

Regional Aspirations

Fastrack Revision

► Region and the Nation: Indian Approach

- The Indian approach in nation building is to balance the principles of unity and diversity. The nation would not mean the negation of the region.
- The one basic principle of the Indian approach to diversity is, the Indian Nation shall not deny the rights of different regions and linguistic groups to retain their own culture.
- India adopted a democratic approach to the question of diversity. Democracy allows the political expressions of regional aspirations and does not look upon them as anti-national.
- Democratic politics also means that regional issues and problems will receive adequate attention and accommodation in the policy making process.

► Areas of Tension

- Soon after Independence, Jammu and Kashmir and some parts of North-East faced mass agitations in many parts for separation from India.
- These events were followed by mass movement in many parts for the formation of linguistic states, such as Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat.
- In some parts of Southern India, there were protests against making Hindi the official language of the country.
- With the passage of time the challenge of diversity was met by redrawing the internal boundaries of the country.

► Jammu and Kashmir

- The 'Kashmir issue' is always seen as a major issue between India and Pakistan.
- Jammu and Kashmir comprises three social and political regions. Jammu—a mix of foothills and plains, Kashmir—heart of Kashmir region; Ladakh—mountainous region with very little population which is equally divided between Buddhists and Muslims.

► Roots of the Problem

- Before 1947, Jammu and Kashmir was a Princely State. The state was having majority population of Muslims but Hari Singh was a Hindu ruler of the state.
- In October 1947, Pakistan sent tribal infiltrators from its side to capture Kashmir. This forced Hari Singh to ask for Indian military help.
- Indian Army successfully drove out infiltrators from Kashmir valley and Hari Singh signed an Instrument of Accession with the Government of India.
- It was agreed that once the situation will be normalised, the views of the people of Jammu and Kashmir will be ascertained about their future and India agreed to maintain the autonomy of Jammu and Kashmir.


► External and Internal Disputes

- Externally, Pakistan has always claimed that Kashmir valley should be part of Pakistan.
- Pakistan sponsored a tribal invasion of the State in 1947 and consequence of it, a part of the state came under Pakistani control.
- India claims this area under illegal occupation whereas Pakistan describes this area as 'Azad Kashmir.'
- Internally, there is a dispute about the status of Kashmir within the Indian Union.
- Article 370 gives greater autonomy to J&K compared to other state of India. State has its own Constitution.
- The special attention provokes two opposite reactions.
- A section of people outside J&K feels that Article 370 should therefore be revoked and J&K should be like any other state in India.
- Another section, mostly Kashmiris, believe that autonomy conferred by Article 370 is not enough.

► Politics Since 1948

- Between 1953 and 1974, the Congress Party exercised a lot of influence on the politics of the state.
- National Conference remained in power with the active support of Congress for some time but later it merged with the Congress. Thus, Congress gained direct control over the government of the state.
- In 1974, Indira Gandhi reached an agreement with Sheikh Abdullah and he became the Chief Minister of the State.
- Farooq Abdullah succeeded after death of his father as Chief Minister in 1982.
- Farooq Abdullah was soon dismissed by the Governor, his dismissal due to the intervention of the centre generated a feeling of resentment in Kashmir.
- Ups and down in state politics continued till 1986 when National Conference agreed to have an electoral alliance with the Congress.

Knowledge BOOSTER

 During most of the period between 1953 and 1974, the Congress party exercised influence on the politics of the state.

► Insurgency and Effect

- In 1987 assembly election the National Conference-Congress alliance gained a massive victory and Farooq Abdullah returned as Chief Minister.
- By 1989, the state had come in grip of a militant movement mobilised around the cause of a separate Kashmir nation.



- Throughout the period from 1990, J&K experienced violence at the hands of the insurgents and through army action.
- ▶ **2002 and Beyond**
 - In 2002 J&K experienced a fair election in which National Conference was replaced by People's Democratic Party (PDP)-Congress coalition government.
 - The president rule was imposed in the state in July 2008.
 - Another Coalition government came into power headed by Omar Abdullah in 2009.
 - In 2014, a coalition government led by Mufti Mohammed Sayeed of the PDP came into power with the BJP as its partner. After Mufti Mohammed Sayeed died, his daughter Mahbooba Mufti became the first woman Chief Minister of the state in April 2016.
 - The President's rule was imposed in June 2018 after BJP withdrew its support to the Mufti government.
 - On 5th August 2019, Article 370 was abolished by the Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation Act 2019 and the state was constituted into two Union Territories, viz. Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.
- ▶ **Punjab**
 - The decade of 1980s witnessed major developments in the State of Punjab.
 - Social composition of the state was changed first with partition and later after the carving out of Haryana and Himachal Pradesh.
 - The Akali Dal, which was formed in 1920 as the political wing of the Sikhs, had led the movement for the formation of a 'Punjabi Suba.'
 - Punjab had to wait till 1966 to be reorganised on linguistic lines for the creation of a Punjabi speaking state.
- ▶ **Political Context**
 - After the reorganisation, the Akalis came to power in 1967 and then in 1977.
 - During the 1970s a section of Akalis began to demand political autonomy for the region. This was reflected in a resolution passed in a conference at Anandpur Sahib in 1973.
- ▶ **Cycle of Violence**
 - The militants made their headquarters inside the Sikh holy shrine, the Golden Temple in Amritsar and turned it into an armed fortress.
 - In June 1984, the Government of India carried out 'Operation Blue Star' code name for army action in the Golden temple in which the government could successfully flush out the militants.
 - In this operation temple was damaged, which hurt the Sikh sentiments and their faith was betrayed.
 - Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was assassinated on 31st October, 1984 outside her residence by her Sikh bodyguards as a revenge of 'Operation Blue Star.'
 - In many parts of Northern India violence broke against Sikh community and continued for almost a week which results in the killings of more than two thousand Sikhs.
- ▶ **Road to Peace**
 - In 1984, The new Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi initiated a dialogue with moderate Akali leaders and in July 1985 a peace agreement was signed between Rajiv Gandhi and Harchand Singh Longowal (the President of Akali Dal).
 - The agreement known as Rajiv Gandhi-Longowal Accord or the Punjab Accord.
 - The cycle of violence continued nearly for a decade and peace returned to Punjab by the middle of 1990s. The alliance of Akali Dal (Badal) and the BJP scored a major victory in 1997, in the first normal elections in the state in the post militancy era.
- ▶ **The North-East**
 - The North-East region of the country now consists of seven states, also referred to as the 'seven sister.'
 - The region witnessed a lot of change in 1947. The entire region of North-East has undergone considerable political reorganisation.
 - The vast international border and weak communication between the North-East and the rest of India have added to the delicate nature of politics there.
 - Three issues dominate the politics of North-East: demands for autonomy, movements for secession and opposition to 'outsiders.'
- ▶ **Demands for Autonomy**
 - At the time of independence the entire region except Manipur and Tripura comprised the State of Assam.
 - There were opposition and protest riots throughout the state on various issues.
 - At different points of time the Central Government had to create Meghalaya, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh out of Assam.
 - The reorganisation of the North-East was completed by 1972.
- ▶ **Secessionist Movements**
 - For autonomy there were secessionist movements in North-East region like Mizoram and Nagaland etc.
 - After independence, the Mizo hills area was made an autonomous district within Assam.
 - Movement for secession gained popular support after the Assam Government 'failed to respond adequately to great famine of 1959 in Mizo hills.'
 - Mizo's anger led to formation of Mizo National Front (MNF) under the leadership of Laldenga.
 - MNF fought guerilla war, got support from Pakistani Government and secured shelter in East Pakistan.
 - In 1986 a peace agreement was signed between Rajiv Gandhi and Laldenga.
 - This accord granted Mizoram as full fledged statehood with special powers, and MNF agreed to give up secessionist struggle.
 - Thus, the accord turned Mizoram as one of the most peaceful places in the region.
 - The story of Nagaland is similar to Mizoram except that started much earlier and had not yet such a happy ending.
 - After a section of violent insurgency a section of the Nagas signed an agreement with the Government of India but it was not acceptable to other rebels.
- ▶ **Movements Against Outsiders**
 - The large scale migration into the North-East gave rise to a special kind of problem that pitted the 'local' communities against people who were seen as 'outsiders' or migrants.
 - The issue has taken political and sometimes violent form in many states of North-East.



- ▶ The Assam movement from 1979 to 1985 is the best example of such movements against 'outsiders'.
 - ▶ In 1979, the All Assam Students' Union (AASU), a students' group not affiliated to any party, led an anti-foreigner movement. Movement demanded, outsiders who had entered the state after 1951 should be sent back.
 - ▶ With the successful completion of the movement, the AASU and the Asom Gana Sangram Parishad organised themselves as a regional political party called Asom Gana Parishad (AGP), which came to power in 1985 with the promise of resolving the foreign national problem as well as to build a 'Golden Assam.'
- ▶ **Sikkim's Merger**
- ▶ At the time of Independence Sikkim was a 'protectorate (A state that is controlled and protected by other) of India. Chogyal was its monarch.
 - ▶ In 1975, Sikkim was merged with India and it became the 22nd State of the Indian Union.
- ▶ **Accommodation and National Integration**
- ▶ Regional aspirations are very much a part of democratic politics. Expression of regional issues is not an aberration or an abnormal phenomenon.
 - ▶ The best way to respond to regional aspirations is through democratic negotiations rather than through suppression.
 - ▶ Regional imbalance in economic development contributes to the feeling of regional discrimination.
- ▶ **Goa's Liberation**
- ▶ After independence in 1947, British withdrew but Portuguese who were ruling since 16th century in Goa, Daman and Diu refused to withdraw themselves.
 - ▶ Goa was liberated in 1961 from Portuguese by an army operation. Goa, Daman and Diu was declared as Union Territories.
- ▶ **Important words**
- ▶ **Instrument of Accession:** An accord signed between Maharaja of Kashmir and government of India on the accession of state.
 - ▶ **Insurgency:** An affair to be directed against one's own constitutional government within national boundary with the support of local people.

- ▶ **Khalistan:** A separate state of Sikh community to maintain the autonomous Sikh identity.
- ▶ **Operation Blue Star:** A code name for army action in Golden Temple in June 1984 by Government of India when Sikh militants made their headquarters inside Golden Temple.
- ▶ **Seven Sisters:** It is referred to seven states of North-East region to be referred as Seven Sisters.
- ▶ **Mizo National Front (MNF):** It was formed in 1959 by the groups of Mizo under the leadership of Laldenga for autonomous States of Mizos.

Important Date

| Date/Year | Important Events |
|-----------|---|
| 1947 | — Infiltrators sent by the Pakistan to capture Kashmir |
| 1961 | — Goa, Daman and Diu declared as separate Union Territories on 19th December |
| 1966 | — The Mizo National Front started armed campaign |
| 1974 | — Sheikh Abdullah appointed as the Chief Minister of J&K |
| 1975 | — Complete integration of Sikkim with India |
| 1979 | — The All Assam Students' Union (AASU) started an anti-foreigner campaign |
| 1979-1985 | — Assam Movement |
| 1984 | — Operation Blue Star carried out by the Government of India in June |
| 1984 | — Anti-Sikh riots in November |
| 1985 | — Asom Gana Parishad gained power |
| 2005 | — Dr. Manmohan Singh, then the Prime Minister of India apologised to the nation for anti-sikh violence. |



Practice Exercise



Multiple Choice Questions ↘

- Q 1. In which part of India out of the following, there was no separation from India or for formation of a separate country after independence?
- a. Nagaland b. Mizoram
c. Southern part (Dravid) d. Haryana
- Q 2. Bodo community belongs to
- (CBSE SQP 2023-24)
- a. Manipur b. Assam
c. Mizoram d. Arunachal Pradesh
- Q 3. The Akali Dal was formed as:
- a. Social wing b. Political wing
c. Economic wing d. Financial wing
- Q 4. Punjab has to wait till for the creation of a Punjabi speaking state.
- a. 1955 b. 1966 c. 1969 d. 1977

- Q 5. The alliance of Akali Dal (Badal) and the BJP scored a major victory in:
- a. 1967 b. 1977
c. 1987 d. 1997
- Q 6. Jammu and Kashmir experienced a very fair election in:
- a. 2002 b. 2004 c. 2006 d. 2008
- Q 7. Separatist politics surfaced in Kashmir from:
- a. 1969 b. 1979
c. 1989 d. 1999
- Q 8. The initial period of popular support to military has now given way to the urge for:
- a. Peace
b. Insurgency
c. Restlessness
d. Immigration



- Q 9. Nagaland was recognised to be formed as a separate state in:
 a. 1960 b. 1970
 c. 1980 d. 1990
- Q 10. North-East region shares boundaries with:
 a. Taiwan b. China
 c. Japan d. Mongolia
- Q 11. The reorganisation of the North-East was completed by:
 a. 1962 b. 1972
 c. 1982 d. 1992
- Q 12. When Anandpur Sahib Resolution was passed?
 a. 1962 b. 1965
 c. 1967 d. 1973

- Q 19. The was a secular organisation and had a long association with the Congress.
- Q 20. The Sikkim National Congress was founded in
- Q 21. The Mizos' anger led to the formation of the under the leadership of Laldenga.

Assertion & Reason Type Questions ↘

Directions: (Q. Nos. 13-15) 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 13. **Assertion (A):** The Fifth Schedule of the Constitution allows tribal autonomy of preserving their practices and customary laws.
Reason (R): These provisions proved crucial in resolving complex political problems in the Northeast. (CBSE SQP 2023-24)

- Q 14. **Assertion (A):** The Assam Movement from 1979 to 1985 is the best example of such movements against outsiders.
Reason (R): In 1980 the All Assam Students' Union, got affiliated to Bengalis party.
- Q 15. **Assertion (A):** First and the most elementary lesson is that regional aspirations are very much a part of democratic politics.
Reason (R): Expression of regional issues is not an aberration or an abnormal phenomenon.

Fill in the Blank Type Questions ↘

- Q 16. Indian nationalism sought to balance the principles of unity and
- Q 17. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was assassinated on outside her residence by her body guards.
- Q 18. After the reorganisation of Punjab, the came to power in 1967 and then in 1977.

True or False Type Questions ↘

- Q 22. In 1974, Indira Gandhi reached an agreement with Sheikh Abdullah and he became the Chief Minister of the State.
- Q 23. The reorganisation of the North-East was started by 1970.
- Q 24. In 1975, Sikkim was merged with India and it became the 22nd State of the Indian Union.

Correct and Rewrite Type Questions ↘

- Q 25. The Indian approach was not different from the one adopted in many European countries where they saw cultural diversity as a security to the nation.
- Q 26. Socialism allows the political expressions of regional aspirations and looks upon them as anti-national.
- Q 27. Before Independence, the Mizo Hills area was made an autonomous district outside Assam.
- Q 28. Mizoram is one of the most unsettled places in the region and has low rate of literacy and development.

Answers

- | | | | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (d) | 2. (b) | 3. (b) | 4. (b) | 5. (d) |
| 6. (a) | 7. (c) | 8. (a) | 9. (a) | 10. (b) |
| 11. (b) | 12. (d) | 13. (c) | 14. (c) | 15. (b) |
| 16. Diversity | 17. 31 October 1984 | | | |
| 18. Akalis | 19. Azad Kashmir | | | |
| 20. 1962 | 21. Mizo National Front | | | |
| 22. True | 23. False | | | |
| 24. True | | | | |
25. The Indian approach was not different from the one adopted in many European countries where they saw cultural diversity as a threat to the nation.
26. Democracy allows the political expressions of regional aspirations and does not look upon them as anti-national.
27. After Independence, the Mizo Hills area was made an autonomous district within Assam.
28. Mizoram is one of the most peaceful places in the region and has taken big strides in literacy and development.



Passage Based Questions

Passage 1

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

Although the British empire in India came to an end in 1947, Portugal refused to withdraw from the territories of Goa, Diu and Daman which were under its colonial rule since the sixteenth century. During their long rule, the Portuguese suppressed the people of Goa, denied them civil rights, and carried out forced religious conversions. After India's Independence, the Indian government tried very patiently to persuade the Portuguese government to withdraw. There was also a strong popular movement within Goa for freedom. They were strengthened by socialist satyagrahis from Maharashtra. Finally, in December 1961, the Government of India sent the army which liberated these territories after barely two days of action. Goa, Diu and Daman became Union Territory.

Another complication arose soon. Led by the Maharashtrawadi Gomanatak Party (MGP) one section desired that Goa, as a Marathi speaking area should merge with Maharashtra. However, many Goans were keen to retain a separate Goan identity and culture, particularly the Konkani language. They were led by the United Goan Party (UGP). In January 1967, the Central Government held a special 'opinion poll' in Goa asking people to decide if they wanted to be part of Maharashtra or remain separate. A referendum-like procedure was used to ascertain people's wishes on this issue. The majority voted in favour of remaining outside of Maharashtra. Thus, Goa continued as a Union Territory. Finally, in 1987, Goa became a State of the Indian Union.

Q 1. The Goa 'Liberation Day' is celebrated on:

- a. 2nd January
- b. 25th August
- c. 15th October
- d. 19th December

Q 2. Which one is the headquarters of South Goa District?

- a. Vasco de Gama
- b. Margo
- c. Mapuso
- d. Ponda

Q 3. Who is the first Governor of Goa after the formation of Goa State?

- a. B. Rachaiah
- b. Gopal Singh
- c. P.C. Alexander
- d. Khurshed Alamkhan

Q 4. In January 1967, the Central Government held a special.....

- a. Exit pole
- b. Opinion poll
- c. Agreement
- d. None of these

Answers

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

Passage 2

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

The best way to respond to regional aspirations is through democratic negotiations rather than through suppression. Look at the situation in the eighties-militancy had erupted in Punjab. Problems were persisting in the North-East: students in Assam were agitating; Kashmir valley was on the boil. Instead of treating these as simple law and order problems, the Government of India reached negotiated settlement with regional movements. This produced a reconciliation which reduced the tensions existing in many regions. The example of Mizoram shows how political settlement can resolve the problem of separatism effectively.

Q 1. What is the best way of responding regional aspirations?

Ans. The best way to respond to regional aspirations is through democratic negotiations instead of suppressing through force or imposition.

Q 2. List the movements related to regional aspirations.

Ans. During seventies and eighties regional aspiration started in following regions:

- (i) Jammu and Kashmir
- (ii) Punjab
- (iii) North-Eastern regions

Q 3. What steps were taken by the Government of India to respond to regional aspirations?

Ans. (i) The Government of India followed the policy of negotiation for the settlement of regional aspirations instead of treating these as simple law and order problem.

(ii) This step of government produced reconciliation rather than tension. For example, Mizoram which shows how political settlement can resolve the problems of separatism effectively.



Very Short Answer Type Questions

Q 1. Why was Operation Blue Star launched?

Ans. In 1984, Operation Blue Star was launched by army and Government of India to evacuate the holy shrine from the militants. However, it also damaged some parts of the holy shrine which hurt the sentiments of the Sikh community.

- Q 2. Why were the seven small states created in North-East India?** (CBSE 2015)
- Ans.** The isolation of the region, its complex social character and its backwardness compared to other parts of the country are responsible for creation of seven small states in North-East India.
- Q 3. Which organisation of Assam led the movement against foreign nationals in 1979?**
- Ans.** Organisation of Assam which led the movement against foreign nationals in 1979 is All Assam Students' Union (AASU).
- Q 4. Explain any one reason for the movement against outsiders in Assam.**
- Ans.** The movement against outsiders in Assam was on the ground to maintain cultural heritage and integration of the state.
- Q 5. Why were the seven small states created in North-East India?** (CBSE 2015)
- Ans.** These small states were created due to:
- (i) Opposition being faced by the outsiders at the hands of natives.
 - (ii) Regular demands for autonomy
 - (iii) Secession Movements in various regions of the North-East.
- Q 6. Why was the Anti-Foreigner Movement held in Assam?**
- Ans.** The movement was held against illegal migrations, against domination of Bengalis and other outsiders, and against faulty voters' register that included the names of lakhs of immigrants. The movement demanded that all outsiders who had entered the State after 1951 should be sent back.
- Q 7. The states of which regions of India are referred to as the 'seven sisters'?**
- Ans.** The seven sisters are a region in North-Eastern India, comprising the contiguous states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura.
- Q 8. Differentiate between regionalism and separatism.**
- Ans.** Regionalism is a political ideology that focuses on the national or normative interests of a particular regions or groups of regions.
Whereas Separatism is the advocacy or practice of separation of a certain group of people from a larger body on the basis of ethnicity, religion or gender.
- Q 9. What is meant by 'Punjab Accord' of 1985?**
- Ans.** Punjab Accord was a measure towards bringing normalcy to Punjab. This accord was with Harchand Singh Longowal, the then President of Akali Dal.
- Q 10. What is the main reason behind the secessionist movement in the North-East India?**
- Ans.** Main reason behind the secessionist movements in North-East is the isolation of the region and the backwardness of the states compared to other parts of the country.
- Q 11. What will happen if the regions are not given their due share in decision-making at the national level?** (CBSE 2017)
- Ans.** If the regions are not given their due share in decision making at the national level, there will be tension and conflict between regions and union government which may result in collapse of political and electoral process of country.
- Q 12. How far did the Rajiv Gandhi-Longowal Accord succeed in bringing normalcy in Punjab?**
- Ans.** The Rajiv Gandhi-Longowal Accord was a step towards bringing normalcy to Punjab, but peace was not restored easily and immediately. The cycle of violence continued nearly for a decade. Peace returned by the middle of 1990s' and that too after having lots of losses.
- Q 13. What was 'Operation Blue Star'? Why did it hurt the sentiments of the Sikh Community?**
- Ans.** 'Operation Blue Star' was an army action against military in 1989 which was executed in Golden Temple, Amritsar. In this operation, the government could successfully flush out the militants, but it damaged the historic temple and deeply hurt the sentiments of the Sikhs.
- Q 14. How was the reorganisation of North-East India completed and by when?** (CBSE 2016)
- Ans.** The reorganisation of North-East India was completed by 1970s. In 1972 Mizoram was carved out of Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura became separate states in the same year.
- Q 15. Highlight any two issues that dominate the politics of North-East India.**
- Ans.** After independence two issues that dominate the politics of North-East India are:
- (a) Demands of autonomy
 - (b) Movements for secessions and opposition to outsiders.
- Q 16. Describe the outcome of the 'Assam Accord' of 1985.**
- Ans.** According to 'Assam Accord' of 1985, those foreigners who migrated into Assam during and after Bangladesh war and since, were to be identified and deported.

Q 17. 'Regionalism does not imply separatism.' Explain.

Ans. Regionalism is the theory or practice of emphasising the regional characteristics of local issues. Separatism advocates separation, specially existential or political separation.

Q 18. How was the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi assassinated?

Ans. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was assassinated on 31 October 1984 outside her residence by her body guards. Both the assassins were Sikhs and wanted to take revenge for 'Operation Blue Star.'

Q 19. What do you mean by seven sisters?

Ans. The "North-East region" which consists of seven states is referred to as "seven sisters". This region has only 4 per cent of the country's population but about twice as much share of its area.



Cartoon Based Questions ↘

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



(i) How was Goa liberated?

Ans. In 1961, within two days Goa, Daman and Diu were liberated from Portugal rule under 'Operation Vijay' by Government of India.

(ii) How did Goa become part of Indian Union?

Ans. Goa became part of India and in 1987, it attained the status of 'State Position'.

(iii) What was Goa problem?

- Ans.**
1. Goa was under Portuguese along with Daman and Diu since 16th Century.
 2. We expected Freedom in 1947 but Portugal refused to withdraw but the people of Goa wanted to merge with motherland.
 3. People of Goa suppressed from religious conversions and civil rights known as 'Goa Problem'.



Short Answer Type Questions ↘

Q 1. In what ways the issue of outsiders continues to be a live issue in the politics of Assam.

Ans. Although Assam accord brought peace and changed the face of politics in Assam, it did not solve the problem of immigration.

(i) The issue of the 'outsiders' continues to be a live issue in the politics of Assam and many other places in the North-East.

(ii) This problem is particularly acute, for example, in Tripura as the original inhabitants have been reduced to being a minority in their own land.

(iii) The same feeling informs the hostility of the local population to the Chakma refugees in Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh.

Q 2. What was the main outcome of the Rajiv Gandhi Longowal Accord in July 1985?

Ans. The outcomes of Rajiv Gandhi-Longowal Accord were:

(i) Chandigarh would be transferred to Punjab.

(ii) A separate commission will be set up to resolve the border dispute between Punjab and Haryana.

(iii) A tribunal would be set up to decide the sharing of Ravi-Beas river water among Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan.

(iv) Compensation and better treatment of those affected by the military in Punjab.

(v) Withdrawal of the Application of Armed Forces Special Powers Act in Punjab.

Q 3. Explain the rise of political violence in the North-Eastern part of India.

Ans. Following reasons are responsible for the rise of the political violence in the North-Eastern part of India:

(i) The large scale migration into North-East gave rise to a special kind of problem that pitted the 'local' communities against people who were seen as 'outsiders' or migrants.

(ii) These latecomers, either from India or abroad are seen as encroachers on scarce resources like land and potential competitors to employment opportunities and political powers.

(iii) These issues have taken political and sometimes violent form in many states of the North-East.

Q 4. What lessons can we draw from the feeling of alienation in some parts of India?

OR

Assess any two steps taken by the Union government in response to the demand of autonomy raised by most of the people in North East region. (CBSE 2023)

OR

'Regional demands from different parts of India exemplify the principle of unity with diversity'. Do you agree? Give reasons. (CBSE SQP 2023-24)

Ans. Lessons learnt from the feeling of alienation in some parts of India are following:

- (i) Regional aspirations are very much a part of democratic politics. Expressions of regional issues are not an abnormal phenomenon.
- (ii) The best way to respond to regional aspirations is through democratic negotiations rather than through suppression.
- (iii) Regional imbalance in economic development contributes to the feeling of regional discrimination.

Q 5. Discuss the role of Congress in the politics of Jammu and Kashmir.

Ans. During most of the period between 1953 and 1974 the Congress exercised a lot of influence on the politics of the Jammu and Kashmir.

- (i) A truncated National Conference (minus Sheikh Abdullah) remained in power with the active support of Congress for some time but later it merged with the Congress.
- (ii) The Congress gained direct control over the government in the state.
- (iii) The Congress Party also made several attempts to reach an agreement between Sheikh Abdullah and the Government of India.
- (iv) Finally in 1974 Indira Gandhi reached an agreement with Sheikh and he became the Chief Minister of the state.

Q 6. What was the tragic turn which complicated the Punjab problem further?

Ans. The assassination of the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi by her bodyguards who were Sikhs brought the entire nation under a state of shock and complicated the Punjab problem further.

- (i) In many parts in Northern India violence broke out against the Sikh community and continued for almost a week.
- (ii) More than two thousands Sikhs were killed in the National capital, the area worst affected by this violence.
- (iii) Hundreds of Sikhs were killed in other parts of the country like Kanpur and Bokaro.
- (iv) Many Sikh families lost their male members and thus suffered great/heavy financial loss.

Q 7. Under which principle and in what ways the Article-370 and 35A were repealed? Explain.

OR

Analyse any two developments in the recent years in Jammu and Kashmir? (CBSE 2023)

Ans. Articles 370 and 35A were considered as the "constitutionally recognised separatism".

- (i) Under the principle of EK Vidhan, EK Pradhan and EK Nishan i.e., one constitution, one head and one flag the present BJP led NDA government, planned to abrogate Articles-370 and Article 35 A.

- (ii) It was under this backdrop the current BJP led NDA government by showing its commitment to the integration of Kashmir in India as part of its election manifesto, presented the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill in Rajya Sabha on 5th August 2019 for the abolition of section 370 and section 35A from Kashmir. It was passed by a majority in the Rajya Sabha.

(iii) After being passed by the Rajya Sabha the bill was presented in Lok Sabha and was passed on 6 August 2019.

(iv) Finally President of India gave his assent on the bill on 9th August 2019 with the effect of which section 370 and 35A were repealed.

(v) Now Jammu and Kashmir got divided into two Union Territories, i.e., Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir.



Long Answer Type Questions ↘

Q 1. Describe the Assam Movement against the outsiders from 1979 to 1985. (CBSE 2020)

Ans. The large scale migration into the North-East gave rise to a special problem of outsiders. The Assam movement was a combination of cultural pride and economic backwardness because it was against outsiders to maintain the cultural integration of Assam.

- (i) The Assam movement from 1979 to 1985 is the best example of the movement against outsiders. The Assamese suspected that there were huge numbers of illegal Bengali Muslim settlers from Bangladesh. They felt that unless these foreign nationals are detected and deported they would reduce the indigenous Assamese into a minority.

(ii) The movement was also associated with the economic issues like, there was widespread poverty and unemployment in Assam despite the existence of natural resources like oil, tea and coal. It was felt that these were drained out of the state without any commensurate benefit to the people.

(iii) Thus in 1979 the 'All Assam Students Union' (AASU), a students group led an anti-foreigner movement. It was against illegal migration; against domination of Bengalis and other outsiders. The movement was also against faulty voters which included names of lakhs of immigrants.

(iv) The Assam movement demanded that all outsiders who had entered the state after 1951 should be sent back.

Methods followed by AASU

- (v) The movement followed many novel methods. It mobilised all sections of Assamese people drawing support across the state. It also involved many tragic and violent incidents leading to loss of property and human lives.
- (vi) At some places this movement tried to blockade the trains and the supply oil from Assam to refineries in Bihar.

Outcomes

- (vii) Finally after six years of turmoil, the Rajiv Gandhi led government entered into negotiations with the AASU leaders and signed an agreement that came to be known as the Assam Accord in 1985.
- (viii) The main provision of the Accord was that, those foreigner who migrated into Assam during and after Bangladesh war of 1971 and since, were to be identified and deported.

Thus Assam accord brought peace and changed the face of politics in Assam, but it did not solve the problem of immigration. Hence, the outsiders continue to be a major issue in the politics of Assam in particular and North-East India in general.

Q 2. Describe any two secessionist movements of North-East India.

OR

Identify any two states where the Central government had to face the separatist movements. Also name the leaders who led these movements.

(CBSE 2023)

Ans. In the North-East, regional aspirations reached a turning point in 1980s. The most tragic one was the secessionist movement basically in the two regions of north-eastern India i.e., Mizoram and Nagaland.

Mizoram: Mizoram is the hilly area where Mizos believed that they were never a part of British India and therefore they did not belong to the Indian Union. Besides, immediately after independence, Mizoram was made an autonomous district with Assam.

- (i) The secessionist movement in Mizoram started under the leadership of Laldenga. It gained popular support after the Assam government failed to respond adequately to the great famine in 1959 in mizo hills. They formed an organisation called Mizo National Front (MNF) to proceed the movement further.

- (ii) In 1966 the MNF launched an armed campaign for independence. It resulted into a two decade long battle between Mizo insurgents and the Indian army. The MNF followed guerrilla warfare with the support of Pakistani government. Some of them got shelter in the then East Pakistan.
- (iii) The Indian security forces countered it with a series of repressive measures of which the common people were the victims, even Air force was used.
- (iv) At the end of two decades of insurgency everyone was a loser. It needed matured political leadership at both ends. MNF leader came back from exile in Pakistan and started negotiations with the Indian government.
- (v) In 1986 a 'peace agreement was signed between Laldenga and Rajiv Gandhi. According to accord Mizoram was granted full-fledged statehood with special power and MNF agreed to give up secessionist struggle. Laldenga took over as the Chief Minister.'

Nagaland

- (vi) In Nagaland as well, Nagas started secessionist movement. It was led by Angami Zaphu Phizo, a section of the Nagas who declared independence from India back in 1951.
- (vii) The government of India tried to reach the settlement through negotiation but turned down by Phizo.
- (viii) The Nagas formed Naga National Council which later launched an armed struggle for sovereignty of Nagas which became violent as well.
- (ix) After a period of violent insurgency a section of the Nagas signed an agreement with the government of India but this was not acceptable to other rebels. Thus the problem in Nagaland still awaits a final resolution.

Q 3. Describe the process of Goa's liberation and becoming a state of the Indian Union.

Ans. Goa was ruled by Portuguese colonial power. With the independence of India the rule of British empire came to an end, but Portugal refused to withdraw from the territories of Goa, Diu and Daman which were there since the 16th century.

- (i) During the colonial rule, the Portuguese suppressed the people of Goa, denied them civil rights and carried out forced religious conversion. Thus, after independence, the Indian

government tried very patiently to persuade the Portuguese government to withdraw but was refused by the colonial power.

- (ii) This led to a strong popular movement within Goa for freedom and liberation. The movement got the support of socialist satyagrahis from Maharashtra.
- (iii) Eventually in December 1961, the Government of India sent the army which liberated these territories with barely two days of action. As a result Goa, Diu and Daman became Union Territory.
- (iv) The story did not end here. Later on, many Goans were keen to retain a separate Goan identity and culture (Konkani language) when there was a proposal to merge Goa with Maharashtra. Goans once again started a movement for separate state under United Goan Party (UGP). In 1967.
- (v) The central government held a special 'opinion poll' in Goa. The majority voted in favour of separate state. Finally, Goa was declared as a separate state of the Indian Union in 1987.

Q 4. Briefly describe the story of Sikkim from the time of India's independence to its merger with India.

(CBSE 2015)

Ans. The story of Sikkim from the time of India's independence to its merger with India is following:

- (i) At the time of independence, Sikkim was a 'protectorate' of India. It meant that while it was not a part of India, it was also not a fully sovereign country.
- (ii) Sikkim's monarch was Chogyal who was unable to deal with the democratic aspirations of the people.
- (iii) The Chogyal was seen as perpetuating the rule of a small elite from the minority Lepcha-Bhutia community.

(iv) The anti Chogyal leaders of both the communities sought and got support from the Government of India.

(v) The first assembly of Sikkim which was elected in 1974 were swept by Sikkim Congress and it sought the status of 'associate state' and the in April 1975 passed a resolution asking for full integration with India.

(vi) After an organised referendum Sikkim became the 22nd State of the Indian Union.

Q 5. "All regional movements need not lead to the separatist demands." Explain the statement by giving suitable examples.

Ans. Regional movement need to be understood in the light of democratic politics. Expression of regional issue is not an abnormal phenomena. Even in smaller countries regional aspirations sprang up. It does not mean that these regional movement want a separate state for themselves. Regional movements want to create a more autonomous state within the framework of parent country.

The best example of Regional movement could be drawn from our country only. Demand for autonomy arose when the non-Assamese felt that the Assam Government was imposing Assamese language on them. protest raised up in whole state and leaders of various Tribal communities wanted to separate from Assam. Eastern India Tribal Union was formed which later transformed into All Party Hill Leader Conference in 1960.

The demand of separate state picked up momentum and instead of a single state several states were carved out by Central Government at different points of time. Meghalaya, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh is carved out of Assam. So, regional demands need not lead to separatist demands in normal cases.



Chapter Test

Multiple Choice Questions

- Q 1. Which region is referred to as the 'Seven sisters'?**
- a. East-West Region
 - b. North-West Region
 - c. South-East Region
 - d. North-East Region
- Q 2. When operation Blue star was launched by army and Government of India?**
- a. 1982
 - b. 1983
 - c. 1984
 - d. 1985

Fill in the Blank Type Questions

- Q 3. Anandpur Sahib Resolution was passed at the conference of Akali Dal in**
- Q 4. and two states were created in 1966.**

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): The decade of 1980s witnessed major developments in the state of Punjab.

Reason (R): Punjab had to wait till 1966 to be reorganised on linguistic lines for the creation of a Punjabi speaking state.

Q 6. Assertion (A): Regional aspirations are very much a part of democratic politics. Expression of regional issues is not an aberration or an abnormal phenomenon.

Reason (R): The best way to respond to regional aspirations is through democratic negotiations rather than through suppression.

Passage Based Question

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

The Assam Movement from 1979 to 1985 is the best example of such movements against 'outsiders'. The Assamese suspected that there were huge number of illegal Bengali Muslim settlers from Bangladesh. They felt that unless these foreign nationals are detected and deported they would reduce the indigenous Assamese into a minority. There were other economic issues too. There was widespread poverty and unemployment in Assam despite the existence of natural resources like oil, tea and coal. It was felt that these were drained out of the State without any commensurate benefit to the people.

(i) Name the organisation involved in Assam Movement.

- (ii) Why were the Assamese revolted against the outsiders?
- (iii) Explain economic issues involved in the movement. What was the purpose of the movement?

Cartoon Based Question

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



- (i) How was Goa liberated?
- (ii) How did Goa become part of Indian Union?
- (iii) What was Goa problem?

Very Short Answer Type Questions

- Q 9.** When was the first democratic election to Sikkim Assembly held and which party swept the elections.
- Q 10.** Justify that, "Regionalism is not as dangerous as communalism."

Short Answer Type Questions

- Q 11.** Explain in brief 'Instrument of Accession'.
- Q 12.** Why and how did the Mizo movement for succession gain popular support?

Long Answer Type Question

Q 13. Describe the external and internal disputes responsible for making the politics of Jammu Kashmir Continuously Controversial.