



B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS
A CBSE DAY-CUM-BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL



TERM-1 EXAMINATION 2025-26

POLITICAL SCIENCE (028)

CLASS: XII

DATE: 3/09/2025

NAME:

MARKING SCHEME

DURATION: 3 Hrs.

MAX. MARKS: 80

ROLL NO: -----

SECTION-A 1X12=12

Q1. Arrange the following in chronological order of their creation:

- I) Arunachal Pradesh II) Punjab
III) Nagaland IV) Tripura

Select the correct option:

- A. (III), (II), (IV), (I)
B. (II), (IV), (I), (III)
C. (IV), (I), (III), (II)
D. (I), (II), (III), (IV)

Ans- A. (III), (II), (IV), (I)

Q2. What were the three challenges that the Indian government faced after attaining independence?

- i. The first challenge was to shape a nation that was united yet accommodative of the diversity in our society.
ii. The second challenge was to establish democracy.
iii. The third challenge was to ensure the development and well-being of the entire society, and not only of some sections of the society.

Choose the correct pair of options.

- A. Only I
B. Only ii and iii
C. Only iii
D. All of the above

Ans: D) All of the above

Q3. The Cities that were divided into 'communal zones' during the partition violence were

- A. Lahore, Amritsar and Calcutta
B. Kashmir, Lucknow and Allahabad
C. Madras, Hyderabad and Mysore
D. Delhi, Mumbai and Gwalior

Ans- A. Lahore, Amritsar and Calcutta

Q4. Two statements are given as Assertion (A) and Reason(R). Study the statements carefully and identify the correct alternative:

Assertion (A): India adopted representative democracy based on the parliamentary form of government.

Reason (R): These features ensure that the political competition would take place in a democratic framework.

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

Ans- A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.

Q5. One of the guiding principles of the ideology of Swatantra Party was:

- A. Interests of the working class
- B. Protection of princely states
- C. Economy free from state control
- D. Autonomy of states within the union

Ans- (C) Economy free from state control

Q6. The First General Elections in India were held in the year

- A. 1951
- B. 1952
- C. 1953
- D. 1954

Ans- (B) 1952

Q7. Two statements are given as Assertion (A) and Reason(R). Study the statements carefully and identify the correct alternative:

Assertion (A): There is a multi-party system in India, and the parties reflect various interests.

Reason (R): Although there have been many political parties, the Congress party has dominated both at the national and state levels for a longer time.

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

Ans- B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.

Q8. In India, planning was conceived as the main instrument of??

- A. Political development
- B. Cultural development
- C. Social development
- D. Socio-economic development

Answer: D) Socio-economic development

Q9. Who was popularly known as the ‘Milkman of India’?

- A. P.C. Mahalanobis
- B. K.T. Shah
- C. Verghese Kurien
- D. None of the above

Answer: C) Verghese Kurien

Q10. Which conference marked the zenith of India’s engagement with the newly independent Asian and African nations?

- A. Malaysian Conference
- B. Singapore Conference
- C. Egyptian Conference
- D. Bandung Conference

Ans- D. Bandung Conference

Q11. The Indian leader who gave the slogan “Garibi hatao” was

- A. Lal Bahadur shastri
- B. Indira Gandhi
- C. Jawaharlal Nehru
- D. B.R. Ambedkar

Ans- B. Indira Gandhi.

Q12. Match the List-I with List-II.

List-I

- (A) Declaration of emergency
- (B) Save Democracy
- (C) CPI (M)
- (D) Janta Party

List-II

- (i) Jai Prakash Narayan
- (ii) Charu Mazumdar
- (iii) Morar ji Desai
- (iv) Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed

Options:

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

(d) A-(iv), B-(ii), C-(iii), D-(i)

Ans- (b) A-(iv), B-(i), C-(ii), D-(iii)

SECTION-B 2X6=12

Q13. How does one-party dominance differ from a one-party system?

Ans- One-party dominance means one party remains politically dominant in a competitive democratic system, while a one-party system refers to a system where only one legal political party exists, with no competition (e.g., China).

Q14. What was the task of the States Reorganisation Commission?

Answer:

i. The States Reorganisation Commission was set up in 1953 by the central government to examine the issue of redrawing state boundaries.

ii. The commission recommended that state boundaries should be reorganized to reflect linguistic differences, thereby accommodating the country's linguistic diversity.

Q15. List two major consequences of the Green Revolution on agriculture and the environment.

i. Increased agricultural productivity — The Green Revolution introduced high-yield crop varieties, chemical fertilizers, and irrigation techniques, etc.

ii. Environmental degradation — The heavy use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and intensive irrigation led to soil depletion, water pollution, and loss of biodiversity.

Q16. What is the significance of India's Look East Policy?

The Look East Policy, launched in the early 1990s, aimed to strengthen India's economic and strategic relations with the countries of Southeast Asia. Its significance lies in promoting trade, investment, and regional cooperation, as well as enhancing India's influence in Asia.

Q17. Mention any two challenges faced by the Congress party after Nehru's death. Mention any two challenges faced by the Congress party after Nehru's death.

i. Leadership crisis: After Nehru's death in 1964, there was no clear successor with his stature, leading to uncertainty and internal competition within the party.

ii. Rising opposition and public dissatisfaction: Economic problems like inflation, food shortages, and unemployment led to growing public discontent, while opposition parties gained strength and challenged Congress dominance in the 1967 elections.

Q18. What was the role of the Janata Party after the Emergency ended?

After the Emergency ended in 1977, the Janata Party emerged as a coalition of opposition groups and won the general elections. It formed the first non-Congress government at the center, marking a major shift in Indian politics by restoring democracy and ending authoritarian rule.

SECTION-C 4X5=20

Q19. What was the major thrust of the First Five Year Plan? In which ways did the Second Plan differ from the first one?

Answer- i. The major thrust of the First Five Year Plan was on the agrarian sector including investment in dams and irrigation.

ii. It focused on land reforms for the development in rural areas.

iii. It aimed to increase level of National Income.

The first five year plan differed from the second five year plan:

iv. In the second plan, much stress was laid on development of heavy industries.

Q20. India's foreign policy was built around the principles of peace and cooperation. But India fought three wars in a space of ten years between 1962 and 1971. Would you say that this was a failure of the foreign policy? Or would you say that this was a result of international situation? Give reasons to support your answer.

Ans. This was not a failure of the foreign policy but these wars were result of international situation. The reason for these war were as given below:

- i. India had outstanding dispute with China in the Aksai-chin area and NEFA. In 1962 when the Luban-Missile crisis had drawn the attention of the whole world. China found an opportunity to invade India. This led to war between India and China.
- ii. In 1965, there was war with Pakistan over Kashmir issue. Pakistan hoped that India had already been defeated by China, it would be easy to defeat India again. This however, did not happen and India defeated Pakistan.
- iii. The third war in 1971 was involved about the question of East Pakistan, now Bangladesh, where people were fighting a freedom struggle against Pakistan rulers so this was a result of internal conflict of Pakistan and not the failure of India's foreign policy.

Q21. What does the term 'syndicate' mean in the context of the Congress party of the sixties? What role did the Syndicate play in the Congress party?

Ans. Syndicate was the group of powerful leaders within the Congress who influenced every major decision of the party.

- i. This group was led by K. Kamaraj who was the former chief minister of Tamil Nadu. Some of the other notable leaders are S.K Patil, Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy and Atulya Ghosh.
- ii. They played an important role in making Lal Bahadur Shastri and Indira Gandhi as the Prime Minister.
- iii. They had a major role during the first tenure of Indira Gandhi and worked closely to get her policies implemented.
- iv. However there was a split in Congress in 1969. The Congress (O) was led by the Syndicate and Congress (R) was led by Indira Gandhi.

Q22. The Shah Commission was appointed in 1977 by the Janata Party government. Why was it appointed, and what were its key findings?

Ans. The Shah Commission was appointed to make an investigation of the events that took place during the period of emergency. It was also given the task to evaluate the decisions made by Indira Gandhi during the emergency and their legal validity.

Some of the findings of the report are:

- i. It found out that many violations of laws occurred during emergency.
- ii. Lakhs of people were detained under the preventive detention law.
- iii. The censorship on the press was imposed that did not have a proper legal provision.

Q23. The Assam movement was a combination of cultural pride and economic backwardness. Explain.

Ans. The Assam movement was a combination of cultural and economic backwardness because:

- i. The Assam Movement from 1979 to 1985 is the best example of movements against 'outsiders'.
- ii. The movement was against illegal migrations, against domination of Bengalis and other outsiders, and against faulty voters' register that included the names of lakhs of immigrants.
- iii. It was against outsiders to maintain cultural integration of Assam.
- iv. There were widespread poverty and unemployment in Assam, despite the existence of natural resources like oil, tea and coal.
- v. It was felt that these were drained out of the State without any equivalent benefit to the people.

SECTION-D 4X3=12

Q24. Read the passage and choose the most appropriate answer for the questions given below:

"After independence, India faced the immediate and difficult challenge of nation-building. The country had just undergone a painful Partition, which led to large-scale communal violence and displacement. Integrating over 500 princely states, each with its own ruler and administrative setup, was another major task. Leaders like Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel played a crucial role in persuading and, where necessary, pressuring rulers to join the Indian Union. At the same time, there was a need to frame a democratic Constitution that would reflect the diverse aspirations of the people. Despite linguistic,

cultural, and religious diversity, India adopted universal adult franchise and a federal system to accommodate regional identities within a united framework." 1+1+1+1=4

I) What was one of the biggest challenges India faced immediately after independence?

- A) Conducting elections
- B) Economic liberalization
- C) Nation-building after Partition
- D) Launching space missions

Answer: C) Nation-building after Partition

II) Who was primarily responsible for the integration of princely states into the Indian Union?

- A) Jawaharlal Nehru
- B) Mahatma Gandhi
- C) B.R. Ambedkar
- D) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

Answer: D) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

III) What feature of the Constitution was adopted to reflect India's diversity?

- A) One-party system
- B) Hereditary monarchy
- C) Universal adult franchise and federal structure
- D) Military rule

Answer: C) Universal adult franchise and federal structure

IV) How many princely states were integrated into the Indian Union after independence?

- A) About 100
- B) About 250
- C) Over 500
- D) Less than 50

Answer: C) Over 500

Q25. 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 write their correct names in your answer book along with the respective serial numbers of the information used and the concerned alphabets as per the format that follows: 1+1+1+1=4

Sr. Number for the Information used	Concerned alphabet given in the map	Name of the State
I		
II		
III		
IV		

I) The state where a coalition called the SVD with the two socialist parties SSP and the PSP came to power after 1967 election.

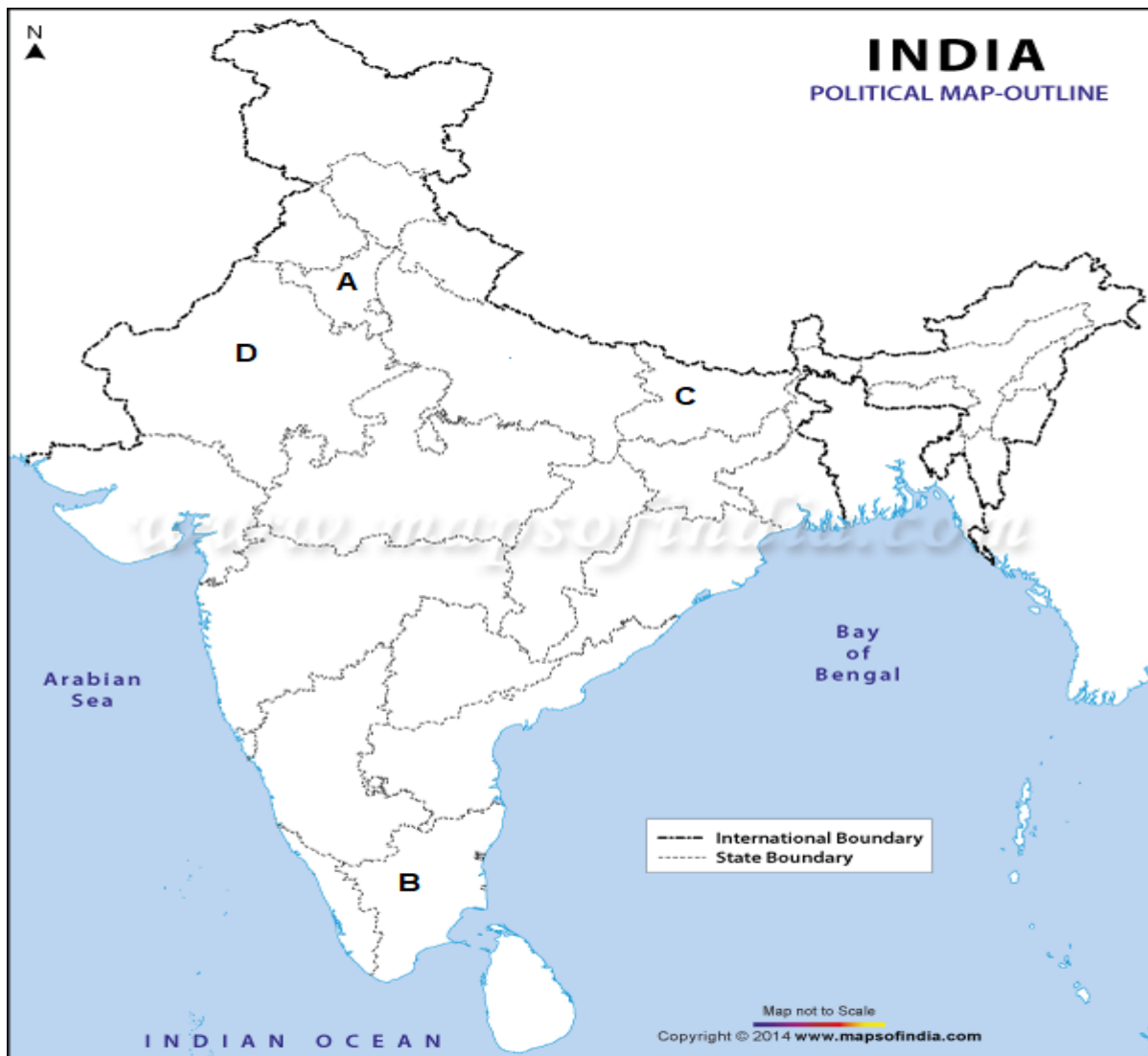
II) The state where Congress did not get the majority but formed government with the help from others.

III) The state associated with the defection in 1967 election.

IV) K.Kamraj was the Chief Minister of this state.

Ans-

Sr. Number for the Information used	Concerned alphabet given in the map	Name of the State
I	C	Bihar
II	D	Rajasthan
III	A	Haryana
IV	B	Madras



Q26. Study the cartoon given below and answer the following questions: 1+1+1+1=4

Emergence of Opposition Parties

Credit: Shankar



1. What does the "tug of war" in the cartoon symbolize?

- A) A sports event between rival teams
- B) A struggle for independence from colonial rule
- C) A power struggle between the ruling party and opposition parties
- D) A social reform movement

Answer: C) A power struggle between the ruling party and opposition parties

2. What does the tree in the center likely represent?

- A) The Indian economy
- B) The Constitution of India
- C) The unity of India
- D) Political power or government control

Answer: D) Political power or government control

3. What does the increasing number of people on one side of the tree branch represent?

- A) Unity in the ruling party
- B) Fragmentation of Indian states
- C) Growing strength and unity of opposition parties
- D) Economic development

Answer: C) Growing strength and unity of opposition parties

4. Why is this cartoon titled "Tug of War Resumed"?

- A) To indicate the beginning of a new war
- B) To show cooperation between political parties
- C) To highlight the re-emergence of competitive democratic politics after dominance by a single party
- D) To criticize the judiciary

Correct Answer: C) To highlight the re-emergence of competitive democratic politics after dominance by a single party

SECTION-E 6X4=24

Q27. Does India's foreign policy reflect her desire to be an important regional power? Argue your case with the Bangladesh war of 1971 as an example.

Ans. India is one of the most important nations in Asia. It is also very big and powerful as compared to its neighbors. However India do not undermine the status of any nation and act only when the situation goes out of control. We can see this with the example of Bangladesh.

- i. India made all diplomatic efforts to avoid full scale war but that were not successful and ultimately the war started between the two nations in the month of December.
- ii. There was an attack from the Pakistan air force on the lands of Punjab and Rajasthan. On the other hand the Pakistan army attacked the regions of Jammu and Kashmir.
- iii. There was strong retaliation from the Indians on the Western and Eastern front of the border. Indians make use of the army, navy and air force to counter the attacks of the Pakistan.
- iv. The Indian army also received support from the local population due to which it was able to make the Pakistan army surrender within ten days.
- v. There was 90,000 Pakistani soldiers that surrendered to the Indian army. East Pakistan was declared independent and it became the Bangladesh.
- vi. The victory boosted India's status as a dominant regional power. It also altered the balance of power in South Asia.

OR

Discuss the main features of India's foreign policy after independence. How did India balance its national interests while maintaining the policy of non-alignment during the Cold War?

Main features of India's foreign policy after independence:

- i. Non-Alignment: India did not join any of the two major military blocs—the USA-led Western bloc or the USSR-led Eastern bloc—during the Cold War. Instead, it became a founding member of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).
- ii. Peaceful coexistence: India emphasized peaceful relations with all nations and advocated resolving conflicts through dialogue, diplomacy, and international cooperation.
- iii. Support for decolonization: India strongly supported anti-colonial movements in Asia and Africa and extended moral and diplomatic support to newly independent nations.

Balancing national interests while maintaining non-alignment:

- iv. Strategic autonomy: While India stayed non-aligned, it was pragmatic in securing national interests. For instance, it signed the 1971 Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation with the Soviet Union to safeguard its interests during the Bangladesh Liberation War.

- v. Independent foreign policy decisions: India maintained relations with both the US and the USSR and did not allow external powers to dictate its choices. It accepted economic and military aid from both sides without compromising its autonomy.
- vi. Leadership in NAM: India used the Non-Aligned Movement as a platform to voice the concerns of developing nations and promote an independent foreign policy, especially in international forums like the United Nations.

Q28. Discuss the significance of the 1971 General Election in the restoration of the Congress party's dominance. What strategies did Indira Gandhi use to achieve a landslide victory?

Ans- Significance of the 1971 General Election:

- i. The 1971 General Election marked the spectacular return of the Congress party's dominance after its setbacks in the 1967 elections.
- ii. It confirmed Indira Gandhi's position as a strong and popular leader, both within the party and among the masses.
- iii. It re-established the Congress party as the primary political force in India, reaffirming its central role in Indian politics.

Strategies used by Indira Gandhi to achieve a landslide victory:

- iv. Populist Campaign: Indira Gandhi projected herself as a champion of the poor and underprivileged with slogans like "Garibi Hatao" (Eradicate Poverty), appealing directly to the masses.
- v. Focus on Socialism: She emphasized socialist policies such as bank nationalization, abolition of privy purses, and land reforms, which won widespread support among the lower classes and workers.
- vi. Charismatic Leadership: Indira Gandhi's personal appeal and strong leadership style helped her gain popularity, overshadowing fragmented opposition parties.

OR

Explain the main reasons for the defeat of the Congress party in the 1967 elections. How did this defeat challenge the Congress system, and what measures were taken to restore its dominance?

Main reasons for the defeat of Congress in 1967:

- i. Economic difficulties: India faced food shortages, inflation, and unemployment during the mid-1960s, which led to public dissatisfaction with the Congress government. The failure to address these issues weakened the party's popularity.
- ii. Leadership crisis: The death of Jawaharlal Nehru in 1964 and then Lal Bahadur Shastri in 1966 created a leadership vacuum. The new leader, Indira Gandhi, was initially seen as weak and inexperienced.
- iii. Rise of opposition parties: Regional parties and the Janata Party gained strength, providing voters with alternatives to the Congress. These parties capitalized on regional and local issues to challenge Congress dominance.

How the defeat challenged the Congress system:

- iv. The 1967 elections marked the first time since independence that Congress lost power in several states, indicating the erosion of its monopoly over Indian politics.
- v. This defeat showed that Congress was no longer invincible and that India was moving towards a more competitive multi-party democracy.

Measures taken to restore Congress dominance:

- vi. Centralization of power: Indira Gandhi consolidated her position as the party leader by sidelining rivals and centralizing decision-making to strengthen her control over the party.
- vii. Populist policies: She introduced popular measures such as the nationalization of banks and the abolition of privy purses to win the support of the masses and the left-wing voters.

Q29. The 1977 elections for the first time saw the Opposition coming into power at the Centre. What would you consider as the reasons for this development?

- Ans. i. Since 1967 elections the opposition parties had been coming nearer to each other. That election had brought the idea of coalitions in Indian politics.
- ii. Before emergency the movement led by Jayaprakash Narayan had received support from the non-Congress opposition parties like the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, the Congress (O), The Bharatiya Lok Dal and others.

- iii. After the verdict of Allahabad High Court declared Indira Gandhi's election invalid opposition parties organised a massive demonstration on 25 June, 1975 and asked for resignation of Indira Gandhi. On the night of 25 June, 1975 Emergency was proclaimed.
- iv. Arrest, censorship, torture, custodial deaths during emergency and other actions of the government directly affected the political parties and the ordinary people.
- v. All these factors brought the opposition together and formed a new party known as the Janata Party under the leadership of Jayaprakash Narayan. The new party made the election into a referendum on the Emergency.
- vi. The public opinion was against the Congress. The formation of the Janata Party ensured that non-Congress votes would not be divided. All these factors led to the victory of the Janata Party and coming of opposition into power at the Centre.

OR

Examine the causes and consequences of the Emergency declared in India in 1975. How did it impact the democratic structure of the country?

Ans- Causes of the Emergency (1975):

- i. Political opposition and unrest: Growing protests led by opposition parties, especially by Jayaprakash Narayan's movement, challenged the authority of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and demanded her resignation.
- ii. Judicial verdict: On June 12, 1975, the Allahabad High Court found Indira Gandhi guilty of electoral malpractice and invalidated her 1971 election to the Lok Sabha. This created a serious political crisis.
- iii. Internal security concerns: The government cited threats to national security, public order, and governance due to widespread strikes, student movements, and mass agitations.

Consequences of the Emergency:

- iv. Suspension of civil liberties: Fundamental rights were curtailed, censorship was imposed on the press, and political opponents were arrested without trial under preventive detention laws.
- v. Centralization of power: The Emergency led to excessive concentration of power in the hands of the Prime Minister and the executive, weakening federalism and institutional checks and balances.
- vi. Constitutional amendments: The 42nd Amendment was passed, which attempted to reduce the power of the judiciary and strengthen the central government.

Impact on India's democratic structure:

- vii. Democratic backsliding: The Emergency is seen as a period when democratic norms and institutions were severely undermined.
- viii. Electoral backlash: In 1977, the first non-Congress government came to power, marking the people's rejection of authoritarianism and their commitment to democracy.

Q30. Regional demands from different parts of India exemplify the principle of unity with diversity. Do you agree? Give reasons.

Ans . It is very true to say that the regional demands from different parts of India exemplify the principle of unity and diversity. The reasons in support of these statements are as given below :

- i. In India, different regions and linguistic groups have the right to retain their own culture.
- ii. India has adopted a democratic approach to the question of diversity and, therefore, allows the political expression of regional aspirations.
- iii. Regional issues and problems receive adequate attention and accommodation in the policy making process.
- iv. Indian approach does not see regionalism and cultural diversity as anti national.
- v. During the period since independence regional aspirations from demands of statehood and economic development to autonomy and separation have been raised. But the democratic politics has accommodated the demands of different sections of the society. Regional aspirations are very much a part of democratic politics.
- vi. Jammu and Kashmir is one of the living examples of plural society and politics. In spite of diversities and conflicts, the plural and secular culture of the state has remained largely intact. Similarly in Punjab regional identities continue to be important for the people, but politics has been on secular lines.

OR

Explain the reasons behind the rise of regional aspirations in India after independence. How did the Indian government address these demands to maintain national unity?

Reasons behind the rise of regional aspirations:

- i. Linguistic and cultural differences: India is a diverse country with many languages, cultures, and traditions. People in different regions wanted recognition and respect for their language and culture, leading to demands for separate states.
- ii. Economic disparities: Some regions felt neglected in terms of development and resources. Economic backwardness in certain areas fueled demands for greater autonomy or statehood to focus on local development.
- iii. Political representation: People in various regions wanted better political representation and control over local affairs, leading to calls for regional autonomy.

How the Indian government addressed these demands:

- iv. Formation of linguistic states: The government reorganized states on a linguistic basis starting with the States Reorganisation Act of 1956, which helped accommodate regional and linguistic aspirations.
- v. Decentralization of power: The government promoted federalism by providing states with more autonomy and establishing mechanisms like the Finance Commission to ensure fair resource distribution.
- vi. Dialogue and accommodation: The government engaged with regional leaders and accommodated their demands through negotiations and constitutional amendments to maintain national unity.

*****ALL THE BEST*****