

## CBSE Test Paper 02

### Class 12 - Political Science (B-2 Ch-9 Recent Developments in Indian Politics)

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1. Which of the following Prime minister of India never address the Loksabha as a prime minister?
  - a. H D devgauda
  - b. Choudhary Charan Singh
  - c. I. K. Gujral
  - d. Morarji Desai
2. What was the Ayodhya dispute?
3. What was the Mandal Commission ? When was it appointed?
4. When was Rajiv Gandhi assassinated and by whom?
5. Which recommendation of the Mandal Commission was decided to implement by the National Front government in 1990?
6. Write a short note on BAMCEF.
7. Write a short note on Hindutva.
8. State the main issues in Indian politics in the period after 1989.
9. "Towards the end of the 1980s, five major changes took place in Indian political system'. In light of this statement, examine any three changes.
10. In the new era of coalition politics, political parties are not aligning on the basis of ideology. Explain.
11. The National Front Government led by VP Singh was supported by the Left (represented here by Joyti Basu) as well as the BJP (represented by LK Advani)



Look at the cartoon given above carefully and answer the following questions

- i. Does the cartoon refer to a puppet government?
- ii. Describe the role of such a government in the Indian democratic set up.
- iii. What is meant by 'Support the Government from outside'?

12. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the following questions:

Thus began an era of multi-party system.... Our Parliament always had representatives from several political parties. But after 1989, no single party secured a clear majority of seats in Lok Sabha till 2014. This development initiated an era of coalition governments at the Centre.

- i. Which political party won a clear majority in the Lok Sabha elections in 2014?
- ii. In your opinion, what are the two main problems of coalition governments?
- iii. Analyse the merits of the multi-party system in India.

13. Highlight any three issues of consensus to show that in the midst of severe competitions and conflicts, a consensus has appeared among most political parties.

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**Answer**

1.     b. Choudhary Charan Singh

Explanation: Choudhary Charan Singh was the prime minister who resigned before facing the trust of vote in Loksabha due to withdrawing support by Congress.

2. Ayodhya dispute was a political, historical and socio religious dispute between the Hindus and the Muslims over a mosque in Ayodhya District, Uttar Pradesh known as Babri Masjid.
3. The Mandal Commission was set-up on 1st January 1979 to investigate the extent of educational and social backwardness among various sections of Indian society and recommend ways of identifying these 'backward classes'.
4. The assassination of Rajiv Gandhi in May 1991 led to a change in leadership of the Congress Party. He was assassinated by a Sri Lankan Tamil linked to the LTTE when he was on an election campaign tour in Tamil Nadu.
5. The National Front government in 1990 decided to implement the recommendation of the Mandal Commission that 49.5% of the jobs in the Central government should be reserved for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes. A reservation of 15 percent is available for the SC candidates, another 7.5 percent for the ST and 27 percent for the OBC applicants in university jobs.
6.     i. BAMCEF or the Backward and Minority Communities Employees Federation was formed in 1978.
- ii. It was founded in 1978 to enlist the aid of the comparatively well-educated among the Other Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and other communities of India who suffer discrimination and humiliation on the basis of the privilege by 'birth'.
- iii. It took a strong position in favour of political power to the 'Bahujan - SCs, STs, OBCs and the other backward minorities'.
- iv. The origins of BAMCEF organization was for employees of the suppressed

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communities that was established in 1978 by Kanshi Ram.

7.
  - i. Hindutva literally means 'Hinduness', is the predominant form of Hindu nationalism in India.
  - ii. V. D. Savarkar, its originator, defined it as the basis of Indian or Hindu nationhood and brotherhood.
  - iii. Believers of 'Hindutva' argue that a strong nation can be built only on the basis of a strong and united national culture and in the case of India the Hindu culture alone can provide this base and support.
  - iv. It was championed by the Hindu nationalist volunteer organization, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), the Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) and the Hindu Sena.
8. The main issues in Indian politics in the period after 1989 were as given below :
  - i. Rise of other backward classes as a political force.
  - ii. The decision of the National Front Government to implement the recommendations of the Mandal Commission and subsequent stir.
  - iii. Demolition of Babri Masjid.
  - iv. Anti- Muslim riots in Gujarat.
  - v. Rise of politics based on religious identify and debate about secularism and democracy.
  - vi. The Assassination of Rajiv Gandhi and the rise of Narasimha Rao as the Prime Minister.
  - vii. New Economic Reforms.
  - viii. The defeat of the Congress after the 1989 elections.
9.
  - i. **Introduction:** Towards the end of the 1980s, five major changes took place in the Indian political system. These changes were:
    - a. The defeat of the Congress in the election of 1989.
    - b. The rise of the Mandal Issue.
    - c. **New Economic Policy:** Various governments adopted new basic economic policies which were drastically changed. Later on, they were declared as New Economic Policy. The 1991 Indian economic crisis had its roots in 1985 when India began having the balance of problems as imports swelled, leaving the country in a twin deficit.
    - d. **Demolition of Babri Masjid:** Demolition of the structure of Babri Masjid or

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called Ram Mandir at Ayodhya in U.P. on 6th December 1992, which led to anti- Hindu- Muslim riots and the dismissal of the BJP Government in UP.

- e. **Death of Rajiv Gandhi:** The assassination of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and the election of Narasimha Rao as New Prime Minister of India.

10. In the new era of coalition politics, political parties are not aligning on the basis of ideology because now the emphasis is laid on pragmatic considerations rather than ideological positions and political alliances without ideological agreement are made. The focus of political parties has, therefore, shifted from ideological differences to power-sharing arrangements. The political equations have become unstable. For example, in 1989, both Left and BJP supported the National Front Government because they wanted to keep the Congress out of power. In 1996, The Left continued to support the non-Congress government but this time the Congress supported it, as both the Congress and the Left wanted to keep the BJP out of power. Similarly, most parties of the NDA (1999-2004) did not agree with the 'Hindutva' ideology of the BJP but they came together to form a government and remained in power for a full term.
11. i. Yes, the cartoon refers to a puppet government.  
ii. The role of a puppet government in the Indian democratic set-up can be:  
a. The government may become unstable.  
b. It will weaken the functioning of a democratic set-up.  
c. Generally, compromises are made on policy decisions.  
iii. Support from outside means to support the functioning and process of the government without joining or becoming a part of the government.
12. i. BJP (Bharatiya Janata Party)  
ii. The Main problem was to satisfy the different factions and parties in the coalition- which made the government weak and always ready to compromise. Sometimes, in Coalition governments, national interest is kept aside for accomplishing regional interest. The other reason can be: Sometimes, in Coalition governments, national interest is kept aside for accomplishing regional interest.  
iii. a. Regional parties get an opportunity to be in power.  
b. Regional aspirations get fulfilled.  
c. Get an experience of the government at the union level.

13. The period after 1989 is seen as a period of decline of Congress and the rise of BJP.

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Despite severe competition and many conflicts, a broad consensus on many crucial issues appears to have emerged among most parties. These were:

- i. **Agreement on new economic policies:** Most parties were in support of the new economic policies and believed that these policies would lead the country to prosperity and status of economic power in the world.
- ii. **Acceptance of Political and Social Claims of the Backward Castes:** Political parties had recognized that the social and political claims of the Backward Castes need to be accepted and support reservation of seats for OBC in education and employment. Because of that, all political parties now support the reservation of seats for the 'backward classes' in education and employment. Political parties are also willing to ensure that the OBCs get adequate share of power.
- iii. **Acceptance of the role of State level parties in governance of the country:** State-level parties were sharing power at the national level and had played a central role in the country's politics. The distinction between regional parties and national parties is becoming less important. Regional parties are sharing power at the national level and have been playing a central role in the politics of the country for the last 20 years.