

Maharashtra State Board
Political Science
Sample Question Paper – 2
Academic Year: 2024-2025

Note:

1. All the questions are compulsory.
2. Figures to the right indicate full marks.
3. Minimum of 4 points are expected for sub-questions of 4 marks.
4. Write answers to each question on new page.

Q1.A | Choose the correct alternative and complete the following statement:

1.A.1. ____ is a core value of good governance.

1. Rule of law

2. Judiciary
3. Empowerment

Solution:

Rule of law is a core value of good governance.

1.A.2. The term 'socialist market economy' is used to describe the system in ____.

1. India
- 2. China**
3. France
4. United States

Solution:

The term 'socialist market economy' is used to describe the system in **China**.

1.A.3. Catalonia wants independence from ____.

1. Frances

2. Spain

3. Italy

4. Germany

Solution:

Catalonia wants independence from Spain.

1.A.4. The term 'socialist market economy' is used to describe the system in ____.

1. India

2. China

3. France

4. United States

Solution:

The term 'socialist market economy' is used to describe the system in China.

1.A.5. The core of non-alignment was ____.

1. Independent understanding of world affairs

2. Participation in cold war

3. Democratic socialism as policy

4. Policy of regionalism

Solution:

The core of non-alignment was Independent understanding of world affairs.

Q1.B | Identify the incorrect pair in every set, correct and rewrite it:

1.B.1. Identify the incorrect pair in the set and rewrite.

1. Green peace movement - Non-political actor

2. Amnesty international - Voluntary organisation

3. Terrorist organisation - Political actor

Solution:

Terrorist organisation - Political actor

Explanation: Correct Pair: Terrorist organisations - Non-political actor

1.B.2. Identify the incorrect pair in every set, correct it, and rewrite.

1. Jawaharlal Nehru - Discovery of India

2. Struggle for rights of Tamil - LTTE

3. National Integration Council - Article 370

Solution:

National Integration Council - Article 370

Explanation: Correct Pair: National Integration Council - 1962

1.B.3. Identify the incorrect group or factor.

1. 73rd constitutional Amendment - Panchayati Raj

2. Azadi Movement - West Bengal

3. IAS - Indian Administrative Service

Solution:

Azadi Movement - West Bengal

Explanation: Correct Pair: Azad Movement - Jammu and Kashmir

Q1.C | State the appropriate concepts for the given statement:

1.C.1. State the appropriate concept for the given statement:

Terrorist motivated by an abstract religious ideology.

Solution:

Modern terrorism

1.C.2. State the appropriate concept for the given statement:

Indiscriminate cutting a trees.

Solution:

Deforestation

1.C.3. A state with a leading position in international politics with abilities to influence global politics.

Solution:

Super power

1.C.4. State the appropriate concept for the given statement:

A borderless company.

Solution:

Transnational Corporation

Q1.D | Complete the following sentences by using appropriate reasons:

1.D.1. India was forced to take a loan from the International Monetary Fund in 1990; because ____.

1. Panchayati Raj had failed
2. to content popular anger about price rise

3. to overcome financial difficulties

4. Panchayati Raj in 1990

Solution:

India was forced to take a loan from the International Monetary Fund in 1990; because **to overcome financial difficulties.**

1.D.2. The reason for the American displeasure was ____.

1. India Kashmir policy.

2. India Criticism of America's intervention in Vietnam.

3. India's friendship with USSR.

Solution:

The reason for the American displeasure was **India Criticism of America's intervention in Vietnam.**

1.D.3. The 'Maastricht' Treaty is with reference to ____.

1. United Nations Peace Keeping Force

2. European Union

3. American interventions in Kuwait

4. Creation of BRICS

Solution:

The 'Maastricht' Treaty is with reference to European Union.

1.D.4. Uniliver is a transnational corporation, because ____.

1. it does not have any country as its base.

2. it operates to many countries.

3. it does not observe rules and regulations of any one country.

Solution:

Uniliver is a transnational corporation, because it does not have any country as its base.

Q1.E | Find the odd one out and rewrite:

1.E.1. Find the odd word out and rewrite:

International Agency

1. Reserve Bank of India

2. International Monetary Fund

3. World Bank

4. Asian Development Bank

Solution:

Reserve Bank of India

1.E.2. Find the odd one.

1. SAARC

2. Shanghai co-operation organization

3. PLO

4. ASEAN

Solution:

PLO

1.E.3. Find the odd word out and rewrite:

1. GATT
2. GATS
3. TRIPS
4. WTO

Solution:

WTO

1.E.4. Find the odd word out and rewrite.

Things related to globalisation

1. Mobile phone
2. Satellite
3. Internet

4. Gramophone

Solution:

Gramophone

Q2.A. Complete the concept map.



Solution:



Q2.B. Observe the Map and answer the following questions:



1. Where is Kuwait situated?
2. Which countries share borders with Kuwait?
3. Which countries share borders with Iraq?
4. What is grievance of Iraq?
5. Why is the U.S.A. interested in Kuwait?

Solution:

1. Kuwait is situated next to Iraq and was regarded as its 19th province by Iraq.
2. Saudi Arabia, Iran and Qatar, besides Iraq share border with Kuwait.
3. Syria, Jordan, Saudi, Iran and America besides Kuwait share border with Iraq.

4. The British split-up Ottoman Empire arbitrarily and separated Kuwait from Iraq.
5. The U.S.A. is interested in Kuwait because Kuwait had one of the largest deposits of petroleum.

Q3 | State with reason whether the following statements are true or false (Any 5):

3.A. State whether the following statement is true or false with reason.

Globalisation has not benefited the small farmers in India.

1. True

2. False

Solution:

This statement is **True**.

Explanation:

The small farmers are unable to compete with multinational and transnational companies.

3.B. State whether the following statement is true or false with reason.

The offices of the Lokpal and Lokayukta was created in India.

1. True

2. False

Solution:

This statement is **True**.

Explanation: It was necessary to establish control over corruption in administrative agencies.

3.C. State whether the following statement is true or false with reason.

The decades of 1990's is regarded as the golden age of humanitarian intervention.

1. True

2. False

Solution:

This statement is **True**.

Reason - The United Nation intervened in Cambodia, Somalia and Yugoslavia in 1990's for humanitarian reasons.

3.D. State whether the following statement is true or false with reason.

Capital investment is one-way process.

1. True

2. False

Solution:

This statement is **False**.

Explanation: India welcomes foreign direct investment in capital goods and consumer industries.

3.E. State whether the following statement is true or false with reason.

The Problem of National integration is universal.

1. True

2. False

Solution:

This statement is **True**.

Explanation: There is need to achieve social harmony by having meaningful dialogue with different sections of population.

3.F. State whether the following statement is true or false with reason.

The United Nations has its army.

1. True

2. False

Solution:

This statement is **False**.

Explanation: The United Nations does not have its own army. But in order to maintain international peace and security member states of the United Nations have created a peacekeeping force out of their own military resources.

3.G. State whether the following statement is true or false with reason.

Investment in consumer goods industries is essential the economic development of India.

1. True

2. False

Solution:

This statement is **False**.

Explanation: These investments take place in both infrastructural sector and consumer sector. Foreign companies have invested in building airports, nuclear power plants, etc. in India.

Q4 | Explain the correlation between the following (Any 3):

4.A. Explain the co-relationship between the following:

Directive principles of state policy and India's foreign policy.

Solution:

- i. Article 51 of the directive principles of state policy stipulates, among other things, that the Indian government shall work toward the development and maintenance of world peace and security.
- ii. Since India gained independence, Article 51 has served as a guide for developing and carrying out its foreign policy.
- iii. India's non-alignment foreign policy aims to promote and uphold world peace and security.

4.B. Explain co-relation between the following.

Melting pot and identity of USA.

Solution:

- i. The concept of Melting Pot was used to describe the American society.
- ii. Its basic idea presents the whole nation as one large pot. Anyone who enters the United States is automatically thrown into this "pot".
- iii. A process of assimilation into the American belief systems takes place.

- iv. A new identity as an American is formed by melting the previous identity as French, Italian, Asian, or African.

4.C. Explain the co-relationship between the following:

India as Salad Bowl.

Solution:

- i. India, unlike America, is not a country of immigrants, and each region's population has its own unique character.
- ii. Every unique culture or belief is regarded as a component that adds to the overall, which is Indian culture.
- iii. India's culture is a fusion of many different cultures.
- iv. It is described as a "Salad Bowl" of diversity and unity.

4.D. Explain the co-relation between the following:

Ethnic nationalism and Emergence of new states.

Solution:

- i. The revolution of the East European states was a revolution of growing aspirations of the middle class.
- ii. They rose against the communist governments that were controlled by the Soviet Union and emerged as free democratic states.
- iii. Meanwhile, the ethnic identity of the various people of the region became stronger.
- iv. This led to the demand for the creation of independent states based on ethnic identity.

4.E. Explain the correlation between the following.

Good Governance and E-Governance.

Solution:

- Good Governance aims to replace traditional public administration riddled with corruption and red-tapism and to make it more citizen-centric, responsible, and responsive. The core values of good governance include efficiency, inclusiveness, being consensus-oriented, transparency, accountability, etc. Specific programs aimed at good governance include

setting up of Lokpal and Lokayuktas, Creating of Citizen's Charters, Right to Information Act, institutional mechanisms like NHRC, NCW, etc.

- E-Governance is one of the most important aspects of good governance. It involves the employment of Information and Communications Technology (I.C.T) to facilitate efficient and instant transmission and processing of information as well as storing and retrieval of data. Thus, e-governance helps to implement core values of good governance such as transparency, effectiveness, accountability, and participation of citizens.

Q5 | Explain your opinion in 25 to 30 words (Any 3) :

5.A. Express your Opinion:

Active participation of citizens is a requirement of participatory democracy. Discuss.

Solution:

1. The Community Development Programme, the Government of India's most comprehensive rural development programme, was completely unsuccessful since there was no public involvement.
2. The civil service organisations foster local engagement and have produced fruitful outcomes.
3. With people's active participation, representative democracy's functioning will improve.
4. It will guarantee administrative accountability and promote openness in how the government operates.

5.B. Express your opinion.

Regionalism in international politics.

Solution:

Countries that lie in geographical proximity create or join regional organisations that are based on common political, ideological, economic, and infrastructural concerns. Some nations make special agreements regarding trade and economic cooperation. This is called a trade bloc.

1. European Union (EU) was created in 1992 by the Maastricht Treaty. It led to increased spheres of cooperation between European nations e.g. foreign affairs, defense, trade, and the creation of the Euro as a common currency. The creation of the Schengen Area is one of the achievements of the EU since the

Schengen visa allows eligible individuals to travel freely within the 26 nations of the Schengen area.

2. ASEAN created in 1967 with headquarters at Jakarta comprises of 10 South-East Asian nations such as Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, etc. It aims to promote political economic and security cooperation among its members.
3. SAARC formed in 1985 at Dhaka with 7 members. Today, it has 8 member countries of South Asia like India, Bhutan, Pakistan, etc. It aims to promote regional integration and economic development. Its main achievement is the SAFTA.
4. BIMSTEC - is a regional organisation founded in 1997 comprising of 7 member countries lying around the Bay of Bengal for eg Bangladesh, India, Thailand, Myanmar. It aims to facilitate collaboration in economic, security, and other concerns between member States.

5.C. Explain your opinion.

Liberal Democracy

Solution:

Liberal democracy is a form of representative democracy. Liberal democracy is currently one of the dominant political ideologies in the world. It gives importance to individual liberty. Liberal democracy is characterized by the presence of a few important features i.e. Universal suffrage, Free and fair elections, Competitive party politics, Rule of law. Considering all this, it can be said that liberal democracy is essential.

5.D. Express your opinion of the following.

Participatory State is beneficial to the society.

Solution:

1. Participatory State advocates more involved forms of citizen participation and greater political representation than traditional representative democracy.
2. It goes beyond traditional democratic practices wherein decisions are made by the majority. In a participatory State, all sections of the society are involved in the making of policy.
3. Participatory State is beneficial as it gives citizens a central role in public policy through public discussion, negotiations, voting, etc.

4. It emphasizes the importance of making citizens aware and providing for a form of communication that promotes political dialogue.

5.E. Express your Opinion:

Consumers are today getting quality goods and services. Discuss.

Solution:

I agree with the above statement for the following reasons:

- In 1991, India accepted globalization, and from that point on, products, services, as well as capital, were all freely exchanged. Prior to 1991, India lacked several high-quality products. Following the lifting of import restrictions in 1991, many products are now widely available.
- we say that the world has become more interconnected. Technological developments have helped this interconnectivity. For example, online applications can be made for admission to any college or university abroad. Similarly, mobile calls or WhatsApp messages can be made from any part of the world to your friends and family. Changes have taken place in economics and trade. Indian fruits and flowers are exported to Europe and America, and various consumer goods from Europe, America, or China are available in the Indian market. The customers of international banking, insurance, and telecom firms receive high-quality services.

Q6 | Answer the following in brief 80 to 100 words (Any 2):

6.A. Explain the cross-border terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir.

Solution:

- i. The Indian Independence Act, 1947 provided that the rulers of the princely states had to take the final decision whether they wished to join India or Pakistan.
- ii. In 1977 the Plebiscite Front was given a new name, Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF). In 1989 a National Conference worker was shot dead and Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) kidnaped Rubia Sayeed, daughter of the then Home Minister. The main demand of the JKLF was to create an independent state of Kashmir.
- iii. Pakistan decided to use the Mujahideen to back the pro-Pakistan guerrilla groups such as the Hizb-ul-Mujahideen in Kashmir.

- iv. The growth of Islamic militancy in Kashmir in the 1990s, resulted in the migration of the Pandit population from Kashmir.
- v. The Indian government has maintained that terrorism emanating from across Indian borders remains the core concern in India's relationship with Pakistan.

6.B. Write about the extremism of the left in India.

Solution:

- i. The Naxalite movement that is now referred to as Maoist movement or Left-Wing Extremism has its main support base amongst certain sections of landless agricultural labour, dalits and tribal communities.
- ii. It is also spreading into urban centers, especially the blue-collar workers.
- iii. It succeeds where there is a sense of injustice, exploitation, oppression and a feeling of neglect by the State.
- iv. The roots of the Naxalite movement can be traced to the Telangana movement (1946- 51). It was the first serious attempt to promote a peasant struggle by the Indian communists. At an ideological level the roots may be traced in the writings of Charu Majumdar whose articles were based on the ideology of Marx-Lenin-Mao.
- v. The United Nations reports the recruitment and use of children as young as 6 years of age by armed groups, including the Naxalites. Children were coerced to join children's units ("Bal Dasta"), where they were trained and used as couriers and informants, to plant improvised explosive devices and in frontline operations against national security forces.

6.C. Briefly review Indo-US relations.

Solution:

- 1. The United States was one of the two super powers during the Cold War and is arguably the only super power in the post-cold War period.
- 2. Relations between India and the United States were cordial when India became independent. US President F.D. Roosevelt had supported the case of India's independence during his negotiations for the Atlantic Charter with the British Prime Minister Winston Churchill.
- 3. However, India and the United States had quite different views of events during the Cold War. As a result, relations between the two remained estranged for most of the Cold War period.

4. India's independent position on the crises in Hungary and Czechoslovakia, and its criticism of American intervention in Vietnam, were some reasons for the American displeasure. On the other hand, the American position on the Kashmir dispute was a constant irritation for India.
5. When the Cold War ended and the Soviet Union disintegrated, the relations between India and the United States did not improve immediately.
6. The United States brought pressure on the new state of Russia to stop the supply of space technology to India. Following India's second nuclear test in 1998, the United States imposed sanctions on India.
7. The nature of Indo-American relations began to change towards the end of the twentieth century. India supported President Bush's War on Terrorism. The American position on Kashmir gradually became more favorable to India.
8. The US regards India as a major partner in the Indo-Pacific. For India, the US is a major source of investment and a partner in trade.
9. Defense partnership between the two countries is consistently growing. The two are also partners in multilateral fora like the India-US-Japan, or India-US-Japan Australia.

6.D. Elaborate the consequence of the disintegration of USSR.

Solution:

The consequences of the disintegration of the USSR are as follows:

- i. **End of Cold War and rise of new states:** The end of Cold War led to the end of an international order dominated by the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union. It also saw the emergence of new states after the disintegration of the Soviet Union.
- ii. **Emergence of Unipolarity:** The Cold War between United States and the Soviet Union came to end signaling the end of bipolarity. This led to the emergence of a unipolar world order dominated by the United States.
- iii. **Human Rights and Humanitarian intervention:** There was an increasing awareness about human rights and also a rise in intervention for humanitarian purposes.
- iv. **Terrorism:** The nature of terrorism changed after the 11 September 2001 attacks (also known as 9/11 attacks) against the United States.

- v. **Multi polarity and Regionalism:** This phase primarily saw the rise of China and India, the growing importance of the Indo-Pacific region and also the rise of Russia under Vladimir Putin. These developments and the growth of regionalism brought in multipolarity in the world order. Regions and regional organisations started to become more important.

Q7 | Answer any one question with reference to the given point :

7.A. Explain the conditions of women in India.

- a. Economic inequality
- b. Trafficking and exploitation
- c. Literacy rate
- d. Political representation

Solution:

All over the world, women have to face serious problems such as discrimination and violence, under-representation in economic and political decision-making, inequalities in education, health care, landholdings and workplaces, and even in human rights.

Some of the important gender issues:

1. **Economic inequality** - Participation of women in the labor market is about 28% only. There is also income inequality due to wide gender wage gaps as well as the inequality of opportunities to women e.g., unequal access to education and finance. In many countries, women are either not encouraged to work or employed in the informal sector. Women continue to be underrepresented in high-level, highly paid positions and experience gender discrimination and sexual harassment in the workplace. Women experience high levels of poverty, unemployment, and other economic hardships.
2. **Trafficking and exploitation** - Women are often exploited and denied basic rights. They are trafficked for purpose of sexual and economic exploitation particularly prostitution, sold as brides, subjected to sexual crimes, forced labor, street begging, etc. Trafficking in women means that they are deceived or forced/sold, physically confined, abused with no access to protection or health care.
3. **Literacy rate** - low literacy among women is acute in India. As per the 2011 census report, the female literacy rate is only 65.46% while for males it is

82.14%. The reasons for the low female literacy are -

- i. Traditional patriarchal notions do not consider female education as economically advantageous.
 - ii. Schools in rural areas are not easily accessible and travel may not be safe or easy.
 - iii. The benefits of schemes like R.T.E. have not reached many rural females.
 - iv. Social evils like child marriage, female foeticide, dowry, etc.
4. **Political Representation** - Poor political representation of women is a significant gender concern in India. The First Lok Sabha had only 24 women of a total of 489 members i.e., 5%, and the 17th Lok Sabha (2019) has 78 women (14%). This is the highest representation of women in Lok Sabha to date. The Women's Reservation Bill which proposes to reserve 33% of all seats in Lok Sabha and in State Assemblies for women is pending in the Lok Sabha.

However, there exists a 33% reservation for women in rural and urban local bodies.

7.B. India's relations with south-Asian countries.

Points:

1. Pakistan
2. Himalayan Kingdoms
3. Bangladesh
4. Sri Lanka

Solution:

SAARC was formed in 1985 at Dhaka. Originally, SAARC had seven members, namely India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Maldives. The main aim of SAARC was to establish a dialogue in South Asia. With this context, South Asian Association for Preferential Trade Arrangement (SAPTA) came into existence in 1993. Later in 2006, SAARC's free trade arrangement was activated through South Asian Association Free Trade Area (SAFTA) which replaced the earlier regime of SAPTA. Following are few of the countries India has relations with in south-Asia:

1. **Pakistan:** The partition of India in 1947 created Pakistan (East and West Pakistan) as an independent state. There have been tensions between India and Pakistan since independence. The main cause of these tensions has been the status of Kashmir. The first Indo-Pak conflict of 1947-48 took place over Kashmir. This war saw the division of Kashmir take place. Later in 1965 the two countries fought another war over Kashmir. The 1971 war led to the creation of the state of Bangladesh. In the initial years the Kashmir was looked at as a Indo-Pakistan border issue. Later in the decade of 1990s the problem became that of terrorism. Pakistan's relations with China are also a matter of concern for India. There have been several efforts made for improving the bilateral relations between India and Pakistan. The 1972 Shimla Agreement and the 1999 Lahore Agreement are some of the examples.
2. **Himalayan Kingdoms:** Nepal, Sikkim and Bhutan, known as the "Himalayan Kingdoms", were British protectorates during the colonial period. After independence, India made similar treaties with these countries. The landlocked Himalayan Kingdoms got access to sea from the Indian territory and India accepted the responsibility of the defence of these countries. India has mostly followed the policy of nonintervention in the internal affairs of these neighbours. Sikkim opted to integrate with India in 1975 and is now a State in the Indian Union. India's relations with Nepal have experienced many ups and downs. In 2006, India helped Nepal overcome the crisis of civil war and move towards a constitutional government. Relations with Bhutan have mostly been very cordial. India has helped in Bhutan's recent exercise of moving towards a constitutional monarchy.
3. **Bangladesh:** India's intervention was very crucial in securing independence for Bangladesh in 1971. Its relations with the new neighbour were very cordial in the beginning. However, after the assassination of Bangladesh's first Prime Minister Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the relations began to worsen. Disputes over land and maritime boundary and over distribution of waters of Teesta were some of the irritants in the relationship. However, the relations between the two countries have remained friendly for the last more than five years. Cross-border terrorism and insurgency are common areas of concern for both. In the recent time, India and Bangladesh have resolved the maritime boundary dispute as well as the problem of land enclaves.
4. **Sri Lanka:** Relations with Sri Lanka have experienced both good and bad phases. The two countries had a disputed maritime boundary and a related problem of fishermen of both sides crossing into the territory of the other and being captured by the coastal forces. Similarly, the Tamil question in Sri Lanka

has often proved to be an irritant for the relations. Sri Lanka had accused India of supporting the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE – the rebel Tamil group, which later became a terrorist group). India sent a Peacekeeping Force in Sri Lanka in 1987 at the request of the then Sri Lankan President Jayewardene. This led to a prolonged period of bad relations between the two. However, under the current governments in both countries, the relations have improved again.