SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER – Set II POLITICAL SCIENCE (CODE – 028) CLASS – XII (2015-16)

TIME: 3 HRS

M: M: 100

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General Instructions:

- All questions are compulsory
- Question numbers 1 to 5 are of 1 mark each. Answer to these questions should not exceed 20 words each.
- Question numbers 6 to 10 are of 2 marks each. Answer to these questions should not exceed 40 words each.
- Question numbers 11 to 16 are of 4 marks each. The answer to these questions should not exceed 100 words each.
- Question numbers 17 to 21 are of 5 marks each. The answer to these questions should not exceed 150 words each.
- Question numbers 22 to 27 are of 6 marks each. The answer to these questions should not exceed 150 words each.
- 1. Identify the country that was first to liberalize its economy in the South Asian region.

2.	Define	Globalis	ation.
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- **3.** Why were the Indian leaders reluctant in accepting the principle of linguistic reorganization of states of Indian Union just after Independence?
- 4. What in your opinion was the main reason behind the dissolution of Janta party in 1980?
- **5.** Give one reason in support of the construction of SardarSarover Dam on river narmada.
- In spite of being a major threat to international peace and security, nuclear weapons did play an important role in deterring the outbreak of III world war during cold war period. Comment.
- 7. Non alignment policy should not be equated with the policy of isolationism. Do you agree with the above statement? Support your stand with two suitable arguments. 2

- 8. Mention any four reforms proposed by UNCTAD in 1972 to reform the global trading 2 system.
- 9. Do you agree with the opinion that Globalization leads to the shrinking of the rich cultural heritage of the entire globe. Elaborate your answer with two suitable arguments. 2

10. How have different social and pressure groups resisted against globalization in India? 2 11. Mention the various steps undertaken by IMF and World Bank to make a total transition from communism to capitalism in Russia, East European countries and Central Asian republics of erstwhile USSR. 4 4

12. Examine the reasons responsible for the disintegration of USSR.

13. How was Chinese path of market economy different from the one adopted in Russia? 4 14. The concept of cooperative security is more effective in dealing with various contemporary threats to security. Justify the statement with any four suitable points. 4 15. What were the major land reforms initiated by the government of India? Why some of these land reforms became unsuccessful in India? 4 16. Highlight the crucial issues over which a broad consensus have emerged amongst different political partiesin India. 4 17. Read the passage and answer the following questions:

The growing focus on environmental issues within the arena of global politics was firmly consolidated at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held at Rio de Janerio, Brazil in June 1992. This was also called the Earth Summit...What was obvious at the Rio summit was the rich and the developed countries of the first world generally referred to as the 'Global North' were pursuing a different environmental agenda than the poor and the developing countries of the III world called the 'Global South...The differences in their approach culminated into the adoption of the principle called "Common but differentiated responsibilities".

- a. Why was the environmental concern of the first world different from that of the III world? 2
- b. In what ways the principle of 'Common but differentiated responsibilities' helped in addressing and overcoming the differences between the 'Global North' and 'Global South'? 3

18. Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions:

The first general election was the first big test of democracy in a poor & illiterate country. Till then democracy had existed only in the prosperous countries, mainly in Europe and North America, where nearly everyone was literate. By that time, many countries in Europe had not given voting rights to all women. In this context India's experiment with universal

adult franchise appeared to be very bold and risky. An Indian editor called it "the biggest gamble in history". Organiser, a magazine wrote that JawaharLal Nehru "would live to confess the failure of universal adult franchise in India"...but when the general elections were held it was admired equally by the observers outside India also. The Indian experiment had proved the critics wrong. Itin fact became a landmark in the history of democracy all over the world.

- a) How first general elections of 1952 became a major landmark in the history of democracy all over the world?
- b) What problems did election commission confront while holding the first general elections in the country?

2

3

19. Read the passage given below and answer the following questions:

The Emergency and the period around it can be described as a period of constitutional crisis because it had its origin in the constitutional battle over the jurisdiction of the Parliament and the Judiciary...The emergency at once brought out both the weaknesses and strengths of Indian democracy. These critical years of emergency taught the most valuable and lasting lessons for the generations to come.

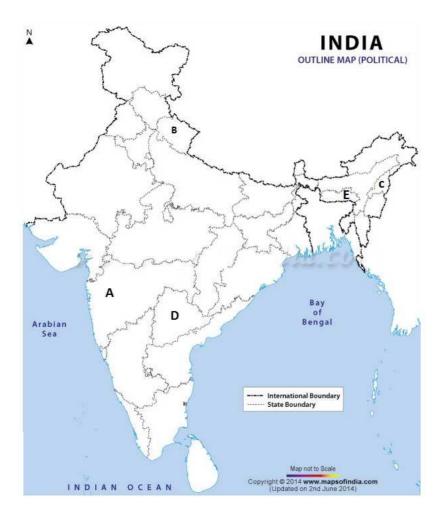
- a) On what ground did Indira Gandhi impose National emergency in India?
- b) Which two developments further added tensions between Judiciary and executive other than constitutional battle over the jurisdiction of the Parliament and judiciary?2
- c) State any two important lessons learnt from the emergency period in India. 2

20. On the basis of your interpretation of the cartoon given below, answer the following questions:



- I. Do you consider China effective enough to challenge the pre eminent position of US in the world? Evaluate China's role as an alternative centre of power to US in this direction.
 3
- II. Suggest any two effective strategies to deal with US hegemony in the contemporary world order. 2

21. In the given political map of India, five places are marked as A, B, C, D and E. Identify them with the help of information given below and write their correct names in the answer book along with their serial numbers and the alphabet concerned.



- i. A state which declared its Independence from India in 1951
- ii. A state that was carved out of Assam in 1972
- iii. A state where chipko movement was carried out
- iv. A latest state of Indian Union
- v. A state where an organization of Dalit Panthers was formed.

22. Explain any three factors that are responsible the failure of building a stable democratic rule in Pakistan. (2+2+2)

OR

Describe the series of events that led to the formation of Bangladesh.

23. Although UN has failed to act as an effective check on the hegemony of US, nations prefer its continuation. Suggest any three suitable arguments to justify the relevance of UN in the post cold war era. (2+2+2)

OR

Highlight any three important changes that have been brought about at the international level after the end of cold war.

24. How the process of formation of states on the basis of language changed the nature of democratic politics in India? 6

OR

Examine the three challenges that India faced at the time of Independence. (2+2+2)

25. In spite of strongly propagating for nuclear disarmament since Independence, India herself became nuclear in 1998. Analyze the reasons behind this development and also highlight important features of India's nuclear policy. (3+3)

OR

In spite of improved economic ties with China in the post cold war period, much of hostility in Sino Indian relations revolve around the issues of Tibet conflict and border dispute. In the light of the above statement explain the origin of both the conflicts. (3+3)

26. The socio - economic and political context of 1967 elections had a profound impact on its electoral verdict. In the light of the above statement explain the context of 1967 elections.

6

OR

Analyze the reasons responsible for the spilt of congress in 1969.

27. Throw some light on the internal dimension of the problem of Jammu and Kashmir. 6

OR

Examine the growth and characteristics of BhartiyaKisan Union.

POLITICAL SCIENCE (028)

Marking Scheme – Set II

CLASS – XII (2015-16)

- 1. Sri Lanka
- 2. Globalization as a concept fundamentally deals with the flow ideas, people, commodities and capital from one part of the world to another.
- 3. After communal partition, the Indian leaders felt that carving out states on the basis of language might lead to further disruption and disintegration of the country.
- 4. It lacked direction, leadership and a common programme.
- 5. Its advocates say that it would benefit huge areas Gujarat and three adjoining states in terms of availability of drinking water and water for irrigation, generation of electricity and increase in agricultural production.
- 6. A) The concept of logic of deterrence played a vital role in averting the outbreak of another world war. It implies that when two rival powers are in possession of nuclear weapons capable of inflicting death and destruction unacceptable to each other, a full fledged war is unlikely.

B) Thus, the cold war in spite of being an intense form of rivalry between great powers remained cold and not hot shooting war.

7. Non alignment policy cannot be equated as a policy of isolationism on the two basis:

a) Non alignment is not isolationism since isolationism means remaining aloof from the world affairs.

b) It sums up the foreign policy of the US from the American war of Independence in 1787 up to the beginning of the First World War.

8. The report proposed a reform of the global trading system so as to:

i) give the LDCs control over their natural resources exploited by the developed western world,

ii) Obtain access to Western markets so that the LDCs could sell their products and, therefore, make trade more beneficial for the poorer countries,

iii) reduce the cost of technology from the western countries, and

iv) provide the LDCs with a greater role in international economic institutions.

9. I) The Critics of globalization believe that this process pose a threat to rich cultural heritage of the world. It does so, because leads to the rise of a uniform culture or cultural homogenization. The rise of this uniform culture is not the emergence of a global culture. What we have in the name of the global culture is the imposition of western culture on the rest of the world.

II) The culture of politically and economically dominant society leaves its imprint on the less powerful society, and the world begins to look more like the dominant power wishes it to be.

10. A) Resistance to Globalization has come from different quarters. There have been left wing protests to economic liberalization voiced through political parties as well as through forums like The Indian social Forum.

B)Trade unions of industrial work force as well those representing farmers interests have organized protests against the entry of multi nationals.

11. The various steps undertaken by IMF, World Bank to make a transition from communism to capitalism are as follows:

a) Each of these countries was required to make a total shift to a capitalist economy, which meant rooting out completely any structure evolved during the Soviet period.

b) It meant that private ownership was to be the dominant pattern of ownership of property. Privatization of the state assets and corporate ownership patterns were to be immediately brought in.

c) Collective farms were to be replaced by private farming and capitalism in agriculture.

d) Development was now to be envisaged through more trade, and thus a sudden and complete switch to free trade was considered essential. The free trade regime and foreign direct investment (FDI) were the main engines of change.

12. The main reasons responsible for the disintegration of USSR were:(1x4=4)Political limitations of the Soviet System:-

- I. The Soviet system became very bureaucratic and authoritarian, making life very difficult for its citizens. Lack of democracy and the absence of freedom of speech stifled people who often expressed their dissent in jokes and cartoons.
- II. Most of the institutions of the Soviet State needed reforms: the one party system represented by the Communist party of the Soviet Union had tight control over all institutions and was unaccountable.

Economic limitations:

- I. Economic stagnation for many years led to severe consumer shortages and a large section of Soviet society began to doubt and question the system.
- II. The Soviet economy used much of its resources in maintain a nuclear and military arsenals and the development of the satellite states in Eastern Europe and within the Soviet system. This led to huge economic burden that the system could not cope with.

13. Russia and China adopted two different paths of market economy.

- In Russia the concept of market economy was brought forward by IMF and World Bank and the Russian government was not allowed to take part in this process. In china the state played and continues to play a central role in setting up a market economy.
- In Russia, the transition from communism to capitalism was sudden and complete. It meant rooting out completely any structure evolved during Soviet period. China on the other hand, followed their own path of market economy. It did not go for 'shock thearpy' but opened its economy step by step.
- The shock therapy brought ruins to the Russian economy. Their large state controlled industrial complex collapsed as about 90 percent of its industries were put up for sale to private individuals and companies. Since restructuring was carried out through market forces and not by government directed industrial policies, it led to the virtual disappearance of entire industries. The new economic policies helped the Chinese economy to break away from stagnation. The Chinese economy, including Industry and agriculture grew at a faster scale.
- China has become the most important destination for foreign direct Investment anywhere in the world. It has large foreign exchange reserves that now allow it to make big investments in other countries. As a result of 'shock therapy', the value of Ruble, the Russian currency declined dramatically. The real GDP of Russia in 1999 was below what it was in 1989.Ten years after the introduction of Shock therapy, Russia could revive its economy. (1x4=4)

14. i) It is widely believed that Cooperation rather than military confrontation is required in order to deal with various contemporary threats to security.

ii) Cooperation can be bilateral, regional, continental or global. It would depend upon the nature of the threat and the willingness and ability of the countries to perform.

iii) Cooperative security may also involve the variety of other players, both international and national- international organizations, non-governmental organizations etc.
iv) Co-operative security may require the use of force as a last resort. The international community may have to sanction the use of force as a last resort. (1x4=4)

15. The major land reforms carried in India were: (2x2=4)

i) Abolition of Zamindari system, ii) Consolidation of small land holdings and iii) Putting an upper limit or ceiling on the maximum amount of land one can possess.

- Some of these land reforms could not be properly implemented in India because the landowners were very powerful and yielded lot of political influence.
- As a result these land reforms were either not translated into laws or when made into laws, they remained only on papers.

16. The consensus consists of four elements: (to be explained) (1x4=4)

- First, agreement on new economic policies.
- Second, acceptance of the political and social claims of the backward castes.

- Third, acceptance of the role of the state level parties in governance of the country.
- Fourth, emphasis on pragmatic considerations rather than ideological positions and political alliances without ideological agreement.

17. a. The developed countries of the first world generally referred to as "Global North"

were concerned with ozone depletion and global warming, whereas the developing countries of the third world called the "Global South" were anxious to address the relationship between economic development and environmental management.

b. 1. There were major differences between the countries of the North and the South over environmental issues. The developed countries of the North wanted everyone to be made equally responsible for ecological conservation. The Global South on the other hand felt that much of the environmental degradation caused today is the result of economic activities pursued by the Global North. Hence they believed that the Global North owes a greater responsibility of undoing the damage now.

b 2. Moreover, the developing countries are undergoing a process of industrialization and they should not be subjected to the same restrictions which apply to the developed countries.

b 3. These two concerns were effectively addressed by the Principle of 'Common but differentiated responsibilities'. It accepted that the special needs of the developing countries be taken into consideration and in view of different contributions of global environmental degradation, states have common but differentiated responsibilities. (2+3)

18. a) The first general election was also the first big test of democracy in a poor and illiterate country. Till then democracy had existed only in the prosperous countries, mainly Europe and America. It was now proved that democratic elections on the basis of Universal adult franchise can be held in the condition of lack of education or conditions of poverty.

b) The problems that the Election commission confront while holding the first general elections were:

- Holding an election required delimitation or drawing the boundaries of the electoral constituencies. This task took lot of time.
- It also required to prepare the electoral rolls. When the first draft of the rolls was published, names of nearly 40 lakh women were not recorded in the list. So it had to be prepared again.
- At the time of first general elections, there were 17 crore eligible voters, who had to elect about 32000 MLAs and 489 members of Lok Sabha. Only 15 percent of these eligible voters were literate. The EC therefore had to think about some special method of voting. (2+3=5)

19. a) Indira Gandhi imposed national emergency on the ground of 'internal disturbances'.

b) i) The controversial appointment of the Chief Justice of India further increased the tension between the two main organs. (1+1=2)

ii) The verdict of Allahabad High court declared Indira Gandhi's election of 1971 as invalid. (To be explained)

c) i) It brought out some ambiguities regarding the emergency provision in the Indian constitution. Now internal emergency can be proclaimed only on the grounds of 'armed rebellion 'and it is necessary that the advice to the President to proclaim Emergency must be given in writing by the council of ministers.

ii) The emergency made every one more aware of the value of civil liberties. The Courts too, have taken up an active role in protecting the civil liberties of individuals. (1+1=2)

20. I) The rise of Chinese economy as a result of new economic policies have greatly contributed to the rise of Chinese economy as an alternative center of power in the world. The current strength of Chinese economy is as follows: (1x3=3)

- China has been the fastest growing economy since the reforms first began there. It is projected to overtake US as the world's largest economy by 2040.
- Its economic integration into the region makes it the driver of East Asian growth, thereby giving it an enormous influence in regional affairs.
- Regionally and globally, china has become an economic power to reckon with. The integration of the china's economy and the interdependencies that that this has created have enabled China to have considerable with its trade partners like Japan, US, ASEAN and Russia.

II) The two strategies to deal with US hegemony are: (1+1=2)

- Bandwagon strategy: It is suggested that instead of engaging in activities opposed to the hegemonic power, it may be advisable to extract benefits by operating within the hegemonic system. This is called the 'bandwagon strategy'.
- Strategy to 'hide': This implies staying as far as possible removed from the dominant power. There are many examples of this behavior- China, Russia, EU – all of them, in different ways, are seeking to stay below the radar and not overly and unduly antagonize US.
- 21.

i) Nagaland

- ii) Meghalaya E
- iiii) Uttrakhand B

С

- iv) Telangana D
- v) Maharashtra A

22. The factors responsible for failure of building a stable democratic rule in Pakistan are as follows: (2+2+2=6)

- The social dominance of the military, clergy and landowning aristocracy has led to frequent overthrow of elected governments and establishment of military governments.
- Pakistan's conflict with India also made the pro military groups more powerful.
 These groups have often said that political parties and democracy in Pakistan are flawed,

that Pakistan's security would be harmed by selfish minded parties and chaotic democracy and that army's stay in power is, therefore, justified.

• The lack of genuine international support for democratic rule in Pakistan has further encouraged military to continue its dominance.

OR

The series of events that led to the formation of Bangladesh are:

(1x6=6)

- The people of East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) resented the domination of western Pakistan and imposition of Urdu language.
- Soon after partition, they began protests against the unfair treatment meted out to the Bengali culture and language. They also demanded fair representation in administration and a fair share in political power.
- Sheikh Mujibur Rehman led the popular struggle against West Pakistani domination. He demanded autonomy for the eastern region. In 1970 elections in the then Pakistan, the Awami league led by ShiekhMujib won all seats in East Pakistan and secured majority in the proposed constituent assembly for the whole of Pakistan. But the government dominated by the West Pakistan refused to convene the assembly.
- ShiekhMujib was arrested and under the military rule of General Yahya Khan, the Pakistani army tried to suppress the mass movement of the Bengali people. This led to large scale migration into India, creating huge refugee problem for India.
- The government of India supported the demands of the people of east Pakistan for their Independence and helped them financially and militarily
- This resulted in a war between India and Pakistan in December 1971 that ended in the formation of Bangladesh as an independent nation.
- 23. Relevance of UN In the post-cold war period:

(2+2+2=6)

- In the unipolar world the UN can and has served to bring US and rest of the world into discussion on various issues.
- US leaders, in spite of their frequent criticisms of the UN, do see the organization as serving a purpose in bringing together over 190 nations in dealing with conflict and social economic development. The UN does provide a space with in which arguments against specific US attitudes and policies are heard and compromises and concession can be shaped.
- Given the growing connections and links between societies and various issues of Interdependence, the importance and role of UN is likely to increase in future.

OR

The three changes that have taken place at the international level in the postcold war period are as follows:

i)The emergence of a unipolar world after the disintegration of USSR has led to the rise of US hegemony at the International level. The rise of a debate between Unipolar and multipolar world order.

- ii) The rise of various constraints on US hegemony and the emergence various alternatives centres of powers in the world.
- iii) A whole new sets of challenges confronts the world today genocide, civil war, ethnic conflicts, terrorism, climate change , nuclear proliferation, epidemics etc. (to be explained) (2+2+2=6)

24. The linguistic states and the movements for the formation of these states changed the nature of democratic politics and leadership in some basic ways:

- A. The path to politics and power was now open to people other than the small English speaking elite.
- B. Linguistic reorganization also gave some uniform basis to the drawing of state boundaries.
- C. It did not lead to the disintegration of the country as many had feared earlier. On the contrary, it strengthened national unity.
- D. The linguistic states underlined the acceptance of the principle of diversity. India's democratic experience was a choice in favor of recognizing and accepting the existence of differences which could at times be oppositional.

(Any three points with explanation) (2+2+2=6) OR

The three challenges that India faced at the time of Independence were:

(to be explained) (2+2+2=6)

- a) Challenge of Nation building
- b) Challenge of establishment of democracy
- c) Achievement of high levels of economic growth with the principles of social Justice.

25. Reasons for becoming nuclear:

- India shares hostile relations with its two immediate neighbours China and Pakistan. There was a direct threat to India's national security as China was already a nuclear state and had a war with India in 1962. Both the countries do not share very cordial relations with each other.
- Pakistan was also preparing to become nuclear with the help of Chinese government. So in order to preserve its national security, it was equally important for India to become a nuclear state.

Features of India's nuclear policy:

 India believes in both horizontal and vertical nuclear disarmament. It is ready to disarm its nuclear weapons if all other counties of the world possessing nuclear weapons also disarm their nuclear weapons.

- India has committed that it will never initiate a nuclear war against any country and will use nuclear weapons only for defensive purpose..
- It will try to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and would possess only minimum nuclear deterrence.
- India strongly opposes NPT and CTBT treaties as they were seen unjust and discriminatory.
- It reiterates India's commitment to global, verifiable and nondiscriminatory nuclear disarmament leading to a nuclear weapon free world.

OR

Tibet conflict:

(3+3=6)

- a) In 1950 China took control over Tibet which was a buffer state for India and China and was very crucial for India's territorial integrity also. There was lot of opposition from the people of Tibet also. India tried to persuade Chinese government but all the attempts failed.
- b) When the 'Panchsheel 'agreement was signed between India and China in 1954, through one of its clauses about respecting each other's territorial integrity and sovereignity, India concede China's claim over Tibet.
- c) In 1958 there was an armed uprising in Tibet against Chinese control. This was suppressed by the Chinese forces. As a result of it Dalai Lama, the Spiritual along with many of his followers fled Tibet and cane to India. Indian government granted political asylum to Dalai Lama. This act was regarded as an enemy like act by the Chinese government and since then this issue continues to disturb Sino Indian relations.

The Border Dispute

- A boundary dispute had also surfaced between India and China in late 1950s. India claimed that the matter was settled in colonial time, but China said that any colonial decision did not apply.
- ii. The main dispute was about the western and eastern end of the long border. China claimed two areas within the Indian territory: Aksai Chin area in the Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir and much of the state of Arunachal Pradesh in what was then called NEFA.

iii. From 1957 to 1959, Chinese occupied the Aksai Chin area and built a strategic road there. While the entire world's attention was on the Cuban crisis involving the two super powers, China launched swift and massive invasion in October 1962 on the disputed regions. The Indian forces could block the Chinese advances on the western front in Ladakh, in the east the Chinese managed to advance nearly to the entry point of Assam plains. Finally China declared unilateral cease fire and were able to capture some key areas in Arunachal Pradesh.

26. The socio economic context of 1967 elections:(2+2+2=6)

- This period was fraught with grave economic crisis resulting from successive failure of monsoons, widespread droughts, decline in agricultural production, serious food shortage, depletion of foreign exchange reserve, and drop in industrial production combined with sharp rise in military expenditure and diversion of resources from planning and economic development.
- The economic situation triggered off price rise. People started protesting against increase in prices of essential commodities, food scarcity and growing unemployment and overall economic condition of the country. Moreover the communist and the socialist launched struggles for greater equality.
- Politically a wave of 'non congressism" swept all across the country. Parties opposed to congress realized that the division of their votes kept Congress in power. Thus parties that were entirely different and disparate in their programmers' and ideology got together to form anti Congress fronts in different states.

OR

i.

The reasons responsible for the congress spilt were : (1x6=6)

- A) Indira Gandhi's growing differences with the Syndicate: The Syndicate had played an important role in the installation of Indira Gandhi as the Prime Minister by ensuring her elections as the leader of the parliamentary party. These leaders expected Indira Gandhi to follow their advice but Indira Gandhi gradually attempted to assert her position within the party and chose her trusted group of advisors from outside the party. She stated sidelining syndicate.
 - B) She got the congress working committee accept the Ten Point programme in May 1967.while the syndicate leaders

formally approved this left wing programme, they had serious reservations about the same.

C) Morarji Desai resigned as Deputy PM and Finance Minister, as serious differences arose between The two leaders over Indira Gandhi's decision of abolition of "Privy purse" and several other big socialist measures and her encouragement to V V. Giri to file his nomination for Presidential elections.

ii) Immediate cause : Presidential elections ,1969:

- a) The post of President of India fell vacant in 1969 after the death of Zakir Hussain. Despite Mrs. Gandhi's reservation, Syndicate managed to nominate her long time opponent, N. Sanjeeva Reddy, as the official candidate for the ensuing Presidential elections. Indira Gandhi retaliated by encouraging the then Vice President V.V.Giri to file his nomination as an Independent candidate.
- b) Despite syndicate's resistance, the PM openly called for a "conscience vote" which meant that MPs and MLAs should be free to vote the way they want.
- c) The elections ultimately resulted in the victory of V.V.Giri, the independent candidate and the defeat of Sanjeeva Reddy, the Official Congress candidate. This led to the spilt of the congress into two parties-Congress (R) and Congress (o).

27. Internal dimension of the problem of Jammu and Kashmir:

- The Internal dimension of the problem of Jammu and Kashmir revolved around article 370 of the Indian Constitution. This special status has provoked two opposite reactions. There is a section of people outside J&K that believes that the special status of the state under article 370 does not allow full integration of state with India. This section feels that article 370 should be revoked and J&K should like any other state of Indian Union.
- Another section mostly Kashmiris, believe that the autonomy conferred by article 370 is not enough. A section of Kashmiris have expressed at least three grievances in this regard:
 - First, the promise that accession would be referred to the people of the state after the situation created by tribal invasion was normalized has not been fulfilled. This has generated a demand for Plebiscite.

- II. Secondly, there is a feeling that special federal status guaranteed by article 370, has been eroded in practice. This has led to the demand for Greater state Autonomy.
- III. Thirdly, it is felt that democracy which is practiced in rest of India has not been similarly institutionalized in the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

OR

Growth and Characteristics of Bhartiya Kisan Union:

- a) It is an organization of farmers from the Western UP and Haryana regions. It is one of the leading organizations in the farmers' movement in the eighties. The Meerut agitations of farmers were seen as a great show of rural power- power of framer cultivators.
- b) The BKU demanded higher government floor prices for sugarcane and wheat, abolition of restrictions on the inert state movement of the farm produce, guaranteed supply of electricity at reasonable rates, waiving of repayments due on loans to farmers and provision of government pension for farmers.
- c) Activities conducted by the BKU to pressurize the state for accepting its demands included rallies, demonstrations, sit - ins, and Jail bharo agitations.
- d) Another novel aspect of this mobilization was the use of caste linkages of farmers. Most of BKU members belonged to single community.
- e) In spite of lack of any formal organization, the BKU could sustain itself for a long time because it was based on clan networks among its members.
- f) This organization, along with the other farmers' organizations across states, did manage to get some of their economic demands accepted.