

## **HOTS (Higher Order Thinking Skills)**

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**Q.1. Why was North East divided into seven small states?**

**Ans.** These states were having movements and agitations demanding independence.

**Q.2. What changes were made in North East after 1947?**

**Ans.** Tripura, Manipur and Meghalaya were separate princely states, which later united with India.

**Q.3. Mention one reason for the origin of regionalism.**

**Ans.** Imbalance in the field of economic development gives rise to regionalism.

**Q.4. What is the difference between regionalism and Isolationism?**

**Ans.** Regionalism is about giving importance to the people living in a particular area, their culture, language and their rights etc. whereas isolationism is an inspiration of making a region into an independent nation.

**Q.5. Justify that 'Regionalism is not as dangerous as Communalism'.**

**[CBSE (AI) 2015]**

**Ans.** Under Regionalism, the set of demands raised by the people are for the development of that particular region within the country, which is the key feature of democracy, whereas communalism represents the demands of a particular religious community for a separate independent region to rule over or for their own vested interests.

**Q.6. What were the Complaints of the people of Kashmir?**

**Ans.** India did not fulfil its promise of discussing the matter of taking public opinion on Kashmir being a part of India.

- i. India did not fulfil its promise of discussing the matter of taking public opinion on Kashmir being a part of India.
- ii. India did not fulfil its promise of discussing the matter of taking public opinion on Kashmir being a part of India.

**Q.7. Why the region of North East considered sensitive?**

**Ans.** The region of North East is different from the rest of its regions. It has a low economy compared to other parts of India. It also has a complex culture. This region has the longest International borders of India and a lot of movements take place here demanding independent nation. That is why it is known as a sensitive region.

**Q.8. What viewpoint has India adopted on the question of diversity?**

**Ans.** India adopted a democratic viewpoint on this as democracy could accommodate regional aspirations on political front. Due to this, regionalism would not be considered against the nation. Formation of parties, regional identity, aspirations, and fighting for specific regional issues are some of the rights given by the democracy. Due to this, the regions get strengthened and there are regional aspirations. The region highlight their issues to the government and an action is taken accordingly

**Q.9. 'Jammu and Kashmir is a live example of pluralistic society and politics'. Explain.**

**Ans.** It is a live example as it is filled with regional variations, whether it's a religious variation, cultural, linguistic or tribal. It also has variations in its political aspirations, which are based on their diversity. On the other side, there is a struggle and tension in the state. In spite of that the pluralistic secular culture is surviving there.

**Q.10. Describe the outcomes of Assam Accord of 1985.**

**Ans.** The Assam Accord was signed between Rajiv Gandhi and AASU leaders over the issue of 'outsiders' in 1985. The outcome was to identify and deport the foreigners who migrated to Assam after the Bangladesh war. In 1985, the Asom Gana Parishad came in to power with the promise of building 'Golden Assam' and resolving the foreign national problems.

**Q.11. Regional demands from different parts of India exemplify the principle of unity with diversity. Do you agree? Give reasons.**

**[NCERT]**

**Ans.** Yes, I agree with the above statement because the question of diversity in India followed the path of democracy.

- i. Democracy gives room for realisation of political aspirations of regionalism and does not regard them as anti-national. Democratic politics even allows parties and groups to address people in terms of their regional identity, aspirations and specific regional issues.
- ii. In the policy making process, the democratic politics focuses on the regional problems and issues to receive adequate accommodation and attention such as regional aspiration of Assam, Punjab, Kashmir, North-East, etc.
- iii. One of the examples in the eighties is when military erupted in Punjab, students agitations in Assam and problems continued in North-East.
- iv. The government of India agreed on some negotiations with these regional aspirations to reduce tensions in many regions.
- v. An example of political settlement would be Mizoram, where problem of separation was resolved.

**Q.12. While trying to forge and retain unity in diversity in India, there are many difficult issues which are yet to be tackled. Describe any three such areas of tension.**

**[CBSE Delhi 2016]**

**Ans.** The difficult issues in trying to forge unity in diversity are:

- i. There have been issues in trying to accommodate particular people of Kashmir in Jammu & Kashmir, Nagaland and Mizoram into the Union of India. This has led to the rise of militancy within these States and imposition of heavy security. The issues have been used by other countries to weaken India also.
- ii. There has been continuous demand for smaller States based on language in India. This has led to agitations within many parts and has been difficult issue to have every language be accommodated in a form of a new State.
- iii. There had been riots and conflicts based on identity politics, religion or ethnicity. This has weakened the unity of India.

**Q.13. All regional movements need not lead separatist demands. Explain by giving examples from this chapter.**

**[NCERT]**

**Ans.** Regional aspirations are also part of democratic politics. Expression of regional issues is not an abnormal aspect. Nations like Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland have regional aspirations in United Kingdom. Regional aspirations are responded through democratic negotiations and not suppression. Example of it can be seen in the 80s, with the military eruption in Punjab, students agitated in North-East and Kashmir had movements and protests. Mizoram is an example where political negotiations were made to settle the issue of separation.

**Q.14. Explain the internal divisions of the State of Jammu and Kashmir and describe how these lead to multiple regional aspirations in that State.**

**[NCERT]**

**Ans.** Jammu and Kashmir consists of three regions:

- i. Kashmir valley comprises of Kashmiri speaking Muslims and minority Hindus.
- ii. Whereas Jammu region comprises of Hindu, Sikh and Muslims and speakers of various languages.
- iii. Ladakh is a less populated area where the population is equally divided between Muslims and Buddhists.

**The following internal divisions led to multiple regional aspirations –**

- i. There was a demand of a separate independent Kashmiri nation by one group of separatists.
- ii. Whereas there are some groups who demand Kashmir to merge with Pakistan.

- iii. Another group demands equal status of Kashmir as state compared to others.

**Q.15. “The accommodation of regional demands and the formation of linguistic states were also seen as more democratic.” Justify the statement with any three suitable arguments.**

**[CBSE Delhi 2016]**

**Ans.** Arguments to justify the statement:

- i. It has united the country rather than leading to disintegration.
- ii. Formation on the basis of language became a uniform basis for drawing the state boundaries.
- iii. It's almost 60 years that the formation of Linguistic States has changed the nature of democratic politics in a positive and constructive way.

**Q.16. What are the various positions on the issue of regional autonomy for Kashmir? Which of these do you think are justifiable? Give reasons for your answer.**

**Ans. (i)** The promise that Accession would be referred to the people of the State after the situation created by tribal invasion was normalised, has not been fulfilled. This has generated the demand for a 'Plebiscite'. But the promise was not fulfilled and therefore the people demanded 'Plebiscite'.

**(ii)** Another demand of the people is that according to Article 370, Kashmir holds a special federal status but it is not followed properly. Thus, it resulted in demand of restoration of autonomy or 'Greater State Autonomy'.

**(iii)** Another issue is that the democracy, which is practised in rest of India has not been practised in similar manner compared to Jammu and Kashmir. We prefer the first position because 'Plebiscite' provides better opportunity to people of J&K to protect and sustain their regional autonomy in a very democratic manner.

**Q.17. What is the social and political composition of Jammu and Kashmir? Describe the roots of 'Kashmir Issue' which compelled the Indian Government to maintain autonomy in this State.**

**[CBSE (AI) 2016]**

**Ans.** The composition of Jammu and Kashmir consists of majority of Buddhists in Ladakh region with Ladakhi language, majority Shia Muslims in Kargil region, majority Hindus in Jammu region with Dogri language and Sunni Muslims in Kashmir region with Kashmiri language. Similarly, the State consists of Kashmiri Pandits and Bakrawalas as strong minorities. The problem of the Kashmir problems stems from:

- i. The invasion of Kashmir by Pakistan in 1947, in spite of the fact that Maharaja Hari Singh acceded towards India
- ii. The support of terrorism and militancy in Kashmir by Pakistan.

- iii.** The occupancy of certain territories such as Aksai Chin and in PoK by China.
- iv.** The exodus of Kashmiri Pandits from the Kashmir region in 1989-1991.
- v.** The dispute over Article 370 and AFSPA in Kashmir. (Armed Forces Special Powers Act 1958)