

CBSE Board Examination – 2025
POLITICAL SCIENCE
Solved Paper
Class – 12th
Delhi Sets | Series: XWZY1

Time: 3 Hours

Max. Marks: 80

General Instructions:

Read the following instructions very carefully and follow them:

- (i) This question paper contains 30 questions. All questions are compulsory.
- (ii) Question paper is divided into FIVE SECTIONS – Sections A, B, C, D and E.
- (iii) Section A – question numbers 1 to 12 are Multiple Choice type questions. Each question carries 1 mark.
- (iv) Section B – question numbers 13 to 18 are Short Answer type questions. Each question carries 2 marks. Write answer to each question in 50 to 60 words.
- (v) Section C – question numbers 19 to 23 are Long Answer Type-I questions. Each question carries 4 marks. Write answer to each question in 100 to 120 words.
- (vi) Section D – question numbers 24 to 26 are Passage, Cartoon/Picture and Map-based questions. Answer each question accordingly.
- (vii) Section E – question numbers 27 to 30 are Long Answer Type-II questions. Each question carries 6 marks. Write answer to each question in 170 to 180 words.
- (viii) There is no overall choice in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in few questions. Only one of the choices in such questions has to be attempted.
- (ix) In addition to this, NOTE that a separate question has been provided for Visually Impaired candidates in lieu of questions having visual inputs, Map etc. Such questions are to be attempted by Visually Impaired candidates only.

Set-I

Q.P. Code: 59/1/1

SECTION - A

(12 × 1 = 12)

Question Nos. 1 to 12 are Multiple Choice type questions carrying 1 mark each.

1. Given below are two statements:

Statement-I: Nepal was a Hindu Kingdom in the past and then a constitutional monarchy in the modern period for many years.

Statement-II: The struggling pro-democracy forces achieved their first major victory in 2006 when the king was forced to restore the House of representatives.

Options:

- (A) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are true.
 - (B) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are false.
 - (C) Statement-I is true, but Statement-II is false.
 - (D) Statement-I is false, but Statement-II is true.
2. Which of the following events made the South Asian region a sudden focus of global attention after the cold war period?
- (A) Bangladesh War of 1971
 - (B) Ethnic conflict of Sri Lanka
 - (C) India and Pakistan both became nuclear power
 - (D) Kargil conflict between India and Pakistan.

3. Match the terms given in Column-'A' correctly with Column-'B' and choose the correct answer from the codes given below:

	Column- 'A'		Column-'B'
I.	Human Rights Watch	i.	An organ of the United Nations
II.	International Monetary Fund	ii.	An agency of the United Nations
III.	World Health Organisation	iii.	An international organisation that oversees financial institutions
IV.	General Assembly	iv.	An international NGO

Codes:

- (A) I-iii, II-i, III-iv, IV-ii
 - (B) I-iv, II-i, III-iii, IV-ii
 - (C) I-iv, II-iii, III-ii, IV-i
 - (D) I-ii, II-iv, III-iii, IV-i
4. Arrange the following in chronological order of their formation :
- I. The World Trade Organisation
 - II. World Bank
 - III. The International Atomic Energy Agency
 - IV. United Nations Organisation

Choose the correct option:

- (A) I, II, III, IV (B) II, IV, III, I
(C) IV, I, III, II (D) III, I, II, IV
5. Institutional safeguards to minimize the negative effects of globalization on those who are economically weak are known as _____.
- (A) Welfare measures
(B) Social safety nets
(C) Economic liberalization
(D) Voluntary services
6. 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):** The entry and the increased role of multinational companies all over the world leads to a reduction in the capacity of governments to take decisions on their own.
- Reason (R):** The state continues to discharge its essential functions and consciously withdraws from certain domains from which it wishes to.
- 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 incorrect, but the Reason (R) is correct.
(D) The Assertion (A) is correct, but the Reason (R) is incorrect.
7. Which one among the following statements is not the objective of NITI Aayog?
- (A) Provide a critical directional and strategic input to the development process of India.
(B) Serve as a think tank of the government both at the centre and state level.
(C) Arrange funds for the implementation of developmental programs.
(D) Seek to put an end to the slow and tardy implementation of the policies.
8. Which statement among the following is correct about the planning ideology of left wing?
- (A) The Left supports a free-market economy.
(B) They support government policies which are for the benefit of poor sections.
(C) They do not want unnecessary intervention of government in the economy.
(D) They advocate for progressive policies.
9. Identify the main reason for the split in Congress Party in 1969.
- (A) Change in the ideology of Congress Party
(B) Dominance of the Congress Syndicate
(C) Difference of opinion among the opposition parties
(D) Opposition parties came together

10. Identify and choose the incorrect pair:

- (A) Lal Bahadur Shastri - Jai Jawan Jai Kisan
(B) Indira Gandhi - Garibi Hatao
(C) Syndicate - A group of powerful opposition leaders against Indira Gandhi
(D) Grand Alliance - Formed by all Non-Congress Parties
11. BJP led alliance of 2019 is known as:
- (A) United Progressive Alliance
(B) United Front
(C) National Democratic Alliance
(D) Democratic Coalition
12. Who led the Central Government after the 1999 Lok Sabha Elections?
- (A) P.V. Narasimha Rao (B) Atal Bihari Vajpayee
(C) Manmohan Singh (D) H.D. Deve Gauda

SECTION - B

(6 × 2 = 12)

13. Can Shock Therapy be called the best way to make transition from authoritarian socialist system to liberal capitalist system after the disintegration of Soviet Union? Explain.
14. Explain any two major causes of globalization.
15. Explain the two commonly agreed upon goals of the national movement which were achieved after independence.
16. Name any four global commons.
17. State the severe economic crisis prior to the fourth general elections of 1967.
18. "Regionalism is not as dangerous as communalism." Justify the statement.

SECTION - C

(5 × 4 = 20)

19. Explain any four reasons responsible for the economic stagnation in Soviet Union.
20. (a) How is the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) a major regional initiative by South Asian states to evolve co-operation through multilateral means? Assess.

OR

- (b) "Despite the mixed record of democratic experiences, the people of South Asian countries share the aspiration for democracy." Justify the statement with two suitable arguments. (2 × 2 = 4)
21. Suggest any four steps for the Indian Government to take to check the pollution and save the environment.
22. "One party dominance did not affect the very essence of Indian democracy." Justify the statement with any two arguments.
23. (a) Describe the role of Jaya Prakash Narayan in Indian National Politics.

OR

- (b) Describe any two reasons for the victory of Janata Party in 1977 Lok Sabha elections.

SECTION - D

(3 × 4 = 12)

24. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (1 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 4)

India adopted a democratic approach to the question of diversity. Democracy allows the political expressions of regional aspirations and does not look upon them as anti-national. Besides, democratic politics allows parties and groups to address the people on the basis of their regional identity, aspiration and specific regional problems. Thus, in the course of democratic politics, regional aspirations get strengthened. At the same time, democratic politics also means that regional issues and problems will receive adequate attention and accommodation in the policy making process.

(24.1) Which period in India is seen as a period of grooming regional aspirations for autonomy?

- (A) 1960s
- (B) 1970s
- (C) 1980s
- (D) 1990s

(24.2) Which type of diversity is dominant in India?

- (A) Social diversity
- (B) Political diversity
- (C) Cultural diversity
- (D) Regional diversity

(24.3) How does democracy deal with the regional problems?

- (A) Through regular negotiations
- (B) Through strong steps
- (C) Through elections
- (D) Through economic measures

(24.4) Which one of the following joined Indian Union in 1975?

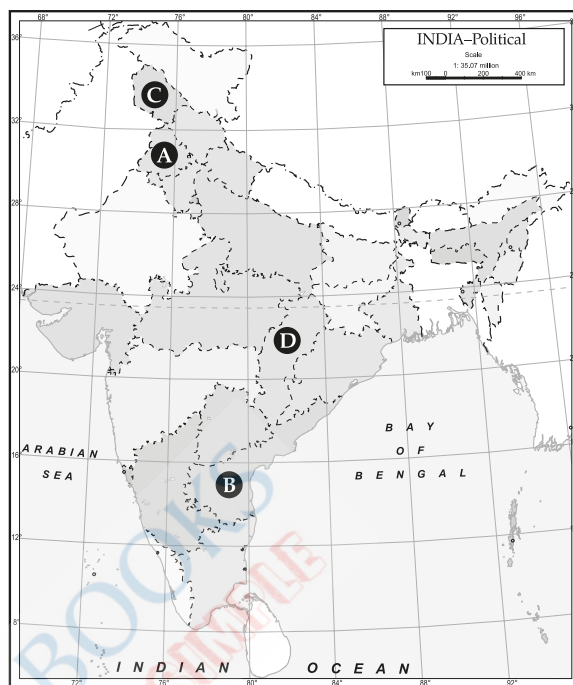
- (A) Goa
- (B) Sikkim
- (C) Puducherry
- (D) An Island

25. 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: (1 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 4)

Sr. Number of the information used	Alphabet concerned	Name of the States
(i)		
(ii)		
(iii)		
(iv)		

- (i) The Princely State whose ruler resisted its merger with India.
- (ii) The State that was most affected by the partition of the country.

- (iii) The State carved out from Madhya Pradesh.
- (iv) The State that was formed in 1952.



26. Study the given cartoon and answer the questions that follow: (1 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 4)



- (I) What does the cartoon depict?
 - (A) Influence of UNO on the World
 - (B) Influence of USA on UNO
 - (C) Relevance of UNO
 - (D) Influence of USA on the World
- (II) What message is given by the cartoon?
 - (A) If UN fails then the US can control the world by its military power.
 - (B) Economic superiority of US
 - (C) Veto power of permanent members of UN
 - (D) US is the largest contributor to UN
- (III) Why this cartoon is not relevant today?
 - (A) UN has become more powerful.
 - (B) Many new powerful international organisations have emerged.

- (C) Countries are not having faith in UN.
 (D) Now many new centres of power have emerged.

(IV) What is the primary objective of UNO?

- (A) To foster economic ties of the developed nations
 (B) To promote international peace and co-operation
 (C) To eradicate terrorism
 (D) To promote health care

SECTION - E

(4 × 6 = 24)

27. (a) Explain any two contentious issues between China and India. Suggest any two measures to resolve these issues for greater cooperation.
 (2 × 1½ + 2 × 1½ = 6)

OR

- (b) "ASEAN took steps to establish an ASEAN community on the basis of its three pillars." Explain the importance of these three pillars.
 (3 × 2 = 6)

28. (a) Explain any three security challenges faced by the newly independent countries of Asia and Africa after the Second World War. (3 × 2 = 6)

OR

- (b) Explain any three differences between the Non-traditional and Traditional notion of security. (2 + 2 + 2 = 6)

29. (a) "The foreign policy of Independent India has pursued the dream of a peaceful world." Support the statement with three suitable arguments. (3 × 2 = 6)

OR

- (b) "India played an important role in maintaining Afro-Asian Unity." Support the statement with three suitable examples. (3 × 2 = 6)

30. (a) Describe any three major developments that took place in Indian politics in the last decade of the 20th century. (3 × 2 = 6)

OR

- (b) Describe any three recommendations of the Mandal Commission to solve the problems of the other backward classes. (3 × 2 = 6)

Set-II

Q.P. Code: 59/1/2

SECTION - A

(12 × 1 = 12)

Question Nos. 1 to 12 are Multiple Choice type questions carrying 1 mark each.

1. Given below are two statements:

Statement-I: Pakistan formed an elected government under the leadership of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto which lasted from 1971 to 1977.

Statement-II: The Zulfikar Ali Bhutto government was removed by General Pervez Musharraf in 1977.

Options:

- (A) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are true.
 (B) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are false.
 (C) Statement-I is true, but Statement-II is false.
 (D) Statement-I is false, but Statement-II is true.

7. Which one among the following is NOT the function of NITI Aayog?

- (A) Promote Co-operative federalism.
 (B) Developing a strategy for national development.
 (C) Arrange funds for the implementation of development programs.
 (D) Creating a system that develops entrepreneurship.

11. The recommendations of Mandal Commission were implemented in which one of the following year?

- (A) 1989
 (B) 1990
 (C) 1991
 (D) 1992

12. New Economic Policy was adopted in India under the Prime Ministership of _____.

- (A) V.P. Singh (B) Manmohan Singh
 (C) Narasimha Rao (D) H.D. Deve Gauda

SECTION - B

(6 × 2 = 12)

14. Explain any two arguments given in favour of economic globalization.

16. State any two outcomes of the Rio Summit.

17. Highlight any two steps taken by Indira Gandhi to remove poverty.

SECTION - C

(5 × 4 = 20)

19. Explain any four conditions that helped the Soviet Union to become a super power after the Second World War.

21. "States have not only common, but differentiated responsibilities also." Support the statement with two suitable arguments.

SECTION - E

(4 × 6 = 24)

27. (a) Explain any three factors responsible for the European Union to be a highly influential regional organization. (3 × 2 = 6)

OR

- (b) Explain with suitable arguments that Japan is emerging as a new alternate centre of power. (6 × 1 = 6)

Set-III

Q.P. Code: 59/1/3

SECTION - A

(12 × 1 = 12)

Question Nos. 1 to 12 are Multiple Choice type questions carrying 1 mark each.

1. Given below are two statements:

Statement-I: The Maldives was a Sultanate till 1965. In 1965, it was transformed into a republic with a presidential form of government.

Statement-II: The Maldivian Democratic Party dominates the political affairs of the island and it won the 2018 elections.

Options:

- (A) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are true.
 (B) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are false.
 (C) Statement-I is true, but Statement-II is false.
 (D) Statement-I is false, but Statement-II is true.
7. The NITI Aayog acts in the spirit of _____ as it ensures equal participation of all the states of India.
- (A) regulating body
 (B) cooperative federalism
 (C) policy advisor
 (D) voluntary body

11. Name the alliance that formed the government in March 1998.

- (A) United Front (B) NDA
 (C) UPA (D) National Front

12. Name the founder leader of Bahujan Samaj Party.

- (A) B.R. Ambedkar (B) Mayawati
 (C) Mulayam Singh (D) Kanshi Ram

SECTION - B

(6 × 2 = 12)

14. Explain any two political consequences of globalisation.
16. Name any four Green House gases.
17. Describe any two circumstances that favoured Indira Gandhi to become Prime Minister after the death of Lal Bahadur Shastri.

SECTION - C

(5 × 4 = 20)

19. Explain any four consequences of the disintegration of the Soviet Union.
21. Highlight any two threats to the survival of Indigenous people. (2 × 2 = 4)

SECTION - E

(4 × 6 = 24)

28. (a) Explain health epidemics and terrorism as the two new sources of threat under the non-traditional sources of threat to security. (3 + 3 = 6)

OR

- (b) Suggest the type of security that India should prefer to fight the threats like poverty and epidemics. (3 + 3 = 6)



OSWAAL BOOKS
 LEARNING MATERIALS

Answers

Set-I

Q.P. Code: 59/1/1

SECTION - A

1. Option (A) is correct.

Explanation: Nepal was historically a Hindu kingdom and later became a constitutional monarchy. In 2006, pro-democracy movements forced King Gyanendra to reinstate the House of Representatives, marking a key victory for democratic forces.

2. Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: The 1998 nuclear tests by India and Pakistan brought global attention to South Asia, raising concerns over regional stability and nuclear proliferation post-cold war.

3. Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: Human rights watch is an international NGO that advocates for human rights globally.

International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an international organisation overseeing financial institutions.

World Health Organization (WHO) is an agency of the United Nations focusing on global health.

General assembly is an organ of the United Nations, where member states deliberate on global issues.

4. Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: II. World Bank (1944)

IV. United Nations Organisation (UNO) (1945)

III. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) (1957)

I. The World Trade Organisation (WTO) (1995)

5. Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: Social safety nets include welfare programs, unemployment benefits, and subsidies to protect vulnerable populations from economic shocks caused by globalisation.

6. Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: While globalisation reduces state control over economic policies, governments retain essential functions. The reason does not fully explain the assertion, as state withdrawal is often strategic rather than imposed.

7. Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: NITI Aayog is a policy think tank, not a funding agency. It provides strategic direction and technical advice but does not allocate funds for development programs.

8. Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: Left-wing ideology emphasises social welfare, wealth redistribution and state intervention to uplift marginalised communities.

9. Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: The split occurred due to a power struggle between Indira Gandhi and the Congress Syndicate, a

group of senior leaders who opposed her independent decision-making.

10. Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: The Syndicate was a faction within Congress, not an opposition group. It comprised senior Congress leaders who tried to control Indira Gandhi's policies.

11. Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: The BJP-led alliance in 2019 was called the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), a coalition of various parties supporting BJP's leadership. NDA secured a decisive victory, with Narendra Modi becoming prime minister for a second consecutive term.

12. Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: After the 1999 Lok Sabha elections, the BJP-led NDA formed the government under Atal Bihari Vajpayee's leadership. His tenure (1999–2004) focused on economic reforms, infrastructure development and nuclear policy, significantly shaping India's political and economic landscape.

SECTION - B

13. Shock therapy was not the best way to transition from socialism to capitalism after the Soviet Union's collapse. It led to economic ruin, poverty and social instability. Industries collapsed, inflation soared and inequality deepened. The rapid shift favoured a few elites, leading up to rise of Oligarchs at the expense of harming the majority. A gradual transition with safeguards could have prevented such disastrous consequences.

14. Two major causes of globalisation are:

(i) Rapid transforming technology in fields of transport, communication, information technology have made world more interconnected into a global village. This has made global markets swift and accessible.

(ii) Liberal trade policies have boosted the presence of MNCs through policies like Foreign Direct Investment. These have been facilitated further under the aegis of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank.

15. The national movement broadly agreed on establishing a democratic government after independence. This was achieved through the adoption of a constitution granting fundamental rights, provisioning Directive Principles of State Policy to ensure social welfare and establishing a representative parliamentary system.

The second goal was to ensure social welfare, particularly the poor, minorities and socially disadvantaged. The constitution laid down principles of secularism, equality and special protection, alongside directive principles for achieving welfare goals.

16. Four global commons are the Earth's atmosphere, Antarctica, the ocean floor and outer space. These areas are considered outside the sovereign jurisdiction of individual nations.

17. Prior to the fourth general elections of 1967, India faced a severe economic crisis marked by price rise of essential commodities, food scarcity, growing unemployment and an overall deteriorating economic condition. For these scenarios, 1960s have been labelled as the 'dangerous decade.' These led to widespread protests across the country spearheaded by communist and non-congress parties.

18. While regionalism can lead to demands for autonomy or even separation, potentially creating tensions, communalism, could be resultant in large-scale violence and displacement.

India of 1980s has seen regional aspirations on the issues of language and region but these have been resolved through political measures and negotiations like in case of Mizo Accord of 1986 or political negotiation of DMK on language issue. Communal violence of 1984 Sikh riots and 1990s Ayodhya issue had in past marred the syncretic traditions of diverse Indian society.

SECTION - C

19. Several factors contributed to the economic stagnation in the Soviet Union.

(i) The Soviet system became highly bureaucratic and authoritarian, leading to inefficiencies and corrupt structure.

(ii) The lack of democracy and absence of freedom of speech suppressed dissent and prevented the open discussion of economic problems.

(iii) The one-party system of the communist party maintained tight control over all institutions and was unaccountable to the people, hindering necessary reforms. The Soviets faced failing economy by 1970s and were importing foods. This was further worsened after Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979.

(iv) The communist party refused to recognise the aspirations of the 15 republics to manage their own affairs, leading to resentment and a lack of motivation in parts in Eastern Europe.

20. (a) The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) is a major initiative as it brings together seven South Asian countries to foster cooperation on various fronts through multilateral means. Established in 1985, it signifies a regional recognition of shared challenges and the potential benefits of working together. The signing of the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) agreement demonstrates an intent to promote economic integration.

However, its effectiveness has been limited due to persisting political differences between member states. India-Pakistan tense relations have significantly impacted this regional forum and this has been recently further weakened owing to growing economic presence of China in South Asia.

OR

(b) Despite the varied experiences with democracy in South Asian countries, a shared aspiration for democracy is evident.

Firstly, countries like India and Sri Lanka have sustained democratic systems since their independence, indicating a commitment to democratic governance, reaping socio-economic progress over the years despite challenges to their democratic setup.

Secondly, even in countries with periods of authoritarian rule (Pakistan and Bangladesh), or Monarchies (Nepal and Maldives), pro-democracy movements and transitions to democratic systems have occurred, highlighting the people's desire for political participation and representative government.

These instances suggest a deep-rooted aspiration for democratic values and practices across the region.

21. Policies and actions by India Government to check pollution and save environment.

Strengthening renewable energy initiatives – Expanding solar, wind and hydropower projects to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. Incentivising rooftop solar installations and improving energy storage solutions can accelerate clean energy adoption. For example, Energy Conservation Act (2001), National Solar Mission.

Enhancing public transport and electric mobility – Investing in efficient metro networks, promoting electric vehicles (EVs) with better charging infrastructure and offering subsidies for EV adoption will cut vehicular pollution. For example, Electricity Act of 2003.

Stringent industrial regulations – Enforcing stricter emission norms for industries and promoting eco-friendly technologies, such as cleaner production methods and carbon capture, can reduce air and water pollution. Additionally, promoting clean and green energy (natural gas, biofuel, etc.) to minimise carbon footprint and progressively achieve net zero emission.

Afforestation and green urban planning – Large-scale tree plantations, green belts around cities and eco-friendly construction practices will help improve air quality and biodiversity conservation.

22. Despite the dominance of the Congress party for a significant period after independence, the very essence of Indian democracy was not entirely affected for several reasons.

Firstly, the presence of opposition parties, even with limited electoral success, played a crucial role in providing sustained and often principled criticism of the Congress policies, ensuring accountability and checking the power of ruling party.

Secondly, the existence of regular elections at both national and state levels, contested by multiple parties, ensured that the fundamental democratic process of choosing representatives allowed for the possibility of a change in power reflecting the popular will.

23. (a) Jaya Prakash Narayan played a significant role in Indian National Politics, particularly during the period leading up to and during the emergency. He was a prominent socialist leader who became a vocal critic of

the Indira Gandhi Government, especially concerning issues of corruption and economic stagnation. JP gave the call for 'Total Revolution' encompassing social, economic and political spheres, mobilising students and civil society against the government. His leadership in the protests and his symbolic importance as a unifying figure for the opposition parties posed a significant challenge to the Congress Government and contributed to the political developments that led to the emergency.

OR

(b) Two major reasons contributed to the victory of the Janata Party in the 1977 Lok Sabha elections. The widespread public resentment against the emergency imposed by the Indira Gandhi Government. The suppression of fundamental rights and arrests of opposition leaders led to strong anti-Congress sentiment, particularly in North India.

Secondly, the unity of non-Congress parties under the Janata Party banner was crucial. Realising that the division of their votes had kept the Congress in power, opposition groups came together, fuelled by a common desire to oust the Congress, a strategy famously termed as 'non-Congressism.'

SECTION - D

(24.1) Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: In 1980s India saw a rise in regional aspirations for autonomy, with movements in Punjab, Assam, Mizoram and other states demanding greater self-governance and political recognition.

(24.2) Option (D) is correct.

Explanation: India is known for its vast regional diversity, with distinct languages, cultures and political aspirations varying from one state to another.

(24.3) Option (A) is correct.

Explanation: Democracy addresses regional issues through dialogue and discussions, ensuring fair representation and policy accommodations rather than suppression. These have been evident in Punjab Accord, Mizo Accord and negotiations in Assam with the All Assam Students' Union (AASU).

(24.4) Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: Sikkim a 'protectorate' of India at the time of independence, later merged with India in 1975 through a democratic process, becoming the 22nd state of the Indian Union.

25.

S. No. of the Information Used	Alphabet Concerned	Name of the States
(i)	C	Jammu and Kashmir
(ii)	A	Punjab
(iii)	D	Chhattisgarh
(iv)	B	Andhra Pradesh

26. (I) Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: The cartoon depicts the influence of USA on UNO in a unipolar world. USA through its financial contributions to UN regulates the organisation indirectly

or through their military might influences the world politics minimising the role of United Nations.

(II) Option (A) is correct.

Explanation: The cartoon depicts that if UN fails, USA can control/influence the world politics basing on their military might as has been evident in the Iraq wars, NATO presence in Afghanistan and several other recent examples from Middle East.

(III) Option (D) is correct.

Explanation: This cartoon largely becomes irrelevant as the contemporary world is multipolar, with power centres shifted to USA, Russia, China, India and several European countries.

(IV) Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: UNO aims to promote international peace and cooperation to minimise wars and ensure development for all through combined actions.

SECTION - E

27. (a) Two contentious issues between China and India include the boundary dispute, particularly over the Aksai Chin area in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh, with both countries holding differing claims based on historical and colonial-era interpretations. Another issue arose from China's takeover of Tibet in 1950 and India granting asylum to the Dalai Lama in 1959, which was strongly protested by the Chinese Government.

To resolve these issues, both nations have led high-level diplomatic dialogues and negotiations to find mutually acceptable solutions to the border demarcations, through confidence-building measures. Secondly, they are focusing on strengthening economic and cultural cooperation through increased trade, investment and people-to-people exchanges. This will help build trust and create interdependencies that incentivise peaceful resolution of political differences.

OR

(b) ASEAN Community is rested on three crucial pillars. The ASEAN Security Community aims to ensure regional peace and stability by promoting cooperation in addressing traditional and non-traditional security threats and advocating the peaceful settlement of disputes, emphasising principles like non-interference and mutual respect.

The ASEAN Economic Community seeks to create a single market and production base, fostering economic growth, competitiveness and integration within the ASEAN region and with the global economy, making ASEAN an attractive economic partner.

ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community has the broader aim of fostering a strong ASEAN identity and socio-cultural cohesion through cooperation in areas like culture, education and people-to-people interactions for a cohesive and sustainable ASEAN Community.

28. (a) Newly independent countries in Asia and Africa after the Second World War faced several security challenges.

Firstly, they often experienced military conflicts with neighbouring countries arising from unresolved border disputes inherited from colonial times or competing claims over territory and resources.

Secondly, many new nations struggled with internal military conflicts due to ethnic strife, regional disparities or the presence of groups demanding greater autonomy or secession from the newly formed state.

Thirdly, these nations were vulnerable to being drawn into the Cold War rivalries between the US and the Soviet Union, potentially becoming battlegrounds or being forced to align with one bloc against another, thus facing external pressures and threats.

OR

(b) Traditional and non-traditional notions of security differ in several key aspects.

Firstly, traditional security primarily focuses on external threats to a state's territorial integrity and sovereignty, often involving military aggression from other states. In contrast, non-traditional security broadens the scope to include non-military threats such as poverty, disease, environmental degradation, human rights violations and terrorism, which can affect individuals and global well-being.

Secondly, traditional security largely adopts a state-centric approach, viewing the state as the primary referent of security and emphasising military power as a means of protection. Non-traditional security, however, can be people-centric or globally oriented, considering the security of individuals, communities and the planet as paramount and advocating for cooperative solutions.

Thirdly, while traditional security often prioritises military preparedness and balance of power, non-traditional security emphasises diverse strategies including diplomacy, economic development, environmental protection and international cooperation to address complex and interconnected threats.

29. (a) Independent India's foreign policy has consistently aimed for a peaceful world through several key approaches. Firstly, India led the policy of non-alignment, seeking to avoid the military blocs of the cold war and advocating for an independent stance on international issues. This aimed to reduce global tensions and create a larger area of peace by not aligning with either superpower.

Secondly, India has been a strong supporter of international cooperation and the United Nations. It has actively participated in UN peacekeeping operations and advocated for the settlement of international disputes through arbitration, as enshrined in its constitution.

Finally, India consistently advocated for Asian solidarity and decolonisation. By convening the Asian Relations Conference even before independence and actively supporting the freedom struggles of other nations like Indonesia, India aimed to foster a peaceful and cooperative international order free from colonialism and based on mutual respect.

OR

(b) India significantly contributed to Afro-Asian unity in the post-independence era. Firstly, Jawaharlal Nehru had been a proponent of Asian unity, demonstrated by India hosting the Asian Relations Conference in March 1947, even before India's independence. This brought together leaders from various Asian nations to discuss common goals and foster a sense of solidarity.

Secondly, India was a staunch supporter of decolonisation, actively working for the independence of other Asian and

African nations. A notable example is India's strong efforts and the international conference it convened in 1949 to support Indonesia's freedom from Dutch colonial rule.

Thirdly, India played a pivotal role in the Bandung Conference of 1955, which increased engagement between newly independent Asian and African nations and laid the foundation for the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). Nehru was a co-founder of NAM, which provided a platform for Afro-Asian countries to pursue their interests independently of the cold war blocs and promote cooperation among newly decolonised nations.

30. (a) Indian politics in the last decade of the 20th century witnessed significant transformations. Firstly, it marked the rise of coalition politics. The decline of the Congress party's dominance led to coalition era, where no single party could secure a clear majority in Lok Sabha elections from 1989 onwards. This necessitated the formation of coalition governments (United Front, NDA and UPA) at the centre, where regional parties began to play a crucial role in national politics.

Secondly, the implementation of the Mandal Commission recommendations in 1990 was a landmark event. It led to reservations for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in central government jobs, sparking intense national debate and significantly shaping the social and political landscape by bringing the issue of caste-based reservations to the forefront of national discourse.

Thirdly, there was a notable rise of politics based on religious identity. This period saw increased prominence of issues related to religious nationalism in Indian politics, culminating in events like the Ram Janmabhoomi movement, which had a lasting impact on the political climate.

OR

(b) The Mandal Commission, established in 1st January 1979, aimed to address the social and educational backwardness of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in India. After extensive research and surveys, it proposed several recommendations to uplift these communities. Three key recommendations of the Mandal Commission were:

(i) **Reservation in education and employment:** The commission recommended that 27% of seats in higher educational institutions and government jobs be reserved for OBCs. This was intended to increase their representation in these sectors, as the survey found their presence to be extremely low.

(ii) **Land reforms:** To improve the economic conditions of OBCs, the commission suggested land redistribution policies. Many backward class families lacked land ownership and worked as labourers under exploitative conditions. By implementing land reforms, they could gain economic independence and improve their standard of living.

(iii) **Social and economic development programs:** The commission emphasised the need for targeted programs such as scholarships, skill development training and financial assistance to uplift OBCs. These measures aimed to enhance their educational and economic status, enabling them to compete on equal footing with other sections of society.

These recommendations played a crucial role in shaping policies that continue to support the upliftment of backward classes in India.

SECTION - A

1. Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: Zulfikar Ali Bhutto led Pakistan's elected government from 1971 to 1977. However, he was removed by General Zia-ul-Haq, not Pervez Musharraf. Musharraf ousted Nawaz Sharif in 1999, not Bhutto.

7. Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: NITI Aayog does not arrange funds; this is handled by the Finance Ministry. Its role is limited to policy-making and strategic planning.

11. Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: The Mandal Commission recommendations were implemented in 1990 by the V.P. Singh Government, introducing 27% reservation for OBCs in government jobs, sparking nationwide protests and debates on social justice and affirmative action.

12. Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: India adopted the New Economic Policy in 1991 under Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, with Dr. Manmohan Singh as Finance Minister. It introduced liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation (LPG) reforms, opening India's economy to global markets and reducing state control.

SECTION - B

14. Economic globalisation promotes integrated economies, greater economic growth and well-being for more people through deregulation.

Additionally, increased trade allows countries to specialise in their strengths, leading to overall global benefits.

16. Two outcomes of the Rio Summit are the creation of conventions addressing climate change, biodiversity and forestry. The summit produced 'Agenda 21,' a list of recommended development practices. A significant consensus also emerged on the concept of 'sustainable development,' which aims to combine economic growth with ecological responsibility.

17. Two steps taken by Indira Gandhi to remove poverty.

She advocated for the imposition of ceilings on rural land holdings and urban property to remove disparities. Her famous slogan, 'Garibi Hatao' (Remove Poverty), encapsulated a broader program that aimed to generate support among the disadvantaged, including landless labourers, Dalits, Adivasis, minorities, women and the unemployed youth. This program also included the abolition of princely privileges.

SECTION - C

19. Four conditions that helped the Soviet Union become a superpower after the Second World War include:

- Its developed economy, which was second only to the US globally at the time. The USSR possessed a complex

communications network and substantial energy resources such as oil, iron and steel.

- The establishment of the 'socialist bloc.' After WWII, the Soviet army liberated East European countries from fascist forces, and these nations adopted political and economic systems modelled after the USSR, forming a significant sphere of influence. The Warsaw Pact further solidified this bloc through a military alliance.

- The Soviet state's ability to ensure a minimum standard of living for its citizens by subsidizing essential services like health, education and childcare, alongside a considerable domestic consumer industry.

- The weakening of other European powers due to the devastation of WWII, which created a power vacuum and allowed the USSR, alongside the US, to emerge as a dominant force in global politics. The ideological opposition to capitalism and the push for an egalitarian society, emerging from the 1917 revolution, also presented the USSR as an alternative global model.

21. The statement 'States have not only common, but differentiated responsibilities also' is supported by the principle that, while all states share a common goal in addressing global issues, their responsibilities in doing so differ based on their historical contributions and current capabilities.

Firstly, developed countries have a greater responsibility for global environmental degradation because much of it is a product of their industrial development over a longer period. As the Rio Declaration notes, developed countries acknowledge the responsibility they bear for sustainable development due to the pressures their societies have placed on the global environment.

Secondly, developing countries have different needs and capabilities as they are still in the process of industrialisation and should not be subjected to the same restrictions as developed nations. The UNFCCC also acknowledges that developing countries have relatively low per capita emissions, justifying differentiated responsibilities. This principle ensures that the pursuit of development in these nations is not unduly hampered by environmental regulations that historically applied less to developed nations.

SECTION - E

27. (a) Three factors responsible for the European Union being a highly influential regional organisation include its significant economic power. The EU's projected GDP is substantial, and its currency, the euro, poses a potential challenge to the dominance of the US dollar. Furthermore, its share of world trade is larger than that of the United States, enabling it to be assertive in trade disputes. This economic strength extends its influence in Asia and Africa.

Secondly, the EU possesses considerable political and diplomatic influence. It has evolved from an economic union to an increasingly political one, acting as supranational with its own flag, anthem and some common foreign and security policies. The fact that

France, an EU member, holds a permanent seat on the UN Security Council, along with several non-permanent EU members, allows the EU to influence global policies. Its preference for diplomacy, economic investments and negotiations has also proven effective.

Thirdly, the EU has notable military capabilities. Its combined armed forces are the second largest in the world, and its total defence spending is second only to the US. Notably, one of its member states, France, possesses nuclear arsenals and is a significant source of space and communications technology. As a supranational organisation, the EU can intervene in economic, political and social areas, further solidifying its influence.

OR

(b) Japan is indeed viewed as an emerging alternate centre of power due to several factors.

(i) Japan is a formidable economic power, being the third-largest economy globally. It is globally recognised for producing high-technology products from renowned

brands like Sony and Toyota signifying its advanced industrial capabilities.

(ii) Its membership in key global economic forums such as the OECD and the G-7 further underscores its economic significance.

(iii) Japan holds considerable political and diplomatic influence. It is a major contributor to the UN's regular budget, demonstrating its commitment to international organisations.

(iv) Its security alliance with the US also plays a crucial role in regional stability.

(v) Japan's constitutional limitations, specifically Article 9, which renounces war, constrain its military projection of power despite having the seventh-largest military expenditure.

(vi) Despite this, its strong economy, technological advancements and significant role in international affairs position Japan as a key player in the evolving multipolar world order.

Set-III

Q.P. Code: 59/1/3

SECTION - A

1. Option (D) is correct.

Explanation: The Maldives was a Sultanate until 1968 and became a republic with a presidential system afterward and in 2005 multi-party system was introduced. The Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP) dominates the political affairs of the island and it won the 2018 elections.

7. Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: NITI Aayog fosters cooperative federalism by encouraging active participation from all Indian states in policy making. It ensures equitable growth by collaborating with states, unlike a regulatory body, voluntary entity or mere policy advisor, thus promoting inclusive governance.

11. Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: The alliance that formed the government in March 1998 was NDA (National Democratic Alliance), led by the BJP under Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

12. Option (D) is correct.

Explanation: The founder of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) was Kanshi Ram, who established it in 1984 to empower Dalits and marginalised communities.

SECTION - B

14. Two political consequences of globalisation are the erosion of state capacity, reducing governments' ability to act independently due to the influence of global markets and multinational corporations.

Potential boost to state capacity with the availability of advanced technologies for information gathering about citizens, allowing the state to become more effective in its governance.

16. Four major greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O) and

hydrofluorocarbons. These gases trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere, contributing to global warming.

17. Two circumstances favoured Indira Gandhi becoming Prime Minister after Lal Bahadur Shastri's death. Firstly, she was backed by syndicate leaders in the Congress party over Morarji Desai in a secret ballot among Congress MPs. Secondly, some of these senior leaders may have supported her due to the belief that her perceived political inexperience would make her reliant on their guidance.

SECTION - C

19. Four significant consequences of the disintegration of the Soviet Union.

(i) The collapse of the Soviet Union marked the end of cold war tensions between the US and USSR. The ideological rivalry between capitalism and socialism faded, leading to reduced military confrontations and hopes for global peace.

(ii) With the Soviet Union gone, the US emerged as the sole superpower. Capitalism became the dominant economic model and institutions like the World Bank and IMF gained influence in shaping global economies.

(iii) Several independent nations emerged from the Soviet bloc, each with unique political and economic aspirations. Many Eastern European countries aligned with NATO and the EU.

(iv) Former Soviet republics sought new partnerships, balancing ties between Russia, the US, China and Europe to secure their economic and strategic interests.

21. Two major threats to the survival of indigenous people are land dispossession and cultural erosion. Land is central to their identity, sustenance and traditions, yet they have faced continuous displacement due to industrialisation, urban expansion and large-scale development projects. This not only strips them of economic resources but also disrupts their way of life.

Additionally, cultural erosion poses a severe challenge. Indigenous languages, traditions and knowledge systems are being lost due to forced assimilation, globalisation and lack of institutional support. Younger generations are often pressured to adopt mainstream lifestyles, leading to the decline of indigenous heritage. Without land and cultural preservation, indigenous communities struggle to maintain their autonomy, identity and survival in a rapidly modernising.

SECTION - E

28. (a) Health epidemics and terrorism are considered two significant new sources of threat under the non-traditional view of security because they extend beyond the traditional focus on military threats to the state.

Health epidemics, such as HIV–AIDS, bird flu and SARS, demonstrate a global interconnectedness where the spread of disease across borders through migration, business, tourism and military operations poses a threat to human existence. A failure in one country to contain an epidemic directly impacts others. Moreover, the broad concept of human security recognises diseases as a major threat, often causing far more deaths than wars. The emergence of new and drug-resistant diseases further underscores this non-traditional security challenge, having significant economic repercussions as well.

Terrorism, on the other hand, is defined as political violence that deliberately and indiscriminately targets civilians. International terrorism involves multiple countries. Terrorist groups aim to destabilise political contexts through fear and violence against the public, using this to pressure governments. The focus on civilian targets, rather than state military forces, positions

terrorism outside the traditional state-centric security framework. Events like the 9/11 attacks have amplified the global recognition of terrorism as a critical non-traditional security threat. Both health epidemics and terrorism highlight the vulnerability of individuals and communities, shifting the focus from the security of the state alone to the broader concept of human and global security.

OR

(b) To combat threats like poverty and epidemics, India should prioritise human security over traditional military security. Human security focuses on ensuring basic needs such as food, healthcare, education and economic stability, which are essential for the well-being of citizens. Unlike military threats, poverty and epidemics do not require weapons but rather social and economic interventions.

A robust public healthcare system is crucial to tackling epidemics. Strengthening hospitals, investing in medical research and ensuring affordable healthcare for all can prevent crises like the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, awareness campaigns and vaccination programs can help contain outbreaks.

To fight poverty, economic security measures like job creation, skill development and financial inclusion must be prioritised. Government schemes focusing on education, rural employment and entrepreneurship can empower people economically. Furthermore, reducing income inequality through progressive policies will ensure sustainable development.

A democratic system ensures that citizens can demand better policies, keeping governments accountable. By integrating human security into national policy, India can create a resilient society where threats like poverty and epidemics are effectively managed.

CBSE Board Examination – 2025

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Solved Paper

Class – 12th

Outside Delhi Sets | Series: Y2ZXW

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS: Same as in Delhi Paper.

Set-I

Q.P. Code: 59/2/1

SECTION - A

(12 × 1 = 12)

Question Nos. 1 to 12 are Multiple Choice type questions carrying 1 mark each.

1. Given below are two statements:

Statement-I: Mikhail Gorbachev, who had become General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in 1985, sought to reform the Soviet System.

Statement-II: Gorbachev's decision to normalise relations with the West and democratise and reform the Soviet Union had some other effects that neither he nor anyone else intended or anticipated.

Options:

- (A) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are true.
(B) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are false.
(C) Statement-I is true, but Statement-II is false.
(D) Statement-I is false, but Statement-II is true.
2. Which one of the following symbolised the division between the Capitalist and the Communist world?
(A) Gulf War
(B) Berlin Wall
(C) First World War
(D) Second World War
3. Match the terms given in Column-A correctly with Column-B and choose the correct answer from the codes given below:

Column-A	Column-B
(a) Balance of Power	(i) Giving up certain types of weapons
(b) Disarmament	(ii) Security
(c) Migration	(iii) Traditional security
(d) Freedom from threats	(iv) New source of threat

Codes:

- (a) (b) (c) (d)
(A) (iii) (i) (iv) (ii)
(B) (iv) (i) (iii) (ii)
(C) (iv) (iii) (ii) (i)
(D) (ii) (iv) (iii) (i)

4. Arrange the following in chronological order of their happening:

- (i) India-China War
(ii) India's first test of a nuclear device
(iii) Terrorists attack on World Trade Centre in America
(iv) The Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty

Choose the correct option:

- (A) (i), (ii), (iii), (iv)
(B) (ii), (iv), (iii), (i)
(C) (iv), (i), (iii), (ii)
(D) (i), (iv), (ii), (iii)

5. Which one among the following agreements was to cut the green house gas emissions?

- (A) Antarctic Treaty
(B) Kyoto Protocol
(C) Montreal Protocol
(D) Antarctic Environmental Protocol

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

Assertion (A): The government suspended the freedom of press and implemented press censorship during emergency in 1975.

Reason (R): Newspapers protested against censorship by showing the cartoons only.

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

7. Choose the correct statement about India's nuclear policy from the statements given below:

- (A) India's nuclear programme was started in 1952 under the guidance of Homi J. Bhabha.
(B) India was in support of the NPT.

- (C) Now India has made it clear that the policy of 'no first use' can be reviewed.
(D) Nehru was not against nuclear weapons.
8. Which political party of India wanted India to follow a pro-US foreign policy?
(A) Bharatiya Jan Sangh (B) Communist Party
(C) Socialist Party (D) Congress Party
9. Which political party won 16 Lok Sabha seats and was at second place in the first General Election of India?
(A) Communist Party of India
(B) Bharatiya Jan Sangh
(C) Socialist Party
(D) Swatantra Party
10. Choose the correct full form of the EVM.
(A) Electric Voting Machine
(B) Easy Voting Machine
(C) Electronic Voting Machine
(D) Election Voting Machine
11. On which one of the following basis was emergency declared in 1975?
(A) Internal disturbances (B) External threat
(C) Armed rebellion (D) External Aggression
12. In which country was an Australian Mining Company 'WMC' opposed?
(A) Singapore (B) Philippines
(C) Thailand (D) Japan

SECTION - B

(6 × 2 = 12)

13. State any two main objectives of 'ASEAN'.
14. 'During the period of dominance of the Congress Party, its leaders never showed any desire to form new parties.' Analyse any one reason for this.
15. Explain any two differences between the First Five Year Plan and Second Five Year Plan.
16. Explain any two reasons for the split in the Janta Party in 1979.
17. Suggest any two ways to reduce economic disparity between the poor and the rich countries at the global level.
18. State any two arms control treaties signed between the US and Soviet Union.

SECTION - C

(5 × 4 = 20)

19. (a) Analyse the basis of projecting China to overtake the US America to become the world's largest economy.

OR

- (b) "While the Chinese economy has improved, not everyone in China received the benefits of the reforms." Analyse any two reasons for this.
20. "The 1960s were labelled as the 'dangerous decade' in India." Explain any two reasons for this.
21. Describe the impact of globalisation on the Indian culture.

22. (a) Explain any two reasons for the beginning of a long phase of coalition politics in India since 1989.

OR

- (b) Explain the role of 'Other Backward Classes' in the Indian politics.
23. Highlight any four important features of the Nuclear Policy of India.

SECTION - D

(3 × 4 = 12)

24. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow: 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 4

The Central Asian republics did not ask for independence and wanted to remain with the Soviet Federation. In December 1991, under the leadership of Yeltsin, Russia, Ukraine and Belarus declared that the Soviet Union was disbanded. The Communist Party of the Soviet Union was banned. Capitalism and democracy were adopted as the bases for the post-Soviet republics. The declaration on the disintegration of the USSR and the formation of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) came as a surprise to the other republics, especially to the Central Asian ones.

(24.1) Which ideology was adopted by the post-Soviet countries?

- (A) Socialist
(B) Capitalist and Democratic
(C) Communist (D) Democratic

(24.2) Which republic among the following became the successor of the Soviet Union?

- (A) Belarus (B) Ukraine
(C) Commonwealth of Independent States
(D) Russia

(24.3) Which one of the following is a Central Asian country?

- (A) Chechnya (B) Dagestan
(C) Tajikistan (D) Czechoslovakia

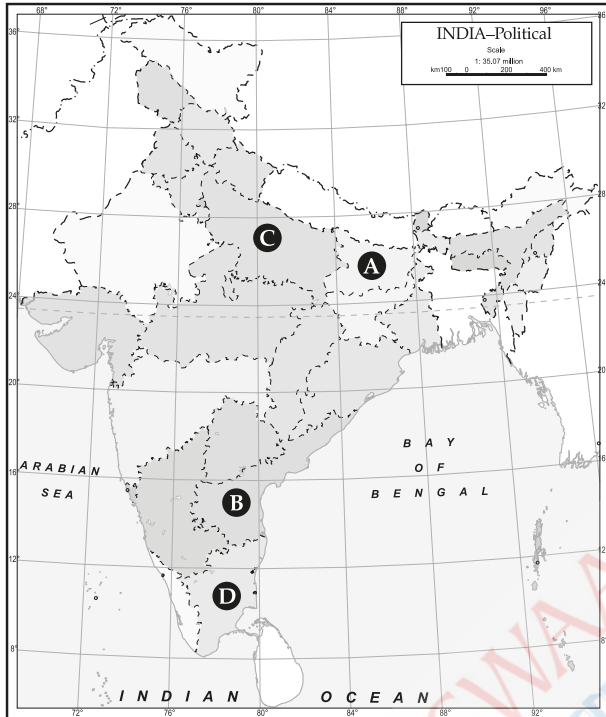
(24.4) Which part of Soviet Union had vast hydrocarbon resources?

- (A) Eastern Europe
(B) Central Asian Republics
(C) Yugoslavia (D) Czechoslovakia

25. 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 as per the format that follows: (1 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 4)

Serial number for the information used	Alphabet concerned	Name of the States
(i)		
(ii)		
(iii)		
(iv)		

- (i) The state, where the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi took place.
- (ii) The state where Karpoori Thakur was a Chief Minister.
- (iii) The state where UPA won the majority of seats in Lok Sabha elections in 2004.
- (iv) The state where Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) achieved a breakthrough in 1989 & 1991 elections.



26. Study the given picture and answer the questions that follow: (1 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 4)
(The given cartoon is about USA's invasion on a Gulf Country.)



(26.1) Which one of the following is the most important resource in global strategy?

- (A) Water
- (B) Oil
- (C) Land
- (D) Automobile

(26.2) Which of the following regions accounts for about 30% of global oil production?

- (A) Europe
- (B) China
- (C) Gulf Region
- (D) Japan

(26.3) Which Gulf country was invaded by US America?

- (A) Iraq
- (B) Saudi Arabia
- (C) Kuwait
- (D) Iran

(26.4) What was the objective of the United States of America to attack the Gulf country?

- (A) To get control on the oil resources
- (B) To get the territory of a country
- (C) To establish its army headquarters
- (D) To stop USSR from entering this region

SECTION - E

(4 × 6 = 24)

27. (a) Explain any two commonalities and two differences between Bangladesh and Pakistan in their democratic experiences. (3 + 3 = 6)

OR

(b) Explain any two issues of co-operation and two issues of confrontation between India and Bangladesh. (3 + 3 = 6)

28. (a) Explain the importance of International organisations like the United Nations in the contemporary world. 6

OR

(b) Explain any four changes that have occurred after the Cold War and have affected the realities of the world politics. (4 × 1½ = 6)

29. (a) "Regional demands from different parts of India show that India has adopted a democratic approach to accommodate diversity." Justify the statement. 6

OR

(b) Examine any three problems related to the Jammu and Kashmir. (3 × 2 = 6)

30. (a) Describe any three circumstances under which the State Reorganisation Commission was constituted. (3 × 2 = 6)

OR

(b) Describe the circumstances and events that led to Manipur's accession to India in 1949. (3 + 3 = 6)

Set-II

Q.P. Code: 59/2/2

In this set, all questions are identical to those in Set-1, except for the following.

SECTION - A

(12 × 1 = 12)

Question Nos. 1 to 12 are Multiple Choice type questions carrying 1 mark each.

1. Given below are two statements:

Statement-I: The collapse of the 'Second World' of the Soviet Union and the socialist system in Eastern Europe had no profound consequences for world politics.

Statement-II: The end of the Soviet bloc meant the emergence of many new countries. All these countries had their own independent aspirations and choices.

Option:

- (A) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are true.
 (B) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are false.
 (C) Statement-I is true, but Statement-II is false.
 (D) Statement-I is false, but Statement-II is true.
2. Which one of the following republics was a party to declare that 'Soviet Union was disbanded'?
- (A) Lithuania
 (B) Belarus
 (C) Armenia
 (D) Georgia
8. Who among the following believed that India should be more friendly with the bloc led by the US at the time of formulation of India's foreign policy?
- (A) Sardar Patel
 (B) B.R. Ambedkar

(C) J.P. Narayan

(D) Lal Bahadur Shastri

12. The book "Limits to Growth" deals with which one of the following problems?

(A) Exploitation of resources

(B) Deforestation

(C) Growing population

(D) Hole in ozone layer

SECTION - B

(6 × 2 = 12)

13. State any two limitations of European Union.
 14. Analyse the Congress Party as a social coalition.
 18. State any two components of Traditional notions of external security.

SECTION - C

(5 × 4 = 20)

20. Analyse any four factors that enhanced the popularity of Indira Gandhi in the early 1970s.
 23. Highlight any four features of India's foreign policy.

SECTION - E

(4 × 6 = 24)

29. (a) Analyse the secessionist movement of the people of Mizo Hills area from 1966-1986. 6
 OR
 (b) Analyse the Assam movement as a combination of cultural pride and economic backwardness. 6

Set-III

Q.P. Code: 59/2/3

In this set, all questions are identical to those in Set-1, except for the following.

SECTION - A

(12 × 1 = 12)

Question Nos. 1 to 12 are Multiple Choice type questions carrying 1 mark each.

1. Given below are two statements.

Statement-I: There were sections of Soviet society which felt that Gorbachev should have moved much faster and were disappointed and impatient with his methods.

Statement-II: Communist Party and those who were served by the system felt that their power and privileges were eroding and Gorbachev was moving too quickly.

Option :

- (A) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are true.
 (B) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are false.
 (C) Statement-I is true, but Statement-II is false.
 (D) Statement-I is false, but Statement-II is true.

2. Which leader played an important role in the disintegration and coup against Soviet Union?

(A) Boris Yeltsin

(B) Nikita Khrushchev

(C) John F. Kennedy

(D) Joseph Stalin

8. Choose the correct option to fill in the blanks:

Indira Gandhi and Z.A. Bhutto signed _____ agreement in the year _____.

Options:

(A) War, 1971

(B) Peace, 1971

(C) Shimla, 1971

(D) Shimla, 1972

12. Agenda-21 contains a list of _____

(A) global commons

(B) development practices

(C) polluting practices

(D) developed countries

SECTION - B $(6 \times 2 = 12)$

13. State any two major policy decisions taken by the Chinese leadership in the 1970s.
14. Analyse the Congress Party as an ideological coalition.
18. State any two methods of Traditional Security.

SECTION - C $(5 \times 4 = 20)$

20. Analyse any four reasons for the split in the Congress Party in 1969.

23. Highlight any four Directive Principles of State Policy that have been included in the Constitution of India for International peace and security.

SECTION - E $(4 \times 6 = 24)$

29. (a) Analyse any three reasons for the disturbance and unrest in Kashmir.

OR

- (b) Suggest any three measures to maintain peace in Jammu and Kashmir.

Answers

Set-I

Q.P. Code: 59/2/1

SECTION - A

1. Option (A) is correct.

Explanation: Mikhail Gorbachev introduced *Perestroika* (restructuring) and *Glasnost* (openness) to reform the Soviet system. However, his policies unintentionally led to the collapse of the USSR and the end of the Cold War, which he had not foreseen.

2. Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: The Berlin Wall symbolised the divide between the capitalist West and the communist East during the Cold War. Built in 1961, it physically and ideologically separated East and West Berlin until its fall in 1989, marking the decline of communism.

3. Option (A) is correct.

Explanation: The Balance of Power is a traditional security concept maintaining stability among nations. Disarmament involves reducing or eliminating weapons. Migration, especially in large numbers, can create socio-political challenges. Security ensures protection from threats, promoting stability within and among nations.

4. Option (D) is correct.

Explanation: India–China War (1962)
The Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty (1972)
India's first nuclear test (1974)
9/11 attacks (2001)

5. Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: The agreement to cut greenhouse gas emissions is the Kyoto Protocol, signed in 1997, focusing on reducing global carbon emissions to combat climate change.

6. Option (D) is correct.

Explanation: During the Emergency in 1975, the government suspended press freedom and imposed censorship. However, newspapers did not solely protest through cartoons; many left editorial spaces blank or used symbolic messages to oppose censorship. Hence, the Reason is incorrect.

7. Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: India follows a "No First Use" (NFU) nuclear policy, pledging not to use nuclear weapons unless attacked first. However, recent statements from officials suggest the policy is not absolute and may be reviewed based on security needs.

8. Option (A) is correct.

Explanation: The Bharatiya Jan Sangh (BJS) advocated a pro-Western foreign policy, emphasising stronger ties with the U.S. to counterbalance Communist influence and Pakistan's growing alliances with China.

9. Option (A) is correct.

Explanation: In India's first General Election (1951–52), the Communist Party of India won 16 Lok Sabha seats,

emerging as the second-largest party after Congress. This reflected significant public support for its socialist and welfare-based ideology.

10. Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: EVMs replaced paper ballots in India during the late 1990s, ensuring faster, more efficient and tamper-proof elections. By 2004, the entire country adopted EVMs, eliminating manual counting errors and simplifying the voting process.

11. Option (A) is correct.

Explanation: Emergency was declared in India in 1975 under Article 352 on the grounds of "internal disturbances". Political unrest, mass protests and judicial conflicts led to its imposition by Indira Gandhi's government.

12. Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: Australian mining company WMC faced opposition in the Philippines due to environmental concerns and resistance from local communities over mining activities affecting indigenous lands and natural resources.

SECTION - B

13. One of ASEAN's key goals is to create a unified market and production base among its member nations, making trade and investment smoother across the region. Beyond that, it actively works to support social and economic development, ensuring that growth benefits all. ASEAN is also focused on strengthening its mechanisms for resolving economic disputes and has taken major steps towards establishing a Free Trade Area, making it easier for businesses, workers and services to operate across borders.

14. During its long period of dominance, leaders of the Congress Party rarely felt the need to break away and form new political parties. This was largely because Congress functioned like a broad coalition, embracing diverse ideologies and interest groups under one umbrella. Instead of forcing members to conform to a rigid ideology, it allowed room for internal debates and compromises. As a result, different factions found space within the party, reducing the urge to split and create separate political movements.

15. 1. India's First Five-Year Plan (1951–1956) placed a strong emphasis on agriculture, focusing on building dams, improving irrigation and tackling poverty through rural development. The goal was to create a solid foundation for economic stability. However, the Second Five-Year Plan took a different approach—it aimed for rapid industrial growth, prioritising heavy industries and strengthening the public sector.

2. First Five-Year Plan was based on the Harrod–Domar Model (focus on investment and savings). Second Five-Year Plan was based on the Mahalanobis Model (emphasis on heavy industries).

16. The Janata Party split in 1979 due to internal power struggles and a lack of a common ideological vision. Rivalries between leaders like Morarji Desai, Charan Singh and Jagjivan Ram created instability. Additionally, the party lacked a unified policy direction and failed to offer a clear alternative to Congress, which led to internal conflicts and its eventual collapse within 28 months.

17. Two ways to reduce economic disparity at global level:

i. Fair Trade Policies – Promoting equitable trade agreements can help developing nations gain better access to global markets, ensuring fair prices for their goods and reducing exploitation.

ii. Investment in Education and Infrastructure – Wealthy nations can support poorer countries by funding education, healthcare and infrastructure projects, enabling economic growth and self-sufficiency while reducing long-term dependence on aid.

18. Two significant arms control treaties signed by the USA and the Soviet Union were the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty II (SALT II) and the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START). SALT II aimed to limit the number of strategic nuclear weapons, while START sought to reduce and control their stockpiles, promoting stability and preventing an arms race during the Cold War.

SECTION - C

19. (a) Since China introduced economic reforms in 1978, it has been on an incredible growth trajectory, making it the fastest-growing economy in the world. Many projections suggest that by 2040, China could surpass the United States as the world's largest economy.

This rapid expansion is deeply tied to China's integration into the East Asian region, where it has become a major economic force, influencing trade and development across its neighbouring countries. A key turning point was Deng Xiaoping's "open door" policy, which encouraged foreign investment and technological advancements to boost productivity.

Before these reforms, China's economy was primarily driven by state-owned heavy industries, a model established after the 1949 revolution. However, gradual changes, including the introduction of market-driven policies, agricultural and industrial privatisation and the creation of Special Economic Zones, transformed the country's economic landscape. These strategic shifts laid the foundation for China's extraordinary rise, positioning it as a dominant player in the global economy.

(b) China's economic reforms have undoubtedly brought tremendous growth, but not everyone has benefited equally. Two key reasons behind this disparity are:

First, unemployment has risen significantly. Reports indicate that nearly 100 million people are searching for jobs, highlighting how a large segment of the population has struggled rather than prospered. Job losses due to restructuring and other consequences of the reforms have left many people without stable employment, making economic progress feel out of reach for them.

Second, economic inequality has widened. The gap between rural and urban residents, as well as between coastal and inland provinces, has grown. While cities and coastal regions have seen major economic gains, many rural areas have been left behind.

20. The 1960s were termed the 'dangerous decade' in India due to significant political and socio-economic challenges.

Firstly, there were concerns about the survival of democracy after Nehru's passing in 1964. Many feared that, like other newly independent nations, India might experience political instability, leading to military intervention or authoritarian rule. Ensuring a smooth democratic transition was a major challenge.

Secondly, India faced severe socio-economic issues, including poverty, inequality and regional divisions. The growing discontent among different communities, combined with economic hardships, raised fears of internal conflict and even national disintegration. The rise of separatist movements and communal tensions further threatened the unity of the country.

21. Globalisation has significantly influenced Indian culture, blending traditional values with modern global trends. Western lifestyles, fashion and entertainment have gained popularity, especially among urban youth, leading to changes in clothing, food habits and social interactions. English has become more dominant, impacting regional languages. However, globalisation has also helped promote Indian traditions, yoga and cuisine worldwide. Family structures are evolving, with a shift from joint to nuclear families due to urbanisation and work culture. Consumerism has increased, influencing festivals and weddings and making them more commercialised. While globalisation brings economic growth and exposure, it also raises concerns about cultural erosion. Despite these changes, India continues to balance its rich heritage with modern influences, preserving its unique identity.

22. (a) The era of coalition politics in India, which began in 1989, was driven by two major shifts in the country's political landscape.

First, the Congress party, which had long dominated Indian politics, saw a sharp decline in its influence. The 1989 general elections were a turning point, as the party lost a significant number of seats in the Lok Sabha. This marked the end of the 'Congress system'.

Second, regional and caste-based parties began to rise in prominence. These parties, representing specific communities and regional aspirations, reshaped Indian politics by creating a more fragmented system. With no single national party able to secure a clear majority, alliances and coalitions became necessary to form a government. This shift made politics more dynamic, as different parties had to negotiate, compromise and work together to govern the country.

(b) The Other Backward Classes (OBCs) have played a crucial role in shaping Indian politics, particularly since the 1980s. The implementation of the Mandal Commission's recommendations by the National Front government heightened OBC identity and mobilisation. This led to the rise of political parties advocating for OBC rights in

education, employment and governance. These parties argued that, as a significant portion of India's population, OBCs deserved greater political representation. Over time, OBC politics developed independently, sometimes competing with Dalit movements. Their influence is evident in various regional and national elections, where OBC-based parties have shaped coalition governments and policies. The political awakening of OBCs has thus redefined India's democratic landscape, emphasising social justice and power redistribution.

23. India's nuclear policy is guided by a commitment to peaceful use, non-proliferation and strategic security.

i. India initiated its nuclear programme in the late 1940s under Homi J. Bhabha with a focus on generating atomic energy for development rather than weapons. The 1974 nuclear test was termed a "peaceful nuclear explosion".

ii. India refused to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) of 1968, considering it discriminatory as it favoured existing nuclear powers while restricting others.

iii. Despite developing nuclear capabilities, India has consistently advocated for global nuclear disarmament and a reduction in nuclear arsenals.

iv. India's nuclear policy is rooted in self-reliance, ensuring national security while maintaining an independent foreign policy.

SECTION - D

(24.1) Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: After the USSR's dissolution, post-Soviet nations embraced capitalism and democracy, moving away from communist policies. This transition marked a significant shift in their economic and political systems.

(24.2) Option (D) is correct.

Explanation: Russia became the USSR's legal successor, inheriting its UN Security Council seat and most of its military and economic resources. It led to the formation of the CIS, exerting influence over former Soviet states.

(24.3) Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: Tajikistan is a Central Asian country, along with Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. These republics were once part of the Soviet Union and played a crucial role in its economy and geopolitics.

(24.4) Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: The Central Asian republics, particularly Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan, hold vast hydrocarbon reserves, including oil and natural gas. These resources remain key to their economies, attracting global energy investments after Soviet disintegration.

25.

Serial number for the information used	Alphabet concerned	Name of the States
(i)	D	Tamil Nadu
(ii)	A	Bihar
(iii)	B	Andhra Pradesh
(iv)	C	Uttar Pradesh

(26.1) Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: The most important resource in global strategy is Oil due to its crucial role in energy, transportation and geopolitics.

(26.2) Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: The Gulf Region accounts for about 30% of global oil production, dominated by countries like Saudi Arabia, UAE and Iraq.

(26.3) Option (A) is correct.

Explanation: The United States invaded Iraq in 2003, citing weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) and links to terrorism. However, no WMDs were found. The invasion led to Saddam Hussein's overthrow, prolonged conflict and significant geopolitical consequences in the Middle East.

(26.4) Option (A) is correct.

Explanation: The U.S. attacked Gulf countries, notably Iraq in 1991 and 2003, to secure its strategic interests, primarily oil. Control over oil ensured economic stability and geopolitical dominance. While other reasons existed, securing energy resources was a key driving force.

SECTION - E

27. (a) The commonalities and differences between Bangladesh and Pakistan in their democratic experiences are:

Commonalities:

- Both Bangladesh and Pakistan were initially part of the same nation-state—Pakistan—after the partition of British India in 1947. This shared origin meant their early political trajectories were intertwined under similar governing structures.

- Both countries have experienced periods of both civilian and military rule. Pakistan has had frequent military interventions, while Bangladesh also saw military rulers like Ziaur Rahman and H.M. Ershad after its initial democratic phase.

Differences:

- Bangladesh's path to independence was through a liberation war against Pakistan in 1971, fuelled by resentment against the political and cultural domination of West Pakistan and the suppression of Bengali language and culture. Pakistan's changes in government, including military takeovers, were largely internal political events.

- In the post-Cold War period, Bangladesh has largely sustained a representative democracy based on multi-party elections since 1991. Pakistan, while also having periods of elected governments, experienced a military coup in 1999 and a subsequent return to civilian rule in 2008, indicating a less stable democratic consolidation compared to Bangladesh.

OR

(b) The issues of cooperation and confrontation between India and Bangladesh are:

Issues of Cooperation:

- Economic Relations and Connectivity: Economic relations between India and Bangladesh have improved

considerably in the last 20 years. Bangladesh is also a crucial part of India's Look East (Act East since 2014) policy, aiming to connect with Southeast Asia through Myanmar. This highlights a shared interest in regional economic integration and enhanced connectivity.

- **Cooperation on Specific Issues:** The two countries cooperate on various specific issues such as disaster management and environmental concerns. Furthermore, in 2015, India and Bangladesh exchanged certain enclaves, demonstrating a commitment to resolving long-standing territorial issues through mutual agreement.

Issues of Confrontation:

- The sharing of waters from the Ganga and Brahmaputra rivers has been a persistent issue of disagreement between India and Bangladesh. Bangladeshi governments have felt that the Indian government behaves like a regional bully regarding the allocation of these crucial water resources.

- The Indian government has expressed unhappiness with Bangladesh's denial of illegal immigration to India and alleged support for anti-Indian Islamic fundamentalist groups operating from Bangladeshi territory. These issues create friction and mistrust in the bilateral relationship. In recent times India-Bangladesh relations have undergone significant change with regime change in 2025.

28. (a) International organisations like the United Nations (UN) are crucial in the contemporary world for several reasons. Firstly, they provide a platform for member states to discuss contentious issues and find peaceful solutions, preventing conflicts from escalating into wars.

Secondly, many global challenges, such as disease, global warming and terrorism, transcend national borders and require collective action. The UN and its specialised agencies like the WHO facilitate this international cooperation. They establish rules and mechanisms to ensure shared responsibility and benefits.

Thirdly, in a world with a dominant power like the US, the UN offers a space for dialogue and allows other nations to voice their opinions and potentially modify the policies of powerful states. While not a perfect check on any single power, it encourages discussion and compromise.

Finally, the UN engages in a wide range of activities promoting social and economic development, human rights, and other global issues through bodies like the UNDP, UNHCR and UNICEF. Despite its imperfections, the UN remains an indispensable organisation in an increasingly interconnected world.

OR

(b) After the Cold War, global politics underwent significant changes, reshaping international relations and the role of the United Nations. Four major changes that have influenced world affairs are:

- i. The dissolution of the USSR in 1991 led to the emergence of multiple independent nations, drastically altering the global power structure. The ideological battle between capitalism and communism weakened, and Russia, as the successor state, adopted a more cooperative approach with the West.

- ii. With the Soviet Union gone, the US became the dominant global force, influencing economic, military and diplomatic affairs. It led interventions in various conflicts, shaped global trade policies, and played a leading role in international organisations, including the UN.

- iii. Countries like China and India saw tremendous economic expansion, shifting the global economic centre towards Asia. China's rise as a major power and India's growing influence increased their role in global decision-making.

- iv. The post-Cold War world saw new threats like terrorism, climate change, nuclear proliferation and ethnic conflicts. These challenges required international cooperation, pushing for UN reforms to enhance global peace and stability.

29. (a) India's democratic framework has successfully accommodated regional demands, reflecting its commitment to diversity and inclusivity. Regional aspirations have emerged in different parts of the country, driven by factors such as linguistic, cultural, economic and political identities. Instead of suppressing these demands, India has largely responded through democratic negotiations, power-sharing and constitutional flexibility.

For instance, the Dravidian movement in Tamil Nadu, which initially had separatist tendencies, was accommodated through political representation and policy changes. Similarly, the peaceful merger of Sikkim into India in 1975 demonstrated how democratic processes could resolve regional aspirations. The creation of new states, such as Telangana in 2014, further highlights India's willingness to address regional concerns through constitutional means.

The Indian Constitution provides a federal structure with special provisions for certain regions, ensuring autonomy while maintaining national unity. Unlike many countries where regional movements have led to violent conflicts, India's approach fosters inclusion, preventing separatism.

The recognition of linguistic and cultural identities through state reorganisation and regional representation in governance further strengthens national integration. By addressing economic disparities and ensuring regional participation in decision-making, India continues to uphold its democratic ethos while maintaining unity in diversity. This adaptability has strengthened national integration, proving that democracy is the most effective means of managing diversity in a vast and pluralistic country like India.

OR

(b) Jammu and Kashmir has faced several challenges over the decades, significantly impacting its political stability, security and social fabric.

One of the major problems has been political instability. The region witnessed frequent changes in leadership, government dismissals and allegations of election rigging, leading to public resentment and distrust in the democratic process. The interference of the central government in state politics further deepened the crisis.

Secondly, the issue of insurgency and terrorism has plagued Jammu and Kashmir since the late 1980s. Armed

militant groups, often supported from across the border, have carried out violent attacks, resulting in the loss of lives of civilians, security personnel, and militants. This has led to heavy militarisation in the region, affecting the daily lives of the people.

Another major issue is the displacement of Kashmiri Pandits. In the early 1990s, many Pandits were forced to flee the Kashmir Valley due to rising militancy. This mass exodus not only disrupted the lives of thousands but also created a deep communal divide in the region. Their return remains a complex and unresolved issue even today.

30. (a) The State Reorganisation Commission was constituted in 1953 under the following circumstances:

Firstly, during the Indian national movement, the principle of linguistic identity as the basis for the formation of states was widely accepted and promised. The Nagpur session of the Congress in 1920 had even recognised this principle for the reorganisation of the Indian National Congress party itself.

Secondly, after independence and the partition of India, the central leadership initially decided to postpone the reorganisation of states on linguistic lines. This decision was driven by concerns that it could lead to disruption and disintegration, and divert attention from pressing social and economic issues. The unresolved status of Princely States and the fresh memories of Partition also contributed to this postponement. However, this decision faced strong opposition from local leaders and the people in various regions.

Thirdly, the intense and successful Vishalandhra movement in the Telugu-speaking areas of the old Madras province played a crucial role. The demand for a separate

Andhra state gained significant momentum, culminating in the death of Potti Sriramulu after an indefinite fast. This event triggered widespread unrest and violence, ultimately forcing the central government to announce the formation of a separate Andhra state in December 1952. The success of the Andhra movement increased similar demands from other linguistic regions, making the appointment of the States Reorganisation Commission necessary to address these growing pressures.

OR

(b) The accession of Manipur to India in 1949 occurred in the context of the broader integration of princely states after India's independence. A few days before 15 August 1947, the Maharaja of Manipur, Bodhachandra Singh, signed the Instrument of Accession with the Indian government. This agreement came with the assurance that the internal autonomy of Manipur would be maintained.

Under pressure from public opinion, the Maharaja held elections in Manipur in June 1948, establishing a constitutional monarchy and making Manipur the first part of India to conduct elections based on universal adult franchise. However, within the Manipur Legislative Assembly, there were significant disagreements regarding the merger of Manipur with India. While the State Congress supported the merger, other political parties were against it.

Ultimately, the Government of India successfully persuaded the Maharaja to sign a Merger Agreement in September 1949. This agreement superseded the initial Instrument of Accession and formally integrated Manipur into the Union of India.

Set-II

Q.P. Code: 59/2/2

SECTION - A

1. Option (D) is correct.

Explanation: The collapse of the Soviet Union had profound consequences, leading to a unipolar world order dominated by the US. The end of the Soviet bloc resulted in the emergence of new independent nations, each pursuing its own aspirations.

2. Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: In December 1991, Belarus, Russia and Ukraine declared the dissolution of the Soviet Union and established the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), marking the formal disbanding of the USSR.

8. Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: B.R. Ambedkar believed that India should align with the US-led bloc, as he saw Western democracies as better allies for economic growth and political stability. He was sceptical of socialism and viewed the USSR's model as unsuitable for India.

12. Option (A) is correct.

Explanation: The book *Limits to Growth* (1972) focuses on the **finite nature of Earth's resources** and warns that **unchecked economic and population growth could lead to resource depletion and environmental collapse.**

SECTION - B

13. One of the key challenges the European Union faces is that its member states maintain control over their own foreign relations and defence policies. This can sometimes lead to disagreements and a lack of unified action on the global stage. Another challenge is the presence of 'Euro-scepticism' in some parts of Europe, where people and governments are reluctant to grant more power to the EU. This resistance slows down efforts to deepen European integration and cooperation.

14. The Congress Party, in its early years, was primarily led by English-speaking, upper-caste, urban elites. However, as the movement for independence gained momentum, the party expanded its reach to include people from all walks of life—peasants, industrialists, urban and rural communities, workers and business owners. By the time India achieved independence, the Congress had transformed into a broad-based coalition, reflecting the country's immense diversity in terms of class, caste, religion, language and economic interests.

18. Traditionally, external security has been understood in terms of threats from outside a country's borders. Since there is no central global authority to regulate international relations, nations must always be

prepared for potential conflicts. Military preparedness—ensuring a country can defend itself against possible attacks—is a key component of this view. This was particularly important during the Cold War when the world was divided into rival military alliances.

SECTION - C

20. Indira Gandhi's popularity in the early 1970s was driven by several key factors. First, her decisive victory in the 1971 Lok Sabha elections, despite opposition from the Grand Alliance, established her dominance. Second, the successful handling of the Bangladesh Liberation War in 1971 showcased her leadership and strengthened her image as a strong nationalist. Third, her pro-poor policies, encapsulated in the slogan *Garibi Hatao*, resonated with marginalised sections like Dalits, Adivasis and the unemployed. Lastly, her socialist agenda, including land reforms and nationalisation of banks, reinforced her appeal among the masses. These factors collectively restored Congress's dominance and solidified Indira Gandhi's stature as an unchallenged leader in Indian politics.

23. In the early years after independence, India's foreign policy was shaped by its desire to remain independent in a world divided by the Cold War. Jawaharlal Nehru championed the policy of non-alignment, ensuring that India did not get drawn into military alliances led by the United States or the Soviet Union.

Beyond non-alignment, India actively worked towards strengthening unity among Asian and African nations. India was a founding member of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), which became a powerful platform for countries seeking an independent path in global politics.

Nehru's vision for India's foreign policy revolved around three main goals: protecting India's sovereignty, safeguarding its territorial integrity and accelerating economic development.

While India remained committed to peaceful coexistence, it did face conflicts with its neighbours. Still, the country emphasised diplomacy and cooperation, as seen in the Panchsheel Agreement with China, which sought to promote mutual respect and non-interference.

SECTION - E

29. (a) The secessionist movement in the Mizo Hills (1966–1986) was a result of historical, political and

economic factors. The Mizos felt culturally distinct from India, with some believing they were never part of British India. Their discontent grew when the Assam government failed to respond effectively to the devastating 1959 famine. This led to the formation of the Mizo National Front (MNF) under Laldenga, which launched an armed struggle for independence in 1966.

The Indian government responded with military action, including airstrikes, leading to widespread civilian suffering. The MNF waged a guerilla war, receiving support from Pakistan and shelter in East Pakistan. The conflict continued for two decades, creating deep alienation between the Mizos and the Indian state.

Eventually, political wisdom prevailed. Laldenga returned from exile, and under Rajiv Gandhi's leadership, peace talks led to the 1986 Mizoram Accord. Mizoram was granted statehood with special powers, and the MNF abandoned its secessionist demand. This peaceful resolution transformed Mizoram into a stable and prosperous state, setting an example of democratic conflict resolution.

OR

(b) The Assam Movement (1979–1985) was driven by a blend of cultural pride and economic concerns. The Assamese people feared the erosion of their identity due to the large-scale influx of illegal immigrants, particularly from Bangladesh. This demographic shift threatened their language, traditions and political representation, fuelling resentment.

At the same time, Assam, despite being rich in natural resources like oil and tea, remained economically backward. The locals felt alienated as outsiders dominated key industries, while unemployment and underdevelopment persisted. The perception that illegal migrants were taking away jobs and land aggravated tensions.

Led by the All Assam Students' Union (AASU), the movement demanded the identification and deportation of illegal immigrants. It saw widespread protests, strikes and even violence. The agitation culminated in the Assam Accord of 1985, which set a cut-off date for citizenship and promised safeguards for Assamese culture.

Though the accord brought temporary relief, issues of identity and economic marginalisation persist. The movement remains a landmark example of how cultural anxieties and economic grievances can intertwine to shape mass political mobilisation.

Set-III

Q.P. Code: 59/2/3

SECTION - A

1. Option (A) is correct.

Explanation: Both statements are true. Gorbachev faced opposition from reformists who wanted rapid changes and conservatives who feared losing power. This dual pressure contributed to political instability, ultimately leading to the Soviet Union's collapse.

2. Option (A) is correct.

Explanation: Boris Yeltsin played a crucial role in the Soviet Union's disintegration. He resisted the 1991 coup against Gorbachev, later championing Russian independence and reforms, accelerating the USSR's collapse.

8. Option (D) is correct.

Explanation: Indira Gandhi and Zulfikar Ali Bhutto signed the Shimla Agreement in 1972 after the 1971 Indo-Pak war. This agreement aimed to resolve conflicts peacefully and maintain bilateral relations through diplomatic dialogue.

12. Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: Agenda 21, a UN sustainable development action plan, promotes development practices focusing on environmental protection, economic growth and social equity to ensure long-term sustainability and resource conservation.

SECTION - B

13. In the 1970s, China made bold moves to end its isolation and open to the world. A major turning point came in 1972 when it established diplomatic relations with the United States, breaking decades of hostility.

Then, in 1978, under the leadership of Deng Xiaoping, China introduced the 'open door' policy—an ambitious set of economic reforms designed to boost productivity by inviting foreign investment and technology. This marked a clear shift from strict socialist policies to a more practical, market-oriented approach, setting the stage for China's rapid economic growth.

14. The Congress Party in India functioned as a broad and diverse political platform, bringing together leaders with different viewpoints. While it often leaned towards socialism, it also embraced liberal economic policies when needed. This ideological flexibility allowed for healthy internal debate, fostering both competition and consensus. By striking a balance on key issues and avoiding extreme positions, acting as an umbrella party, the party maintained its ability to represent a wide spectrum of interests over time.

18. When it comes to national security, countries rely on two key strategies: deterrence and defence. Deterrence works like a warning—it discourages potential attackers by showing that any aggression will be met with a strong response. If deterrence fails, defence kicks in, ensuring a country can protect itself from an actual attack.

Another important security strategy is forming alliances, where nations come together to strengthen their collective defence. Additionally, arms control plays a crucial role by setting limits on the development and spread of weapons, reducing the chances of conflict escalating.

SECTION - C

20. The Congress Party split in 1969 was the result of long-simmering tensions within the party. A major factor was the rivalry between Indira Gandhi and the 'Syndicate'—a powerful group of senior Congress leaders. While they initially backed her as Prime Minister, they expected her to remain dependent on their influence. However, she had other plans.

The breaking point came during the Presidential election in 1969. The Syndicate nominated N. Sanjeeva Reddy, but Indira Gandhi went against their choice and supported independent candidate V.V. Giri. When Giri won, it marked a decisive power shift and deepened the divide within the party.

Indira Gandhi framed the split as an ideological battle—presenting herself as a champion of the poor while

branding the Syndicate as representatives of the wealthy elite. Key policy differences also played a role, especially her push for bank nationalisation and the abolition of privy purses, which many in the Syndicate opposed. The situation escalated when Morarji Desai resigned from the government, further cementing the division. Ultimately, the split reshaped Indian politics, strengthening Indira Gandhi's leadership and setting the stage for a more centralised Congress.

23. The **Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP)** in the **Indian Constitution** include provisions aimed at promoting **international peace and security**. Four key **Directive Principles related to international peace** are:

1. **Promotion of International Peace and Security (Article 51(a))** – The state shall strive to promote international peace and security.

2. **Just and Honourable Relations with Nations (Article 51(b))** – India should maintain friendly and fair relations with other countries.

3. **Respect for International Law (Article 51(c))** – The state should encourage respect for **international law and treaty obligations**.

4. **Settlement of Disputes through Peaceful Means (Article 51(d))** – India should work towards resolving international disputes through **negotiation and arbitration**, rather than war.

SECTION - E

29. (a) The ongoing unrest in Jammu and Kashmir is rooted in a complex web of historical, political and socio-economic factors. It all began with the Partition of 1947, which left the region's status unresolved and led to the first war between India and Pakistan. The region was divided, with a significant part coming under Pakistan's control. In 1948, the United Nations recommended a plebiscite to let the people decide their future, but this was never fully implemented. Over time, this unfulfilled promise created a sense of alienation among those who wanted self-determination, keeping the conflict alive.

Another key issue was the special constitutional status granted to Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370. While it was meant to provide autonomy, perspectives on it were deeply divided. Many in the region saw it as a safeguard for their identity and rights, while others outside the state believed it prevented full integration with India. Over the years, the perceived erosion of this autonomy further fuelled tensions between Kashmir and the central government, adding to the unrest.

The situation took a dramatic turn in the late 1980s with the rise of militant movements advocating for a separate Kashmiri nation. Many of these groups reportedly received support from Pakistan, leading to an escalation of violence. In response, counter-insurgency operations were launched, resulting in widespread conflict, human rights concerns and deep scars on the social fabric of the region. The large-scale displacement of communities, such as the Kashmiri Pandits, further intensified the divisions. With ongoing political and security challenges, Kashmir continues to be caught in a cycle of unrest.

OR

(b) Bringing lasting peace to Jammu and Kashmir requires a thoughtful, inclusive approach that addresses its core issues while building trust among its people. Here are three key steps that could make a difference:

i. Meaningful Political Dialogue: The most important step is to engage in open and sustained conversations with all stakeholders—regional leaders, communities and different political groups. People in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh have diverse aspirations, and acknowledging them is crucial. The approach should move beyond just security measures and focus on finding a political solution that makes everyone feel heard. Examples from other regions, like Mizoram, show that peaceful settlements are possible when dialogue is prioritised.

ii. Strengthening Democracy and Governance: Restoring faith in democratic processes is essential. Holding free and fair elections with high participation, empowering local governance and ensuring transparency in administration can go a long way in rebuilding trust.

People in Kashmir need to see that their voices matter and that their concerns are addressed just like in any other part of India. Encouraging genuine political representation and strengthening institutions can provide a sense of stability and inclusion.

iii. Socio-Economic Development and Youth Empowerment: A major factor driving unrest is the lack of economic opportunities, particularly for the youth. Investing in education, skill development and job creation can offer alternatives to violence and disillusionment. A focus on equitable economic growth—ensuring that all communities benefit—can help bridge divides. Cross-border cooperation on trade and cultural exchanges, while keeping security concerns in mind, could also foster a more peaceful environment over time.

Peace in Jammu and Kashmir will not come overnight, but a thoughtful, people-centric approach can create a future where the region thrives in harmony. By addressing historical grievances, restoring trust in governance and providing meaningful opportunities, we can take steps towards lasting stability.

