

HOTS (Higher Order Thinking Skills)

Q.1. What was the main objective of 'Dalit Panthers'?

Ans. Dalit Panthers wanted to abolish the Caste system and on its place wanted to build an organisation with all the oppressed classes like the urban industrial workers, Dalits and the landless poor peasants.

Q.2. What were the two main demands of the Bharatiya Kisan Union in 1980s?

Ans. The two main demands were:

- (i) They wanted the government to hike floor prices for sugarcane and wheat.
- (ii) Guaranteed supply of electricity at reasonable rates.

Q.3. What was the main demand of the Narmada Bachao Andolan?

Ans. Its main demand was proper rehabilitation of all those to be affected from the construction of dam projects on river Narmada.

Q.4. What was the demand of the Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan?

Ans. They demanded the records of famine relief and accounts of the labourers and other information from the panchayat.

Q.5. What were the main demands of the 'Chipko Movement'?

Ans. The main demands were:

- (i) The forest contracts should not be given to outside contractors.
- (ii) The villagers wanted the effective control on natural resources like land, forests and water.
- (iii) They wanted the government to approve low cost material to small industries and also the regional development without disturbance in ecological balance.
- (iv) The movement demanded guaranteed minimum wages for the landless forest workers.

Q.6. From where did the Arrack-movement begin and what was its impact?

Ans. It originated from a National Literacy Mission in Andhra Pradesh. It was an unplanned movement in a remote village against alcohol mafia, which was supported by women in Nellore district and was soon adopted by the other districts of Andhra Pradesh.

Q.7. State any two main demands of the Anti-arrack movement.

Ans. The main demands were:

- (i) Prohibition on the sale of alcohol
- (ii) Action against the alcohol mafia by the State government.

Q.8. How are party-based movement different from the non-party movement?

Ans. The party movements are in support of the political parties or either supported by political parties, such as Trade Unions in Kanpur, Kolkata and Mumbai, etc. On the other hand, a non-party movement consists of particular sections of society, such as women that protest through mass-mobilisation without any association to a political party. Generally, voluntary organisation participate in non-party movement.

Q.9. What was the method of protest during the Chipko Movement?

Ans. During the Chipko movement, the villagers, especially the women began to hug the trees so that they may not be cut down. They provided protective shields to their local forests against chopping.

Q.10. Why did the Narmada Bachao Andolan oppose the dam projects in the Narmada Valley?

Ans. There were several concerns regarding the Narmada Bachao Andolan. Few are as follows:

- (i) The Nature and the ecological balance were getting disturbed because of the construction of these dams.
- (ii) There was a demand for cost benefit analysis of the major developmental projects, as because of it, 245 villages were getting submerged.
- (iii) They also demanded a proper rehabilitation of two and a half lakh people, who were to be relocated because of this construction.

Q.11. State any two main demands of the Narmada Bachao Andolan.

[CBSE (AI) 2015]

Ans. Main demands of the Narmada Bachao Andolan:

- (i) The Movement demanded proper and just rehabilitation of all those who are directly or indirectly affected by the project.
- (ii) The NBA insisted that local communities must have a say in such decisions and they should also have effective control over natural resources like water, land and forests.
- (iii) It demanded that, in a democracy, some people should not be made to sacrifice for benefitting others.
- (iv) It demanded to stop the construction of the dams.

(Any two demands)

Q.12. The Bharatiya Kisan Union is a leading organisation highlighting the plight of farmers. What were the issues addressed by in the 90s and to what extent were they successful?

Ans. The Bharatiya Kisan Union was movement led by the farmers against the policies of liberalisation of the Indian economy. The issues which were addressed by them were as follows:

- I. They demanded higher government floor prices for sugarcane and wheat.
- II. Guaranteed supply of electricity at reasonable rates.
- III. Pension to be provided to farmers.
- IV. Abolition of restrictions on the interstate movement of farm produce.
- V. The loans of the farmers to be waived off.

The success of the movement was:

- I. The Bharatiya Kisan Union became the most successful social movement.
- II. The networks among its members mobilised the resources, activities and funds of the movement.
- III. Bharatiya Kisan Union also dominated the regional electoral politics.

Q.13. The anti-arrack movement in Andhra Pradesh drew the attention of the country to some serious issues. What were these issues?

Ans. The anti-arrack movement drew the attention to:

- i. In this movement, the rural women of Andhra Pradesh protested against alcoholism, government and mafias.
- ii. The movement originated from the adult literacy drive, where women complained about the increasing consumption of the locally brewed alcohol by the men of their families.
- iii. There were protest organised by the women of Nellore against the arrack and there was a forced closure of the wine shops. Slowly this movement spread to other states.

The main issues were:

- i. The main of this movement was to prohibit the sale of arrack.
- ii. Its demand affected a broader section of society, economy and politics which were also related to crime and politics.
- iii. It gave women a platform to openly discuss the issues of domestic violence, sexual violence, and dowry.

Q.14. What are the shortcomings of popular movements?

Ans. The shortcomings of popular movements are:

- i. The real life impact of these movements on the nature of public policies seems to be very limited. This is because, most of the contemporary movements focus on a single issue and represent the interest of one section of society.
- ii. Collective actions such as strikes, sit-ins and rallies disrupt the functioning of the government, delay decision making and destabilise the routines of democracy.
- iii. There has been a drift in popular movements and movements by political parties due to vote bank politics.

Q.15. Would you consider the anti-arrack movement as a women's movement? Why?

Ans. Yes, I would consider the Anti-arrack movement as a part of women's movement as it provided them with a platform to discuss private issues of domestic violence, sexual violence and dowry. Women joined the campaign against dowry and demanded personal and property laws based on gender equality. These campaigns contributed in increasing social awareness. The movement later demanded equal representation to women in politics during the 90s. Therefore, women were granted reservation in local level political offices by the 73rd and 74th amendments. Thus it can be considered as a women's movement.

Q.16. Do movements and protests in a country strengthen democracy? Justify your answer with examples.

[CBSE Delhi 2012]

Ans. Yes, to some extent the movements and protests do strengthen a country's democracy but it does have both for and against arguments, which are as follows:

Arguments in favour:

- i. Some movements do resolve some problems at a democratic level such as – Chipko movement, Anti-arrack movement, etc.
- ii. These movements had representations from various social groups, which avoided any social conflict on a democratic level.
- iii. It gave a broader participation of groups in society – Dalit Panthers, anti-arrack movement, etc.

Arguments against:

- i. These movements delay the decision making process and disrupt the functioning of the democracy.
- ii. The issues of marginal groups are not taken by the political parties.
- iii. With time, a gap has got created between political parties and movements, resulting in a weaker relationship between them.

Q.17. What is Sardar Sarovar Project? Which benefits are expected to be if the project becomes successful? Also state the issues of relocation and rehabilitation associated with it.

[CBSE Delhi 2016]

Ans. Sardar Sarovar Project is a dam project being constructed on the river Narmada. The project is associated primarily with Gujarat and has Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra as partners. The project is expected to produce drinking water, water for irrigation, produce electricity and help in combating drought. The project is expected to dislocate about 245 villages and about 2.5 lakh people. The people have to be provided with housing and livelihood. The Narmada Bachao Andolan was started to support the people for adequate relief and compensation and oppose the Sardar Sarovar Project.

Q.18. Suppose you are an important leader of the Farmers' agitation. The government authorities ask you to present any three demands on behalf of the farmers. On priority basis, which three demands will you make? Support your demands with appropriate arguments.

[CBSE Delhi 2015]

Ans. These demands may be:

- i. Free electricity for agriculture.
- ii. Minimum Support Price for the agricultural produce should be enhanced.
- iii. Agricultural insurance for all the farmers.
- iv. No ban on movement of agricultural products from one state to other states.

(Any three to be supported with arguments)