

# Democratic Resurgence

## PART 1

### Objective Questions

#### • Multiple Choice Questions

1. Which judge of the Allahabad High Court declared Indira Gandhi's election as invalid?

- (a) Om Prakash Trivedi
- (b) Jagmohan Lal Sinha
- (c) Narain Dutt Ojha
- (d) Kunj Behari Srivastava

**Ans.** (b) Jagmohan Lal Sinha, the judge of Allahabad High Court declared Indira Gandhi's election as invalid.

2. Which of the following were included in the Twenty Point Programme launched by Indira Gandhi?

- (a) Land redistribution
- (b) Land reforms, review of agricultural wages
- (c) Workers participation in management, eradication of bonded labour
- (d) All of the above

**Ans.** (d) The Twenty Point Programme of Indira Gandhi included land reforms, land redistribution, review of agricultural wages, worker's participation in management, eradication of bonded labour etc.

3. Which of the following were the consequences of emergency imposed in 1975?

- (a) The government made large scale arrest under preventive detention
- (b) Press Censorship was imposed on newspapers
- (c) Fundamental Right were suspended
- (d) All of the above

**Ans.** (d) The consequences of emergency imposed in 1975 were that the government made large scale arrest under preventive detention, the press censorship was imposed on newspapers and the fundamental rights were suspended.

4. Name the leaders who founded the Communist Party of India (Marxist Leninist).

- (a) Jayaprakash Narayan      (b) George Fernandes
- (c) Charu Majumdar          (d) P Sundarayya

**Ans.** (c) Charu Majumdar founded the Communist Party of India (Marxist Leninist). It argued that democracy in India was a sham and decided to adopt a strategy of protracted guerrilla warfare in order to lead to a revolution.

5. Which of the following statement (s) is/are correct about the proclamation of emergency in 1975?

- (a) Power politics became personalised
- (b) Bitter party competition
- (c) Tensed relations between the government and judiciary
- (d) All of the above

**Ans.** (d) The proclamation of emergency in 1975 made party competition bitter, tensed the relations between the government and judiciary and the power politics became more personalised.

6. Consider the following statement(s) correct about the downfall of the Janata government.

- (a) The Janata Party could not keep together due to the internal conflict
- (b) It had good leaders
- (c) It lacked common programme
- (d) Both (a) and (c)

**Ans.** (d) The downfall of Janata government was because it could not keep together the party and its people due to the internal conflict and it lacked the common programme.

7. Arrange the following in correct chronology.

- (i) Shah Commission Appointed
- (ii) Railway Strike led by George Fernandes
- (iii) Declaration of Emergency by President Fakhruddin All Ahmed
- (iv) Peasant uprising in Naxalbari Police Station

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

**Ans.** (b) The correct chronology is

- Peasant uprising in Naxalbari Police Station– 1967
- Railway strike led by George Fernandes–1974
- Declaration of Emergency by President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed–1975
- Shah Commission was appointed in–1977

8. Choose the wrong statement from the given options.

- (a) Lohiya was one of the proponents of socialism in India.
- (b) Deendayal Upadhyaya championed the idea of 'Democratic Socialism' while associating with democracy.
- (c) Lohiya was a leader of Socialist Party.
- (d) Lohia considered both capitalism and communism equally irrelevant for Indian society.

**Ans.** (b) Ram Manohar Lohia has championed the idea of Democratic Socialism while associating his socialism with democracy. He considered both capitalism and communism equally irrelevant for Indian society. Hence, statement (b) is incorrect.

9. Why did the Janata Party government appoint a Commission of Inquiry headed by Justice JC Shah in May 1977? [CBSE 2020]

- (a) To inquire into several aspects of allegations of abuse of authority, excesses and malpractices committed during Emergency.
- (b) To inquire into matters related to constitutional provisions.
- (c) To give suggestive measures to the government regarding the actions taken during Emergency.
- (d) All of the above

**Ans.** (a) Janata Party government appointed a Commission of Inquiry headed by Justice JC Shah in May 1977 to inquire into several aspects of allegations of abuse of authority, excesses and malpractices committed during emergency.

10. Consider the following statements regarding the Emergency and select the incorrect one.

- (a) It was declared in 1975 by Indira Gandhi.
- (b) It led to the suspension of all Fundamental Rights.
- (c) It was proclaimed due to the deteriorating economic conditions.
- (d) Many opposition leaders were arrested during the Emergency.

**Ans.** (d) Option (c) is the incorrect statement regarding the emergency.

11. Find the odd one out in the context of proclamation of Emergency.

- (a) The Call for Total Revolution
- (b) The Railway Strike of 1974
- (c) The Naxalite Movement
- (d) The Allahabad High Court verdict

**Ans.** (c) The Naxalite Movement used force to snatch land from rich landowners and give it poor and the landless. Hence, it stands out in context of proclamation of Emergency.

12. .... helped in establishing equality and brotherhood in the society.

- (a) Social Revolution
- (b) Cultural Revolution
- (c) Spiritual Revolution
- (d) Thought Revolution

**Ans.** (a) Social Revolution helped in establishing equality and brotherhood in the society. It is a fundamental change in a society that involves a shift in power in a society.

13. Chouburja Rajneeti was advocated by which of the following leaders?

- (a) Fakhruddin Ali
- (b) Charu Majumdar
- (c) RM Lohiya
- (d) Jagmohan Lal Sinha

**Ans.** (c) Chouburja Rajneeti was advocated by Ram-Manohar Lohiya. Giving consideration to affirmative action, Lohia argued that policy of affirmative action should not only be for the downtrodden but also for women and non-religious minorities.

14. Study the picture given below and answer the questions that follows.



Identify the person behind Indira Gandhi in the picture.

- (a) DK Barooah
- (b) Morarji Desai
- (c) Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed
- (d) JC Shah

**Ans.** (a) This picture appeared few days before the declaration of emergency and captures the sense of impending political crisis. The man behind the chair is D. K. Barooah, the then Congress President.

15. Study the picture given below and answer question that follows.



LOOK, HE IS TRYING TO SUBVERT DEMOCRACY, CREATE CHAOS, GRAB POWER.....

What was the slogan of Janata Party to campaign in elections?

- (a) Save Democracy                      (b) Save India  
(c) End the Dominance                  (d) End the inequality

**Ans.** (a) Save Democracy was the slogan of Janata Party to campaign in elections. Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan was the founder General Secretary of the Congress Socialist Party and the Socialist Party. He became the symbol of opposition to Emergency and was the moving force behind the formation of Janata Party.

### ● Assertion-Reasoning MCQs

**Directions** (Q. Nos. 16-20) In the questions given below, there are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the Statements and choose the correct option.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.  
(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A  
(c) A is true, but R is false.  
(d) A is false, but R is true.

**16. Assertion** (A) Fundamental Rights of the citizens were suspended till the continuance of National Emergency.

**Reason** (R) Due to different viewpoints of people about the imposition of Emergency, it is the most debatable and controversial topic of Indian politics.

**Ans.** (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A. The government gets the power to curtail or restrict all or any fundamental rights during the emergency. The Emergency gave dictatorial powers to a democratically elected government. Hence, it arose different view points of people regarding the imposition of emergency.

**17. Assertion** (A) According to few of the political parties in India, the emergency was necessary to control the deteriorating condition of the country politics.

**Reason** (R) The Communist Party of India supported emergency due to international interference by using students as weapons for destroying democracy of the country, such bans on protest to some extent were necessary.

**Ans.** (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A. The CPI supported the emergency. According to CPI, there was a conspiracy to defame Indian democracy by using innocent students, making them protest and create a trouble to a democratic governance. Hence, some political parties felt the need of emergency to control the deteriorating conditions of the country.

**18. Assertion** (A) In the elections of 1971, Congress had given the slogan of 'Garibi Hatao' (remove poverty).

**Reason** (R) The social and economic condition in the country did not improve much after 1971-72.

**Ans.** (b) In 1971 election, the Congress gave the slogan 'Garibi Hatao' however, the social and economic condition in country did not improve. The Bangladesh crisis put a heavy strain on India's economy, after Pakistan war the US stopped all aid to India, oil prices increased etc. led to much hardship to the people. Hence, both statements are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.

**19. Assertion** (A) Upadhyaya identified nationalism, democracy and socialism as three principal 'isms' that affected the west.

**Reason** (R) Among these three 'isms' nationalism was the oldest and the strongest.

**Ans.** (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya was a philosopher, sociologist economist and politician. The philosophy presented by him is called Integral Humanism. He considered nationalism the oldest and strongest of all three 'isms'.

**20. Assertion** (A) The government suspended the Freedom of the Press and implemented press censorship during emergency.

**Reason** (R) Press used its freedom to provoke people to carry out unnecessary protests and demonstrations. Press was against the ruling government.

**Ans.** (c) A is true because deciding to use its special powers under emergency provisions, the government suspended the freedom of press. With freedom of speech being suspended as a Fundamental Right, the printing presses were raided and the circulation of newspaper were asked to take permission before publishing any piece.

### ● Case Based MCQs

**1.** Read the passage given below and answer the following questions.

Once an Emergency is proclaimed, the federal distribution of powers remains practically suspended and all the powers are concentrated in the hands of the Union Government. Secondly, the Government also gets the power to curtail or restrict all or any of the Fundamental Rights during the Emergency. It is clear that an Emergency is seen as an extraordinary condition in which normal democratic politics cannot function.

(i) Who among the following was the President of India during Emergency?

- (a) V V Giri  
(b) Morarji Desai  
(c) Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed  
(d) Ram Manohar Lohia

**Ans.** (c) Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed was the President of India during Emergency. He was the fifth President of India from 1947 to 1977.

- (ii) On what grounds Emergency was imposed?  
 (a) External threats (b) Internal disturbances  
 (c) Terrorist attacks (d) Both (a) and (b)

**Ans.** (b) On the ground of internal disturbances, the Emergency was imposed. It was officially issued by the President under Article 352 of the Constitution.

- (iii) Under which Article, Emergency was imposed in India?  
 (a) Article 350 (b) Article 352  
 (c) Article 356 (d) Article 360

**Ans.** (b) Under Article 352, the Emergency was imposed in India. The Emergency Provisions are contained in Part XVIII of the Constitution of India from Article 352 to 360.

- (iv) Which of the following were the implications of Emergency?  
 (a) All the powers got concentrated in the hands of the Union Government.  
 (b) Government also get the power to curtail all or any of the Fundamental Rights.  
 (c) Federal distribution of power remains practically suspended during that time.  
 (d) All of the above

**Ans.** (d) The implications of emergency were

- All the powers are concentrated by the centre.
- Centre becomes entitled to give executive directions to a state.
- Government can curtail or all or any of the Fundamental Rights.
- The Parliament becomes empowered to make laws on any subject mentioned in State List.

- (v) Emergency is an/a ..... condition in which normal democratic politics cannot function.  
 (a) helpful (b) extraordinary  
 (c) unnoticeable (d) inconspicuous

**Ans.** (b) Emergency is an extraordinary condition in which normal democratic politics cannot function. Unnoticeable and inconspicuous are opposite of extraordinary.

## PART 2

# Subjective Questions

### • Short Answer Type Questions

1. Why is the 'Emergency' and the period around it known as the Period of Constitutional Crisis? Explain. [Delhi 2013]

**Ans.** The Emergency and the period around it can be described as a period of constitutional crisis because it had its origin in the constitutional battle over the jurisdiction of the Parliament and the judiciary. It was also a period of political crisis because the party in power had absolute majority and yet, its leadership decided to

suspend the democratic process. The emergency is often regarded as a dark phase in independent India's history because this period was marked by controlled state incarceration, forceful prevention and government crackdown on civil liberties. There were reports of frequent human rights violations and the press being censored to a repressive extent.

The emergency was issued by President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed under Article 352(1) of the Constitution and lasted 21 long months beginning 25th June, 1975 and going on until 21st March, 1977. Several other human rights violations were reported from the time, including a forced mass-sterilisation campaign headed by Sanjay Gandhi, the Prime Minister's son. The Emergency is one of the most controversial periods of independent India's history.

2. Explain the reasons for the students movement of 1974 in Bihar and role played by Jayaprakash Narayan in this movement. [Delhi 2014]

**Ans.** Reasons for the students movement of 1974 in Bihar were as follows

- Rising prices of foodgrains, cooking oil and other essential commodities and corruption in high places.
- There was a demand for fresh elections to the State Legislature. Morarji Desai, a prominent leader of Congress (O), who was the main rival of Indira Gandhi, announced that he would go on an indefinite fast if fresh elections were not held in the state.

Role played by Jayaprakash Narayan in this movement was as follows

- He demanded the dismissal of the Congress Government in Bihar and gave a call for total revolution in the social, economic and political spheres.
- A series of bandhs, gehraos and strikes were organised in protest against the Bihar movement. The movement was beginning to influence national politics. Jayaprakash Narayan wanted to spread the Bihar movement to other parts of the country.
- In 1975, JP led a peoples March to the Parliament. This was one of the largest political rallies even held in capital.

3. Highlight any two constitutional issues between the Parliament and the judiciary during the 1970s. [All India 2019]

**Ans.** Two constitutional issues between the Parliament and judiciary during the 1970s were

- (i) On the issue of Fundamental Right and right to property, the Supreme Court denied the amendment to Constitution. While on the issue of Fundamental Right giving effect to Directive Principles, Parliament amended the Constitution, but later Supreme Court rejected it.
- (ii) Court gave a decision that there are some basic features of the Constitution and the Parliament cannot amend these basic features. This created tension between Parliament and Judiciary.

4. Analyse the grave crisis that compelled the government to impose a state of Emergency in the country. [CBSE 2019]

**Ans.** The grave crisis that compelled the Government to impose a state of Emergency were

- The opposition political parties led by Jayaprakash Narayan pressed for Indira Gandhi's resignation and organised a massive demonstration in Delhi's Ramlila grounds on 25th June, 1975.
- Jayaprakash announced a nationwide Satyagraha for her resignation and asked the army, the police and government employees not to obey "illegal and immoral orders." This too threatened to bring the activities of the government to a stand still. The political condition of the country had turned against the Congress.
- In the response government declared a state of emergency. On 25th June, 1975, the government declared that there was a threat of internal disturbance and therefore, it invoked Article 352 of the Constitution. Under the provision of this article the government could declare a state of emergency on grounds of external threat or a threat of internal disturbance. The government decided that a grave crises had arisen which made the proclamation of a state of emergency.

5. What reasons did the Government give for declaring a National Emergency in 1975? [NCERT]

**Ans.** The massive frequent protest, agitation and disruption led by the opposition parties under the leadership of JP and tussle between Indian Government and Judiciary prompted government to declare state of Emergency on 25th June, 1975. Government justified the declaration of Emergency on the following reasons

- There was a threat of internal disturbances which caused serious crisis which made declarations of Emergency necessary.
- In democracy, opposition parties must allow the elected ruling party to govern according to its policies. Frequent agitation, protest and disruption derailed government and democracy as well.
- Extra-Parliamentary politics targeting Government leads to instability and divert the focus of administration of law and order from development to maintenance.

6. The Shah Commission was appointed in 1977 by the Janata Party Government. Why was it appointed and what were its findings? [NCERT]

or Explain the findings of Shah Commission constituted after the end of Emergency of 1975. [Delhi 2009]

**Ans.** In May 1977, the Janata Party Government appointed Shah Commission of inquiry headed by Justice JC Shah, retired Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India. It was appointed to look into the misuse of authority by government and conduct of unethical practices like demolition of Jhuggis, forced sterilisation, etc. which were

conducted in the wake of Emergency. The commission gathered various evidences and recorded witnesses to give testimonies.

The findings of Shah Commission were

- It found out that Preventive Detention was widely used by the government. Around one lakh eleven thousand arbitrary arrests were made by the government.
- Newspapers were asked to get permission before publishing of any matter. In Delhi, Lieutenant Governor ordered General Manager of Delhi Power Supply to cut off the power supply of news press till they establish censorship apparatus.
- Jhuggi Jhopri were forcefully relocated in the barren area of Delhi and people were forcefully sterilised.

7. How did Janata Party make the 1977 elections into a referendum on the Emergency imposed in 1975? Explain. [Delhi 2016]

**Ans.** Janata Party made the election of 1977 into a referendum on the Emergency imposed in 1975 in the following ways

- Janata Party's campaign focussed on the non-democratic character of the rule and on the various excesses that took place during this period.
- In the backdrop of arrests of thousands of persons and the censorship of the press, the public opinion was against the Congress.
- Jayaprakash Narayan who led the party became the popular symbol of restoration of democracy.
- The party ensured that non-Congress votes would not be divided.

8. Why Janata Party could not maintain its position? What happened to it? [NCERT]

**Ans.** The Janata Party could not maintain its position because it was made up of different parties with different views and ideologies. Even the agendas of these parties were different. The only common agenda shared by all parties were to overthrow Indira's Government which they achieved, but after that the differences began to come up.

Disagreement could not maintain the stability for a long time. It cost its position after a short span of time. In 1980, again elections were held and Janata Party lost its position to the Congress. Congress won with good number of seats in Lok Sabha.

9. What were the reasons which led to the mid-term elections in 1980? [NCERT]

**Ans.** Janata Party had many differences within itself. It lacked direction, leadership and a common programme. The Janata Party could not make any fundamental change to policies. Disagreements among members prevented it to do so.

The Janata Party split after 18 months of its formation. Gaining from the scenario, Chaudhary Charan Singh formed its government with the support of Congress, but Congress withdrew its support after a short period of four months.

Thus, due to these reasons in 1980, fresh Lok Sabha elections were conducted in which Janata Party suffered a defeat and Congress seemed to gain its position back. Congress won 353 out of 542 seats in Lok Sabha. Congress restored itself again in 1980 Lok Sabha elections.

**10.** Analyse any three lessons learnt from the Emergency of 1975. [Delhi 2015]

**Ans.** The three lessons of Emergency were

- (i) Though many observers who thought that India ceased to be democratic during the Emergency but it proved wrong and normal democratic functioning reduced within a short span of time and in this context it is said that it is extremely difficult to do away with democracy in India.
- (ii) Secondly, it highlighted some ambiguities regarding the Emergency provision in the constitution that have been corrected. Now 'internal' Emergency can be proclaimed only on the grounds of 'armed rebellion' and advice to President to proclaim Emergency must be given in writing by the Council of Ministers.
- (iii) Thirdly, Emergency made everyone realise the value of the civil liberties. The court too have become active after the Emergency in protecting the civil liberties of the individuals.

**11.** Write a short note on Jayaprakash Narayan.

**Ans.** Jayaprakash Narayan, popularly referred to as JP or Lok Nayak (The People's Leader), was an Indian independence activist, theorist, socialist and political leader. Jayaprakash Narayan is known for three key contributions: Fight Against Corruption, Principle of Communitarian Socialism and Championing of 'Total Revolution'.

He was the first leader in post-independence India who undertook a tirade against corruption through the participation of youth, particularly in Gujarat and Bihar. He advocated the office of Lokpal against corruption. His principle of Communitarian Socialism views India as a society of communities encompassing three key layers, viz., community, region and rashtra— all combine together as an example of true federation.

**12.** Discuss the views against the Emergency given by the critics.

**Ans.** Some of the views against the Emergency are discussed below

- Critics of emergency argued that India had history of such movements including freedom movement and also people had the right to protest against government in democracy.

- As Emergency was imposed to curb the law and order situation but on the other hand, the Home Ministry which was monitoring the internal situation of the country did not express any concern about law and order situation in the country.
- Even if some agitations like Bihar and Gujarat had overstepped their limits, there was no need to suspend the democratic functioning of the country.
- Critics also held that Indira Gandhi had misused constitutional provision for saving her personal power instead of saving the country.

## • Long Answer Type Questions

**1.** Why is Emergency considered to be one of the most controversial episodes in Indian politics? Analyse any three reasons. [Delhi 2009]

**Ans.** Emergency is one of the most controversial episodes in Indian politics. Most of promises by the government remained unfulfilled that were simply meant to divert attention from the excesses that were taking place. They question the use of Preventive Detention on such a large scale. Many prominent political leaders were arrested. In all, 676 opposition leaders were arrested.

Some of the reasons are discussed below

- The Shah Commission estimated that nearly one lakh eleven thousand people were arrested under Preventive Detention laws. Severe restrictions were put on the press, sometimes without proper legal sanctions.
- The Shah Commission report mentions that the General Manager of the Delhi Power Supply Corporation Received verbal orders from the office of the Lt. Governor of Delhi to cut electricity of all newspaper presses at 2:00 am on 26th June, 1975. Electricity was restored two to three days later after the censorship apparatus had been set-up.
- Democracy remained suspended during Emergency. Democratic way of expression of feeling, anger, dissatisfaction, etc through protest, agitation, etc were crushed bitterly by government. And Emergency was imposed by the Government despite having majority to crush the democratic movement against the ruling party.
- Government suspended the freedom of press, newspapers were asked to take permission before publishing any matter. Fundamental Rights of citizens were suspended including the right to move to the court for restoring Fundamental Rights.

**2.** Discuss the effects of Emergency on the following aspects for our polity. [NCERT]

- (i) Effects on civil liberties for citizens.
- (ii) Impact on relationship between the Executive and Judiciary.
- (iii) Functioning of Mass Media.
- (iv) Working of Police and Bureaucracy.

**Ans (i) Effect on Civil Liberties for Citizens**

- Large scale arrest of leaders and workers of the opposition parties were made under Preventive Detention act.
- Forced relocation and sterilisation of poor.
- Suspension of Fundamental Rights and available constitutional remedies.

**(ii) Impact on Relationship between the Executive and Judiciary**

- Rising conflict between government and judiciary.
- In the background of the ruling of Allahabad High Court, an amendment was brought that elections of Prime Minister, President and Vice President cannot be challenged in the court.
- 42nd Amendment was also passed to bring series of changes in constitution like duration of legislature, etc.

**(iii) Functioning of Mass Media**

- Government imposed press censorship suspending the freedom of press, newspapers and magazine to publish anti-government contents. Newspapers were asked to get prior permission from government before publishing any content.
- Newspaper like Indian Express and Statesmen protested against press censorship by leaving blank spaces where news items were censored.

**(iv) Working of Police and Bureaucracy**

- Government used police and bureaucracy to commit suppression, torture and atrocities on leaders and workers of opposition parties.
- Police and bureaucracy were misused to meet agenda of ruling party.

**3. Describe any three major political developments that took place in India after the lifting of Emergency in 1977.**

**Ans.** Three major political developments that took place in India after the lifting of Emergency in 1977 were as follows

(i) **Janata Party** It accepted the leadership of Jayaprakash Narayan. Some leaders of the Congress who opposed the Emergency also joined this new party. Some other Congress leaders also came out and formed a separate party under the leadership of Jagjivan Ram. This party named as Congress for Democracy which later merged with the Janata Party. Janata Party made this election into a referendum on the Emergency. Its campaign was focussed on the non-democratic character of the rule and torture, atrocities, suppression, etc that took place during Emergency.

(ii) **Result of 1977 Elections** The final result of 1977 election was surprising because the Congress was defeated in the Lok Sabha elections for the first time since independence. In North India, it was a massive

electoral wave against the Congress. The Congress lost in every constituency in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana and the Punjab. It could hardly won any seat each in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. Indira Gandhi was defeated from Rae Bareli and her son Sanjay Gandhi from Amethi. The impact of Emergency was not felt equally in all the states.

The forced relocations and displacements, the forced sterilisation, were mostly concentrated in the Northern states. The middle castes from North India were moving away from the Congress and Janata party became a platform for many of these sections to come together.

(iii) **Split between Janata Government and Janata Party** Janata Party Government that came to power after 1977 elections was far from unity. There was stiff competition among Morarji Desai, Charan Singh and Jagjivan Ram for the post of Prime Minister. Finally, Morarji Desai became the Prime Minister but internal power struggle within the party continued.

The Janata Party Government did not bring any fundamental change in policies that pursued by the Congress. The Janata Party split and the government led by Morarji Desai lost its majority in less than 18 months. Another Government headed by Charan Singh was formed on the assurance of the support of the Congress party.

Fresh elections to Lok Sabha were held in January 1980 in which Janata Party lost badly, particularly in North India where it had swept the polls in 1977. Congress party under the leadership of Indira Gandhi repeated its great victory. It won 353 seats and form the government.

**4. Explain the major outcome of 1977 Lok Sabha elections.**

**Ans.** The major outcomes of 1977 Lok Sabha elections were

- The Janata Party successfully achieved what it desired for. The democratic outlook attracted the masses and result of 1977 Lok Sabha elections worked in its favour.
- The result of 1977 Lok Sabha elections was a big shock and surprise to Congress and Janata Party respectively.
- It was for the first time when Congress had lost the election at centre ever since the independence.
- Janata Party won 330 out of 542 seats, while Congress had to satisfy with only 154 seats.
- In North India, Congress had bitterest experience. In Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana and Punjab, Congress rule was outrightly rejected.
- Indira Gandhi from Rae Bareli and her son Sanjay Gandhi from Amethi were defeated too.
- Congress manages to save many seats in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Odisha and Southern states and this was a great relief to the Congress.

- Congress managed to do so, because the impact of Emergency was comparatively less in Southern part. North India witnessed the harshest measures like displacement of people, sterilisation, etc. Janata Party also gave a perfect alternative to the people of North India. People began to move away from Congress, specially the middle class.

**5.** Analyse the circumstances responsible for the declaration of a state of Emergency in India on 25th June, 1975. [Delhi 2016]

**Ans.** The circumstances which led to the proclamation of Emergency were

- (i) Bihar and Gujarat's movement created an unrest in the country. Students were protesting against the price rise and against the established Government in the states. Congress as ruling party failed to handle these protests. Leadership by influential leaders further gave them a momentum against government.
- (ii) Increase in Naxalite activities against government and violent nature troubled the government. Naxalite had an anti- government view. Even harsh measures by government could not stop them.
- (iii) George Fernandes gave a call for nationwide strike to all the railwaymen. Their demands were suppressed by the government. Shutdown of such a big institution created a havoc in the country.
- (iv) Declaration of Indira Gandhi's 1971 election invalid was a last straw. Jayaprakash Narayan organised a massive demonstration demanding her resignation. The situation was tense and Emergency was declared on 25th June, 1975.
- (v) Call of total revolution by Jayaprakash Narayan and unexpected people movement in Delhi.
- (vi) Jayaprakash Narayan announced a nationwide Satyagraha for resignation and asked the army, the police and government employees not to obey illegal and immoral orders.

**6.** Evaluate the consequences of declaration of Emergency in 1975. [All India 2014]

**Ans.** Consequences of declaration of Emergency in 1975 were as follows

- (i) During Emergency, democracy was suspended the federal distribution of powers remains practically suspended and all the powers were concentrated in the hands of the Union Government. It was made clear that a democratic country like India could not do away from democracy. Wide protest against Emergency arose to restore democracy.
- (ii) Several changes to Constitution came into existence, e.g. election of Prime Minister, President and Vice President could not be challenged in the Supreme Court. 42nd Amendment came during this time and duration of legislature increased from 5 to 6 years.

- (iii) The government also gets the power to curtail or restrict all or any of the Fundamental Rights during the Emergency.
- (iv) During Emergency, government gets extra powers. They have the power to suspend the Fundamental Rights of the citizens. Measures like Preventive Detention could be used by government. Right to move the court for the restoration of Fundamental Rights were taken away.
- (v) Government ordered newspaper press to censor the matter. The prior approval of government was made necessary before publishing any article in newspaper to avoid anti-government feeling.

**7.** Explain the three democratic upsurges that emerged in the post- independence history of India.

**Ans.** Increasing participation of the people in the democratic politics of the country is broadly characterised as democratic upsurge. Social scientists have characterised three democratic upsurges in post-independence history of India that are discussed below

- The 'First Democratic Upsurge' could be attributed from the 1950s till 1970s which was based on the participation of Indian adult voters to the democratic politics both at the centre and in states. Falsifying the western myth that the success of democracy requires modernisation, urbanisation, education and access to media, the successful holding of elections to both Lok Sabha and legislative assemblies all across states on the principle of parliamentary democracy were the testimony of India's first democratic upsurge.
- During the 1980's, the increasing political participation of the lower classes of the society such as SCs, STs and OBCs has been interpreted as 'Second Democratic Upsurge' by Yogendra Yadav. This participation has made Indian politics more accommodative and accessible for these classes. Although this upsurge has not made any major change in the standard of living of these classes, especially Dalits, the participation of these classes into the organisational and political platforms gave them the opportunity to strengthen their self- respect and ensure empowerment in the democratic politics of the country.
- The era of Liberalisation, Privatisation and Globalisation from the early 1990s is attributed to the emergence of a competitive market society encompassing all important sectors of economy, society and polity thus paving way for the 'Third Democratic Upsurge'. The Third Democratic Upsurge represents a competitive electoral market which is based not on the principle of survival of the best but rather the survival of the ablest. It underlines three shifts in India's electoral market: from State to Market, from Government to Governance, from State as Controller to State as Facilitator.

**8.** Explain the idea of Socialism advocated by Ram Manohar Lohiya.

**Ans.** Ram Manohar Lohiya was a socialist leader and thinker, freedom fighter and among the founders of the Congress Socialist Party, after the split in the parent party, the leader of the Socialist Party and later Samyukta Socialist Party member.

- He was one of the proponents of socialism in India. He championed the idea of 'Democratic Socialism' while associating with democracy.
- Lohia considered both capitalism and communism equally irrelevant for Indian society. His principle of Democratic Socialism has two objectives.
  - (i) The economic objective in the form of food and housing.
  - (ii) The non-economic objective in the form of democracy and freedom.
- Lohiya advocated Chouburja Rajneeti in which he opines four pillars of politics as well as socialism: Centre, Region, District and Village, all are linked with each other. By giving consideration to affirmative action, he argued that the policy of affirmative action should not only be for the downtrodden but also for the women and non-religious minorities.
- He supported a 'Party of Socialism' as an attempt of merging all political parties based on the premise of democratic socialism and Chouburja Rajneeti. The party of Socialism according to Lohiya should have three symbols, viz, Spade (prepared to make efforts), Vote (power of voting) and Prison (willingness to make sacrifices).

### • Case Based Questions

**1** Read the passage and answer the questions below.

Indian democracy was never so close to a two-party system as it was during the 1977 elections. However, the next few years saw a complete change.

Soon after its defeat, the Indian National Congress split into two groups .....The Janata Party also went through major conclusions..... David Butler, Ashok Lahiri and Prannoy Roy.

—Partha Chatterjee

- (i) What made the party system in India look like a two-party system in 1977?
- (ii) Many more two parties existed in 1977. Why are the authors describing this period as close to a two-party system?

(iii) What caused splits in Congress and the Janata Parties?

- Ans.**
- (i) The emergence of Janata Party as a majority winner at centre first time since independence looked like a two-party system.
  - (ii) Although more than just two parties existed in 1977, however, author described this period as close to a two-party system because only two major parties Congress and Janata Party have mass base support and mobilisation to form majority government.
  - (iii) The split in Congress took over the issue of Presidential election in 1969 and in Janata Party, split occurred due to internal deadlock over the post of Prime Ministership in 1979.

**2.** Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

The opposition to Emergency could keep the Janata party together only for a while. Its critics felt that Janata Party lacked direction, leadership and a common programme. The Janata Party Government could not bring about a fundamental change in policies from those pursued by the Congress. The Janata Party split and the government which was led by Morarji Desai lost its majority in less than 18 months. Another government headed by Charan Singh was formed on assurance of the support of the Congress Party. [CBSE 2020]

- (i) In which year did the Janata Party government come to power?
  - (iii) Why could the Charan Singh government remain in power for just about four months only?
  - (ii) Which of the following reasons were responsible for the split of the Janata Party?
- Ans.**
- (i) Janata Party Government came to power in 1977.
  - (ii) Charan Singh government remained in power for just about four months only because it formed government on the appearance of the support given by the Congress Party and the party later decided to withdraw its support from his government.
  - (iii) The reasons responsible for split of the Janata Party were
    - It lacked directions, leadership and a common programme.
    - A stiff competition among the leaders of Janata Party for post of PM.
    - There was no fundamental change in policies.

3. Observe the picture given below carefully and answer the following questions.



- (i) Identify and name the person holding in his hand, the placard 'save democracy'. In your opinion, the group of five persons belongs to which political party?
- (ii) According to the group of five, what are the intentions of the person sitting on 'Dharna'?
- (iii) Which issues are responsible for the downfall of democracy are highlighted in the picture?

- Ans.**
- (i) Jayaprakash Narayan is holding the placard 'save democracy'. In the above picture, the group of five persons belong to Congress Party.
  - (ii) The intentions of the person sitting on 'Dharna' are to support democracy, create chaos and grab power.
  - (iii) Corruption, lawlessness, violence, etc are responsible for the downfall of democracy.

4. Study the picture given below and answer the questions that follow.



- (i) What situation does the picture refer to?
  - (ii) Which Commission is represented into the picture?
  - (iii) Mention some points of this Commission's report.
- Ans.**
- (i) Appearance of Indra Gandhi before Commission but refused to answer any question.
  - (iii) Shah Commission is represented in the picture.
  - (iii)
    - There were many excess committed during emergency.
    - Several restrictions were put on the press sometimes without legal sanction.
    - Many people were arrested under preventive detention law.
    - Even general manager of Delhi Power Supply Corporation received verbal orders from the officers of Lt. Governor of Delhi to cut electricity to all newspaper presses at 2 am on 26th June, 1975.

# Chapter Test

## Objective Type Questions

1. Which of the following problems country faces during 1967 elections?  
(a) Period characterised by Serious economic crisis.  
(b) Depletion of foreign exchange reserves.  
(c) The devaluation of India Rupee.  
(d) All of the above
2. The demand for dismissal of Congress Government was demanded in Bihar because .....  
(a) To change the scenario  
(b) To establish true democracy  
(c) To conduct re-elections  
(d) All of these
3. In which year AN Ray was appointed as the Chief Justice removing the seniority of three judges which generated a political controversy?  
(a) 1971  
(b) 1972  
(c) 1973  
(d) 1974
4. In 1977 elections Congress party won only ..... seats.  
(a) 120  
(b) 154  
(c) 155  
(d) 157
5. According to Deendayal Upadhyaya Swadeshi and ..... are the foundations of Economic Democracy.  
(a) Development  
(b) Centralisation  
(c) Decentralisation  
(d) Inflation

## Short Answer Type Questions

1. State any two reasons which added to Indira's problems after 1971 elections.
2. What was the reason behind the invalidity of Indira's 1971 election?
3. Explain Preventive Detention. How was it used during Emergency.
4. What was the explanation of government behind using draconian provisions of Emergency?

## Long Answer Type Questions

1. On what grounds Emergency was declared on 25th June, 1975?
2. Explain the contest between Janata Party and Congress in 1977 Lok Sabha elections.
3. What special powers does a government enjoy during Emergency? How did it help Indira in 1975?
4. Highlight constitutional issues between the Parliament and the Judiciary during the 1970s.

## Answers

1. (d)      2. (b)      3. (c)      4. (b)      5. (c)