

CBSE Class 12 Political Science Solution 2024 (Set 3- 59/5/3)

Section A

1. Arrange the following events in chronological order and choose the correct option as answer:

- (i) Tashkent Agreement was signed
 - (ii) Assassination of Indira Gandhi
 - (iii) Creation of Bangladesh
 - (iv) Formation of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK)
- a) (i), (ii), (iii), (iv)
b) (ii), (iv), (iii), (i)
c) (iv), (i), (ii), (iii)
d) (iv), (i), (iii), (ii)

Ans. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: 1. Formation of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) - 17th September 1949

2. Tashkent Agreement was signed - 10th January 1966

3. Creation of Bangladesh - 1971

4. Assassination of Indira Gandhi - 31st October 1984

2. Which event marked the end of Communism in the Soviet Union?

- (a) Cuban Missile Crisis
- (b) Rise of New World Order
- (c) Disintegration of the Soviet Union
- (d) Rise in US economy

Ans. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The event that marked the end of Communism in the Soviet Union was the disintegration of the Soviet Union itself.

3. Planning Commission of India was replaced with NITI Aayog because

- (a) it had become very old.**
- (b) it was becoming irrelevant to face the new challenges of development.**
- (c) it was totally based on Socialist model.**
- (d) many states were not in favor of the Planning Commission.**

Ans. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: The Planning Commission of India was replaced with NITI Aayog because it was perceived as becoming outdated and ineffective in addressing the contemporary challenges of development.

4. Which one of the following is NOT a global An common?

- (a) Earth's atmosphere**
- (b) Antarctica**
- (c) Forests**
- (d) Outer Space**

Ans. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: The global commons include the earth's atmosphere, Antarctica, the ocean floor and outer space.

5. Name the state from which Chhattisgarh was carved out.

- (a) Uttar Pradesh**
- (b) Bihar**
- (c) Jharkhand**
- (d) Madhya Pradesh**

Ans. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: Chhattisgarh was carved out of the state of Madhya Pradesh on November 1, 2000. This division was part of the government's efforts to create smaller states for better governance and administration. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Jharkhand has not been directly involved in the formation of Chhattisgarh.

6. Which one of the following was formed for the planned development of India, just after independence?

- (a) Election Commission
- (b) Planning Commission
- (c) Shalt Commission
- (d) NITI Aayog

Ans. Explanation: The Planning Commission was established through a simple resolution by the Government of India in March 1950.

7. The water treaty signed between India and Pakistan in 1960 is related to which one of the following rivers?

- (a) Ravi
- (b) Indus
- (c) Satluj
- (d) Chenab

Ans. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: In 1960, India and Pakistan signed the Indus Waters Treaty.

8. In the following question, a statement of Assertion (A) is followed by a statement of Reason (R). Choose the correct option as answer.

Assertion (A): Presently the global atmosphere is warming up.

Reason (R): A steady decline in the total amount of ozone in the earth's stratosphere.

Options:

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

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

(c) The Assertion (A) is correct, but the Reason (R) is incorrect.

(d) The Assertion (A) is incorrect, but the Reason (R) is correct.

Ans. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: Ozone depletion, while contributing to climate change, primarily affects the ozone layer's ability to filter ultraviolet (UV) radiation, not global warming. Therefore, while both the Assertion and Reason are correct, they are not directly related or explaining each other.

9. Who among the following emerged as a national hero in opposing the coup in the Soviet Union in 1991?

(a) Boris Yeltsin

(b) Nikita Khrushchev

(c) Gorbachev

(d) Joseph Stalin

Ans. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: A Soviet coup took place in 1991, encouraged by Communist Party hardliners. Boris Yeltsin emerged as a national hero in opposing the coup. He won the election and shook off centralized Control.

10. Match the List-I with List-II correctly:

	List i		List ii
A	The first country to liberalize its economy in the South Asian region	i	Maldives
B	Earlier this country had the Sultan as its Head of State. Now, it is a republic.	ii	India
C	A landlocked country	iii	Pakistan

D	In the conflict between the military and the pro- democracy groups the military had prevailed over democracy in this country	iv	Nepal
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Choose the correct Options:

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

Ans. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: (a) (i) The first country to liberalize its economy in the South Asian region. - India

(b)(ii) Earlier this country had the Sultan as its Head of State. Now, it is a republic. - Maldives

(c)-(iii) A landlocked country. - Nepal

(d) - (iv) In the conflict between the military and the pro-democracy groups, the military had prevailed over democracy in this country. - Pakistan

11. Which one of the following Princely States of India initially opposed joining the Indian Union?

- (a) Baroda
- (b) Hyderabad
- (c) Mysore
- (d) Gwalior

Ans. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: Nizam of Hyderabad initially opposed the joining of the Indian Union. He engaged in a Standstill Agreement with India in November 1947, lasting for a year, as negotiations with the Indian government proceeded. In September 1948, the Indian army intervened to control the Nizam's forces (Razakars). Following several days of fighting, the Nizam surrendered, resulting in Hyderabad's integration into India.

12. In the following question, a statement of Assertion (A) is followed by a statement of Reason (R). Choose the correct option as answer.

Assertion (A): People started protesting against the increase in prices of essential commodities, food scarcity and growing unemployment before the fourth General elections in India.

Reason (R): Failure of monsoons, widespread drought, decline in agricultural production and serious food shortage caused the problem.

Options:

(a) Both the Assertion (A) and the Reason (R) are correct and the Reason (R) is the correct explanation of the Assertion (A)

(b) Both the Assertion (A) and the Reason (R) are correct, but the Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of the Assertion (A)

(c) The Assertion (A) is correct, but the Reason (R) is incorrect

(d) The Assertion (A) is incorrect, but the Reason (R) is correct.

Ans. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: The dangerous decade of the 1960s saw the fourth general election of 1967 in the background of poverty, rising inflation and unemployment.

Section B

13. Explain the concept of "Common Property Resources" with the help of an example.

Ans. Common property resources refer to the rights and duties of a group together over natural resources without anybody having property rights over them. Example: Community forests, pasture lands, village water bodies, etc.

14. Explain any two reasons to consider the year 1967 as a landmark year in India's political and electoral history.

Ans. 1967 was a landmark year in India's political and electoral history:

- (i) The 1967 Election witnessed opposition parties uniting under the banner of "non-Congressism," a term coined by socialist leader Ram Manohar Lohia
- (ii) Congress secured majority in 1967 Election but with lowest tally of seats since 1952 and it was termed as 'political earthquake.

15. Explain any two advantages of having international organizations.

Ans. Advantages of international organization:

- (i) Assist nations in resolving conflicts and disputes.
- (ii) Promote cooperation among countries and improve living conditions for humanity.

16. Explain any two advantages of coalition governments.

Ans. Two advantages of coalition government:

- (i) Coalition governments in the 1990s saw rising significance of regional parties in the formation of central government. This was evident in the alliance like UPA (United Progressive Alliance) led by Congress and NDA (National Democratic Alliance) led by BJP
- (ii) 1990s coalition emphasized on pragmatic consideration rather than ideological positions and it moved from ideological differences to power sharing arrangements. It was evident when despite differing from the BJP's Hindutva ideology, most NDA parties united to govern successfully for an entire term.

17. Describe any two features of the Punjab Accord 1985.

Ans. The Punjab Accord, signed in 1985 by Rajiv Gandhi and Harchand Singh Longowal, comprised the following provisions:

- (i) The termination of the agitation led by Sikh groups advocating increased autonomy for Punjab.
- (ii) Granting greater regional autonomy to Punjab and other states, addressing calls for decentralization of power and governance

18. Analyze any two reasons as to why issues of environment and natural resources have become a part of World Politics.

Ans. Environment and natural resources have become part of the World Politics:

- (i) Global cultivable land is stagnating with fertility loss in existing agricultural areas. Overgrazing, overfishing and water depletion due to pollution severely limit food production worldwide.
- (ii) Lack of access to basic resources like sea water, rising deforestation in various parts of the world. depleting natural resources have led to geopolitical conflicts over resources like water and oil.

SECTION - C

19. Analyze any two negative effects of Globalization.

Ans. Negative effects of globalization include:

- (i) Foreign companies prioritize profit-driven projects over social welfare initiatives.
- (ii) Globalization has increased income inequality, making the rich richer and poor more poorer.
- (iii) Globalization has contributed to the depletion of flora and fauna within countries.

20. (a) Explain any two main challenges faced by Pakistan in establishing a successful democracy.

OR

(b) "SAARC has taken a major regional initiative in South Asian States to evolve co-operation through multilateral means." Justify statement with two examples.

Ans. (a) Challenges faced by Pakistan in establishing successful democracy:

(i) Since independence on 14 August 1947, Pakistan has experienced prolonged periods of military rule, resulting in the frequent overthrow of elected governments. In 1999, General Pervez Musharraf ousted Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, establishing a military government.

(ii) The ongoing conflict with India has furthered the influence of pro-military factions in Pakistan. These groups frequently assert that political parties and democracy in Pakistan are flawed, arguing that selfish agendas and chaotic democracy jeopardize the nation's security, thus justifying the military's continued governance.

OR

(b) SAARC brings together South Asian states:

(i) SAARC members signed the SAFTA agreement in 2004, effective from January 1, 2006, aiming to establish a South Asian free trade zone. It holds the potential to foster peace and cooperation in the region by promoting free trade and lowering trade tariffs.

(ii) In midst of tense relations between India and Pakistan, the leaders have met in several summits to further confidence building measures. Several bus routes have been established between the two nations, leading to a significant increase in trade between the Punjab regions over the years.

21. Describe the events that took place in Sikkim from the time of India's independence to its merger with India.

Ans. After India's independence, Sikkim remained a protectorate with India overseeing defense and foreign relations while internal administration was managed by the Chogyal, Sikkim's monarch. Democratic aspirations among the predominantly Nepali population led to discontent with the Chogyal's rule, supported by anti-Chogyal leaders receiving backing from India. In 1974, Sikkim Congress won the first democratic elections advocating integration with India. The assembly subsequently requested associate state status, then full integration in 1975, ratified by a referendum. Indian Parliament swiftly accepted, making Sikkim the 22nd state. Though the Chogyal and supporters resisted, the merger was widely supported avoiding division in Sikkim's politics.

22. Describe any two lessons learnt from the emergency imposed in 1975.

Ans. Lessons learnt from the emergency imposed in 1975;

(i) The Emergency highlighted both the weaknesses and strengths of India's democracy, but most importantly it demonstrated that it's not possible to eliminate democracy from India.

(ii) It amended the Constitution to specify that internal emergencies could only be declared in cases of armed rebellion and such a decision must be advised in writing by the council of ministers and approved by the President.

(iii) The Emergency raised awareness about civil liberties, leading to a more active role by the courts in safeguarding individual rights.

23. (a) "After the disintegration of the Soviet Union, India has maintained good relations with all the new independent countries, but the most cordial relations are still there between Russia and India." Justify the statement with two examples.

OR

(b) During the Cold War period the US economy was more developed than the rest of the world. Still the Soviet system had some special features which distinguish it from the US. Evaluate any two such features.

Ans. (a) India maintains cordial relations with all post- communist countries, with its strongest tie remaining with Russia.

- (i) Indo-Russian relations are crucial in India's foreign policy, sharing a vision of a multipolar world order and marked by trust and common interests.
- (ii) India benefits from Russia on issues like Kashmir, energy supplies and balancing relations with China.
- (iii) Russia benefits from India as its second-largest arms market and through collaboration on scientific projects.
- (iv) India's reliance on Russia, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan for oil supplies.
- (v) Russia holds significance for India in the nuclear energy and space industry, providing critical support such as the Cryogenic engine when needed.

OR

- (b) Soviet System under their socialist economic model was distinct from USA in these ways:
 - (i) USSR was marked by vast energy resources, advanced technologies, manufacturing industries and rich mineral resources like oil, iron and steel.
 - (ii) The Soviet system ensured the welfare model by ensuring minimum standards of living for all citizens, through subsidies, providing healthcare, education and other welfare schemes.
 - (iii) The Soviet system had state ownership of land and productive assets and their economy had no unemployment.

SECTION - D

24. The given cartoon is related to Israel's attack on Lebanon in June 2006. Study the cartoon carefully and answer the questions given below:



(a) Identify and name the organization whose four Logos are shown in the cartoon.

(b) Identify and name the person shown in the cartoon.

(c) Why did Israel attack Lebanon?

Ans. (a) United Nations

(b) Former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan

(c) In June 2006, Israel launched an attack on Lebanon, citing the need to restrain the militant organization Hezbollah. The assault resulted in significant civilian casualties with numerous public buildings and residential areas subjected to Israeli bombardment.

Note: The following questions are for the Visually Impaired Candidates only in lieu of Q. No. 24.

(24.1) Write full form of UNICEF.

Ans. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), originally known as the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, was created by the United Nations General Assembly on 11 December 1946.

(24.2) Which organization became the successor of the League of Nations?

Ans. The United Nations (UN) became the successor of the League of Nations.

(24.3) How many states signed the United Nations Charter?

Ans. The UN Charter was signed on 26 June 1945 by representatives of the 50 countries attending the United Nations Conference on International Organization in San Francisco. Poland, which was not represented, signed it later and became one of the UN's original 51 Member States.

(24.4) Which U.N. agency is concerned with the safety and peaceful use of nuclear technology?

Ans. The International Atomic Energy Agency works with its Member States and multiple partners worldwide to promote the safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear technologies. The IAEA's relationship with the United Nations is guided by an agreement signed in 1957.

25. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

The interim government took a firm stance against the possible division of India into small principalities of different sizes. The Muslim League opposed the Indian National Congress and took the view that the

states should be free to adopt any course they liked. Sardar Patel played a historic role in negotiating with the rulers of princely states firmly but diplomatically and bringing most of them into the Indian Union.

25.1) Which principle was followed for the division of British India at the time of partition in 1947?

- (a) Principle of administrative control**
- (b) Principle of ethnic composition**
- (c) Principle of religious majorities**
- (d) Principle of equality**

Ans. (25.1) Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: Muslim League demanded separate state for Muslims, hence India was divided on religious lines to form India and Pakistan after failed attempts at united independent India.

(25.2) Who was the first Deputy Prime Minister of free India?

- (a) Dr. B. R. Ambedkar**
- (b) Sardar Patel**
- (c) V. K. Menon**
- (d) Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan**

Ans. Sardar Patel was the first Deputy Prime Minister of free India.

(25.3) How many princely states were there in British India at the time of independence?

- (a) 556**

(b) 566

(c) 655

(d) 565

Ans. 566 princely states were there in British India at the time of independence.

(25.4) Which of the following statements about the princely states is NOT correct?

(a) The Indian government was ready to give autonomy to some regions.

(b) The ruler of Junagadh had decided to be part of princely states are NOT correct?

(c) Princely states covered one third of the land area of the British Indian empire.

(d) Some of the princely states clearly wanted to become part of the Indian Union.

Ans. (25.4) Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: The issue of Junagarh was resolved after a plebiscite confirmed people's desire to join India.

26. In the given Political outline 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 shown in the map as per the format that follows:

Sr. No. of the information used	Alphabet concerned	Name of the State
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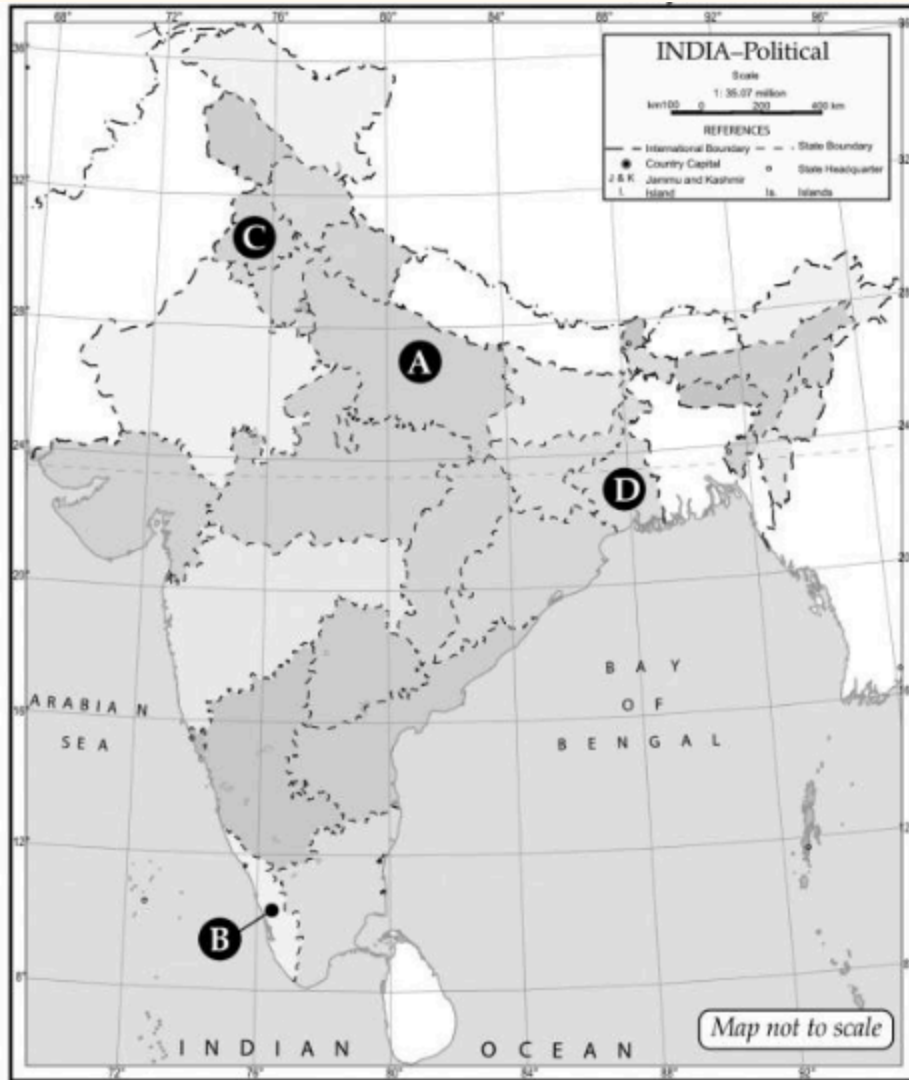
(i)		
(ii)		
(iii)		
(iv)		

(i) The state where the first non-Congress government was formed was by E.M.S. Namboodiripad

(ii) The state that belongs to Syama Prasad Mookerjee, founder of Bharatiya Jana Sangh.

(iii) The state to which former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru belonged.

(iv) The state is related to former Health Minister Rajkumari Amrit Kaur.



Ans.

Sr. No. of the information used	Alphabet concerned	Name of the State
(i)	B	Kerala
(ii)	D	West Bengal
(iii)	A	Uttar Pradesh
(iv)	C	Punjab

Note: The following questions are for the Visually Impaired Candidates only in lieu of Q. No. 26.

(26.1) Name the state where the first non-Congress government was formed by E.M.S. Namboodiripad.

Ans. EMS Namboodiripad became the Chief Minister of Kerala that was the first non-congress government in independent India.

(26.2) Who was the first Chief Election Commissioner of India?

Ans. Sukumar Sen (2 January 1898 – 13 May 1963) was an Indian civil servant who was the 1st Chief Election Commissioner of India.

(26.3) Name the political party formed by the former first Indian Governor General of independent India.

Ans. The political party formed by the former first Indian Governor General of independent India, C. Rajagopalachari, was the Swatantra Party. This party was founded in 1959 and advocated for free enterprise, limited government intervention in economic affairs, and individual liberty.

(26.4) Name the state which is related to Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, the former Health Minister of India.

Ans. Rajkumari Amrit Kaur (1889–1964) is famously recognized as the first Health Minister of Independent India. She was born as a princess into the royal family of Kapurthala district, formerly a princely state in British Punjab.

SECTION - E

27. (a) What is meant by human security? Differentiate between the narrow and broad concepts of human security.

OR

(b) Explain the meaning of the traditional notion of security. Highlight any two components of traditional notion of external security.

Ans.(a) Human security focuses on safeguarding individuals, encompassing the protection of their rights, dignity and self-respect, in addition to their lives, dignity and honor. While human security is sometimes equated with state security, the security of states does not necessarily ensure the security of their people. A narrow interpretation of human security only talks about the physical threats to individuals or the shielding of communities and individuals from internal violence. In contrast, a broad view of human security argues that the scope of threats should also include hunger, diseases and natural disasters, as these cause far more casualties than war

OR

(b) Traditional security primarily revolves around the use or threat of use of military force. In this framework, force is not only the main threat to security but also the primary method of ensuring security. However, such a security concept poses risks to core national values such as sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. Military actions also endanger the lives of citizens within a nation's borders. Traditional security can be either external, involving threats from other countries, or internal, involving threats from groups or regions advocating secession.

Components of traditional notion of external security include:

(i) Deterrence: This involves policies aimed at preventing war, known as deterrence.

(ii) Defense: If a war has already started, nations engage in defensive actions against the enemy to limit or end the conflict.

(iii) Balance of Power: Countries build up their military capabilities to maintain a balance between larger and smaller nations. They may also seek alliances with the enemies of their enemies to make their position stronger.

(iv) Alliance Building: This refers to the formation of coalitions among states to challenge the power of the common enemy. For instance, the United States established NATO, while the USSR created the Warsaw Pact.

28.(a) "The foreign policy of independent India has pursued the dream of a peaceful world." Support the statement with any three suitable arguments.

OR

(b) "India was a staunch supporter of the decolonisation process and firmly opposed racism." Support the statement with any three suitable arguments.

Ans. (a) Foreign policy of independent India has pursued the dream of a peaceful world:

(1) India aimed to steer clear of military alliances formed by the US and the Soviet Union during the Cold War. India endorsed non-alignment as its preferred foreign policy stance, avoiding entanglements with the US-led NATO and the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact. Non-aligned did not indicate India's neutrality or being aloof from world politics, which is evident in the crucial role played in mediating during the Korean War (1950-1953).

ii) Nehru envisioned a significant role for India in global and particularly Asian affairs. His tenure saw the beginning of diplomatic relations between India and newly independent nations in Asia and Africa. Throughout the 1940s and 1950s, Nehru passionately championed Asian unity. Under his guidance, India hosted the Asian Relations Conference in March 1947, months before gaining independence.

(iii) India initially established a cordial relationship with China, being among the first nations to recognise its communist government after the 1949 revolution. The joint declaration of the Panchsheel, or Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, by Nehru and Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai on April 29, 1954, signaled a move toward closer ties between the two nations.

OR

(b) India has staunch support for the decolonisation process and opposition to racism is evident through several key actions and stances:

(i) India, under Nehru's leadership, actively supported the decolonisation process by advocating for the independence of other colonized nations, such as Indonesia. By convening international conferences and actively supporting freedom struggles, India demonstrated its commitment to ending colonial rule and promoting self-determination for all people. (ii) India firmly opposed racism, particularly apartheid in South Africa. Nehru and Indian leaders consistently condemned racial discrimination and segregation policies, advocating for equality and justice on the global stage. India's vocal opposition to apartheid highlighted its commitment to combating racial injustice and promoting human rights. (iii) Nehru's role as a co-founder of the Non- Aligned Movement (NAM) further exemplifies India's commitment to decolonisation and anti-racism efforts. NAM aimed to promote independence, sovereignty and equality among nations, while also opposing colonialism, racism and imperialism. India's leadership in NAM reinforced its dedication to decolonisation and anti-racism principles on the global stage. Overall, through its actions, leadership and participation in international forums, India firmly supported decolonisation efforts and stood against racism, embodying its commitment to freedom, equality and justice for all nations and peoples.

29.(a) While the Chinese economy has improved dramatically, why has everyone in China not received the benefits of the reforms? State any three reasons.

OR

(b) Describe the process of evolution of the European Union from an Economic Union to an increasingly Political one.

Ans. (a) While China's economy has experienced remarkable growth, not all citizens have benefited from reforms.

Since the 'open door policy of Deng Xiaoping' China has set up special economic zones, become the most favored place for foreign direct investment and has seen significant economic growth. China's economic prowess has somewhat

helped China to counter their outstanding issues with Japan, the US, ASEAN and Russia. Despite all this unemployment has surged, with nearly 100 million seeking jobs. Women face employment conditions as bad as those of Europe in the 18th and 19th centuries. Environmental degradation and corruption have worsened, increasing economic inequality between rural and urban, as well as coastal and inland residents.

OR

(b) Following World War II, European leaders faced the "Question of Europe" regarding the continent's reconstruction and future. The devastation of the war led to a reevaluation of traditional rivalries, prompting a shift towards principles and institutions conducive to positive international relations. The Marshall Plan provided significant financial aid for Europe's economic recovery, fostering cooperation through organizations like the OEEC and the Council of Europe. Economic integration progressed with the formation of the European Coal and Steel Community in 1951, followed by the establishment of the European Economic Community in 1957. These steps laid the groundwork for the European Union's creation in 1992, facilitating not only economic unity but also political cooperation. The Maastricht Treaty (February 1992) marked a significant milestone, enabling the EU to develop a common foreign and security policy, as well as cooperation on justice and home affairs. The EU's evolution from an economic union to a political entity reflects the continent's commitment to fostering peace, stability and cooperation in the post-war era. The EU presently is the power center of the world as the second largest economy, big military power and holds significant diplomatic influence to put a threat to USA dominance.

30. (a) Explain any three major developments which took place in Indian politics during the last decade of the 20th century.

OR

(b) In the midst of severe competition and many conflicts after 1989, a consensus appeared to have emerged among most parties. Explain any three points of consensus.

Ans . (a) Three major developments of Indian politics of the 1990s:

(i) Implementation of the Mandal Commission by the National Front government gave reservation benefits to the other backward classes in education and employment. This led to intense debates within the country leading up to the extent of violence. This large scale mobilization led to the rise of political organization of Dalits and their recognition at national level with parties like Bahujan Samaj Party. These parties, under influential leaders like Kanshi Ram, gave political representation to people from backward classes and sought to raise the cause of Bhaujans (SC, ST, OBC and religious minorities).

(ii) Ayodhya dispute caused by demolition of a disputed structure at Ayodhya (known as Babri Masjid) in December 1992. The demolition sparked a debate on secularism, echoing post- Partition concerns about majority dominance. It raised questions about India's commitment to equal citizenship regardless of religion. The use of religious sentiments in politics was also scrutinized. India's democratic ethos rejects communal politics, yet these have been challenged, like in anti-Sikh riots in 1984 and violence against Muslims in Gujarat in 2002, posing a threat to democracy.

Thirdly, there was a significant shift in economic policy known as the introduction of the structural adjustment program or new economic reforms. Initiated by Rajiv Gandhi, these reforms became prominent in 1991 under PM P.V. Narsimha Rao, altering the course of India's economy since Independence. Despite criticism from various movements and organizations, subsequent governments have persisted with these policies of liberalization, privatization and globalization.

OR

(b) In the midst of severe competition and many conflicts after 1989, a consensus appeared to have emerged among most parties:

(i) Initially, new economic policies of 1991 were opposed, but most parties have since agreed to them. Successive governments have adopted these policies, and over the decades, they have transformed the economic landscape and uplifted the nation's economy. These policies are now widely seen as instrumental in driving the nation towards prosperity and global economic prominence.

(ii) 1990s the era of coalition saw the rising significance of regional parties at central level under the alliance parties of NDA, UPA, National Front or United Front government.

(iii) Political parties acknowledge the need to accept the political and social demands of backward castes, leading to widespread support for reservation of

seats in education and employment. Additionally, there's a willingness among parties to ensure adequate representation and empowerment of Other Backward Classes (OBCs), 1990s also saw the rise in political participation of the backward classes and rise of political organization of the Dalits.