CBSE Class 12 Political Science Sample Papers 10 (2020-21)

Maximum Marks: 80 Time Allowed: 3 hours

General Instructions:

- i. All Questions are Compulsory.
- ii. Section A has 16 Objective Type Questions of 1 mark each.
- Section B has 2 passage –based questions 17 and 18 having Multiple Choice Questions of 1 mark each.
- Question numbers 19-22 carries 2 marks each. Answer to these questions should not exceed 40 words each.
- Question numbers 23-27 carries 4 marks each. Answer to these questions should not exceed 100 words each.
- vi. Question numbers 28-29 pertain to map and cartoon questions carrying 5 marks each to be answered accordingly.
- Question numbers 30-32 carries 6 marks each. Answer to these questions should not exceed 150words each.

Section A

- 1. How many states were recommended by states reorganization commission in 1955?
 - a. 18
 - b. 16
 - c. 17
 - d. 15
- 2. Which of the following is not an emergence of a new growing consensus?
 - a. Acceptance of the role of state parties
 - b. Politics of Hindutva
 - c. Issue on Mandal Commission
 - d. Power-sharing Arrangements
- Which one of the following statements explains the meaning of the term "Fat Boy"?

- a. 'Arenas' of The Cold War
- b. Code name for Arms Race
- c. The logic of 'Deterrence'
- d. Bomb dropped by the US on Hiroshima
- 4. Which of the statements is true about globalization?
 - a. Globalization began in 1991
 - b. Globalization is a multi-dimensional concept
 - Globalization is purely a political phenomenon
 - d. Globalization is the same thing as westernization
- The Farakka treaty for the river waters sharing was signed by:
 - a. Pakistan and Afghanistan
 - India and Bangladesh
 - c. India and Bhutan
 - d. Nepal and India
- 6. What do you mean by the Socialist bloc?
 - a. Group of west European countries
 - b. Group of East European countries
 - c. Developing countries
 - d. Group of NAM
- 7. Which among the following is not a reason for the India Nepal sour relations?
 - a. A trade-related dispute in the past
 - Interlocking water management grids
 - c. Allowing its citizens to travel and work without Visas and Passports respectively
 - d. The warm relationship between Nepal and China
- 8. Who among the following Prime Minister first visited China after the Indo-China war of 1962?
 - a. Atal B. Vajpayee
 - b. Rajiv Gandhi
 - c. Morarji Desai
 - d. Indira Gandhi
- 9. Which among the following principal organs of the UN has headed by the Secretary-General?
 - a. General Assembly

| | b. | Security Council | | |
|-----|---|--|--|--|
| | c. | Trusteeship Council | | |
| | d. | Secretariat | | |
| 10. | When did the president of Soviet Mikhail Gorbachev give resignation? | | | |
| | a. | 11 December 1990 | | |
| | b. | 25 December 1991 | | |
| | c. | 11 December 1991 | | |
| | d. | 25 December 1990 | | |
| 11. | W | hich of the following country entered into a 'secret treaty' with the USA, keeping the | | |
| | US | SR in the dark? | | |
| | a. | India | | |
| | b. | Japan | | |
| | c. | Vietnam | | |
| | d. | China | | |
| 12. | Who among the following is India's first Non-Congress Prime Minister? | | | |
| | a. | Charan Singh | | |
| | b. | Jayaprakash Narayan | | |
| | c. | Morarji Desai | | |
| | d. | Jagjivan Ram | | |
| 13. | | has emerged as third alternative to world power. | | |
| | a. | Japan | | |
| | b. | China | | |
| | c. | Denmark | | |
| | d. | The United States of America | | |
| 14. | W | nich of the following led the Railway strikes of 1974? | | |
| | a. | George Fernandes | | |
| | b. | Morarji Desai | | |
| | c. | J.P. Narayan | | |
| | d. | Charan Singh | | |
| 15. | Glo | obalisation follows the principle of | | |
| | a. | Liberalism | | |
| | b. | Marxism | | |
| | c. | Communism | | |

Name the organisation which came into being in replacing GATT.

- a. None of these
- b. IMF
- c. World bank
- d. WTO
- 16. Which among the following country is the highest contributor to the UN budget?
 - a. The USA
 - b. China
 - c. The EU
 - d. Japan

Section B

17. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

The Cold War was an outcome of the emergence of the US and the USSR as two superpowers rival to each other, it was also rooted in the understanding that the destruction caused by the use of atom bombs is too costly for any country to bear. The logic is simple yet powerful. When two rival powers are in possession of nuclear weapons capable of inflicting death and destruction unacceptable to each other, a full-fledged war is unlikely. In spite of provocations, neither side would want to risk war since no political gains would justify the destruction of their societies. Thus, the Cold War — in spite of being an intense form of rivalry between great powers — remained a 'cold' and not hot or shooting war. The deterrence relationship prevents war but not the rivalry between powers.

- i. Which country rivalries were a product of the cold war?
 - a. The USA and UK
 - b. The UK and France
 - c. Japan and The USA
 - d. The USSR and the USA
- ii. Which of the Following has prevents the cold war to turn into a hot war?
 - a. NAM
 - b. UNO

- c. European Union
- d. Deterrence
- iii. Which of the following institution is look as an alternative to the cold war rivalry?
 - a. NAM
 - b. China
 - c. EU
 - d. UNO
- iv. Which of the following institute play the role of mediator in the cold war rivalry?
 - a. UNSC
 - b. UNO
 - c. ASEAN
 - d. SAARC

18. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

On the 15th August 1947, Mahatma Gandhi did not participate in any of the Independence Day celebrations. He was in Kolkata in the areas which were torn by gruesome riots between Hindus and Muslims. He was saddened by the communal violence and disheartened that the principles of ahimsa (non-violence) and satyagraha (active but non-violent resistance) that he had lived and worked for, had failed to bind the people in troubled times. Gandhiji went on to persuade the Hindus and Muslims to give up violence. His presence in Kolkata greatly improved the situation, and the coming of independence was celebrated in a spirit of communal harmony, with joyous dancing in the streets. Gandhiji's prayer meetings attracted large crowds. But this was short-lived as riots between Hindus and Muslims erupted once again and Gandhiji had to resort to a fast to bring peace. Finally, on 30 January 1948, one such extremist, Nathuram Vinayak Godse, walked up to Gandhiji during his evening prayer in Delhi and fired three bullets at him, killing him instantly.

- i. Which of the following city Gandhiji was there on 15th August 1947?
 - a. Mumbai
 - b. Delhi
 - c. Kolkata
 - d. Chennai
- ii. Which of the following killed Gandhiji on 30 January 1948?
 - a. Nathuram Godse

- b. Nathuram Singh
- c. Nathuram Parikkar
- d. Abdul Gaffar Khan
- iii. What was the effect of the Gandhiji's death in Pakistan on subsiding of communal situation?
 - a. Neutral
 - b. Magical
 - c. Disaster
 - d. None of the Above
- iv. Which of the following is known as Iron Man of India?
 - a. Khan Abdul Gaffar
 - b. Sardar Patel
 - c. Mahatma Gandhi
 - d. Amrita Kaur

Section C

- 19. Suggest any two major changes to improve the functioning of the Security Council.
- When was the European Union established? Mention any two kinds of influence that were exercised by the European Union.
- Give any three arguments of some countries, which oppose the inclusion of India in UNSC as a permanent member.
- 22. Explain the role played by Sardar Patel in the unification of princely states in India.

OR

Name the states divided on the basis of sub-regional culture.

Section D

- 23. Why have the United States and other Western countries encouraged the military's authoritarian rule in Pakistan in the past?
- 24. What was Tibet issue? How did it cause tension between India and China? Explain.
- 25. Why was European Union founded? What were its objectives and significance?

OR

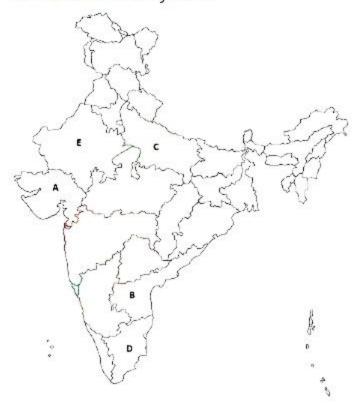
Explain any four features of ASEAN.

26. What is meant by globalisation? Explain any three cultural consequences of globalisation.

- Critically evaluate the impact of the changing role of state in the developing countries in the light of globalisation?
- Compare the aims and achievements of the First and the Second Five Year Plans to conclude which of the two was a turining point in India's development.

Section E

- 28. In the given outline political map of India five states have been marked as (A) (B) (C) (D) and (E). Identify these states on the basis of the information given below and write their correct names in your answer book, along with their respective serial number of the information used and the concerned alphabets as per the following formate:
 - i. The state where women put a ban on the sale of arrack and stopped its auction.
 - ii. The state where there was anti-Hindi agitation in 1965.
 - The state where the MKSS demanded records for famine relief and accounts of labours.
 - iv. The state where the Sardar Sarovar dam is located.
 - v. The state which saw a farmer's agitation in 1988 protesting against the government increased electricity rates.



29. Study the cartoon given below and answer the following questions



- i. Who was head of the Government formed by the National Front in 1989?
- ii. Why was the government formed by him called a puppet government?
- iii. Identify the puppeteers pulling the strings and the political parties they belong to.

Section F

30. Mention major tensions and conflicts that took place in the former Soviet republics. What are their results?

OR

What was the Soviet system? Assess any four features of the Soviet system.

31. Examine the three consequences of emergency imposed in 1975.

OR

What were the major conflicts between the Parliament and the Judiciary during the leadership of Indira Gandhi?

32. Which four main challenges were faced by India at the time of its independence? Explain.

OR

Describe briefly the programme put forward by Indira Gandhi at the time of 1971 elections.

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Solution

Section A

1. (b) 16

Explanation: Sixteen states and three union territory were recommended by states reorganization commission in 1955. But 14 states and 5 UTs were formed.

2. (b) Politics of Hindutya

Explanation: The politics of Hindutva is still seen as Pragmatic and decisive politics by many national and state-level political parties. The BJP pursued the politics of 'Hindutva' and adopted the strategy of mobilising the Hindus.

(d) Bomb dropped by the US on Hiroshima

Explanation: The atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the end of World War II; code named "Little Boy" and "Fat Man," respectively caused widespread destruction.

4. (b) Globalization is a multi-dimensional concept

Explanation: Globalisation means the flows of ideas, capital, commodities and people across different parts of the world. It is a multidimensional concept. It has political, economic and cultural manifestations and these must be adequately distinguished.

5. (b) India and Bangladesh

Explanation: The Ganges Water Sharing Treaty between Bangladesh and India signed on 12 December 1996 for a period of 30 years was marked as a major footstep towards the conclusion of a longstanding conflict over sharing of the Ganges water.

6. (b) Group of East European countries

Explanation: After the Second World War, the east European countries that the Soviet army had liberated from the fascist forces came under the control of the USSR. The political and the economic systems of all these countries were modelled after the USSR. This group of countries was called the Second World or the 'socialist bloc'.

7. (b) Interlocking water management grids

Explanation: Nepal and India share a friendly relation with each other but certain issues like warm relation of Nepal with China, Maoist movement in Nepal etc have disturbed

the relation. Despite differences, trade, scientific co-operation, electricity generation and interlocking water management grids hold the two countries together.

8. (b) Rajiv Gandhi

Explanation: Rajiv Gandhi visited China in December 1988. Rajiv Gandhi's visit to China provided the impetus for improvement in India–China relations. Since then both governments have taken measures to contain conflict and maintain 'peace and tranquillity' on the border.

9. (d) Secretariat

Explanation: The United Nations Secretariat is one of the six major organs of the United Nations headed by the secretary-general, who is appointed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the security council for a five-year renewable term.

10. (b) 25 December 1991

Explanation: The leaders of 11 Republics signed the historical agreement on 21 December 1991 and declared the establishment of the commonwealth of Independent states.

11. (d) China

Explanation: In the year 1972, the USA entered into a secret understanding with communist China. It has kept in dark to USSR, which was a close ally of USSR.

12. (c) Morarji Desai

Explanation: After the election of 1977, there was stiff competition among three leaders for the post of Prime Minister Morarji Desai, Charan Singh and Jagjivan Ram. Finally, Morarji Desai became the first non-Congress Prime Minister of India.

13. (b) China

Explanation: China emerged as the third alternative to world power since its economic reforms of 1978 as China has been the fastest growing economy since the reforms first began there. China is projected to overtake the US as the world's largest economy by 2040.

(a) George Fernandes

Explanation: Railway strike of 1974 was called by 'National Coordination Committee' led by George Fernandes for pressing their demands related to bonus and service conditions. The government declared the strike illegal and deployed the territorial army to protect railway trades.

15. (a) Liberalism

Explanation: Liberalism gives the liberal policy to promote Investment.

OR

(d) WTO

Explanation: World Trade organisation came into being in1995 replacing GATT. Total 124 nations signed on the proposal.

16. (a) The USA

Explanation: The United States is the largest provider of financial contributions to the United Nations, providing 22 percent of the entire UN budget in 2020 (in comparison the next biggest contributors are China with 12 percent, and Japan with 8.5 percent).

Section B

- 17. i. (d) The USSR and the USA
 - ii. (d) Deterrence
 - iii. (a) NAM
 - iv. (b) UNO
- 18. i. (c) Kolkata
 - ii. (a) Nathuram Godse
 - iii. (b) Magical
 - iv. (b) Sardar Patel

Section C

- 19. For the improvement in the Security Council's functioning the following major changes are suggested:
 - Increment in membership: Number of permanent and non-permanent members to the security council of UN is to be increased.
 - ii. Veto withdrawal: Veto power of five permanent countries to be withdrawn instantly.
- 20. On 7th February, 1992, European Union was established after signing the Treaty of Maastricht. Influences that were exercised by European Union are:
 - Political and diplomatic influence.
 - · Economic influence.
- 21. Arguments of countries which oppose India's inclusion as a permanent member in UNSC are:
 - The conflict between India and Pakistan will make India ineffective as a permanent member.

- With India's inclusion in UNSC, prominent member countries like Brazil, Germany, Japan, South Africa will demand for their inclusion too.
- India's involvement in wars with China and Pakistan has put up questions on India's unbiased role on international issues.
- 22. Sardar Patel was India's deputy PM and the home minister during the crucial period immediately following Independence. He played a historic role in negotiating with the rulers of princely states firmly but diplomatically and bringing most of them into the Indian Union. Sardar Patel played the following roles in the unification of princely states in India:
 - He procured a letter of accession from the princely states through diplomacy and negotiation.
 - He used force and persuasion with the states of Hyderabad, Junagadh, Manipur and Kashmir for their merger.

In the late 20th century, some states sub-regions raised the voice for separate states accommodating their regional culture on the ground of complaints of regional imbalances. Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, and Uttaranchal were created in 2000 on the basis of separate regional culture only.

- Jharkhand: This tribal dominated state was carved out of Bihar and made an independent state in 2000 with Ranchi as its capital.
- Chhattisgarh: The central Indian state of Chhattisgarh was carved out of Madhya
 Pradesh and formed as an independent state in 2000 with Raipur as its capital.
- Uttaranchal: The hilly state of Uttaranchal was carved out of Uttar Pradesh as an independent state in 2000 with Dehradun as its capital. In 2007, the state was renamed Uttarakhand.

Section D

- 23. i. The United States and other western countries assume that military rule in Pakistan will check their own resources. Given their fear of the global Islamic terrorism and restrict terrorist groups therefrom using nuclear arsenal already available there.
 - ii. They want to contain the influence of the Soviet Union and that of Communist China at any cost. In Pakistan, the Western powers knew very well that it would be easier for them to have a government of their choice, the political and other policies as well

- as programmes of their likings if they support the military, clergy and landlords in that country.
- iii. Pakistan's conflict with India has made there the pro-military groups more powerful because the US and the western powers supported Pakistan in the Kashmir issue against India. Their hostility to communism has not so far changed since the cold war era.
- Tibet is situated at the border between India and China. Hence any action here, influence both China and India.
 - From the very beginning of independence from time to time, China has claimed its administrative control over Tibet.
 - In 1950, China took over control of Tibet. Large sections of the Tibetan population opposed this takeover.
 - iii. In 1958, there was an armed uprising in Tibet against China's occupation. India supported the cause of Tibetan which was bitterly objected by China. Even India has granted asylum to Dalai Lama and a large number of Tibetans.

These circumstances had created a deep crack in the relationship between India and China.

 The European Union was established in 1992 for a common foreign and security policy, cooperation on justice and home affairs, and the creation of a single currency.

Objectives and significance:

- i. It has its own flag, anthem, founding date, and currency.
- The circle of gold stars on the flag stands for solidarity and harmony between the people of Europe.
- To expand areas of co-operation while acquiring new members, especially from the erstwhile Soviet bloc.

OR

Four features of ASEAN:

- The ASEAN was primarily to accelerate economic growth and through that 'social progress and cultural development'.
- ii. A secondary feature was to promote regional peace and stability based on the rule of law and the principles of the United Nations Charter.
- iii. The ASEAN security community was based on the conviction that outstanding

- territorial disputes should not escalate into armed confrontation.
- iv. The objectives of the ASEAN Economic Community are to create a common market and production base within ASEAN states and to aid social and economic development in the region.
- 26. Globalisation is the integration of an economy with the other economies along with the free flow of trade and capital. Globalisation is all about the flows of ideas, capital, commodities, and people. The cultural consequences of globalisation can be summed up as follows:
 - Globalisation leads to the rise of a uniform culture as cultural homogenisation.
 - In the name of a global culture, it is an imposition of western culture on the rest of the world.
 - Sometimes external influences simply enlarge our choices, and sometimes they modify our culture without overwhelming the traditional.

One of the debates that have been generated as a consequence of contemporary processes of globalisation relates to its ongoing political impact.

- i. Those who are concerned with social justice are worried about the extent of state withdrawal caused by processes of economic globalisation. They point out that it is likely to benefit only some section of the population while impoverishing those who are dependent on the government for jobs and welfare. They have emphasised the need to ensure social safety nets to minimise the negative effects of globalisation on those who are economically weak.
- At the most simple level, globalisation results in an erosion of state capacity, that is, the ability of government to do what they do.
- iii. The old 'welfare state' is now giving way to a more minimalist state that performs the functions such as maintenance of law and order, and security of its citizens. Now it is the market which determines the economic and social priorities.
- iv. In place of the welfare state, it is the market that becomes the prime determinant of economic and social priorities. The entry and the increased role of multinational companies all over the world lead to a reduction in the capacity of governments to take decisions on their own.
- v. At the same time, globalisation does not always reduce state capacity. The primacy of

- the state continues to be the unchallenged basis of the political community. The old jealousies and rivalries between countries have not ceased to matter in world politics.
- vi. The state continues to discharge its essential functions (law and order, national security) and consciously withdraws from certain domains from which it wishes to. States continue to be important.
- vii. In some respects, state capacity has received a boost as a consequence of globalisation, with enhanced technologies available at the disposal of the state to collect information about its citizens. With this information, the state is better able to rule, not less able.

Thus, states become more powerful than they were earlier as an outcome of the new technology.

- 27. The aims and achievements of the First Five Year Plan were:
 - The Plan focused mainly on the agrarian sector including investment in dams and irrigation. The Huge allocation was made for large scale projects like the Bhakhra Nangal Dam.
 - It also identified the pattern of land distribution in the country and focused on land reforms as the key to the country's development.

The aims and achievements of the Second Five Year Plan were:

- The 'socialist pattern of society' which was declared as the goal by Congress party at its Avadi session got reflected in the Second Five Year Plan.
- The government imposed a tariff on imports to protect domestic industries. Such measures helped both public and private sector industries to grow.
- iii. The Second Five year Plan stressed on heavy industries.

Of these, the First Five Year Plan was a turning point in India's development because India had to spend precious foreign exchange to buy technology from the international market because it was technologically backward. Indian planners found it difficult to balance industry and agriculture because industry attracted more investment than agriculture and the possibility of food shortage appeared.

Section E

28.

| i | Andhra Pradesh | В |
|-----|----------------|---|
| ii | Tamil Nadu | D |
| iii | Rajasthan | E |

| iv | Gujarat | A |
|----|---------------|---|
| v | Uttar Pradesh | С |

- 29. i. VP Singh was the head of the government formed by the National Front in 1989.
 - ii. The government formed by him called a puppet government because:
 - a. the strings of this government were in the hands of other leaders.
 - They were moving and controlling the government like a puppet by pulling the strings.
 - iii. The puppeteers pulling the strings and the political parties they belong to:
 - a. The puppeteers pulling the strings were Jyoti Basu and LK Advani.
 - b. Jyoti Basu (CPM) and LK Advani (BJP).

Section F

- 30. i. Major tensions and conflicts that took place were as given below:
 - In Russia, two republics Chechnya and Dagestan had violent secessionist movements.
 - In central Asia, Tajikistan witnessed a civil war that went on for 10 years until 2001.
 - In Azerbaijan's province of Nagorno-Karabakh, some local Armenians want to secede and join Armenia.
 - d. In Georgia, civil war broke out as the two provinces demanded independence.
 - There are movements against the existing regimes in Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, and Georgia.
 - f. There are river disputes in the region.
 - Results: All these tensions and conflicts have led to instability, making life difficult for an ordinary citizen.

OR

The Soviet system was based on the critique of capitalism which declared that capitalism unavoidingly leads never-ending impoverishment and exploitation of the masses. It stressed that capitalism can never equate itself with mass production for the satisfaction of human needs. The Soviet system was based on the ideology of Socialism, Communism, Marxism and Leninism.

The Soviet system was largely pro-poor in orientation with social policies aimed at the welfare of the masses. The Soviet system was constituted after the Russian Revolution of

1917, based on equality and planned economy. Four features of the Soviet system are:

- In the Soviet system, the state was accorded an important role. The state was the saviour of the masses. The state was considered the only way to bring equality in society and to develop at a high growth rate.
- ii. The Soviet system was an outcome of the socialist doctrine which seeks to create an egalitarian society. The motive of this system was to bring equality into the country.
- iii. The Soviet system's economy was planned and controlled by the state. There were no private enterprises or industries. All the factors of production remained in the hands of the Government.
- iv. The Soviet political system gave primacy to the Communist Party with no scope for the opposition in politics. No other political party was allowed in the United States of Soviet Russia. It was a sign of authoritarianism.

31. (a) Effects on Civil Liberties of Citizens:

- Using preventive detention acts, the government made large scale arrests during the emergency.
- Arrested political workers could not challenge their arrest through Habeas Corpus petitions.
- iii. Many cases were filed in the High court and the Supreme court by and on behalf of arrested persons, but the government claimed that it was not even necessary to inform the arrested persons of the reasons and grounds of their arrest.
- iv. In April 1976, finally, it was proved that the government could take away citizen's right to life and liberty by overruling of High Courts under Supreme Court and accepted the government's plea.

(b) Impact on Relationship between Parliament and Judiciary:

- The parliament also brought in many new changes to the Constitution which made an amendment declaring that elections of Prime Minister, President and Vice President could not be challenged in the court.
- The forty-second amendment (42nd) was also passed during the emergency. This
 amendment consisted of a series of changes in the Constitution like the duration of
 the legislatures.
- During an Emergency, elections can be postponed by one year during an Emergency.
 Thus, effectively, after 1971, elections needed to be held only in 1978; instead of 1976.

(c) Functioning of Mass Media:

- Press censorship took place which banned freedom of press and newspapers were supposed to seek prior or approval for all material to be published.
- ii. Protests and strikes and public agitations were also disallowed.
- iii. The various Fundamental Rights stood suspended, including the right of citizens to move the Court for restoration their Fundamental Rights.
- iv. Kannada writer Shivarama Karnath, awarded with Padma Bhushan, and Hindi writer Fanishwarnath Renu awarded with Padma Shri returned their awards in protest against the suspension of democracy.
- v. Newspapers like the Indian Express and the Statesman protested against censorship by leaving blank spaces where news items had been censored.

The period also witnessed tensions in the relationship between the Parliament and the Judiciary. The major conflicts between the Parliament and Judiciary during the leadership of Indira Gandhi were:

- On the issue of Fundamental Right and right to property, the Supreme Court denied the amendment to the Constitution. While on the issue of the Fundamental Right giving effect to Directive principles, Parliament amended the Constitution, but later Supreme Court rejected it.
- 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 jucidiary.
- iii. The tension between the judiciary and executive further expanded, when a vacancy arose of the post of Chief Justice of India. As per the constitutional rule, the seniormost judge of the Supreme Court should be appointed as Chief Justice of India in case of a vacancy. But in 1973 government ignored the seniority of three judges and appointed Ajit Nath Ray as Chief Justice of India.
- iv. The appointment became a topic of tension. The government's decision was questioned by the three judges who were superseded. People were talking about the need for a judiciary and bureaucracy which would be committed to the plan of executive and legislature. The highest point in controversy came when the High Court declared Indira Gandhi's election invalid.
- 32. Following were the four main challenges faced by India at the time of its

independence:

- i. To shape a united nation: Just after independence, the immediate challenge was to shape a nation that was united, yet accommodative of the diversity in our society. The diversities of regions, religions, languages, cultures raised serious questions about the future of India. The biggest challenge was - would India survive as a unified country?
- ii. To establish democracy: As we know that India adopted representative democracy based on the parliamentary form of government. However, the challenge was to evolve democratic norms, values, practices and principles in accordance with the constitution.
- iii. To ensure the development and well-being of the whole society: The constitution clearly laid down in its preamble, "We, The People of India solemnly resolved to constitute India into a Sovereign, Socialist Secular Democratic Republic....". The principles of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity were adopted to develop an egalitarian society. The Directive Principles of State Policy were laid down to evolve a welfare state. However, the towering challenge was to develop effective policies for economic development and eradication of poverty and illiteracy.
- iv. Integration of Princely States: The British left a fractured India with a plethora of problems. Just before independence, it was declared by the British that with the end of their rule over India, suzerainty of the British crown over princely states would also lapse. This declaration made the whole situation very confusing and uncertain. It meant that all the Princely States (as many as 565) would become legally independent. This was, certainly, a very serious and dangerous knotty problem and could endanger or threaten the very existence of a United India.

OR

Her programme was based on the famous slogan "Garibi Hatao". The main features of the programme put forward by Indira Gandhi were as mentioned below:

- i. Growth of the public sector.
- ii. The imposition of a ceiling on rural land holdings and urban property.
- iii. Removal of disparities in income and opportunity.
- iv. Abolition of princely privileges.

By this programme, Indira Gandhi adopted a political strategy of building an independent nationwide political support base.