

SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER - 2

Political Science (028)

Class XII (2024-25)

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

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

SECTION – A (12 MARKS)

1. Arrange the following in chronological order- **[1]**
 - i. 26 Allied nations fighting against the Axis Powers meet in Washington, D.C
 - ii. Signing of the Atlantic Charter
 - iii. 189 member countries in IMF
 - iv. Lebanon crisis

a) iii, i, ii, i	b) iv, iii, ii, i
c) ii, i, iv, iii	d) iii, iv, i, ii
2. What became the central machinery for deciding what track and plan/approach India would adopt for its development? **[1]**

a) Bombay plan	b) First five year plan
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c) Drafting committee

d) Planning commission

3. What was called “the biggest gamble in history”? [1]

a) The era of Congress dominance b) Universal adult franchise

c) The first general elections of 1952 d) Emergency of 1975

4. The year in which no five-year plan has adopted is called _____. [1]

a) plan holiday b) economic crisis

c) gap between five year plans d) Non-plan holiday

5. Match List I with List II regarding globalization in ancient times and the modern era. [1]

List-1	List-2
(a) Writing books and visiting countries physically	(i) MNCs investing in various industrial and infrastructure projects
(b) Humans and animals transport commodities	(ii) Pandemic
(c) Foreign invaders stayed and built monuments	(iii) Connecting through telecommunication and Social Media
(d) Epidemic	(iv) Cargo, ships and trains

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

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

6. **Assertion (A):** India was divided into 14 states and 6 union territories by the state Reorganisation Act 1956. [1]

Reason (R): The creation of linguistic provinces has helped a lot in instilling feelings of regionalism in the Indian public.

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

c) A is true but R is false. d) A is false but R is true.

7. Which of this Indian place is made as a home by the spiritual leader Dalai Lama? [1]

a) Tawang	b) Bodh Gaya
c) Dharmashala	d) Kushinagar
8. Institutional Revolutionary Party exercised power in: [1]

a) Cairo	b) Finland
c) Brazil	d) Mexico
9. The Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, sought and obtained political asylum in India in: [1]

a) 1959	b) 1958
c) 1956	d) 1960
10. **Assertion (A):** USSR came into being after 1917 Revolution. [1]
Reason (R): It was inspired by socialism and opposed capitalism.

a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.	b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
c) A is true but R is false.	d) A is false but R is true.
11. Which among the following reached an agreement with Indira Gandhi and became CM of J&K? [1]

a) Sheikh Abdullah	b) B.K. Nehru
c) Omar Abdullah	d) Farooq Abdullah
12. Which one of the following statements about SAARC is correct? [1]

a) China is the most powerful member of SAARC.	b) It is a major international initiative.
c) Its full form is South Asian Association for Revival of Cooperation.	d) It is a regional effort to evolve cooperation.

SECTION- B (12 MARKS)

13. What is the relationship between traditional security and cooperation? [2]
14. Write a short note on Hindutva. [2]
15. Mention any two outcomes of Rio Summit. [2]
16. Why did senior Congress leader support Indira Gandhi as Prime Minister after the death of Lal Bahadur Shastri? [2]
17. Highlight any four areas of cooperation between India and Israel. [2]
18. Bring out three differences between the **Socialist parties** and the **Communist party**. [2]

SECTION-C (20 MARKS)

19. What are the differences in the threats that people in the Third World face and those living in the First World face? [4]
20. Justify India's candidature for the permanent membership of the UN Security Council on any four grounds. [4]
21. Explain the meaning of 'Global commons' and give any four examples of 'Global commons'. [4]

OR

Oil is an important resource in global strategy that affects the geopolitics and global economy. Comment.

22. Examine any four arguments against globalisation that have emerged from all over the globe. [4]

OR

How do per capita income and population growth affect the economic disparity in the world? Suggest any two ways to reduce economic disparity between the poor and the rich at the global level.

23. What was the main outcome of the Rajiv Gandhi Longowal Accord in July 1985? [4]

SECTION-D (12 MARKS)

24. 1. **Read the text carefully and answer the questions:** [4]
Observe the cartoon given below:



i. Identify the context of the meet depicted in the cartoon.

- a) Indo-Pak negotiations
- b) SAARC Summit
- c) Indo-Soviet Treaty
- d) Indo-Sri Lanka Accord

ii. The participant leader/s in the given cartoon are _____.

- a) Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Nawaz Sharif
- b) Atal Bihari Vajpayee and General Ayub Khan
- c) Manmohan Singh and General Pervez Musharraf
- d) Mahinda Rajapaksa and Manmohan Singh

iii. What could have been the topic of concern and discussion in the given context?

- a) Problem of unemployment
- b) Kashmir Conflict
- c) Problem of terrorism
- d) Both Kashmir problem and terrorism

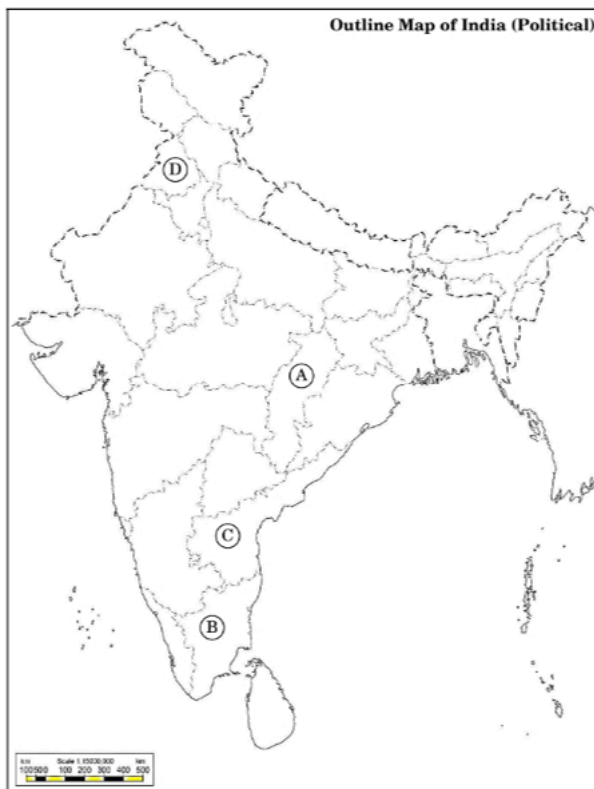
iv. In July 2001 there was a summit held between the two concerned countries which turned out to be futile. It was held in _____.

- a) Lahore
- b) Peshawar
- c) New Delhi
- d) Agra

25. In the given political outline map of **India**, four States have been marked **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 number of the information used and the concerned alphabets given in the map as per the following format: [4]

Serial number of the information used	Concerned alphabet in the map	Name of the State
(i)		
(ii)		
(iii)		
(iv)		

- i. The State which was called **Madras** at the time of Independence.
- ii. The State formed on the basis of imbalanced development.
- iii. The State which was partitioned in 1947.
- iv. The first State created in 1952.



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

The acceptance of the principle of linguistic states did not mean, however, that all states immediately became linguistic states. There was an experiment of 'bilingual' Bombay state, consisting of Gujarati- and Marathi-speaking people. After a popular agitation, the states of Maharashtra and Gujarat were created in 1960. In Punjab also, there were two linguistic groups: Hindi-speaking and Punjabi-speaking. The Punjabi-speaking people demanded a separate state. But it was not granted with other states in 1956. Statehood for Punjab came ten years later, in 1966, when the territories of today's Haryana and Himachal Pradesh were separated from the larger

Punjab state. Another major reorganisation of states took place in the north-east in 1972. Meghalaya was carved out of Assam in 1972. Manipur and Tripura too emerged as separate states in the same year. The states of Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh came into being in 1987. Nagaland had become a state much earlier in 1963.

- i. Name the original state from which Gujarat was carved out?
 - a. Saurashtra
 - b. Junagarh
 - c. Bombay
 - d. Rajputana
- ii. Which year the states of Meghalaya have been carved out from Assam?
 - a. 1972
 - b. 1982
 - c. 1987
 - d. 1990
- iii. How did the reorganization of states based on linguistic and regional demands evolve in India between 1960 and 1987?

SECTION-E (24 MARKS)

27. What kind of conflicts had occurred in Soviet Republics? Explain. [6]

OR

Examine any six characteristics of the Soviet system during 1971-1991.

28. Why is the EU considered a highly influential regional organisation in the economic, political and military fields? [6]

OR

How does geographical proximity influence the formation of regional organisations?

29. Write an essay on the Janta Dal. [6]

OR

Highlight any three issues that affected the Indian politics after 1989.

30. How did the Party System in India change dramatically between the elections of 1977 and 1980? Explain. [6]

OR

Write a brief note on the background leading to the declaration of Emergency of June 1975 in India.

Solution
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SECTION – A (12 MARKS)

1.
(c) ii, i, iv, iii
Explanation:
ii. **1941** August: Signing of the Atlantic Charter
i. **1942** January: 26 Allied nations fighting against the Axis Powers meet in Washington, D.C:
iv. Lebanon crisis in **2006**
iii. 189 member countries in IMF as on 12 April **2016**
2.
(d) Planning commission
Explanation:
Planning commission
3.
(b) Universal adult franchise
Explanation:
The first general election was also the first big test of democracy in a poor and illiterate country. India's experiment with **universal adult franchise** appeared very bold and risky. An Indian editor called it "the biggest gamble in history".
4. (a) plan holiday
Explanation:
plan holiday
5.
(d) (a)-(iii), (b)-(iv), (c)-(i), (d)-(ii)
Explanation:
(a)-(iii), (b)-(iv), (c)-(i), (d)-(ii)
6. (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Explanation:
Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
7.
(c) Dharmashala
Explanation:
Over the last half century, a large number of Tibetans have also sought refuge in India and many other countries of the world. In India, particularly in Delhi, there are large

settlements of Tibetan refugees. Dharmashala in Himachal Pradesh is perhaps the largest refuge settlement of Tibetans in India. The Dalai Lama has also made Dharmashala his home in India.

8.

(d) Mexico

Explanation:

Mexico

9. **(a) 1959**

Explanation:

1959

10. **(a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.**

Explanation:

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

11. **(a) Sheikh Abdullah**

Explanation:

There were several attempts to reach an agreement between Sheikh Abdullah and the Government of India. Finally, in 1974 Indira Gandhi reached an agreement with Sheikh Abdullah and he became the Chief Minister of the State.

12.

(d) It is a regional effort to evolve cooperation.

Explanation:

It is a regional effort to evolve cooperation.

SECTION- B (12 MARKS)

13. Traditional security is closely related with cooperation as it recognizes the need for cooperation to limit violence. This limit directly relates to both means and ends of the war. This is almost universally accepted view that countries should go to war primarily for self-defence or to protect other people from genocide. Armies must avoid killing or hurting non-combatants as well as unarmed and surrendering combatants.

14. i. Hindutva literally means 'Hinduness', is the predominant form of Hindu nationalism in India.

ii. V. D. Savarkar, its originator, defined it as the basis of Indian or Hindu nationhood and brotherhood.

iii. Believers of 'Hindutva' argue that a strong nation can be built only on the basis of a strong and united national culture and in the case of India the Hindu culture alone can provide this base and support.

iv. It was championed by the Hindu nationalist volunteer organization, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), the Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) and the Hindu Sena.

15. The two outcomes of Rio Summit were as follows:
- It provided a consensus on combining economic growth with ecological responsibility for sustainable development.
 - It produced conventions dealing with climatic change, biodiversity, forestry and recommended a list of development practices called ' Agenda 21 '.
16. Senior Congress leaders supported Indira Gandhi as Prime Minister after the death of Lal Bahadur Shastri because:
- Indira Gandhi was the daughter of Jawaharlal Nehru and she had been Congress president in the past and had also been politically active for very long, she had served as Minister under Shastri Cabinet.
 - The senior leaders may have supported Indira Gandhi in the belief that her administrative and political inexperience would compel her to depend on them for support and guidance.
17. Though historical and cultural ties between India and Israel have gone back from times immemorial, diplomatic relations formally developed between the two after the opening of the Israeli embassy in India in 1992. Relations between the two democratic nations further intensified with the visits of the Two Heads of Government in 2017 and 2018. The two nations have started cooperation in various fields like **cultural exchange, security and defence, counterterrorism, space research, water and energy and agricultural development.**

18.	Socialist Parties	Communist Parties
	(i) The socialists believed in the ideology of democratic socialism.	(i) The communists believed in communism.
	(ii) Socialist party was formed within the Congress in 1934 and wanted a more radical and egalitarian Congress.	(ii) They worked within the Congress but parted their ways in December 1941, when the Communists decided to support the British in their war against Nazi Germany.
	(iii) It went through many splits and reunions leading to the formation of many socialist parties.	(iii) It was divided once in 1964 on the basis of ideology leading to the formation of CPI (Marxist).

SECTION-C (20 MARKS)

19. The differences in the threats that people in the Third World face and those living in the First World face are as given below:
- The Third World countries face threats not only from outside their borders, mostly from neighbours but also from within. On the other hand, most of the First World countries,

faced no serious threats from groups or communities living within those borders. These countries faced threats only from outside their borders.

- ii. New states of the Third World face threats from separatist movements which wanted to form an independent country. Sometimes such movements got help from neighbouring countries. There was no threat in the First World countries.
- iii. The major threat the people of the third world faces is the environmental threat, the rise in global warming has increased the sea level that some islands face the threat of being washed off. Whereas the first world people did not face such a threat.

20. India's candidature for the permanent membership of the UN Security Council was as:

- i. India is a big nation in terms of its population: India is the second-most populous country in the world comprising almost one-fifth of the world population.
- ii. India respects democracy and human rights: India is also the world's largest democracy and has virtually all of the initiatives of the UN.
- iii. India is a major economic power.
- iv. India is a major military power.

21. Commons are those resources which are not owned by anyone but rather shared by a community. 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. Hence, those areas which are situated beyond a sovereign jurisdiction of any one state and they need united control by the international community are called as global commons. Coordination over the global commons is difficult. There are some revolutionary agreements such as 1959 Antarctic Treaty, 1987 Montreal Protocol, and the 1991 Antarctic-Environmental Protocol.

Examples of global commons in global context are :

- i. Earth's atmosphere
- ii. Antarctica
- iii. Ocean floor
- iv. Outer space

OR

Oil creates political struggles involving industrialised countries because it is the resource which generates immense wealth. Countries adopt various methods to ensure steady flows of oil:

- 1. These included deployment of military process near exploitation sites and along sea lanes of communications.
- 2. The stockpiling of strategic resources.
- 3. By making favourable international agreements, they support multinational companies.

4. The history of petroleum is the history of war and struggle as the global economy relied on oil as a portable and indispensable fuel.
5. It created conflict between Iraq and Saudi Arabia as Iraq's known reserves are second only to Saudi Arabia and since substantial portions of Iraqi territory are yet to be fully explored, there is a fair chance that actual reserves might be far larger.
22. ○ **Economic Inequality:**
Critics on the left argue that globalization represents a phase of global capitalism that increases wealth inequality, making the rich richer and the poor poorer. The weakening of the state reduces its ability to protect the interests of the poor.
- **Weakening of State Sovereignty:**
Both left and right critics fear that globalization weakens the state's capacity to govern effectively and protect its citizens' interests, leading to reduced state sovereignty.
- **Economic Protectionism:**
Critics on the right advocate for a return to self-reliance and protectionism, especially in certain economic sectors, to safeguard national interests.
- **Cultural Erosion:**
Cultural critics worry that globalization harms traditional cultures, leading to a loss of age-old values and ways of life as global influences overshadow local customs.

OR

Per capita income and population growth affect the economic disparity all over the world. High per capita income and low population growth make the rich countries get richer. On the other hand, per capita low income and high population growth make poor countries get poorer.

Ways to reduce economic disparity include:

- i. At the global level, the poor countries hit by this economic disparity will have to decrease population growth and increase the income.
 - ii. Countries affected by the economic disparity will have to make maximum use of their resources judiciously. They will have to strengthen their economic, political, social and cultural structures so as to bridge the gap of economic disparity.
23. The agreement between Rajiv Gandhi and Harchand Singh Longowal, the then President of the Akali Dal, as known as the Punjab Accord. The outcomes of Rajiv Gandhi-Longowal Accord were:
- i. It was agreed that Chandigarh would be transferred to Punjab.
 - ii. A separate commission will be set-up to resolve the border dispute between Punjab and Haryana.
 - iii. A tribunal would be set up to decide the sharing of Ravi-Beas river water among Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan.

- iv. The agreement also provided for compensation to and better treatment of those affected by the militancy in Punjab and the withdrawal of the application of Armed Forces Special Powers Act in Punjab.

SECTION-D (12 MARKS)

24. i. (a) Indo-Pak negotiations
 ii. (c) Manmohan Singh and General Pervez Musharraf
 iii. (d) Both Kashmir problem and terrorism
 iv. (d) Agra

25.	Serial number of the information used	Concerned alphabet in the map	Name of the State
	(i)	(B)	Tamil Nadu
	(ii)	(A)	Chhattisgarh
	(iii)	(D)	Punjab
	(iv)	(C)	Andhra Pradesh

26. i. (c) Bombay
 ii. (a) 1972
 iii. In 1960, Maharashtra and Gujarat were created after protests in the bilingual Bombay state. Punjab was reorganized in 1966, creating Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. Further reorganization in 1972 led to the formation of Meghalaya, Manipur, and Tripura. Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh became states in 1987, while Nagaland achieved statehood in 1963.

SECTION-E (24 MARKS)

27. i. In Russia, two republics, Chechnya and Dagestan, have had violent secessionist movements. Moscow's method to deal with Chechen rebels and indiscriminate military bombings led to many human rights violation but to deter aspirations for independence.
 ii. In Central Asia, Tajikistan witnessed a civil war that went on for ten years till 2001. The whole region as to underwent many sectarian conflicts.
 iii. In Azerbaijan's provinces of Nagorno-Karabakh, some local Armenians want to secede and join Armenia.
 iv. In Georgia, the demand for independence has come from two provinces, resulting in a civil war. There are movements against the existing regimes in Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan and Georgia. Even countries and provinces are fighting over river waters, hence, making life difficult for the ordinary citizen. The Asian republics areas brought economic benefit. Central Asian has become a zone of competition between outside powers and oil companies. After 11 September 2001, the US wanted military bases in the region. The government of all Central Asian states to hire bases and allowed airplanes to fly over their territory during the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

- v. In Eastern Europe, Czechoslovakia split peacefully into two, with the Czechs and the Slovaks forming independent countries. The severe conflict took place in the Balkan republics of Yugoslavia. After 1991, it (Yugoslavia) broke apart with several provinces like Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina declaring independence. Ethnic Serbs opposed this and a massacre of non-Serbs Bosnians followed. The NATO intervention and the bombing of Yugoslavia followed inter-ethnic Civil war.

OR

The United States of Soviet Russia contained 15 constituent republics, it was formed on 30th December 1924 with the adoption of a federal Constitution. It was the largest country in terms of area. It was based on the principles of Communism. Following are its six characteristics in the time period of 20 years

- i. The USSR was federation only on a paper. In reality, it did not embrace the features of a federal system. The fifteen republics were denied autonomy and there was centralization of power around Russia. There was no such kind of power division that is seen in the Federation system.
 - ii. The Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) controlled the government and dominated the political decision-making. It strengthened the principle of democratic centralism which meant lack of dissent on the decisions of the upper party bodies. Thus, the single-party system was the norm. And all the major decisions were made by this party. No objection was accepted at any term.
 - iii. The most coloured feature of the Soviet system was the propagation of socialism to oppose the effects of capitalism, though later on it was abandoned (Shock Therapy). The United States of Soviet Russia tried to propagate its ideology to the world but finally, it failed to make a remarkable impact about getting its ideology spread in the world.
 - iv. The Soviet economy was state-owned and state planned where the state was the owner of the means of production thus, there was an absence of private property.
 - v. The Soviet system was characterized by a complex communications network with vast energy resources like oil, iron, and steel. The state has a vast network of transportation to manufacture or transport goods to remotest areas.
 - vi. The Soviet system was based on state welfarism where the state was engaged in mass production to meet the needs of the people. Its main aim was the welfare of the public.
28. The EU was considered as highly influential because:
1. **Economic Influence:**
 - a. The EU has world's biggest economy with the GDP of more than \$12 trillion in 2005, larger than that of the US.
 - b. The Euro, currency of EU, can pose a threat to the dominance of US Dollar.

c. It also functions as an important bloc in international economic organisations such as the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

2. Political Influence:

- a. Two members of the EU, Britain and France, hold permanent seats on the UN Security Council.
- b. The EU also included various non-permanent members of the UNSC.
- c. The European Union plays an influential role in diplomacy, economic investments, and negotiations except military force because of its dialogue with China on Human Rights and Environmental Degradation is remarkable.

3. Militarily Influence:

- a. The EU's combined armed forces are second largest in the world.
- b. Its total spending on defence is second after the US.
- c. Two EU important states members, Britain and France, also experience nuclear arsenals of 550 nuclear warheads.
- d. It is the world's second most important source of space and communications technology.

OR

Geographical proximity influences the formation of regional organisations because the countries of a region face similar problems. For example, before and after the Second World War, the South East Asian countries suffered the economic and political consequences of repeated colonialisms, both European and Japanese. There were common problems of nation-building, the ravages of poverty, economic backwardness and the pressure to join one bloc or the other during the Cold War. There was no informal cooperation and interaction. Thus, ASEAN was established by South East Asian countries. Similarly, the effects of the Second World War brought the West European states closer to each other. Marshall Plan, OEEC, Council of Europe, the European Economic Community, European Parliament and ultimately the European Union were various steps in this direction. If the European Union has succeeded in the creation of the European Parliament or to have a common currency i.e., Euro, it is due to their geographical proximity.

29. The Janta Dal:

The Janta Dal as a new political party emerged in October 1988 with the merger of the Janta Party, Lok Dal (B), Jana Morcha and the Congress (S). As the Congress party, the Janta Dal is an umbrella organization, it contained many anti-Congress groups.

The implication of this strategy is quite simple. Since the Janta Dal is part of the National Front alliance, it follows that the JD will not try to confront or build up its independent political base in those states where NF partners are in power.

Support Base:

The Janta Dal is essentially build-up to meet the demands of the people living in rural areas. It, therefore, inherits the same social base of the Lok Dal-that is of the agricultural class. The inclusion of Janta Party has considerably enlarged its regional and community base. It now had the support of middle castes as well.

The Janta Dal is clear about its caste base and its leader like Devilal has categorically upheld the AJGAR (Ahir-Jat-/Guj ar-Rajput) combination as the backbone of the Dal's political success. In this context, JD represents rich peasants and big landowners and in caste terms of Rajputs and Jats, particularly in north India.

Ideology and Programme:

The policies of the JD are neo-traditionalists; opposition to large scale industrialisation and revitalization of the countryside following Gandhian principles; and advocacy of decentralization of both the economy and political power, so as to meet the demands of the people living in rural areas.

The JD has promised to incorporate the right to work as a fundamental right in the Constitution. The JD manifesto also promises to put down communal riots firmly work for communal harmony, give statutory status to the Mandal Commission and improve a lot of the minorities.

In the first week of November 1990, there was a vertical split in the ruling Janta Dal. The split had been widely expected because of the usual bickerings, rivalries and the switch of loyalty by some members caused by toppling campaigns. A notable development towards the close of the year 1990 was the emergence of a new force formation of a Janta Dal Left Democratic Front to meet the challenges facing the country, to disgust communalism and safeguard the country's unity and integrity.

OR

The following are the political issues that have affected India since 1989:

- End of Congress system and Era of coalition Governments started. The defeat of the Congress Party in the elections held in 1989 was the beginning of the trend of the coalition.
- New Economic reforms changed the whole scenario. (Open economy and FDI are the examples.)
- Polarization of votes started and BJP gained popularity.
- The rise of BJP with 'Hindutva' politics.
- Polarization of OBC votes due to implementation of Mandal Commission recommendations.
- Issue of Ram Mandir led to polarization of votes.
- Regional parties became effective in the National Politics.

30. Lok Sabha Elections, 1977:

- i. In January 1977, after eighteen months of Emergency, the government decided to hold elections. Accordingly, all the leaders and activists were released from jails. Elections were held in March 1977. This left the opposition with very little time, but political developments took place very rapidly. The major opposition parties had already been coming closer in the pre-Emergency period. Now they came together on the eve of the elections and formed a new party, known as the Janata Party. The new party accepted the leadership of Jayprakash Narayan. Some leaders of the Congress who were opposed to the Emergency also joined this new party. Some other Congress leaders also came out and formed a separate party under the leadership of Jagjivan Ram.
- ii. The Janata Party made this election into a referendum on the Emergency. Its campaign was focused on the non-democratic character of the rule and on the various excesses that took place during this period. In the backdrop of arrests of thousands of persons and the censorship of the press, the public opinion was against the Congress. Jayprakash Narayan became the popular symbol of the restoration of democracy. The formation of Janata Party also ensured that non-Congress votes would not be divided. It was evident that the going was tough for the Congress.

OR

The factors leading to the declaration of internal emergency in India on June 25 1975, were:

- i. **Economic factors:** In the elections of 1971, Congress had given the slogan of 'Garibi Hatao' (remove poverty) but the promise had not been implemented. The economic condition of the people did not improve much after 1971-72. As a result of poor economic conditions, non-Congress opposition parties had started protests in different parts of the country.
- ii. **Gujarat and Bihar movements:** In 1974 the students in Gujarat and Bihar which were Congress-ruled states started agitation against rising prices and corruption in high places. The opposition parties too joined these protests. As a result of these agitations, elections were held in Gujarat, where Congress was defeated. In Bihar, the movement was guided by Jayprakash Narayan who tried to spread it to other parts of the country.
- iii. **Conflict with Judiciary:** In the meantime the relations between the executive and the judiciary strained due to appointment of Justice A.N. Ray as Chief Justice of India, ignoring three other senior judges. On 12 June 1975, Allahabad High Court declared the election of Indira Gandhi invalid. The above events set a stage for a big political confrontation which came on 25 June 1975, when at Ramlila ground, New Delhi, Jayprakash Narayan announced a nationwide satyagraha against Indira Gandhi. The same night she declared internal Emergency.