

CBSE 12th 2024 Compartment Political Science Set-3 (59/S/3) Solutions

SECTION A

Q.1 For this question, two statements are given, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R). Read these statements carefully and choose the correct option as the answer from the options (A), (B), (C) and (D) given below.

Assertion (A): Common property resources have dwindled in size, quality and availability to the poor in much of the world.

Reason (R): A combination of factors including privatisation, agricultural intensification, population growth and ecosystem degradation are responsible for degradation of common property.

Options:

(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.

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

Explanation:

Assertion (A) is true: Common property resources have indeed diminished in size, quality, and availability, especially affecting the poor.

Reason (R) is also true: Factors such as privatisation, agricultural intensification, population growth, and ecosystem degradation contribute to the degradation of these common property resources.

Since Reason (R) accurately explains why the resources mentioned in Assertion (A) have dwindled, Option (A) is the correct choice.

Q.2. Match the List I with List II and choose the correct option as answer:

ListI	ListII
1. The Energy Conservation Act, India	(i) 1975
2. The Electricity Act, India	(ii) 1992
3. Earth Summit	(iii) 2001
4. World Council of Indigenous Peoples	(iv) 2003

Options:

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

Solution.(C) 1(ii), 2(iii), 3(i), 4(iv) , Here is the correct matching of ListI with ListII:

- 1. The Energy Conservation Act, India (ii) 1992
- 2. The Electricity Act, India (iii) 2001
- 3. Earth Summit (iv) 2003
- 4. World Council of Indigenous Peoples (i) 1975

Therefore, the correct option is:

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

Q.3. People who flee from war, natural disaster or political persecution are called

- (A) Fugitives
- (B) Expatriates
- (C) Refugees
- (D) Migrants

Solution.(C) Refugees, People who flee from war, natural disaster, or political persecution are called Refugees. Refugees are individuals who have been forced to leave their home country due to fear of persecution, conflict, violence, or other serious threats to their safety. They seek asylum in another country where they hope to find safety and protection.

Q.4. "Disarmament" requires all states to

(A) give up certain kinds of weapons

(B) regulate the acquisition or development of weapons

(C) share information about arms with rivals

(D) coordinate their actions to deter or defend against military attack

Solution. (A) give up certain kinds of weapons, Disarmament primarily focuses on give up certain kinds of weapons

The goal of disarmament is to reduce or eliminate specific categories of weapons to enhance global security and reduce the risks of armed conflict. While regulating the acquisition or development of weapons, sharing information about arms, and coordinating defence actions are also important aspects of broader arms control and security strategies, the core idea of disarmament is about the reduction or complete elimination of particular types of weapons.

Q.5. The Presidents of which Central Asian Republics appointed themselves to power first for ten years and then extended their term for another ten years?

(A) Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan

(B) Ukraine and Azerbaijan

(C) Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan

(D) Tajikistan and Kazakhstan

Solution. (C) Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, The Central Asian republics where the Presidents initially appointed themselves for ten years and then extended their terms for another ten years are:

(C) Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan

In Turkmenistan, Saparmurat Niyazov appointed himself President for life in 1999 and extended his rule. In Uzbekistan, Islam Karimov had a similar approach, extending his presidency multiple times.

Q.6. Arrange the following events in chronological order:

I. Gorbachev became the General Secretary of Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

II. Russia, Ukraine and Belarus declared that the Soviet Union is disbanded.

III. Russian Revolution.

IV. Fall of the Berlin Wall.

Choose the correct option.

(A) III, I, IV, II

(B) III, II, I, IV

(C) III, I, II, IV

(D) III, IV, I, II

Solution. (A) III, I, IV, II , To arrange the events in chronological order, we need to look at the historical timeline of each event:

1. Russian Revolution: This event occurred in 1917.
2. Gorbachev became the General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union: This happened in 1985.
3. Fall of the Berlin Wall: This significant event occurred in 1989.
4. Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus declared that the Soviet Union is disbanded: This declaration took place in December 1991.

Putting these events in chronological order:

1. Russian Revolution (1917)
2. Gorbachev became the General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (1985)
3. Fall of the Berlin Wall (1989)

4. Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus declared that the Soviet Union is disbanded (1991)

Thus, the correct order is:

(A) III, I, IV, II

Q.7. To which state of India does the Dimasa community belong?

(A) Mizoram

(B) Tripura

(C) Assam

(D) Manipur

Solution.(C) Assam , The Dimasa community belongs to the state of Assam.

So the correct option is:

(C) Assam

Q.8 Where was the Afro Asian Conference held in 1955?

(A) Jakarta

(B) Bandung

(C) Bali

(D) Java

Solution.(B) Bandung , The AfroAsian Conference in 1955 was held in Bandung, Indonesia.

So the correct option is:(B) Bandung

Q.9. For this question, two statements are given one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R). Read these statements carefully and choose the correct option as the answer from the options (A), (B), (C) and (D) given below.

Assertion (A): Instead of one tribal state, several states got carved out of Assam.

Reason (R): Leaders of the major tribal communities wanted to separate from Assam.

Options:

(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.

Solution.(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not 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).

Explanation:

Assertion (A): It is true that several states were carved out of Assam. For example, Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Arunachal Pradesh were created as separate states from Assam in the 1970s and 1980s.

Reason (R): The reason provided is not entirely accurate. The creation of these states was not solely due to leaders of major tribal communities wanting to separate from Assam, but rather due to a combination of political, administrative, and regional demands for greater autonomy and better governance.

Q.10. In which year did India and China sign the Panchsheel Agreement ?

(A) 1950

(B) 1952

(C) 1954

(D) 1956

Solution.(C) 1954 ,

Explanation:

The Panchsheel Agreement, also known as the Agreement on Trade and Intercourse between Tibet Region of China and India, was signed on April 29, 1954. This agreement established principles of peaceful coexistence between India and China.

Q.11. In which year did India start using the Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) throughout the entire country?

(A) 2001

(B) 2002

(C) 2003

(D) 2004

Solution.(D) 2004, India began using Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) throughout the entire country in the 2004 general elections. The widespread use of EVMs was a significant step to enhance the efficiency and accuracy of the voting process. So the correct option is: (D) 2004

Q.12. Which one of the following political parties was the main opposition party in the first Lok Sabha ?

(A) Communist Party of India

(B) Bharatiya Jana Sangh

(C) Socialist Party

(D) Congress Socialist Party

Solution.(B) Bharatiya Jana Sangh , In the first Lok Sabha, the main opposition party was the Bharatiya Jana Sangh. This party, led by Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee, was the principal opposition to the ruling Indian National Congress. So the correct option is: (B) Bharatiya Jana Sangh.

SECTION B

Q.13. How is 'global poverty' a new source of threat to security in the contemporary world? Explain.

Solution. Global poverty is increasingly recognized as a significant threat to security in today's world for several reasons:

1. Instability and Conflict:

Social Unrest: Extreme poverty often leads to social unrest and instability. When large segments of the population live in dire conditions, it can fuel discontent and lead to protests, riots, and even violent conflict. This instability can undermine national security and create broader regional tensions.

Recruitment for Extremist Groups: Poverty can make individuals more susceptible to recruitment by extremist groups or militant organizations. These groups often exploit economic desperation by offering financial incentives, a sense of belonging, or ideological motivations.

2. Migration and Displacement:

Forced Migration: Extreme poverty can drive people to migrate in search of better opportunities. This largescale migration can strain resources and infrastructure in destination countries, potentially leading to social tensions and conflicts between migrants and local populations.

Conflict over Resources: As people move in search of survival, they might compete with others for limited resources such as jobs, housing, and public services, which can exacerbate social divisions and conflicts.

3. Health and Security:

Public Health Crises: Poverty often correlates with poor living conditions and inadequate access to healthcare. This can lead to the spread of diseases, which can have broader security implications, particularly in a globalized world where diseases can cross borders quickly.

Economic Vulnerability: Poor health and lack of economic opportunity can create cycles of poverty and instability, which are difficult to break and can perpetuate insecurity both locally and globally.

4. Undermining Development Goals:

Hindering Progress: Persistent poverty impedes progress towards sustainable development goals. When countries cannot provide for their citizens' basic needs, it undermines long term development and can contribute to a cycle of instability and insecurity.

5. Weakening States:

Fragile States: Poverty can weaken state institutions by limiting their ability to provide essential services and maintain order. Fragile states are more vulnerable to internal and external threats, which can destabilise entire regions.

Q.14. Why was holding of the first general elections in 1952 a great challenge for the Election Commission of India? Explain. 15. How do economic growth and democracy help India in providing greater security? Explain.

Solution. The first general elections in India in 1952 were a monumental challenge for several reasons:

1. Scale and Complexity:

Vast Population: In 1952, India had a population of around 350 million people, making it one of the largest democracies in the world. Organising elections for such a massive population required meticulous planning and execution.

Geographical Diversity: India's diverse and vast geography, with its varied terrains, including mountains, rivers, and remote areas, posed logistical challenges in ensuring that all eligible voters could cast their ballots.

2. Infrastructure and Resources:

Limited Infrastructure: In 1952, India was still developing its infrastructure. There were challenges related to transportation, communication, and technology, which were crucial for managing and conducting elections efficiently.

Resource Constraints: The Election Commission had to operate with limited resources and manpower. Ensuring the availability of adequate voting materials and managing the extensive logistics of the electoral process was a significant hurdle.

3. Administrative Challenges:

New Institution: The Election Commission of India was a relatively new institution, having been established only a few years before the elections. Building and implementing the electoral process from scratch was a huge task.

Training and Coordination: There was a need to train a large number of election officials and coordinate between various levels of government and administrative bodies to ensure smooth conduct of elections.

4. Political and Social Diversity:

Diverse Electorate: India's electorate was incredibly diverse, with numerous languages, cultures, and social groups. Ensuring fair representation and addressing the needs and concerns of such a varied population was a complex task.

Emerging Political Dynamics: The political landscape was evolving, with various regional and national parties emerging. Managing these dynamics and ensuring a fair electoral process amidst political competition was challenging.

5. Security and Fairness:

Ensuring Security: Ensuring a peaceful and secure environment for voting, free from intimidation and violence, was crucial. The Election Commission had to implement measures to safeguard the integrity of the electoral process.

Q.15. How do economic growth and democracy help India in providing greater security?

Economic growth and democracy play crucial roles in enhancing India's security in various ways:

1. Economic Growth:

Improved Living Standards: Economic growth leads to better living standards, reducing poverty and inequality. When people have access to basic needs such as healthcare, education, and employment, they are less likely to engage in or support instability and conflict.

Enhanced Resources for Security: A growing economy generates more resources that can be allocated to strengthen security infrastructure, such as improving police forces, defense capabilities, and emergency response systems.

Job Creation: Economic growth creates job opportunities, which can reduce unemployment and underemployment. This reduces the risk of social unrest and the potential for recruitment into extremist or criminal groups.

2. Democracy:

Legitimacy and Stability: Democracy provides a framework for political stability through inclusive governance and respect for the rule of law. When people have a say in their government and its policies, they are more likely to support and trust the system, which contributes to overall stability.

Conflict Resolution: Democratic processes allow for peaceful resolution of conflicts through dialogue and negotiation rather than violence. Democratic institutions provide mechanisms for addressing grievances and ensuring that all voices are heard.

Checks and Balances: A democratic system with checks and balances helps prevent the abuse of power and ensures that government actions are accountable to the people. This accountability contributes to political stability and security.

In summary, economic growth improves living conditions and resources for security, while democracy fosters political stability, legitimacy, and conflict resolution mechanisms. Together, they create a more secure and stable environment for India.

Q.16. Highlight any two factors that contributed towards the development of consensus around the need for planned development in India.

Solution. The development of consensus around the need for planned development in India was influenced by several key factors. Here are two major ones:

1. Economic Disparities and the Need for Structured Growth:

Economic Inequality: After gaining independence in 1947, India faced significant economic disparities. There were stark differences between the rich and the poor, with many regions lagging in terms of industrial development and infrastructure. This inequality highlighted the need for a structured approach to ensure balanced and equitable economic growth.

Vision for Development: Leaders recognized that without a planned approach, growth would be uneven and potentially exacerbate existing disparities. Planned development was seen as a way to systematically address poverty, unemployment, and regional imbalances by directing resources and efforts in a coordinated manner.

2. Experience of Other Countries:

Success Stories of Planning: The success of planned development in other countries, such as the Soviet Union and certain European nations, provided a model for India. These countries demonstrated how central planning could lead to rapid industrialization and economic progress.

Lessons from the British Era: During British rule, India's economic policies had largely focused on benefiting the colonial power rather than fostering indigenous development. The realisation of this exploitative history fueled the desire for a new approach that would prioritise Indian needs and aspirations.

In summary, the need for planned development in India emerged from the necessity to address economic disparities and the influence of successful planning models from other countries. These factors contributed to a

consensus on the importance of a structured development strategy to achieve balanced and inclusive growth.

Q.17. Explain any two reasons for protests by the people of East Pakistan against West Pakistan prior to the creation of Bangladesh.

Solution. Before the creation of Bangladesh in 1971, there were significant protests by the people of East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) against the West Pakistani government. Here are two key reasons for these protests:

1. Economic Exploitation and Disparities:

Resource Distribution: East Pakistan was economically exploited by the West Pakistani government. Despite East Pakistan being the more economically productive region, particularly in the production of jute, a major cash crop, the economic benefits were unevenly distributed. The resources and revenues generated from East Pakistan were often redirected to benefit the West.

Neglect of Development: East Pakistan received inadequate attention in terms of development investments and infrastructure compared to West Pakistan. This neglect contributed to economic disparities, with East Pakistan facing higher levels of poverty and underdevelopment despite its significant economic contributions.

2. Political Exclusion and Discrimination:

Lack of Political Representation: The people of East Pakistan felt politically marginalised by the West Pakistani government. Despite having a majority population, they had limited representation in the central government and were often sidelined in key political decisions.

Language Movement: The language issue was a significant point of contention. The West Pakistani government attempted to impose Urdu as the sole national language, which was deeply resented in East Pakistan where Bengali was the dominant language. This language policy was seen as an affront to the cultural and linguistic identity of the Bengali Speaking population in East Pakistan.

These grievances—economic exploitation and political exclusion—fueled the demand for greater autonomy and eventually independence, leading to the creation of Bangladesh in 1971.

Q.18. Name any four Prime Ministers of India who led the Coalition Governments at the Centre.

Solution. Here are four Prime Ministers of India who led coalition governments at the Centre:

1. Indira Gandhi: While Indira Gandhi is primarily known for her time as Prime Minister leading single party governments, she also led a coalition government briefly after the 1977 elections, which saw her returning to power in a coalition setup.
2. Vishwanath Pratap Singh: He was the Prime Minister from 1989 to 1990, leading a coalition government formed by the National Front, which was supported by the Indian National Congress.
3. P. V. Narasimha Rao: Serving as Prime Minister from 1991 to 1996, Rao led a coalition government under the Congress party, which had to manage a complex political landscape with various regional parties.
4. Atal Bihari Vajpayee: Vajpayee led a coalition government from 1998 to 1999 with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) at the helm, known as the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). His government was short lived but marked by a significant coalition setup. He also led a more stable NDA coalition government from 1999 to 2004.

These leaders navigated the complexities of coalition politics, which often involved negotiating with various regional and national parties to maintain stability and govern effectively.

SECTION C

Q.19. Analyse the Nuclear Policy of India.

Solution. India's nuclear policy is shaped by its strategic, security, and diplomatic considerations. Here's an overview of the key aspects of India's nuclear policy:

1. No First Use (NFU) Policy:

Commitment to Peaceful Use: India has declared a "No First Use" policy, which means it pledges not to use nuclear weapons unless first attacked by an adversary using nuclear weapons. This policy reflects India's commitment to maintaining nuclear weapons as a deterrent rather than an offensive tool.

Strategic Stability: By committing to NFU, India aims to stabilize regional security dynamics and avoid an arms race. It positions itself as a responsible nuclear power, focused on deterrence rather than aggression.

2. Minimum Credible Deterrent:

Defensive Posture: India's nuclear policy is based on maintaining a "minimum credible deterrent," which involves having enough nuclear capability to deter any potential adversaries from contemplating a nuclear attack. The focus is on ensuring that India's nuclear arsenal is sufficient to provide a credible threat of retaliation.

Modernization: India continues to modernise its nuclear arsenal to maintain this deterrent capability. This includes developing and deploying advanced delivery systems such as ballistic missiles and maintaining a second strike capability with its submarine launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs).

3. No First Use and Nuclear Arsenal:

Peaceful Nuclear Explosion: India conducted its first nuclear test in 1974, which it described as a "peaceful nuclear explosion." The policy shifted significantly with the nuclear tests in 1998, which established India as a declared nuclear weapons state and led to a more explicit nuclear posture.

Nuclear Doctrine: India's nuclear doctrine emphasises the use of nuclear weapons only in retaliation to a nuclear attack. This doctrine is designed to ensure that India maintains a strong and reliable deterrent capability while avoiding unnecessary escalation.

4. International Engagement:

NonProliferation Treaty (NPT): India is not a signatory to the NPT, which it argues discriminates against nonnuclear weapon states. Instead, India advocates for global nuclear disarmament and has sought to position itself as a responsible nuclear state outside the NPT framework.

Civil Nuclear Cooperation: India has engaged in civil nuclear cooperation agreements with various countries, including the United States, to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy. The 2008 U.S.India Civil Nuclear Agreement is a notable example, which allows India to access civilian nuclear technology and fuel while maintaining its strategic autonomy.

5. Regional Security Dynamics:

China and Pakistan: India's nuclear policy is significantly influenced by its security concerns regarding neighbouring countries, particularly China and Pakistan. The presence of nuclear weapons in these countries impacts India's strategic calculations and defence posture.

In summary, India's nuclear policy is characterised by a commitment to no first use, maintaining a minimum credible deterrent, modernization of its nuclear arsenal, and active engagement in international nuclear diplomacy. The policy reflects India's desire to balance its security needs with its aspirations for global nuclear disarmament and responsible state behaviour.

Q.20. Explain any four features of the Soviet System.

Solution. The Soviet system, particularly during the era of the Soviet Union, had several distinctive features that defined its political, economic, and social structure. Here are four key features:

1. OneParty Rule:

Communist Party Dominance: The Soviet Union was governed by a single political party, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU). This one party rule meant that there was no political competition or pluralism. All government decisions and policies were dictated by the party, and dissent was not tolerated.

Centralised Control: The CPSU maintained tight control over all aspects of political life, with no allowance for opposition parties or independent political movements. The party's central committees and leadership held the ultimate authority in governance.

2. Central Planning Economy:

State Ownership: The Soviet economic system was based on state ownership of all means of production. Private property and private enterprise were abolished, with the state controlling industries, agriculture, and other economic activities.

FiveYear Plans: Economic activity was guided by centrally planned FiveYear Plans, which set ambitious targets for industrial production, agricultural output, and other economic metrics. These plans were formulated by the state and were intended to direct the entire economy according to socialist principles.

3. State Control and Censorship:

Controlled Media: The Soviet government exercised strict control over the media and cultural expressions. All newspapers, radio, television, and other forms of communication were state-run and censored. This control extended to literature, art, and academic research, which had to align with state ideology.

Suppression of Dissent: Political dissent and criticism of the government were harshly suppressed. The state security apparatus, including organizations like the KGB, was responsible for monitoring and eliminating any form of opposition or dissent.

4. Authoritarian Governance:

Leadership Structure: The Soviet Union was characterized by an authoritarian governance structure. The highest positions of power were

concentrated in the hands of a few leaders, such as the General Secretary of the Communist Party. Decisions were made by a small, elite group with little input from the general populace.

Limited Political Freedoms: Civil liberties, such as freedom of speech, assembly, and press, were severely restricted. The government maintained control over nearly all aspects of political and personal life, with little room for individual freedoms or democratic processes.

These features of the Soviet system collectively shaped the political, economic, and social landscape of the Soviet Union, influencing its domestic policies and its interactions on the global stage.

**Q.21. (a) "India enjoys a very special relationship with Bhutan."
Support the statement with two examples.**

Solution. India and Bhutan share a close and unique relationship, marked by strong cooperation and mutual support. Here are two examples that illustrate the depth of this special relationship:

1. Economic and Developmental Support:

Hydropower Projects: India has played a significant role in the development of Bhutan's hydropower sector. For instance, the construction of the Tala Hydroelectric Project, one of Bhutan's major hydropower projects, was undertaken with substantial support from India. India not only provided financial assistance but also offered technical expertise and resources. This project helps Bhutan generate electricity for its domestic needs and export surplus power to India, benefiting both countries economically.

Economic Assistance: India has been a major contributor to Bhutan's developmental projects through grants and financial aid. The Indian government has supported various initiatives in education, health, infrastructure, and rural development in Bhutan. For example, India has funded the construction of schools and hospitals, which have contributed to Bhutan's socioeconomic development.

2. Strategic and Security Cooperation:

Defence and Security: India and Bhutan have a strong strategic partnership in terms of defence and security. India provides security assistance to Bhutan, including training and logistical support to the Royal Bhutan Army. This cooperation is crucial for Bhutan's security, especially given the strategic location of Bhutan between India and China. The close security relationship ensures stability in the region and helps Bhutan manage its national security effectively.

Open Borders: The IndiaBhutan border is an open border, allowing for free movement of people and goods between the two countries. This arrangement facilitates easy trade and cultural exchange and strengthens the bond between the two nations. It reflects the trust and mutual respect that underpin their relationship.

These examples highlight the multifaceted nature of the IndiaBhutan relationship, encompassing economic collaboration and strategic cooperation, which together contribute to the unique and special bond between the two countries.

OR

(b) Analyse any two reasons for the problems that India has with its smaller neighbours.

Solution. India's relationships with some of its smaller neighbours have faced challenges due to various reasons. Here are two key factors contributing to these problems:

1. Territorial Disputes:

Border Conflicts: Many of India's smaller neighbours, such as Nepal and Bhutan, have had territorial disputes with India. For example, the ongoing dispute over the KalapaniLimpiadora region with Nepal has led to tensions. Both countries claim the region as their own, leading to diplomatic friction and occasional skirmishes. Similarly, border issues with Bhutan have occasionally flared up, impacting bilateral relations.

Historical Claims and Mapping Errors: Historical claims and differing interpretations of border agreements often lead to disputes. Inaccuracies in historical maps and colonial-era treaties have sometimes created ambiguities about boundaries, leading to disagreements and conflicts over territory.

2. Water Resources and River Disputes:

Shared River Systems: India shares several major river systems with its neighbours, such as the Ganges and Brahmaputra. Disputes have arisen over water sharing, particularly with countries like Bangladesh and Nepal. For instance, Bangladesh has raised concerns about the sharing of river waters from the Ganges and Brahmaputra, which are critical for its agriculture and daily needs.

Dam Construction: The construction of dams and other infrastructure projects on shared rivers by India has sometimes led to tensions with neighbouring countries. For example, the construction of dams in India's northeastern states has raised concerns in Bangladesh and Nepal about potential impacts on water flow and availability.

These issues—territorial disputes and water resource management—highlight the complexities in India's relations with its smaller neighbours, often requiring delicate diplomacy and negotiation to manage and resolve.

Q.22.(a) Explain any four economic consequences of globalisation.

Solution. Globalization has had a profound impact on economies around the world. Here are four key economic consequences:

1. Increased Trade and Investment:

Expanded Markets: Globalization has led to an increase in international trade by reducing barriers such as tariffs and import quotas. This has allowed companies to access new markets and consumers worldwide, leading to greater economic growth and the expansion of global supply chains.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI): Companies are investing more in foreign markets, which brings capital and technology to developing countries. This can stimulate economic growth, create jobs, and enhance infrastructure in host countries.

2. Economic Growth and Development:

Boosted Growth: By integrating into the global economy, countries can experience accelerated economic growth. Access to international markets can lead to increased production, innovation, and efficiency, which can drive economic development.

Technology Transfer: Globalization facilitates the transfer of technology and knowledge between countries. Developing countries can benefit from advanced technologies and business practices introduced by multinational companies, which can enhance productivity and economic development.

3. Income Inequality:

Widening Gap: While globalization can lead to overall economic growth, it can also exacerbate income inequality both within and between countries. Wealth tends to become concentrated among those who are able to capitalize on global opportunities, while others may face job displacement or wage stagnation.

Skill Disparities: The demand for skilled labor increases in a globalized economy, leading to a disparity in income between skilled and unskilled workers. This can deepen economic divides within societies and between regions.

4. Economic Vulnerability and Interdependence:

Global Risks: Increased interdependence means that economic problems in one country can quickly spread to others. Financial crises, economic slowdowns, or political instability in one part of the world can have ripple effects globally.

Supply Chain Disruptions: Globalized supply chains can be vulnerable to disruptions, such as natural disasters, trade disputes, or geopolitical tensions. A disruption in one region can impact production and trade across the globe, affecting economies everywhere.

In summary, globalization has brought about increased trade and investment, stimulated economic growth and development, but also contributed to rising income inequality and greater economic vulnerability due to interconnected global systems.

OR

(b) Explain any four cultural consequences of globalisation.

Solution. Globalization has significantly influenced cultures around the world. Here are four key cultural consequences:

1. Cultural Exchange and Diversity:

Increased Exposure: Globalization has led to greater exposure to different cultures. People around the world have access to a wide variety of cultural products, such as food, music, films, and fashion from different countries. This exchange enriches cultural experiences and broadens people's understanding of diverse traditions and lifestyles.

Fusion of Cultures: The blending of cultural elements from different parts of the world has led to the creation of new cultural forms and practices. For example, global cuisines often incorporate ingredients and cooking techniques from various cultures, leading to innovative and diverse culinary experiences.

2. Homogenization of Cultures:

Dominance of Global Brands: The global spread of major brands and media companies can lead to cultural homogenization. For instance, fast-food chains, entertainment franchises, and fashion brands from a few dominant countries become ubiquitous worldwide, often overshadowing local cultural products and traditions.

Loss of Local Traditions: As global cultural products become more prevalent, local traditions and practices may be marginalized or lost. This can lead to a decrease in cultural diversity as traditional ways of life are replaced or overshadowed by global trends.

3. Language and Communication:

Spread of Major Languages: The rise of globalization has increased the dominance of major languages like English, which is often used as a global lingua franca in business, science, and media. This can lead to the promotion of multilingualism but also risks diminishing the use of less widely spoken languages and dialects.

Digital Communication: The growth of the internet and digital communication has facilitated crosscultural interactions and the exchange of ideas. Social media platforms, blogs, and online forums allow people from different cultures to connect, share experiences, and collaborate, fostering global dialogue.

4. Cultural Identity and Globalization:

Cultural Hybridization: Globalization often leads to cultural hybridization, where individuals and communities blend aspects of their traditional culture with influences from global culture. This can create unique cultural identities that reflect both local and global influences.

Cultural Resistance: In response to perceived threats to cultural identity, some communities actively resist global cultural influences and strive to preserve and promote their traditional practices. This resistance can take the form of revitalizing indigenous languages, celebrating traditional festivals, or advocating for local arts and crafts.

In summary, globalization has facilitated greater cultural exchange and diversity while also contributing to cultural homogenization. It has influenced language and communication, and affected cultural identity through hybridization and resistance. These consequences illustrate the complex and multifaceted impact of globalization on cultures worldwide.

Q.23. Analyse any two reasons for the Secessionist Movement in Nagaland.

Solution. The secessionist movement in Nagaland, which seeks independence from India, has been driven by several factors. Here are two key reasons:

1. Historical and Ethnic Identity:

Distinct Ethnic Identity: The Naga people have a unique ethnic identity, distinct from the majority population of India. They have a rich cultural heritage, including their own languages, traditions, and social structures. This strong sense of ethnic identity has fueled aspirations for selfdetermination and independence, as many Naga groups feel that their cultural and historical identity is not adequately recognized or respected within the Indian state.

Historical Grievances: The Naga secessionist movement has historical roots dating back to the preindependence era. During British colonial rule, the Naga hills were treated as a distinct administrative unit, and there was a general expectation among Naga leaders that they would have greater autonomy after independence. However, the integration of Nagaland into India was contentious, and the Naga people felt that their aspirations for a separate nation or greater autonomy were not fully addressed by the Indian government.

2. Political and Economic Marginalization:

Lack of Development: Nagaland has historically faced significant economic underdevelopment compared to other states in India. Despite being rich in natural resources, the state has struggled with inadequate infrastructure, limited economic opportunities, and poor public services. This economic marginalization has contributed to feelings of alienation and frustration among the Naga people, who believe that their development needs are not adequately addressed by the Indian state.

Political Representation and Autonomy: Many Naga leaders and activists have felt that the Indian government has not provided sufficient political autonomy or representation to address local issues effectively. The demand for greater autonomy or independence stems from a perception that the central government does not adequately consider the unique political and cultural needs of the Naga people. The desire for a more autonomous political arrangement or complete independence is seen as a way to achieve selfgovernance and better address local concerns.

In summary, the secessionist movement in Nagaland is influenced by a strong sense of ethnic and cultural identity, coupled with historical grievances and ongoing issues related to political and economic marginalisation. These factors have contributed to the desire for greater autonomy or complete independence from India.

SECTION D

Q.24. Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow : 'Commons' are those resources which are not owned by anyone but rather shared by a community. This could be a 'common room' or a 'community centre', a park or a river. Similarly, 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 known as 'Global Commons'.

(i) Which one of the following aspects best describes the 'Global Commons'?

- (A) Resources only accessible for scientific research.**
- (B) Resources under the jurisdiction of a single nation.**
- (C) Resources located outside the governance of developed nations.**
- (D) Sovereign regions under the common governance of the international community.**

(ii) The Rio Summit of 1992 is also known as

- (A) Global Summit**
- (B) Planet Summit**
- (C) Earth Summit**
- (D) World Summit**

(iii) Why is international cooperation essential for managing the 'Global Commons'? Choose the most suitable option from the following:

- (A) Resources are abundant and selfreplenishing.**
- (B) There are political benefits for sharing resources of other countries.**
- (C) Individual countries can manage their resources.**
- (D) The approach towards sustainable development is common for all.**

(iv) Which of the following pairs of countries was exempted from the requirements of the Kyoto Protocol?

- (A) China and Russia**
- (B) China and India**
- (C) China and USA**
- (D) India and France**

Solution.(i) (D) Sovereign regions under the common governance of the international community.

Explanation: Global Commons are areas or resources that are not owned by any single nation but are governed collectively by the international community.

(ii) (C) Earth Summit

Explanation: The Rio Summit of 1992, formally known as the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), is commonly referred to as the Earth Summit.

(iii) Why is international cooperation essential for managing the 'Global Commons'? Choose the most suitable option from the following:

- (D) The approach towards sustainable development is common for all.

Explanation: Managing Global Commons requires international cooperation because sustainable development goals and resource management strategies need to be coordinated globally to be effective, as no single country can manage these resources alone.

(iv) Which of the following pairs of countries was exempted from the requirements of the Kyoto Protocol?

- (C) China and USA

Explanation: The United States did not ratify the Kyoto Protocol, and China was classified as a developing country, which exempted it from mandatory emissions reduction targets under the protocol.

SECTION E

Q. 27.(a) Describe any four features of IndiaChina relations.

Solution. IndiaChina relations are complex and multifaceted, characterized by both cooperation and competition. Here are four key features of the relationship between India and China:

1. Border Disputes and Security Issues:

Ongoing Disputes: One of the most significant features of IndiaChina relations is the longstanding border dispute. The two countries have unresolved issues along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), particularly in regions like Aksai Chin and Arunachal Pradesh. These disputes have led to tensions and occasional skirmishes, impacting diplomatic relations and regional stability.

Military Engagements: Both nations have invested heavily in their military capabilities along the border. They engage in regular dialogues and negotiations to manage and deescalate tensions, but the border issue remains a persistent challenge in their relationship.

2. Economic Cooperation and Trade:

Growing Trade Relations: India and China have established strong economic ties, with bilateral trade growing significantly over the years. China is one of India's largest trading partners, and the economic relationship includes trade in goods, investment flows, and cooperation in various sectors.

Investment and Infrastructure Projects: Both countries have invested in each other's markets. Chinese companies have invested in Indian infrastructure projects, while Indian businesses have sought opportunities in China. Economic cooperation provides a foundation for the relationship, despite political and security challenges.

3. Diplomatic Engagement and Multilateral Cooperation:

Bilateral Dialogues: India and China maintain regular diplomatic engagement through various mechanisms, including highlevel visits, bilateral meetings, and strategic dialogues. These interactions are aimed at managing disputes, enhancing cooperation, and addressing mutual concerns.

Participation in Multilateral Forums: Both countries are active in multilateral forums such as BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa), the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), and the G20. Their participation in these organizations reflects their shared interests in global economic governance, regional security, and international cooperation.

4. Cultural and People to People Exchanges:

Cultural Ties: Despite political and economic tensions, India and China have a rich history of cultural exchange. Historical trade routes like the Silk Road facilitated cultural and philosophical interactions between the two civilizations. Modern cultural exchanges include academic collaborations, tourism, and cultural events that foster mutual understanding and goodwill.

Educational and Social Exchanges: There are numerous exchange programs, scholarships, and joint academic initiatives between Indian and Chinese institutions. These exchanges help build bridges between the younger generations and create opportunities for collaboration in education and research.

In summary, IndiaChina relations are shaped by their border disputes and security concerns, robust economic cooperation, diplomatic engagement through multilateral forums, and rich cultural and people to people exchanges. These features reflect the complexity of their relationship and the ongoing efforts to navigate both opportunities and challenges.

OR

(b) Describe any four features of South Korea that make it an alternate centre of power.

Solution. South Korea, officially known as the Republic of Korea, has emerged as a significant alternate center of power in the global arena due to several key features:

1. Economic Strength and Technological Advancement:

Robust Economy: South Korea has one of the world's largest and most dynamic economies. It is a major player in global trade and has a strong industrial base, particularly in technology, automobiles, and shipbuilding. Companies like Samsung, Hyundai, and LG are global leaders in their respective industries, showcasing South Korea's economic prowess.

Innovation and Technology: South Korea is renowned for its technological innovation. It ranks high in global technology indices and is a leader in areas such as electronics, telecommunications, and digital infrastructure. The country's emphasis on research and development has positioned it at the forefront of technological advancements.

2. Strategic Geopolitical Location:

Key Player in Northeast Asia: South Korea's strategic location in Northeast Asia makes it a critical player in regional security and economic dynamics. It shares borders with North Korea and is situated near major economic powers like China and Japan, giving it a significant role in regional geopolitics.

Military Alliances: South Korea has a strong alliance with the United States, which includes military cooperation and defense commitments. This relationship enhances its strategic importance and provides it with a significant security partnership in the AsiaPacific region.

3. Cultural Influence and Soft Power:

Global Cultural Impact: South Korea has gained substantial global influence through its cultural exports, particularly through the Korean Wave (Hallyu). Korean pop culture, including Kdramas, Kpop, and Korean cinema, has become internationally popular and has enhanced South Korea's soft power.

Cultural Diplomacy: The global appeal of Korean culture has not only bolstered its international image but also contributed to its diplomatic

efforts. Cultural diplomacy helps South Korea build positive relationships and influence public opinion around the world.

4. Democratic Governance and International Relations:

Stable Democracy: South Korea is a vibrant democracy with a stable political system. Its democratic governance model, coupled with robust institutions, has contributed to its reputation as a reliable and progressive partner in international relations.

Active Global Role: South Korea plays an active role in international organizations and global governance. It is a member of the United Nations, the World Trade Organization, and various regional organizations. Its contributions to global issues, such as development aid, climate change, and peacekeeping, reflect its commitment to international cooperation and enhance its global standing.

Q.28 (a) Describe any four major political developments that took place in India from 1989 to 1999.

Solution. Between 1989 and 1999, India experienced several significant political developments that shaped its contemporary political landscape. Here are four major developments from that period:

1. Rise of Coalition Governments:

1989 General Elections: The 1989 general elections marked the beginning of a period characterized by coalition governments. The Indian National Congress (INC) lost its absolute majority, leading to the formation of a coalition government led by Vishwanath Pratap Singh. His government was supported by various regional and leftist parties but eventually fell due to internal disagreements and political instability.

1996-1999 Coalition Era: The early 1990s saw continued political fragmentation, resulting in short-lived coalition governments. Notable was the government led by Atal Bihari Vajpayee of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in 1996, which lasted only 13 days. This period highlighted the challenge of maintaining stable governance in a coalition setup.

2. Economic Liberalization:

1991 Economic Reforms: Although the major economic liberalization began in 1991, its effects were felt throughout the 1990s. Under the leadership of Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao and Finance Minister Manmohan Singh, India embarked on significant economic reforms, including deregulation, privatization, and opening up to foreign investment. These reforms transformed India's economy, leading to rapid growth and integration into the global economy.

3. Babri Masjid Demolition and Subsequent Events:

1992 Babri Masjid Incident: One of the most controversial and significant events of the decade was the demolition of the Babri Masjid in Ayodhya on December 6, 1992, by Hindu activists. This event led to widespread communal riots across India and had profound implications for Indian politics and society. It intensified debates over secularism, religious identity, and the role of the BJP in national politics.

4. Rise of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP):

1996 and 1998 General Elections: The BJP, under the leadership of Atal Bihari Vajpayee, made significant electoral gains in the 1996 general elections, becoming the single largest party in the Lok Sabha but failing to secure a majority. The BJP's rise continued in the 1998 elections, where it led a coalition government known as the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). This marked a significant shift in Indian politics, with the BJP emerging as a major political force and setting the stage for its eventual dominance in the 2000s.

These developments—coalition governance, economic reforms, the Babri Masjid incident, and the rise of the BJP—were pivotal in shaping India's political and economic trajectory during the 1990s, influencing both domestic policies and international relations.

OR

(b) Describe any four issues on which consensus has emerged among most political parties of India.

Solution. In Indian politics, there have been several issues on which a broad consensus has emerged among most political parties. Here are four such key issues:

1. Economic Development and Growth:

Commitment to Economic Reforms: Since the early 1990s, there has been widespread agreement among political parties on the need for economic reforms to drive growth and development. This includes support for liberalization, privatization, and the encouragement of foreign investment. While there may be differences in approach, the general consensus is that economic development is crucial for improving living standards and sustaining growth.

Infrastructure Development: There is a common understanding that investing in infrastructure—such as roads, railways, and energy—is essential for boosting economic development. Parties across the spectrum support initiatives aimed at modernizing infrastructure to enhance connectivity and support economic activities.

2. National Security and Terrorism:

Counterterrorism Measures: Most political parties in India agree on the importance of strengthening national security and implementing effective counterterrorism measures. The need for robust security frameworks to protect against internal and external threats is a common priority, reflecting a shared commitment to maintaining peace and stability.

Defence Modernization: There is broad consensus on the need to modernize India's defense capabilities to address evolving security challenges. Investment in defense technology and enhancement of the military's operational readiness are supported across party lines.

3. Social Justice and Welfare:

Empowerment of Marginalized Groups: There is a general agreement on the necessity of policies aimed at empowering marginalized and disadvantaged groups, including Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), and women. Initiatives to promote social justice, provide

affirmative action, and enhance educational and economic opportunities for these groups are widely supported.

Social Welfare Programs: Most parties support the continuation and expansion of social welfare programs, such as subsidies for food and healthcare, to improve the wellbeing of the underprivileged. There is a consensus on the need to address poverty and ensure basic services for all citizens.

4. Democratic Institutions and Rule of Law:

Strengthening Democratic Institutions: There is broad agreement on the importance of upholding democratic values and strengthening institutions such as the judiciary, the election commission, and the legislative bodies. Political parties generally support measures to ensure that these institutions function effectively and impartially.

Rule of Law: Most parties agree on the necessity of upholding the rule of law and ensuring that legal and judicial processes are transparent and fair. There is a shared commitment to maintaining legal integrity and preventing corruption within the system.

These areas of consensus reflect common goals among Indian political parties, despite differences in ideology and policy specifics. The shared focus on economic development, national security, social justice, and democratic principles highlights the common ground that shapes India's political landscape.

Q.29 (a) Explain the relevance of the United Nations in the contemporary world.

Solution. The United Nations (UN) remains highly relevant in the contemporary world for several reasons:

1. Global Peace and Security:

Conflict Resolution: The UN plays a crucial role in mediating conflicts and maintaining peace. Through peacekeeping missions, diplomatic interventions, and conflict resolution efforts, the UN helps prevent and

resolve disputes between countries and within nations. This is vital in a world where regional conflicts and tensions can have far-reaching effects.

Disarmament Efforts: The UN works on global disarmament initiatives to reduce the proliferation of weapons, especially nuclear arms. Treaties like the Treaty on the NonProliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and efforts to control arms sales help prevent the spread of dangerous weapons and promote international security.

2. Human Rights Protection:

Human Rights Advocacy: The UN promotes and protects human rights through its various bodies, such as the Human Rights Council and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. It addresses issues such as discrimination, freedom of speech, and the protection of vulnerable populations, helping to set international standards for human rights.

International Conventions: The UN has established important conventions and treaties that set global norms for human rights, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. These frameworks provide guidelines for member states and serve as a benchmark for evaluating and improving human rights practices worldwide.

3. Development and Humanitarian Assistance:

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): The UN's Sustainable Development Goals are a blueprint for addressing global challenges such as poverty, hunger, and climate change. These goals provide a shared framework for countries to work towards improving living standards and achieving economic, social, and environmental sustainability.

Humanitarian Aid: The UN, through agencies like the World Food Programme (WFP) and UNICEF, provides critical humanitarian assistance in times of crisis. Whether responding to natural disasters, conflicts, or health emergencies, the UN coordinates international relief efforts and supports affected communities.

4. International Cooperation and Coordination:

Global Dialogue: The UN serves as a platform for dialogue and cooperation among member states on a wide range of issues, from climate

change to health pandemics. It facilitates discussions and negotiations that enable countries to address global problems collaboratively.

StandardSetting and Monitoring: The UN sets international standards and norms on various issues, including trade, health, and the environment. Its agencies monitor compliance and progress, helping to ensure that countries adhere to agreedupon standards and practices.

OR

(b) "The Security Council lacks equitable representation." In the light of the above statement, explain the need for restructuring the United Nations.

Solution. The statement that "The Security Council lacks equitable representation" highlights a significant issue within the United Nations system, particularly regarding the composition and functioning of the Security Council. Here's an explanation of why restructuring the UN, especially the Security Council, might be necessary:

1. Imbalance in Representation:

Current Structure:

Permanent Members: The Security Council has five permanent members (P5) — the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Russia, and China. These countries were granted permanent seats following World War II, reflecting their status as major Allied powers at the time.

NonPermanent Members: The remaining ten seats are occupied by elected nonpermanent members who serve twoyear terms. These seats are allocated based on regional representation, but the election process does not ensure equitable representation among all countries.

Issue:

Lack of Diversity: The current structure does not reflect the geopolitical realities of the 21st century. Emerging powers, regional leaders, and

developing countries are underrepresented, which can lead to decisions that do not adequately consider the perspectives of a majority of UN member states.

Outdated Balance: The P5's veto power allows any of these countries to block substantive resolutions, which can hinder the effectiveness of the Security Council and lead to decisions that may not reflect the broader international community's interests.

2. Need for Greater Inclusivity:

Global Power Dynamics:

Rising Powers: Countries like India, Brazil, Germany, and Japan have emerged as significant global players but are not represented as permanent members. Their exclusion can limit their ability to influence decisions on global security and peacekeeping.

Regional Equities: The current arrangement does not fully represent the interests of various regions, particularly those from Africa and Latin America. Expanding the Security Council could address these imbalances and ensure more equitable representation.

Calls for Reform:

Increased Representation: There have been calls to expand the Security Council to include more permanent and nonpermanent members, potentially including nations from underrepresented regions. This could make the Council's decisions more reflective of current global dynamics and promote broader international support.

Revised Veto Power: Some proposals suggest revising or limiting the veto power of the P5 to prevent its misuse and enhance the effectiveness of the Council in addressing global issues.

3. Enhancing Legitimacy and Effectiveness:

Improved Decision Making:

Broader Consensus: A more representative Security Council would likely lead to decisions that better reflect a broader range of interests and

perspectives. This could enhance the legitimacy of the Council's resolutions and improve their acceptance and implementation.

Increased Cooperation: With greater representation, the Security Council could foster more cooperative and collaborative approaches to global challenges, making it more effective in maintaining international peace and security.

Addressing Criticisms:

Perception of Bias: The current structure is often criticised for favouring the interests of the P5, which can undermine trust in the UN's ability to act impartially. Restructuring could help address these criticisms and restore faith in the organisation's fairness and effectiveness.

Q.30 (a) Analyse any four consequences of the partition of British India in 1947.

Solution. The partition of British India in 1947 had profound and far-reaching consequences that affected the subcontinent politically, socially, and economically. Here are four key consequences:

1. Humanitarian Crisis and Displacement

Mass Migrations: The partition led to one of the largest mass migrations in history, with an estimated 1015 million people crossing borders to join their respective newlyformed countries—India or Pakistan. This migration was accompanied by severe humanitarian crises, as people fled their homes in search of safety, often leaving behind their belongings and land.

Communal Violence: The migration was marred by extensive communal violence, with numerous incidents of riots, massacres, and attacks. The violence resulted in significant loss of life, with estimates of up to 2 million people killed during this period. Families were often separated, and the psychological and social trauma had lasting effects on communities.

2. Political and Territorial Changes

Creation of Two Nations: The partition resulted in the creation of two separate nations, India and Pakistan. The political borders were drawn to reflect the majority religious communities, but these boundaries did not always align with ethnic or cultural divisions, leading to ongoing disputes and tensions, particularly over the Kashmir region.

Long Term Conflicts: The division led to enduring political conflicts between India and Pakistan, including several wars (1947-48, 1965, and 1971) and ongoing disputes over territories like Kashmir. The geopolitical rivalry has shaped the foreign and domestic policies of both countries for decades.

3. Economic Disruptions

Economic Displacement: The partition disrupted the economic activities in the region, as businesses, industries, and markets that were previously interconnected had to adjust to new national boundaries. The division also affected trade patterns and economic relationships, leading to economic hardship and instability in the immediate aftermath.

Loss of Resources: Both India and Pakistan inherited significant economic and resource related challenges. Assets, infrastructure, and financial resources had to be divided between the two nations, leading to disputes over resource allocation and economic imbalances.

4. Societal and Cultural Impact

Disruption of Communities: The partition disrupted centuries old communities and cultural ties. Many regions that had enjoyed harmonious coexistence between different religious and ethnic groups found themselves divided. This has had lasting impacts on the cultural and social fabric of the subcontinent.

Impact on Identity: The partition significantly affected the identity and historical narrative of communities in both India and Pakistan. It led to the emergence of new national identities and narratives, often centred around the traumatic experiences of partition. This has influenced the cultural and political landscape of both countries.

OR

(b) Analyse the events that led to the merger of Manipur into the Union of India.

Solution. The merger of Manipur into the Union of India was a significant event in the political history of the region and India's integration process post independence. Here is an analysis of the key events that led to the merger:

1. Historical Background and Independence

PreIndependence Status: Before Indian independence in 1947, Manipur was a princely state under British suzerainty, governed by a monarchy. The princely states had the option to either join India or Pakistan or remain independent after the end of British rule.

British Decision: The British government's decision to withdraw from India in 1947 left princely states with critical choices regarding their future. The integration of princely states into the Indian Union was a crucial challenge for the newly independent country.

2. Initial Negotiations and Political Climate

Political Instability: After India's independence, there was considerable political instability in Manipur. The princely state faced internal unrest and dissatisfaction among various sections of its population, which created a challenging environment for political stability and governance.

Integration Efforts: The Indian government, led by Sardar Patel and V.P. Menon was actively engaged in persuading princely states to join the Indian Union. This was part of a broader strategy to ensure territorial integrity and political unity of the newly independent country.

3. Political Developments in Manipur

Demand for Merger: In Manipur, the demand for integration with India grew among various political groups and leaders. There was significant support for merging with India due to a desire for greater stability and economic development, alongside a political aspiration to be part of the larger Indian Union.

Negotiations with the Maharaja: The Maharaja of Manipur, who initially sought to maintain the state's autonomy, eventually faced growing pressure from both local leaders and the Indian government. Negotiations were held to discuss the terms of merger and the future status of Manipur within India.

4. The Merger Agreement

Signing of the Instrument of Accession: On September 21, 1949, the Maharaja of Manipur signed the Instrument of Accession, which formally integrated Manipur into the Indian Union. This agreement marked the official end of Manipur's status as a princely state and its incorporation into the Indian political framework.

Terms of Merger: The merger agreement included provisions for the protection of Manipur's cultural identity and autonomy within the Indian Union. The terms were designed to address local concerns and provide a framework for the integration of the state into the Indian administrative and political system.

5. Post Merger Developments

Administrative Changes: Following the merger, Manipur was administered as a Union Territory initially, with limited self governance. The process of integrating the state into the Indian administrative structure involved setting up new administrative frameworks and political institutions.

Statehood: Manipur was later granted full statehood on January 21, 1972, becoming one of the states of India. This move was part of a broader reorganisation of states in India and aimed at providing greater administrative autonomy and representation to the people of Manipur.