himself elected as the:

- a. Foreign Affairs Minister
- b. Prime Minister
- c. Defense Minister
- d. President

Q 8. Which of the following countries was the first country to liberalise its economy in the South Asia Region?

- a. Bhutan
- b. Pakistan
- c. India
- d. Sri Lanka

Q 9. Which one of the following statements about the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka is false? (CBSE 2018)

- a. There was no political equality in Sri Lanka
- b. Liberation tigers of Tamil Eelam were supported by the SAARC countries
- c. Interests of Tamil were neglected
- d. Politics in Sri Lanka openly favoured the Sinhala

Q 10. Match the List I with List II.

List I	List II
A. Indigenous people of Cordillera region	(i) Chile
B. Mapuche	(ii) Bangladesh
C. Tribal people of the Chittagong Hill tracts	(iii) Philippines
D. Kuna tribe	(iv) East of Panama Canal

(CBSE SQP 2023-24)

Codes:

- A B C D
- a. (iii) (i) (ii) (iv)
- b. (ii) (I) (iii) (iv)
- c. (ii) (I) (iv) (iii)
- d. (iv) (ii) (iii) (i)

Q 11. Match the following:

Column I	Column II
A. Sheikh-Mujibur Rahman	(i) An independent country in the year 1971.
B. Bangladesh	(ii) Hindu Kingdom in the past.
C. Nepal	(iii) Hostile to a large number of Tamils.
D. Sri Lankans	(iv) The popular struggle against West Pakistani domination.

Codes:

- A B C D
 a. (i) (ii) (iii) (iv)
 b. (iv) (i) (ii) (iii)
 c. (ii) (iii) (i) (iv)
 d. (i) (iv) (iii) (ii)

Q 12. LTTE stands for:

- a. Liberation Terror of Tamil Estate
 b. Lifelong Tigers of Tamil Estrangement
 c. Lieutenant Tigers of Tamil Estate
 d. Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam

Q 13. In which year India and Pakistan signed the 'Indus Water Treaty'?

- a. 1955 b. 1948
 c. 1960 d. 1993

Q 14. In which of the following countries, small savings and credit cooperatives in the rural area have helped in reducing poverty?

- a. Nepal b. Bangladesh
 c. Sri Lanka d. India

Q 15. Till 2006, what type of government was there in Nepal?

- a. Liberal Communist
 b. Democratic
 c. Constitutional monarchy
 d. None of the above



Assertion & Reason Type Questions

Directions (Q.Nos. 16-20): In the questions given below, there are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option:

- a. Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
 b. Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
 c. (A) is true, but (R) is false.
 d. (A) is false, but (R) is true.

Q 16. Assertion (A): Despite the mixed record of the democratic experience, the people in all the South Asian countries share the aspiration for democracy.
Reason (R): A recent survey of the attitudes of the people in the five big countries of the region showed that there is widespread support for democracy in all these countries.

Q 17. Assertion (A): General Ayub Khan had to give up office when there was popular dissatisfaction against his rule.

Reason (R): Pakistan continued to enjoy the status of being a democratic nation.

Q 18. Assertion (A): Bangladesh drafted its constitution declaring faith in secularism, democracy and socialism.

Reason (R): However, in 1975 Sheikh Mujib got the constitution amended to shift from the parliamentary to presidential form of government.

Q 19. Assertion (A): Democratic governments had a short and troubled career.

Reason (R): India continued to enjoy democratic status since its inception. It is considered to be among the best democracies of the world.

Q 20. Assertion (A): The Sri Lankan crisis continued to be violent.

Reason (R): However, International actors, particularly the Scandinavian countries such as Norway and Iceland tried to bring the warring groups back to negotiations.



Fill in the Blank Type Questions

Q 21. India and Pakistan has signed for solving the problem of sharing of river water.

Q 22. was a part of Pakistan from 1947 to 1971.

Q 23. SAFTA was signed in and came into effect on 1 January, 2006.

Q 24. Sri Lanka faced a serious challenge of conflict.

Q 25. In Nepal became a democratic republic after abolishing the monarchy.



True or False Type Questions

Q 26. ASEAN was established in 1967 by five countries of this region after signing Tokyo Declaration.

Q 27. SAFTA was signed in 2004 and came into effect on 10 January, 2005.

Q 28. The expression 'South Asia' usually includes Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Q 29. The lack of genuine international support for democratic rule in Pakistan has encouraged the military to continue its dominance.

Q 30. In the past Nepal was a Hindu Kingdom.



Correct and Rewrite Type Questions

Q 31. India and Bangladesh have experienced both Civilian and Military rule.

Q 32. Bhutan became an independent country in the year 1971.

Answers

1. (a) 2. (d) 3. (c) 4. (d) 5. (a)
6. (c) 7. (d) 8. (d) 9. (b) 10. (a)
11. (b) 12. (d) 13. (c) 14. (b) 15. (c)
16. (a) 17. (c) 18. (b) 19. (d) 20. (b)
21. Indus Water Treaty.
22. Bangladesh.
23. 2004. 24. Ethnic. 25. 2008. 26. False
27. False 28. True 29. True 30. True
31. Pakistan and Bangladesh have experienced both Civilian and Military rule.
32. Bangladesh became an independent country in the year 1971.

Passage Based Questions

Passage 1

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow by choosing the most appropriate option:

LTTE has been fighting an armed struggle with the army of Sri Lanka and demanding 'Tamil Eelam' or a separate country for the Tamils of Sri Lanka. The LTTE controls the North-Eastern parts of Sri Lanka.

The Sri Lankan problem involves people of Indian origin, and there is considerable pressure from the Tamil people in India to the effect that the Indian government should protect the interests of the Tamils in Sri Lanka. The government of India has from time to time tried to negotiate with the Sri Lankan government on the Tamil question. But in 1987, the government of India for the first time got directly involved in the Sri Lankan Tamil question. India signed an accord with Sri Lanka and sent troops to stabilise relations between the Sri Lankan government and the Tamils. Eventually, the Indian Army got into a fight with the LTTE. The presence of Indian troops was also not liked much by the Sri Lankans. They saw this as an attempt by India to interfere in the internal affairs of Sri Lanka. In 1989, the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) pulled out of Sri Lanka without attaining its objective.

- Q 1. What was the reason behind the pressure of Indian Tamils in order to protect and safeguard the interests of the Tamils living in Sri Lanka?**
- Because Tamils from Sri Lanka are the ancestors of Indian Tamils.
 - Because Tamils living in Sri Lanka were the brothers of Indian Tamils.
 - Because the conflict in Sri Lanka involves people of Indian origin.
 - All of the above

- Q 2. The government of India directly got involve in the conflict of Sri Lanka in the year**
- 1989
 - 1988
 - 1987
 - 1990
- Q 3. Who posed challenge to Indian Army in Sri Lanka?**
- LTTE
 - Indian Tamils
 - Sri Lankan government
 - Local Tamils
- Q 4. When was IPKF pulled out of Sri Lanka without attaining its objectives?**
- 2009
 - 1989
 - 1990
 - 1999

Answers

1. (c) 2. (c) 3. (a) 4. (b)

Passage 2

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow by choosing the most appropriate option:

After Pakistan framed its first constitution, General Ayub Khan took over the administration of the country and soon got himself elected. He had to give up office when there was popular dissatisfaction against his rule. This gave way to a military takeover once again under General Yahya Khan. During Yahya's military rule, Pakistan faced the Bangladesh crisis, and after a war with India in 1971, East Pakistan broke away to emerge as an independent country called Bangladesh. After this, an elected government under the leadership of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto came to power in Pakistan from 1971 to 1977. The Bhutto government was removed by General Zia-ul-Haq in 1977. General Zia faced a pro-democracy movement from 1982 onwards and an elected democratic government was established once again in 1988 under the leadership of Benazir Bhutto. In the period that followed, Pakistani politics centred around the competition between her party, the Pakistan People's Party, and the Muslim League. This phase of elected democracy lasted till 1999 when the army stepped in again and General Pervez Musharraf removed Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

- Q 1. Bangladesh crisis was faced under which leader's rule in Pakistan?**
- Benazir Bhutto
 - General Yahya Khan
 - Zulfikar Ali Bhutto
 - General Ayub Khan
- Q 2. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's government lasted from**
- 1971 to 1973
 - 1971 to 1976
 - 1971 to 1988
 - 1971 to 1977
- Q 3. When was Bhutto's government removed and by whom?**
- Asif Ali Zardari, 2000
 - General Zia-ul-Haq, 1977
 - Benazir Bhutto, 1976
 - General Yahya Khan, 1990

Q 4. Who took power from Nawaz Sharif?

- a. Benazir Bhutto b. Asif Ali Zardari
c. General Musharraf d. None of these

Answers

1. (b) 2. (d) 3. (b) 4. (c)

Passage 3

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

Despite the mixed record of the democratic experience, the people in all these countries share the aspiration for democracy. A recent survey of the attitudes of the people in the five big countries of the region showed that there is widespread support for democracy in all these countries. Ordinary citizens, rich as well as poor and belonging to different religions, view the idea of democracy positively and support the institutions of representative democracy. They prefer democracy over any other form of government and think that democracy is suitable for their country. These are significant findings, for it was earlier believed that democracy could flourish and find support only in prosperous countries of the world.

Q 1. Assess the popularity of representative democracy.

Ans. Representative democracy has gained popularity due to widespread support in the five big countries, where ordinary citizens—rich and poor, belonging to different religions, view the idea of democracy positively and support the institutions of representative democracy.

Q 2. Analyse the reasons for the widespread support for democracy in the five big countries of South Asia.

Ans. It suits their country and gives the hope of fulfilling their aspirations i.e., political freedoms as well as economic well being.

Q 3. How far do you agree with the view that democracy can flourish and find support only in prosperous countries?

Ans. I do not agree with this view. Examples of India and Sri Lanka are a proof of the success of democracy. Other countries also have had the democratic aspirations. (or any other relevant point).

Passage 4

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

The lack of genuine international support for democratic rule in Pakistan has further encouraged the military to continue its dominance. The United States and other Western countries have encouraged the military's authoritarian rule in the past, for their own reasons. Given their fear of the threat of what they call 'Global Islamic Terrorism' and the apprehension that Pakistan's nuclear arsenal might fall into the hands of these terrorist

groups, the military regime in Pakistan has been seen as the Protector of Western interests in West Asia and South Asia.

Q 1. What is meant by 'Global Islamic Terrorism'?

Ans. Global Islamic Terrorism is defined as a fear of threat by Islamic outfits funded by various Islamic nations.

Q 2. Why did Pakistan lack genuine international support for democratic rule?

Ans. The lack of genuine international support for democratic rule in Pakistan has further encouraged the military to continue its dominance. The United States and other Western countries have encouraged the military's authoritarian rule in the past, for their own reasons.

Q 3. Why was the military regime in Pakistan considered as the protector of Western interests in West Asia and South Asia?

Ans. There was apprehension that Pakistan's nuclear weapons might go into the hands of the terrorist groups. Thus, they see the military regime in Pakistan as the protector of Western interests in West Asia and South Asia.

Passage 5

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

No region exists in a vacuum. It is influenced by outside powers and events no matter how much it may try to insulate itself from non-regional powers. China and the United States remain key players in South Asian politics. Sino-Indian relations have improved significantly in the last ten years, but China's strategic partnership with Pakistan remains a major irritant. The demands of development and globalisation have brought the two Asian giants closer, and their economic ties have multiplied rapidly since 1991.

Q 1. Which two countries have been referred to as outside powers?

Ans. The US and China.

Q 2. Which are the two Asian giants and why they have been called to?

Ans. India and China are two Asian giants because both of them have been considered as rising economic powers in the world.

Q 3. China's strategic partnership with Pakistan is a major irritant for which country and why?

Ans. India, because China has been seen as a contributor to Pakistan's nuclear programme.



Very Short Answer Type Questions

Q 1. Enlist the features of Indo-Bhutan relationship.

(CBSE SQP 2023-24)

Ans. India does not have any major conflict with the Bhutanese government.

- (i) The efforts made by Bhutanese monarch to weed out the Guerrillas and militants from north-eastern India that operate in the country have been helpful to India.
- (ii) India is involved in big hydroelectric project in Bhutan and remains the Himalayan Kingdom's biggest source of development aid.

Q 2. Mention the name of the countries which entered into the Free Trade Agreement in December, 1998.

Ans. India and Sri Lanka.

Q 3. In which year India sent a peace-keeping force to Sri Lanka?

Ans. In 1987.

Q 4. Who controlled the North-Eastern parts of Sri Lanka?

Ans. The LTTE controlled the North-Eastern parts of Sri Lanka.

Q 5. Whose mediation resolved the 'Indus River Water Dispute' between India and Pakistan?

Ans. The World Bank resolved the 'Indus River Water Dispute' between India and Pakistan.

Q 6. Mention any two objectives of SAARC.

Ans. (i) Peace and friendly relations among the nation.
(ii) Cooperation through multi-lateral ways.

Q 7. Which two countries of the South Asian Region in your opinion have retained their democratic tradition since independence? (CBSE 2018, 19)

Ans. India and Sri Lanka are the two countries of the South Asian region which have retained this democratic tradition since independence.

Q 8. What was the 'Two Nation Theory' propounded by Muslim League?

Ans. India consisted of not one but two 'religious sects' Hindus and Muslims who cannot inhabit in same territories due to their varying interests. According to the Muslim League, there should be a separate country for Muslims, that is Pakistan, and India should only consist of Hindus.

Q 9. Suggest any one measure to improve Indo-Pak ties in the current scenario. (CBSE 2019)

Ans. (i) Social activists and prominent personalities can collaborate to create an atmosphere of friendship.

(ii) Leaders can meet at summits to create better understanding. (Any one point)

Q 10. Describe the ideology of Maoists of Nepal.

Ans. Maoists of Nepal believed in armed insurrection against the monarchy and the ruling elite, now they have entered into a pact with the government.

Q 11. Why are the most of major conflict in South Asia between India and other countries?

Ans. Due to the geography of the region in which India is located centrally and shares borders with the other countries.

Q 12. What was the reason for the formation of SAARC?

Ans. The states of South Asia recognised the importance of cooperation and friendly relations among themselves which gave birth to the formation of SAARC for mutual trust and understanding among its member states.

Q 13. What is meant by geopolitics?

Ans. Togetherness of countries who are bound with each other geographically and their interests are also interlinked politically and economically.

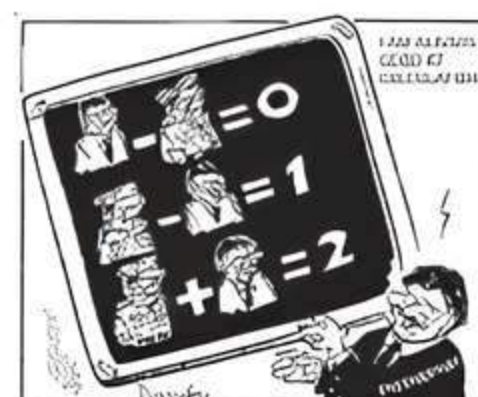
Q 14. How did the LTTE emerge?

Ans. They emerged from 1983 onwards on the negligence of Tamil interest by Sri Lankan Government. Hence, LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) took birth demanding a separate state for Tamil in Sri Lanka.



Cartoon Based Questions ↘

Q 1. Study the cartoon given below and answer the questions that follow:



(i) **Identify the country related to this cartoon.**

Ans. Pakistan.

(ii) **Calculate the system of governance being practised in this country.**

Ans. The government of Pakistan is a federal government established by the constitution of Pakistan as a constituted governing authority of the four provinces of a proclaimed and established parliamentary democratic republic, constitutionally called the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

(iii) **What does the equations speak about?**

Ans. Dominance of one person militarily more rather than only the president.

Q 2. Study the cartoon given below and answer the questions that follow:



(i) **What does the Lion in the cartoon represent? What does it believe?**

Ans. Lion represents the Sinhala community of Sri Lanka. It believes that Sri Lanka belongs to Sinhala and no concessions to the Tamils should be given.

(ii) **What does the Sri Lankan leadership speak in the cartoon?**

Ans. Sri Lankan leadership is supposed to balance both Sinhala hardliners and Tamil militants while negotiating peace.

(iii) **What does Tiger in the cartoon represent?**

Ans. Tiger represents the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam). The neglect of Tamils concerns by Sinhala led to its formation.

Q 3. Study the cartoon given below and answer the questions that follow:



(i) **Name the leaders shown in the cartoon.**

Ans. Dr. Manmohan Singh and Pakistan's General Pervez Musharraf.

(ii) **What problems do these two nations have with each other?**

Ans. The two nations (Le., India and Pakistan) have dispute on the Kashmir issue, terrorism and water dispute.

(iii) **Mention the name of bus service and train service between India and Pakistan.**

Ans. Sada-e-Sarhad (Bus Service), Samjhauta Express (Train Service).

Q 4. Study the cartoon given below and answer the questions that follow:



(i) **What is shown in the cartoon?**

Ans. The cartoon shows the leaders of the SAARC nations walking away from the meeting due to differences. The meeting have faced several halts due to the differences between India and Pakistan.

(ii) **Why is SAARC unsuccessful whereas ASEAN successful?**

Ans. Both ASEAN and SAARC were set up so that serious disputes are settled down and cooperation is ensured. ASEAN is more successful as its members keep personal issues aside and collaborate regularly, but in case of SAARC, it is opposite.

(iii) **Mention the names of the countries which are marked as M, B, N, S.**

Ans. M – Maldives
B – Bangladesh
N – Nepal
S – Sri Lanka

Short Answer Type Questions

Q 1. Analyse the two political developments of 1940s that led to the decision for the creation of Pakistan.

Ans. Two Political development of 1940s that led to the decision for the creation of Pakistan are following:

- (i) Pakistan resolution passed by Muslim League in March 1940 demanding separate homeland for the Muslim.
- (ii) Massive Hindu-Muslim riot on 16 August, 1946 which was observed as Direct Action Day by Muslim League.

Q 2. Suggest any two measures to have good relations with Pakistan. (CBSE 2015)

Ans. Two measures to have good relations with Pakistan are:

- (i) Pakistan must stop helping the Terrorist.
- (ii) Cultural delegates from both the countries must visit each other frequently.

Q 3. State any two reasons for the instability of democracy in Pakistan.

Ans. The two factors for Pakistan's failure of stable democracy are:

- (i) The social dominance of military.
- (ii) Stiff confrontation for coming to power among political parties.

Q 4. Before 1971, which two reasons were a source of resentment among the people of East Pakistan (Now Bangladesh) against West Pakistan?

Ans. The two reasons which were source of resentment (hate) among the people of East Pakistan against West Pakistan were:

- (i) West Pakistan dominated East Pakistan.
- (ii) East Pakistan was forced to use Urdu language.

Q 5. What were the two main consequences of India-Pakistan conflict of 1971?

OR Describe any two problems between India and Pakistan.

(CBSE 2022, Term-2)

Ans. The consequences of India-Pakistan conflict of 1971 are given below:

- (i) Eastern command of Pakistan military collapsed and East Pakistan was recognised as Bangladesh.
- (ii) Over 93000 Pakistan troops surrendered to the Indian forces making the largest surrender in the world since Second World War.

Q 6. Give the significance of Tashkent Agreement.

Ans. Tashkent Agreement was an agreement signed between India and Pakistan after the war of 1965. By this agreement, both the countries affirmed the need for a negotiated peaceful settlement of disputes.

Q 7. What led to the emergence of LTTE?

Ans. The Ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka for power sharing and the neglect of Tamil concerns led to militant Tamil nationalism i.e., LTTE. From 1983 onwards, LTTE, i.e., Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam has been fighting an armed struggle with the army of Sri Lanka and demanding Tamil Eelam or a separate state for the Tamils of Sri Lanka.

Q 8. How would we ascertain relations between countries?

Ans. We can ascertain relations between countries by comparing their policies and attitudes on:

- (i) National interests i.e., Economic Dimensions.
- (ii) National stability i.e., Political Dimensions.
- (iii) National security i.e., Defence Dimensions.

Q 9. Mention the full form of SAFTA and SAARC. What was the basic reason for the formation of SAARC?

Ans. (i) The full form of the SAFTA is—South Asian Free Trade Area Agreement. The full form of SAARC is—South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation.

(ii) The basic reason for formation of SAARC is to provide an integrated programme for regional development and to accelerate economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region.

Q 10. When and how did the pro-democracy forces achieve their first victory in Nepal?

Ans. It was in April 2006 that the struggling pro-democracy forces achieved their first major victory when the king was forced to reduce the House of Representatives that had been dissolved in April 2002.

- (i) The largely non-violent movement was led by the Seven Party Alliance, the Maoists and social activists.
- (ii) But Nepal's transition to democracy is not complete. At the moment, Nepal is going through a unique movement in its history because it is moving towards the formation of a constituent assembly to frame the constitution.



TIP

Emphasis should be laid upon important terms while learning and writing.

Q 11. How is military relationship maintained between India and Pakistan?

Ans. India and Pakistan have built a military relationship out of their emerging conflicts like:

- (i) The control of the Siachen glacier and acquisition of arms.
- (ii) The arms race between the countries assumed a new character with both states acquiring nuclear weapons and missiles to deliver such arms against each other in the 1990s.
- (iii) In 1998, India conducted nuclear explosion in Pokaran. Pakistan responded within a few days by carrying out nuclear tests in the Chagal Hills. Since then, India and Pakistan seems to have built a military relationship in which the possibility of a direct and full scale war has declined.

Q 12. Write any two reasons of public outrage in Eastern Pakistan (now Bangladesh) against Western Pakistan.

Ans. The people of this region resented the domination of Western Pakistan and the imposition of the Urdu language. They also demanded fair representation in administration and a fair share in political power.

Q 13. With reference to democracy, highlight any one similarity and one difference between Bangladesh and Pakistan.

Ans. Similarity: Pakistan and Bangladesh have experienced both civilian and military rule.

Difference: Pakistan continues to be dominated by military and terrorist groups whereas in Bangladesh political leader appear to dominate.

Q 14. Why India had to interfere in the conflict of Pakistan and Bangladesh in 1971?

Ans. During the rule of Yahya Khan, the Pakistani suppression led the large scale migration of Bangladeshi population to Indian states. Secondly, India was always in favour of East Pakistan's demand for their independence. This led the involvement of India in the affair.

Q 15. Name the principal players in the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka. How do you assess the prospects of the resolution of this conflict? (NCERT)

Ans. The principal players involved in the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka are the Sinhala and Tamils who had migrated from India to Sri Lanka and settled there. This migration continued even after independence. The Sinhala nationalist thought that Sri Lanka should not give 'concessions' to the Tamils because Sri Lanka belongs to the Sinhala people only.



The Sri Lankan crisis continues to be violent. But there is always a ray of hope. Both the communities should be regarded as the citizens of the country. Both the communities should work for the development of the country. The prospect of the resolution of this conflict is bright.

Q 16. Despite the ethnic conflict, Sri Lanka has maintained a democratic political system and registered considerable economic growth and high levels of human development. Explain.

OR

“In spite of the conflict, Sri Lanka has registered considerable economic growth and recorded high levels of human development.” Comment on the statement. (CBSE SQP 2023-24)

Ans. Despite the ongoing ethnic conflict, Sri Lanka has registered considerable economic growth and high levels of human development through:

- (i) Bilateral trade relations
- (ii) Liberalising economy
- (iii) Controlling the rate of growth of population. These factors led Sri Lanka to have highest per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for many years right through the civil war. It became the first country in the region to open the economy to cope up with globalisation. On the other hand, despite the ravages of internal conflict, Sri Lanka has maintained a democratic political system by introducing majoritarian concept of government.

Q 17. In spite of having different political systems, how is democracy becoming an accepted norm in the entire region of South Asia? Explain.

Ans. From the experience of Bangladesh and Nepal, we can say that democracy is becoming an accepted norm in the entire region of South Asia.

Pakistan and Bangladesh have experienced both civilian and military rule with Bangladesh remaining a democracy in the cold war period. Pakistan began the post-cold war period with successive democratic governments under Benazir Bhutto and Nawaz Sharif respectively. But it suffered a military coup in 1999 and has been run by a military regime since then.

- (i) Till 2006, Nepal was a constitutional monarchy with the danger of the king taking over executive powers. In 2006, a successful popular uprising led to the restoration of democracy and reduced the king to a nominal position.
- (ii) In the same way, despite many problems, Sri Lanka and India have successfully operated a democratic system. Despite many limitations India has remained a democracy throughout its existence as an independent country. The same is true for Sri Lanka.

Q 18. Name the countries included in South Asia. How can peace and co-operation be enhanced in the region?

- Ans.** (i) South Asia usually includes Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
- (ii) Peace and co-operation can be enhanced in the region through organisation like SAARC and steps like SAFTA in political, social, economic and cultural spheres.

Q 19. Explain the factors which have contributed in building stable democracy in Pakistan.

OR

“Like India, why could democracy not take roots in Pakistan despite the fact that both the countries share a common past?”

Ans. Factors which have contributed in building stable democracy in Pakistan:

- (i) The social dominance of the military, clergy and landowning aristocracy has led to the frequent overthrow of elected Government and the establishment of military government.
- (ii) Pakistan's conflict with India has made the pro-military groups more powerful. These groups often say that the democratic government can harm security in Pakistan, so the Army rule can make Pakistan more powerful than India.
- (iii) The lack of genuine foreign support to Pakistan is also one of the factors for the dominance of the military. The United States and other western countries have encouraged military rule in Pakistan for their own benefits.

Q 20. Despite the mixed record of democratic experience, the people of all the countries of South Asia share the aspirations of democracy. Explain.

Ans. Sri Lanka and India have successfully operated a democratic system since their independence from the British. Pakistan and Bangladesh have experienced both civilian and military rulers with Bangladesh remaining democracy in the post-Cold War period and Pakistan aspiring to have a democratic system. Nepal has transformed into a democracy from monarchy. Bhutan transformed into a democracy from monarchy. Maldives from Sultanate to Republic with a presidential form with a multi-party system. The whole of South-Asia has a widespread support for democracy and for its institution.

Q 21. Describe any two major issues of conflict between India and Pakistan leading to the War of 1971.

- Ans.** The two major issues of conflict between India and Pakistan leading to the War of 1971 are:
- (i) In 1970, Pakistan faced its biggest crisis in the way for a split near verdict *i.e.*, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's Party emerged as a winner in West Pakistan while Awami League led by Sheikh Mujib-ur Rahman swept through East Pakistan.



(ii) The Bengali population of East Pakistan had voted to protest against discriminatory attitude of West Pakistan which was not acceptable to West Pakistan rulers and they sent the army to the East Pakistan and there was brutal murder of the people.

Q 22. How is democratisation going on in Nepal since 1990?

OR

Explain the process of democratisation in Nepal.

(CBSE 2022, Term-2)

Ans. The emergence of democracy in Nepal faced three challenges which came from a triangular conflict between the monarchist forces, the democrats and the Maoists. In the beginning, democracy was installed in 1990 but very soon faced various challenges. As a result democracy was undermined. The struggle of democracy started in 2005. It was led by three important groups like the seven party alliance, the Maoist and social activists. The main aim of these groups were to restore the house of representatives, to suspend armed struggle, to frame Nepal's constitution and inclusion of social and economic restructuring in the constitution of Nepal. It was in April 2006 that the struggling pro-democracy forces achieved their first major victory when the king was forced to restore the house of representative that had been dissolved in April 2022. The largely non-violent movement was led by SPA, the Maoists and serial activist. Democracy was restored in Nepal under the constitutional monarch and finally in 2008 the people of Nepal declared it as a full fledged democratic country. Monarchy system has been removed completely. In this way after passing through various threshold Nepal emerged as a complete democracy.

Q 23. Explain the cause and consequence of the Kargil conflict of 1999.

(CBSE 2020)

Ans. The Cause of Kargil Conflict of 1999: The cause of the conflict was the infiltration of Pakistani soldiers and Kashmiri militants into Kargil district of Jammu and Kashmir and along the Line of control. The intrusion into the area, that divided the Indian territory of Ladhak from the Northern areas of the state, surprised the Indian army and operation Vijay was launched immediately to flush out the enemies from the Kargil sector. Tiger Hill, one of the highest peaks in the Drass-Kargil area of the state, became the focal point during the War. Indian Air Force (IAF) joined this operation and finally, after the fierce war of more than 60 days, India recaptured Tiger Hill and pushed the Pakistani forces back to the territory.

The Consequence of the Kargil Conflict:

Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee signed Lahore Declaration with Nawaz Sharif the Prime

Minister of Pakistan on 21 February, 1999, to maintain peace and stability between their countries and for progress and prosperity of their people.

Q 24. Name the principal players in the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka. How do you assess the prospects of the resolution of this conflict?

Ans. The principal player in the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka are the Sinhala and Tamils who had migrated from India to Sri Lanka and settled there. This migration continued even after independence. The Sinhala nationalists thought that Sri Lanka should not give 'Concessions' to the Tamils because Sri Lanka belongs to the Sinhala people only.

The Sri Lanka crisis continues to be violent. But there is always a ray of hope. Both the communities should be regarded as the citizen of the country. Both the communities should work for the development of the country. The prospect of the resolution of this conflict is bright.

Q 25. How was democracy restored in Nepal over monarchy? Explain the role of pro-democracy movement.

(CBSE 2019)

Ans. Nepal was a Hindu kingdom in the past and then a constitutional monarchy in the modern period for many years. Throughout this period, political parties and the common people of Nepal wanted a more open and responsive system of government. But the king, with the help of the army, retained full control over the government and restricted the expansion of democracy in Nepal.

In the wake of a pro-democracy movement the king accepted the demand for a new democratic constitution in 1990. However democratic government had a short and troubled career. Again in 2006 there was a triangular conflict among the monarchist forces, the democrats and the Maoists. The king abolished the parliament and dismissed the democratic government. Consequently there were massive country wide pro-democracy protests. The struggling pro-democracy forces achieved their first major victory when the king was forced to restore the House of Representatives. These non-violent movements were led by the Seven Party Alliance (SPA) Maoists and social activists.

Q 26. Which treaty governs the relationship between India and Bhutan? Give the main features of the treaty.

Ans. India enjoys a very special relationship with Bhutan and does not have any major conflict with the Bhutanese government. Actually the relations between India and Bhutan are largely governed by the friendly features. These are :

(i) India-Bhutan Treaty of Friendship of 1949.

- (ii) Under the Treaty, India undertook not to interfere in the internal matters of Bhutan.
- (iii) The Treaty also holds India responsible for the defence of Bhutan.
- (iv) Beside the efforts made by Bhutanese monarch to weed out the guerrillas and militants from North-Eastern India that operate in his country have been a great help to India.
- (v) In the same way, India is involved in big hydroelectric projects in Bhutan and remains the Himalayan Kingdom's biggest source of development aid.

Q 27. South Asia stands for diversity in every sense and yet constitutes one geo-political space. Do you agree with the statement? Give two reasons for your answer. (CBSE SQP 2022, Term-2)

Ans. Yes, South Asia stands for diversity in every sense and yet constitutes one geo-political space. The main reasons are:

- (i) The mighty Himalayas in the North and the vast Indian Ocean, the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal in the South West and East respectively provide a natural insularity to the region which is largely responsible for the linguistic, social and cultural distinctiveness of the sub-continent.
- (ii) The various countries in South Asia do not have the same kind of political systems but democracy has become an accepted norm in this region.

Q 28. American involvement in South Asia has rapidly increased after the Cold War. Give two examples to illustrate. (CBSE SQP 2022, Term-2)

Ans. Two examples which shows the American involvement in South Asia has rapidly increased after the Cold War are:

- (i) The United States has had good relations with both India and Pakistan since the end of the Cold War and increasingly works as a moderator in India-Pakistan relations.
- (ii) The economic reforms and liberal economic policies in both the countries have greatly increased the depth of American participation in the region.

Long Answer Type Questions

Q 1. What have been the main hurdles in the path of building a stable democracy in Pakistan?

(CBSE SQP 2023-24)

OR

Explain any two factors responsible for Pakistan's failure in building a stable democracy. (CBSE 2018)

Ans. Several factors have contributed to Pakistan's failure in building a stable democracy.

- (i) **Social Dominance:** The social dominance of the military, clergy and landowning aristocracy had led to the frequent overthrow of elected governments and the establishment of military governments.

(ii) **Conflict with India:** Pakistan's conflict with India has made the pro-military group more powerful. These groups have often said that political parties and democracy in Pakistan are flawed and that Pakistan's security would be harmed by selfish-minded parties and chaotic democracy, hence, the army stay in power is justified.

(iii) **Lack of International Support:** The lack of genuine international support for democratic rule in Pakistan has further encouraged the military to continue its dominance. The United States and the other western countries have encouraged the military's authoritarian rule in the past, for their own reasons.

All these points show that Pakistan prefers military rule then the democratic set up both because of internal and external factors.

Q 2. Explain the major areas of conflict between India and Pakistan. (CBSE 2017)

OR

Explain the relationship between India and Pakistan with the help of examples. (CBSE 2023)

Ans. Among crucial conflicts of South Asian regions the most salient and overwhelming is the one between India and Pakistan. The nature of their conflicts are as follows:

Soon after the partition, the two countries got embroiled in a conflict over Kashmir. The Pakistani government claimed that Kashmir belonged to it. There have been wars between India and Pakistan in 1947-48 and 1965, 1971 which has failed to settle the matter.

The 1947-48 war resulted in the division of the province into Pakistan occupied Kashmir and the Indian province of Jammu and Kashmir divided by the line of control.

In 1971, India won a decisive war against Pakistan but the Kashmir issue remained unsettled.

India's conflict with Pakistan is also over strategic issues like the control of the Siachen glacier and over the acquisition of arms.

Not only this, both the governments continue to be suspicious of each other. The Indian government has blamed the Pakistan government for using a strategy of low-key violence by helping the Kashmiri militants with arms and ammunition.

Pakistan's spy agency, Inter Services Intelligence (ISI), is alleged to be involved in various anti-India campaigns in India's north-east, operating secretly through Bangladesh and Nepal.

The government of Pakistan in turn blames the Indian government and its security agencies for fomenting trouble in the provinces of Sindh and Balochistan.

Besides, India and Pakistan also had problems over the sharing of river waters. In order to solve conflicts India and Pakistan are trying to hold negotiations on all these issues.

Q 3. "Nepal and India enjoy a very special relationship that has very few parallels in the world." Justify the statement with any three suitable arguments.

(CBSE 2017)

OR

Highlight the speciality between the India and Nepal relationships.

(CBSE 2023)

Ans. Nepal and India share a very special relationship that can be illustrated with three suitable examples as follows:

- (i) A treaty between the two countries allows the citizens of the two countries to travel and work in each other countries without visa and passports.
- (ii) Nepal being a landlocked country enjoys easier access to sea through Indian territory for the purpose of trade and commerce with other nations.
- (iii) Both countries share together trade, scientific cooperation, common natural resource, electricity generation and interlocking water management grids.

Q 4. Assess the positive and negative aspects of India's relations with Bangladesh.

Ans. The issues of tension (negative aspects) between India and Bangladesh are:

- (i) Sharing of river waters of Ganga and Brahmaputra.
- (ii) Indian Government is not happy with Bangladesh's refusal to act on unlawful immigration to India.
- (iii) Bangladesh's support to anti-Indian Islamic fundamentalist groups.
- (iv) Bangladesh refused to allow Indian troops to move through its territory to North-East region.
- (v) Bangladesh refused to export natural gas to India and allow Myanmar to do so through its territory.

The issue of cooperation (positive aspects) between both the countries are:

- (i) Since the last decade, economic relations have been strengthened.
- (ii) India's Look East policy does involve Bangladesh that links South-East Asia via Myanmar.
- (iii) Cooperation is noticeable on the grounds of disaster management and environmental issues.
- (iv) Area of cooperation is being broadened by identifying areas of common threat and by responding sensitively to each other's needs.

Q 5. Explain the process of democratisation in Bangladesh.

(CBSE SQP 2022, Term-2)

OR

Analyse any three major happenings in Bangladesh that show people's support to democracy.

(CBSE 2023)

Ans. The process of democratisation in Bangladesh are as follows:

- (i) Bangladesh was a part of Pakistan from 1947 to 1971.
- (ii) The people of East Pakistan resented the domination of Western Pakistan and the imposition of the Urdu language.

(iii) Sheikh Mujib-ur-Rahman led the popular struggle against West Pakistani domination.

(iv) In the 1970 elections, the Awami League led by Sheikh Mujib won all the seats in East Pakistan and secured a majority in the proposed constituent assembly.

(v) Sheikh Mujib was arrested as the West Pakistani leaders refused to convene the assembly.

(vi) Under the military rule of general Yahya Khan, the Pakistani army tried to suppress the movement of the Bengali people.

(vii) A large scale migrants started to move to India creating a huge refugee problem.

(viii) The government of India supported the demands of the people of East Pakistan (financially and militarily) resulting in a war between India and Pakistan in December 1971.

(ix) Bangladesh became an independent country in the year 1971.

(x) In 1975, Sheikh Mujib got the constitution amended to shift from the parliamentary to presidential form of government.

Q 6. Explain the process of partition of India in 1947.

(CBSE 2020)

Ans. The division of British India into the two separate countries of India and Pakistan on August 14-15, 1947— was the "last-minute" mechanism by which the British were able to secure an agreement over how Independence would take place. At around 25 per cent of its population, Muslims were British India's largest religious minority. Under imperial rule, they had grown accustomed to having their minority status protected by a system of reserved Legislative seats and separate electorates. After the World War II, Attlee's Labour government in London recognised the Britain's devastated economy could not cope with the cost of the over-extended empire. By March 1947, a new viceroy, Lord Louis Mountbatten, arrived in Delhi with a mandate to find a speedy way of bringing the British Raj to end. Partition triggered riots, mass casualties and a colossal wave of migration. Millions of people moved to what they hoped would be safer territory, with Muslims heading towards Pakistan, and Hindu and Sikhs in the direction of India. Estimates of the death post-Partition range from 200,000 to two million. Women were often targeted as symbols of community honour, with up to 100,000 raped or abducted. The states subsequently faced huge-problems accommodating and rehabilitating post-partition refugees, whose numbers swelled when the two states went to war over the disputed territory of Jammu and Kashmir in 1947-48. Later bouts of communal tension generated further movement, with a trickle of people still migrating as late as the 1960s.



Chapter Test

Multiple Choice Questions

Q 1. Which one of the countries is not a South Asian Country?

- a. India
- b. Bangladesh
- c. South Africa
- d. Bhutan

Q 2. Who led the popular struggle against West Pakistani domination?

- a. Yahya Khan
- b. Ayub Khan
- c. Sheikh Mujib-ur Rahman
- d. Zia-ul-Haq

Fill in the Blank Type Questions

Q 3. The first country to liberalise its economy in South Asian region was

Q 4. is becoming an accepted norm in the entire region of South Asia.

Assertion and Reason Type Questions

Directions (Q. Nos. 5-6): In the questions given below, there are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option:

- a. Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- b. Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- c. (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- d. (A) is false, but (R) is true.

Q 5. Assertion (A): Military takeover in Pakistan took place under General Yahya Khan.

Reason (R): 'South Asia' usually includes the Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Q 6. Assertion (A): Bangladesh was a part of Pakistan from 1947 to 1971.

Reason (R): Bangladesh became an independent country in the year 1971.

Passage Based Questions

Q 7. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

Pakistan and Bangladesh have experienced both civilian and military rulers, with Bangladesh remaining a democracy in the Post-Cold War period.

Pakistan began the Post-Cold War period with successive democratic governments under Benazir Bhutto and Nawaz Sharif respectively. But it suffered a military coup in 1999. It has been run by a civilian government again since 2008. Till 2006, Nepal was a constitutional monarchy with the danger of the king taking over executive powers. In 2008, the monarchy was abolished and Nepal emerged as a democratic republic. From the experience of Bangladesh and Nepal, we can say that democracy is becoming an accepted norm in the entire region of South Asia.

- (i) How did Pakistan begin with post-Cold War period?
- (ii) Mention two reasons for the aspiration of democracy in South Asia.
- (iii) Why these findings are significant?

Cartoon Based Question

Q 8. Study the cartoon given below and answer the following questions:



- (i) Identify the country related to this cartoon.
- (ii) Calculate the system of governance being practised in this country.
- (iii) What does the equations speak about?

Very Short Answer Type Questions

- Q 9. Which Indian Prime Minister undertook a bus journey to Lahore?
- Q 10. Which countries signed the Farakka Treaty?

Short Answer Type Questions

- Q 11. Examine Sri Lanka's status in the present scenario.
- Q 12. Analyse common problems of South Asian countries.

Long Answer Type Question

Q 13. Explain the process of establishing democracy in Nepal.

