

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 1

Political Science (028)

Class XII (2024-25)

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. The question paper consists of five sections (A, B, C, D and E) with 30 questions in total.
2. All questions are compulsory.
3. Question numbers 1-12 are multiple choice questions of one mark each.
4. Question numbers 13-18 are of 2 marks each. Answers to these questions should not exceed 50-60 words each.
5. Question numbers 19-23 are of 4 marks each. Answers to these questions should not exceed 100-120 words each. There is an internal choice in two of the 4 marks questions
6. Question numbers 24-26 are passage, cartoon and map-based questions. Answer accordingly.
7. Question numbers 27-30 are of 6 marks each. Answers to these questions should not exceed 170-180 words.
8. There is an internal choice in 6 marks questions.

SECTION – A (12 MARKS)

1. Arrange the following in chronological order- [1]
 - i. 189 member countries in IMF
 - ii. Meeting in Washington, D.C. between 26 Allied nations fighting the Axis Powers
 - iii. Tehran Conference Declaration of the Three Powers (US, Britain and Soviet Union)
 - iv. US President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston S. Churchill signed the Atlantic Charter

a) iv, iii, ii, i	b) iii, ii, i, iv
c) i, iv, iii, ii	d) iv, ii, iii, i
2. Tribals of Orissa fear their displacement due to the extraction of _____. [1]



- d) Iron ore

[1]

- d) Brazil

[1]

- d) Start-up India

[1]

List-1	List-2
(a) Corporate sector	(i) MNCs opening retail chains in India, locals may lose their livelihood
(b) Retail sector	(ii) Hollywood movies dominating over Bollywood movies
(c) Entertainment sector	(iii) Extremists threatening students who wear Western clothes
(d) Social sector	(iv) Buying a major rival company in Europe

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

[1]

Reason (R): Muslim league put forward the Two nation theory that British did not consist of one but two people.

- d) A is false but R is true.

7. The water treaty signed between India and Pakistan in 1960 is related to which one of the following rivers? [1]
 - a) Indus
 - b) Ravi
 - c) Chenab
 - d) Satluj
 8. Who became the Prime Minister of India after the death of Jawaharlal Nehru in 1964? [1]
 - a) Indira Gandhi
 - b) Lal Bahadur Shastri
 - c) Morarji Desai
 - d) Jagjivan Ram
 9. In which article of foreign policy of India its basic sources are included? [1]
 - a) Article 358
 - b) Article 281
 - c) Article 63
 - d) Article 51
 10. **Assertion (A):** Gorbachev's decision to normalize relations with the West and democratise and reform the Soviet Union had some other effects that no one anticipated. [1]
Reason (R): The people in the East European countries which were part of the Soviet bloc, had started to support Gorbachev in his every decision.
 - a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of the Assertion (A).
 - b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of the Assertion (A).
 - c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
 - d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.
 11. Which of the following country had ruled the Goa till 1961? [1]
 - a) Spain
 - b) Portugal
 - c) Britain
 - d) France
 12. Sri Lanka has retained democracy since its independence in: [1]
 - a) 1948
 - b) 1958

c) 1938

d) 1968

SECTION- B (12 MARKS)

13. Explain **Balance of Power** as a component of traditional security. [2]
14. "Coalition government helps in consensus building". Do you agree with the statement? Give arguments in support of your answer. [2]
15. What is meant by the global commons? How are they exploited and polluted? [2]
16. Mention any two problems which were faced by the Government of Indira Gandhi during 1969 - 1971. [2]
17. Explain any four features of India-Israel relations. [2]
18. Why was the Congress Party known as a social and ideological coalition? Explain. [2]

SECTION-C (20 MARKS)

19. "The secure states do not imply the secure people in itself". Examine the statement. [4]
20. As decided by the member states in 2005, highlight the steps to make the United Nations more relevant in the changing context? [4]
21. Write a short note on the indigenous people in India. [4]

OR

"The Indian Government is already participating in global efforts through a number of programmes related to environmental issues". Give any four examples to support the statement.

22. What is Globalisation? Explain reasons due to which globalisation is resisted. [4]

OR

Explain the positive and negative effects of globalisation.

23. Why did the movement for secession in the Mizo hills area gain popular support? [4]
How was the problem resolved?

SECTION-D (12 MARKS)

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

[4]



- i. The tiger sitting on the right-hand side represents which organisation?
 - a. Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam
 - b. Liberal Tigers of Tamil Estate
 - c. Liberation Tigers of Tamil East
 - d. Liberal Tigers of Tamil Eelam
- ii. The conflict in Sri Lanka from 1983 onwards was based on which of the following?
 - a. Discrimination by the government between political parties
 - b. Discrimination by the government between two communities
 - c. Discrimination by the government between two regions
 - d. Discrimination by the government between two religions
- iii. Which one of the following statements about Sri Lankan crisis is true?
 - a. India did not interfere in the crisis and kept away from the problem.
 - b. India asked the United Nations to resolve the problem.
 - c. India signed an Accord with Sri Lanka and got involved in the solution to the problem.
 - d. India snapped its diplomatic relations with Sri Lanka during the crisis.
- iv. What message does the cartoon convey?
 - a. Sri Lankan government managed to balance the two rival groups.
 - b. Both the groups were against the government.
 - c. The government treated both the communities equally.
 - d. It was very difficult to maintain balance between the two rival groups.

25. In the given outline political map of India, four states have been marked as (A) (B) (C) and (D). Identify these states on the basis of the information given below and

[4]

write their correct names in your answer book, along with their respective serial number of the information used and the concerned alphabets as per the following formate:-

- i. The state where women put a ban on the sale of arrack and stopped its auction.
- ii. The state where there was anti-Hindi agitation in 1965.
- iii. The state where the Sardar Sarovar dam is located.
- iv. The state which saw a farmer's agitation in 1988 protesting against the government increased electricity rates.



26. **Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: [4]**
(1+1+2)

On the 15th August 1947, Mahatma Gandhi did not participate in any of the Independence Day celebrations. He was in Kolkata in the areas which were torn by gruesome riots between Hindus and Muslims. He was saddened by the communal violence and disheartened that the principles of ahimsa (non-violence) and satyagraha (active but non-violent resistance) that he had lived and worked for, had failed to bind the people in troubled times. Gandhiji went on to persuade the Hindus and Muslims to give up violence. His presence in Kolkata greatly improved the situation, and the coming of independence was celebrated in a spirit of communal harmony, with joyous dancing in the streets. Gandhiji's prayer meetings attracted large crowds. But this was short-lived as riots between Hindus and Muslims erupted once again and Gandhiji had to resort to a fast to bring peace.



Finally, on 30 January 1948, one such extremist, Nathuram Vinayak Godse, walked up to Gandhiji during his evening prayer in Delhi and fired three bullets at him, killing him instantly.

- i. Which of the following city Gandhiji was there on 15th August 1947?
 - a. Mumbai
 - b. Delhi
 - c. Kolkata
 - d. Chennai
- ii. Which of the following killed Gandhiji on 30 January 1948?
 - a. Nathuram Godse
 - b. Nathuram Singh
 - c. Nathuram Parikkar
 - d. Abdul Gaffar Khan
- iii. Why did Mahatma Gandhi choose not to celebrate Independence Day in 1947, and what actions did he take to address communal violence?

SECTION-E (24 MARKS)

27. Describe the role of Gorbachev to reform the Soviet system and the effects of these reforms on the USSR. [6]

OR

Explain five features of the Soviet System.

28. Analyse any two factors responsible for the European Union to be a highly influential regional organisation. What were the limitations of the European Union? [6]

OR

Evaluate any three major factors responsible for making the European Union a political force from economic forces.

29. Explain any five elements of consensus which have emerged among most political parties after the Lok Sabha elections by 2004. [6]

OR

'In spite of serious differences between major national political parties, emergence of new consensus is being viewed with interest'. In the light of this statement describe any three consensus.



30. The opposition to Emergency could keep the Janata Party together only for a while. [6]
Evaluate.

OR

Evaluate the role of the Naxalite Movement in India.



Solution
SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 1
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SECTION – A (12 MARKS)

1.

(d) iv, ii, iii, i

Explanation:

iv. US President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston S. Churchill signed the Atlantic Charter: **1941** August.

ii. Meeting in Washington, D.C. between 26 Allied nations fighting the Axis Powers: **1942** January.

iii. Tehran Conference Declaration of the Three Powers (US, Britain and Soviet Union): **1943** December.

i. 189 member countries in IMF: 12 April **2016**

2.

(d) Iron ore

Explanation:

Orissa, which has one of the largest reserves of untapped **iron ore** in the country, the State government hopes to cash in on this unprecedented demand for iron ore and has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with both international and domestic steelmakers. The government believes that this would bring in necessary capital investment and provide a lot of employment opportunities. The iron ore resources lie in some of the most underdeveloped and predominantly tribal districts of the state. **The tribal population fears that the setting up of industries would mean displacement from their home and livelihood.**

3.

(b) Mexico

Explanation:

Founded in 1929, as National Revolutionary Party and later renamed the **Institutional Revolutionary Party**, the PRI (in Spanish), exercised power in **Mexico** for almost six decades.

4.

(b) Make in India

Explanation:

Make in India

5. **(a)** (a)-(iv), (b)-(i), (c)-(ii), (d)-(iii)

Explanation:



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

6.

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

Explanation:

Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.

7. **(a)** Indus

Explanation:

Indus

8.

(b) Lal Bahadur Shastri

Explanation:

Lal Bahadur Shastri

9.

(d) Article 51

Explanation:

Article 51

10.

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

Explanation:

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

11.

(b) Portugal

Explanation:

Goa was under the Portuguese which expected freedom in 1947 but Portuguese refused. In 1961, the government of India sent army under 'Operation Vijay' and liberated Goa from Portugal rule and in 1987, Goa attained the status of 'State' position.

12. **(a)** 1948

Explanation:

1948

SECTION- B (12 MARKS)

13. Governments are very sensitive to the balance of power between their country and other countries. They do work hard to maintain a favourable balance of power with other countries, specially those close by, those with whom they have differences, or with those they had conflicts in the past. To maintain a balance of power, a country must build its military power. Economic and technological power are the basis for military power.

14. In the midst of severe competition and conflicts, a consensus appears to have emerged among most parties consisting of the following four elements:

- i. Most political parties were in support of new economic policies to lead the country to prosperity and the status of economic power in the world.
 - ii. All political parties supported the reservation of seats for backward classes in education and employment and even to ensure the OBCs to get adequate share of power.
 - iii. The role of state-level parties was accepted in the governance of the country.
 - iv. Coalition politics has shifted the focus of political parties from ideological differences to power-sharing arrangements. Hence most of the NDA did not agree with the Hindutva ideology of BJP still, they came together to form a government and remained in power for a full term.
15. a. 'Commons' are those resources that are not owned by anyone but rather shared by a community. There are some areas or regions of the world which are located outside the sovereign jurisdiction of any one state and therefore require common governance by the international community. These are the earth's atmosphere, Antarctica, the ocean floor and outer space.
- b. The global commons are exploited and polluted due to the product of industrial development undertaken by the developed countries.
16. Two problems faced by Indira Gandhi government during 1969-1971 were as:
- i. The factional rivalry between the Syndicate and Indira Gandhi came in the open in 1969 when after the death of President Zakir Hussain's, the post of President of India fell vacant that year. The Presidential candidate was to be elected.
 - ii. Various non-congress parties came together to form joint legislative parties.
17. India –Israel relations:
- i. Historical and culture ties between India and Israel go back from time immemorial.
 - ii. Diplomatic Relations officially started from 1992 when Israeli embassy established in India.
 - iii. Heads of both the state have paid visits to each other's country.
 - iv. The two nations have started cooperated in various fields like cultural exchange, security & Defence, counter terrorism, space research, water and energy and agriculture developments.
18.
 - o The Congress party brought diverse groups together whose interests were diverse often contradictory. Peasants and industrials, urban dwellers and villagers, workers and owners, middle, lower and upper classes and castes, all found place in the Party.
 - o Congress was an ideological coalition as well. It accommodated the revolutionary and pacifists, conservative and radical, extremist and moderate, and the right, left and all shades of the centre.

SECTION-C (20 MARKS)



19. i. Human security is about the protection of people more than the protection of states. But secure states always does not mean secure people. Indeed in the last 100 years, more people are killed by their own governments than by foreign armies.
- ii. The proponent of the 'narrow' concept of human security focuses on violent threats to the individual.
- iii. While the 'broad' concept of human security includes threats from hunger, disease and natural disasters which kill more people than war, genocide and terrorism combined.
- iv. It has also emphasized on economic security and 'threats' to human dignity i.e., 'freedom from want' and 'freedom from fear'.
20. In September 2005, the UN celebrated its 60th anniversary and leaders decided to make the UN more relevant in the changing context by following steps:
- a. Creation of Peace-building Commission.
 - b. Acceptance of the responsibility of the international community in case of failures of national governments to protect their own citizens from atrocities.
 - c. Creation of a Democracy Fund.
 - d. Agreements to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.
 - e. An agreement to wind up the Trusteeship Council.
 - f. Establishment of a Human Rights Council (operational since 19 June 2006).
 - g. Condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.
21. The UN defines indigenous populations as comprising the descendants of peoples who inhabited the present territory of a country at the time when persons of a different culture ethnic origin arrived there from other parts of the world and overcame them. In India 'indigenous people' are referred to as 'Scheduled Tribes- who - constitute nearly eight percent of the population. Most indigenous populations in India depend for their subsistence primarily on the cultivation of land. They enjoy constitutional protection in political representation. Some seats in the legislatures have been reserved for them. In spite of political representation, they are the largest group among the people displaced by various developmental projects since independence.

OR

Initiatives have been undertaken by the Indian Government in global efforts through a number of programmes to check environmental degradation. The main principles of India's stand on environmental issues are mentioned below :

- i. India's National Auto Fuel Policy mandates cleaner fuels for vehicles. The Energy Conservation Act, passed in 2001, outlines initiatives to reform energy efficiency.
- ii. The Energy Conservation Act was passed in 2001 to outline initiatives to improve energy efficiency and Electricity Act, passed in 2003 to encourage the use of renewable energy by the Indian government as a conservation programme.



iii. The Indian Government is also sincere to start a 'National Mission on Biodiesel'.

Nearly, 11 million hectares of land is being used to produce biodiesel.

iv. India has also one of the largest renewable energy programmes in the world.

22. Globalisation means the flows of ideas, capital, commodities and people across different parts of the world. It is a multidimensional concept. It has political, economic and cultural manifestations and these must be adequately distinguished.

The reasons due to which globalisation is resisted are :

- i. Leftist parties argue that contemporary globalisation represents global capitalism that makes the rich richer and the poor poorer. There have been left-wing protests to economic liberalisation voiced through political parties as well as through forums like the Indian Social Forum.
- ii. The weakening of the state leads to a reduction in the capacity of the state to protect the interest of its poor.
- iii. Rightist parties expressed anxiety over the political economic and cultural effects.
- iv. The cultural globalisation would harm age old values of people while harming their traditional culture.
- v. Trade Unions of the industrial workforce, as well as those representing farmer interests, have organised protests against the entry of multi-nationals.
- vi. Resistance to globalisation has also come from the political right. This has taken the form of Objecting to various cultural influences – ranging from the availability of foreign TV channels provided by cable networks, the celebration of Valentine's Day and Westernisation of the dress tastes of girl students in schools and colleges.

OR

Positive impacts of globalisation are mentioned below :

- i. Increase in the volume of trade in goods and services.
- ii. It attracts private foreign capital investment.
- iii. It guarantees increased employment opportunities. It is a great blessing for those countries having very large population. Eg. China and India.
- iv. It raises standard of living.
- v. It increases production, efficiency and healthy competition.
- vi. It attracts foreign direct investment also. Foreign investment flows into the domestic economy and domestic economy becomes strong and boisterous.
- vii. It increases cooperation and solidarity among business partners at the international level.

Negative impacts of globalisation are mentioned below :

- i. These foreign companies focus on their profit orientation projects only in place of social welfare.



- ii. It has widened income disparities by making the rich richer and the poor more poorer.
 - iii. Globalisation is also a reason for depletion of flora and fauna in country.
 - iv. Globalisation curtails social and economic right of common citizens. It adversely effects social policy and reduces the role of state activities for the benefits of welfare of the common people.
23. i. In 1959 a great famine struck in Mizo hills. Some Mizos believed that they were never a part of British India and, therefore, did not belong to the Indian Union. The movement for succession gained popular support only after the Assam Government failed to respond adequately to the great famine of 1959 in Mizo hills. The Mizo's anger led to the formation of the Mizo National Front (MNF) under the leadership of Laldenga.
- ii. After a long struggle, a peace agreement, signed between Rajiv Gandhi and Laldenga. As per this accord, Mizoram was granted full-fledged statehood with special powers and MNF agreed to give up the secessionist struggle. This accord proved a turning point in the history of Mizoram. Today, Mizoram is one of the most peaceful places in the region and has taken big strides in literacy and development.

SECTION-D (12 MARKS)

24. Answer to the questions are as follow:

- i. Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam
- ii. Discrimination by the government between the two communities
- iii. India signed an Accord with Sri Lanka and got involved in the solution to the problem
- iv. It was very difficult to maintain balance between the two rival groups

25.	i	Andhra Pradesh	B
	ii	Tamil Nadu	D
	iii	Gujarat	A
	iv	Uttar Pradesh	C

26. i. (c) Kolkata
- ii. (a) Nathuram Godse
- iii. Mahatma Gandhi refrained from celebrating Independence Day due to communal riots in Kolkata, which saddened him as his principles of ahimsa and satyagraha had failed. He worked to persuade Hindus and Muslims to abandon violence, improving the situation temporarily. However, persistent riots forced him to fast for peace, ultimately leading to his assassination on 30 January 1948.

SECTION-E (24 MARKS)

27. **Mikhail Gorbachev** was the General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in 1985. He initiated reforms in the Soviet system and tried to normalize relations with the West He also tried to democratize and reform the Soviet Union. The reforms



initiated by him had a vast impact on the history of the world.

Some of the reforms initiated by Gorbachev are :

- i. He introduced economic and political reform policies of 'Perestroika' (restructuring) and 'glasnost' (openness) in order to bring transparency and to promote the freedom of expression.

Perestroika: Perestroika refers to the reconstruction of the political and economic system established by the Communist Party. According to this policy, contested elections were introduced to reflect the democratic practices of Western society and allow citizens to have a say in government. Perestroika also called for de-monopolization and some semi-private businesses to function, ending the price controls established by the government.

Glasnost: The term was particularly associated with reforms of the judicial system, ensuring that the press and the public could attend court hearings and that the sentence was read out in public.

- ii. He stopped the arms race with the US by signing a pact to control over nuclear weapons. It was INF treaty to reduce nuclear arms.
- iii. He withdrew Soviet troops from Afghanistan and Eastern Europe.
- iv. He helped in the unification of Germany.

The reforms initiated by Gorbachev had following effects on the USSR :

- a. Common people became impatient to bring openness and restructuring of a system faster than these were scheduled in the policy of Perestroika and Glasnost.
- b. Bureaucrats and communist hardliners did not want to adopt these policies, they felt their powers and luxuries would reduce.
- c. As a result, Gorbachev had to suffer and subsequently, he resigned and a coup took place in 1991 in which Communist Party hardliners were on one side and the staunch supporter of restructuring on the other.
- d. Gorbachev's reform policy geared up nationalistic feelings and the desire for sovereignty within various republics including Russia and Baltic Republics.
- e. People preferred the capitalist economy over the centralized economy under which they were suffering.

OR

Features:

- i. **Soviet System was based on the principle of 'Democratic Centralism'.** To quote Vyshinsky, "The Soviet Union State is built on the principle of democratic centralism sharply opposed to the bureaucratic centralism of the capitalist state." This principle meant that all bodies of administration were elected and organised on democratic



principles. The principle also meant that the lower body was responsible to the higher body and the decision of the higher bodies was binding, on the lower bodies.

- ii. **The Citizens of U.S.S.R were given a number of fundamental rights along with duties:** Rights were given to the citizens with a view to strengthening the socialist system. In other words, rights must be in conformity with the interests of the working people.
- iii. **Soviet System of government was based on federalism:** There were 15 Union Republics which constituted U.S.S.R. But the powers of the centre were all-pervasive: the units were only pigmies before the centre.
- iv. **Supreme Soviet was the parliament of U.S.S.R:** The Council of Ministers was responsible to the Supreme Soviet of U.S.S.R. But there was no opposition party in the Supreme Soviet.
- v. **Soviet System of Economy was based on Planned Economy:** There was integrated planning for the whole of the country.

28. European Union is considered highly influential.

- **Military influence:**

- a. EU stands second in combined armed forces and on total spending on defence. Its members France and Britain have over 550 nuclear warheads and arsenals. EU is the second largest source of space and communication technology. Thus, this super national association has been able to intercede in economic, political and social areas. But in certain cases member states have their own foreign relations and Defence policies.
- b. For example, in Iraqi invasion, where Britain and some other members of EU joined US led coalition of willing, whereas France and Germany opposed the same.

- **Economic influence:**

- a. EU with more than \$12 trillion (2005) is the largest economy in the world surpassing even that of USA. Euro can cause a danger to the US hegemony of dollar. The share of EU is three times greater than that of US and this makes EU more powerful in trade disputes with US and China. Its economy is very impressive and thus, it becomes influential to its neighbours and in Asia and Africa.
- b. It plays a significant role in the World Trade Organisation.

- **Limitations of the European Union:**

European Union as a supranational association has been able to intercede in economic, political and social areas. But there are certain limitations:

- i. Member states of EU have their own foreign relation and defense policies, that often odds with each other.
- ii. Presence of deep-seated 'Euro-skepticism' in some parts of Europe about EU's integrationist agenda.



OR

The European Union has gradually evolved from an economic union into a political union. It has become more as a nation state. Though it does not have Constitution, it has a common foreign and security policy in its dealings with other states. It has its own flag, anthem, founding date and Currency.

The areas of cooperation have been expanded by the European Union by admitting new members from the former Soviet bloc. This shifting of the power of EU from economic to political force has not been easy as people were not very enthusiastic. There are also reservations about including some new countries within the European Union.

Major factor behind this is:

- i. Its aim was to make Europe politically, economically and culturally strong enough to face powers like USA, Russia.
- ii. Due to the presence of some non-permanent members of the UN Security Council, EU will be able to influence US policies.
- iii. In order to send grievances of European countries to UN, two countries i.e. Great Britain and France are members of Security Council of UNO.

29. The following elements of consensus have emerged among most political parties of India after the Lok Sabha Elections of 2004.

- i. **Consensus upon the New Economic Policy:** While many groups are opposed to the new economic policies, most political parties are in support of the new economic policies. Barring a few parties, the majority among them unanimously agrees to the new economic policy of globalization. Most parties believe and imagine that these will bring prosperity to the nation and thus, India will soon become an economic power of the world.
- ii. **Consensus upon the socio-political claims of the backward castes:** Political parties have recognized that the social and political claims of the backward castes need to be accepted. Almost all political parties have felt the need to accept the social and political demands of the backward castes in India. It can be observed from every party's focus on a reservation of seats/posts of backward castes in legislative and government institutions.
- iii. **Consensus upon the role of regional parties in making the government:** The difference between regional and national parties is gradually shrinking. Regional parties are setting alliance and share power with national parties at the national level, since the last twenty years and thus, these have played an important role in the politics in India.
- iv. **Political alliance without consent of ideology:** We observe that since the last two decades, parties with the difference in ideologies join in the alliance because they focus on power sharing. Such alliances are NDA and UPA, Popular United Front consisting of

Akali Dal, CPI, CPI (M), SSP, Republican Party and Bhartiya Jansangh in Punjab (Assembly election 1967), Grand Alliance of 1971's general election, Alliance of Congress (R) with CPI, etc.

- v. **Emphasis on Pragmatic Considerations:** Coalition politics has shifted the focus of political parties from ideological differences and power-sharing arrangements. Thus most parties of the NDA did not agree with the 'Hindutva' ideology of the BJP. Yet, they came together to form a government and remained in power for a full term.

OR

A cursory review on the formation of Government through coalition in centre as also in almost all states of India indicates that irrespective of split in public mandate i.e. support/opinion/vote, severe competition among parties for making their Government and a number of conflicts within and outside each party, a consensus still appears to have emerged among almost all political parties. We can discuss three points of consensus formed among them as under:

- i. **Emphasis on pragmatic consideration rather than ideological position and political alliances without ideological agreement:** We see that coalition partners lay emphasis on power sharing instead of a difference in opinion, principle, and assumption among them. Each partner or party wants to get his share in the power even if he has to do compromise with his principle and even resolution of his party. Party too understands that even if two of its member are sharing power, it can encash its self-interests more easily than there being no member attached to or joined with the ruling government. In brief, we can say that it is mere perception based politics and it has nothing to do with the interest of the nation as a whole.
- ii. **A deep recognition of the location of vote-bank:** Political parties irrespective of their so-called concepts and principles are intelligent enough to understand where their vote-bank has existed and the magic of their harangues enables them to delude that bank and encash support from there again and again. This is a topmost reason that each party accepts the political and social claims of the backward castes. Weaknesses of this section get manifestation time-to-time from the events like that of Gujjar movement inclined to include their community in the Schedule Tribe once sanctioned in Constitution of India as an ad-hoc privilege till certain communities are connected with the mainstream.
- iii. **Consensus on the role of state-level parties in the governance of the country:** We have observed that the gap between regional/ state parties and national parties is reducing with a faster pace since the 1990s in India. Almost in all coalition governments formed so far in Centre and in States have made regional parties their



partners. Thus, all parties in India have developed a common consensus irrespective of their inner-conflicts and dissensions.

30. Rule of Janata Party Government for a while only:

- i. The Janata Party government that came to power after the 1977's elections but soon there was seen stiff competition among three leaders for the post of Prime Minister - Morarji Desai, who was the rival to Indira Gandhi ever since 1966-67, Charan Singh, leader of the Bharatiya Lok Dal and a farmers' leader from UP and Jagjivan Ram, who had vast experience as a senior minister in the Congress governments. Eventually, Morarji Desai became the Prime Minister but that could not bring the power struggle within the party to an end.
- ii. Some critics feel that the Janata Party was lacked direction, leadership, and a common programme.
- iii. The Janata Party government could not bring about a fundamental change in policies pursued by the Congress.
- iv. The Janata Party split and the government which was led by Morarji Desai lost its majority within less than 18 months. Another government headed by Charan Singh was formed on an assurance of the support of the Congress Party.
- v. But the Congress Party later decided to withdraw its support with the result that the Charan Singh government could remain in power for just about four months.
- vi. Fresh Lok Sabha elections were held in January 1980 in which the Janata Party suffered a comprehensive defeat, especially in north India. Congress party led by Indira Gandhi nearly won 353 seats and came back to power.

The experience of 1977-79 taught another lesson that unstable and quarrelsome governments are severely punished by the voters.

OR

The Naxalite Movement: It was a peasant uprising that took place in the area of Naxalbari police station in Darjeeling hills district of West Bengal. It was led by local cadres of the Communist Party (M) in 1967. Soon the peasant movement spread to several states of India and came to be referred broadly as the Naxalite movement.

Role or activities of the Naxalite Movement:

- i. In 1969, under the leadership of Charu Majumdar, peasants broke off from the CPI (M) and a new party, Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) (CPI-ML), was formed. It argued that democracy in India was a facade and decided to adopt a strategy of protracted guerrilla warfare in order to lead a revolution.
- ii. The Naxalite movement has used force to snatch land from the rich landowners and give it to the poor who were landless. Its supporters advocated the use of violent means to achieve their political goals.



- iii. In spite of the use of preventive detention and other strong measures adopted by the Congress party government in West Bengal, the Naxalite movement did not come to an end. In later years, it spread to many other parts of the country.
- iv. The Naxalite movement has by now splintered into various parties and organisations. Some of these parties, like the CPI (M), participate in open, democratic politics.
- v. About 75 districts in nine states are affected by Naxalite violence. These give open support to farmers exploited by landlords who are denied their rightful share in produce, fair wages, and cheated by money lenders. These organisations are thus, more active in remote and backward areas including tribal regions.

