

CBSE Test Paper 04

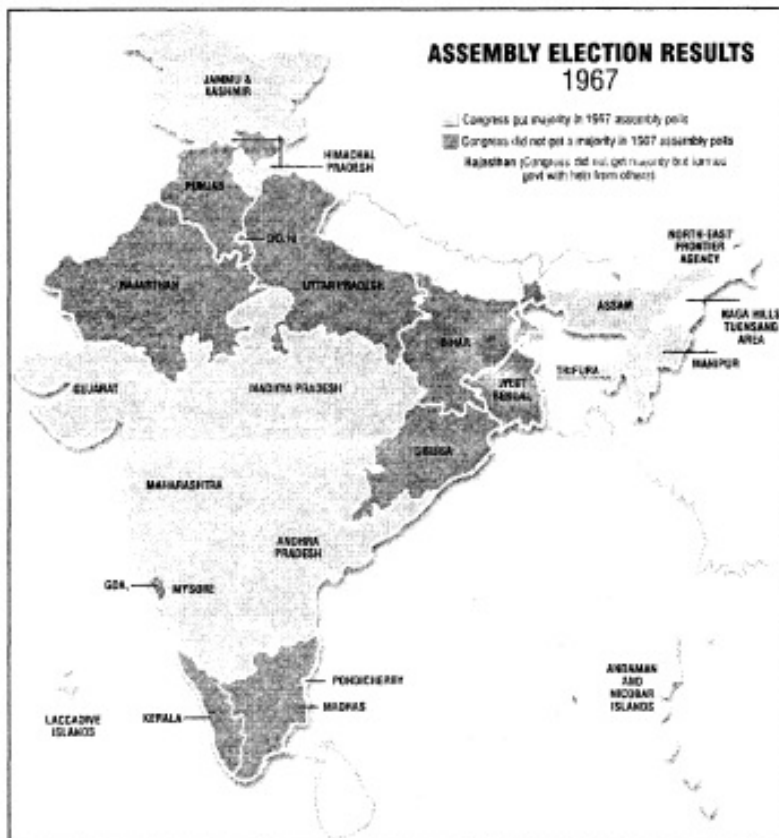
Class 12 - Political Science (B-2 Ch-5 Challenges to the Congress System)

1. Aam Aadmi party was formed in _____.
 - a. 2011
 - b. 2013
 - c. 2014
 - d. 2012
2. What is meant by term 'Congres Syndicate'?
3. Which major factor was responsible for the dramatic victory of Indira Gandhi in 1971 elections?
4. What do you mean by SVD?
5. What is meant by 'Privy Purse'?
6. Describe how the opposition unity and the Congress split posed a challenge to Congress dominance.
7. '1960s were labelled as the dangerous decade'. Explain.
8. Explain reasons for the popularity of Indira Gandhi during 1971 elections.
9. Analyse the circumstances that favoured Indira Gandhi to become Prime Minister after the death of Lal Bahadur Shastri. Mention achievements of Indira Gandhi that made her popular as a Prime Minister.
10. What does the term syndicate mean in the context of the Congress party of the sixties? What role did the Syndicate play in the Congress party?
11. Shastri was the country's Prime Minister from 1964 to 1966. During Shastri's brief Prime Ministership, the country faced two major challenges. While India was still recovering from the economic implications of the war with China, failed monsoons, drought and serious food crisis presented a grave challenge. As discussed in the previous chapter, the country also faced a war with Pakistan in 1965. Shastri's famous

slogan 'Jai Jawan Jai Kisan', symbolised the country's resolve to face both these challenges.

- i. What lesson should we take from Shastriji?
- ii. Who gave the slogan 'Jai Jawan Jai Kisan'? What did it symbolise?
- iii. During the regime of Lal Bahadur Shastri as the Prime Minister of India, what were the greatest challenges before the country?

12. Study carefully the following map of India and answer the questions given below it :



- i. Write the names of any six states in which Congress Party got majority in 1967 assembly polls.
- ii. Write the names of any eight states where Congress did not get a majority in 1967 assembly polls but formed government with the help from other parties and candidates.
- iii. Write names of two islands of India.

13. Analyse the circumstances responsible for the food crises and the famine-like conditions in many parts of the country. Highlight any three consequences of food crisis in India.

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1. d. 2012, Explanation: Aam Aadmi party was formed on 26th November 2012 under the leadership of Mr. Arvind Kejriwal.
2. 'Syndicate' was the informal name given to a group of Congress leaders who were in control of the party's organisation. It means a group of powerful and influential leaders within Congress to be known as Old Congress.
3. Although the Congress's position was very weak in the electoral contest of 1971, it had something that its big opponents lacked—it had an issue, an agenda and a positive slogan: Indira Gandhi said that the opposition alliance had only one common programme: Indira Hatao. In contrast to this, she put forward a positive programme captured in the famous slogan Garibi Hatao. This proved to be a major factor responsible for the dramatic victory of Indira Gandhi.
4. SVD stands for Samyukt Vidhayak Dal i.e. Joint Legislative Parties. Since no single party had got a majority, various non-Congress parties came together to form joint legislative parties that supported non congress government. Also known as coalitions after fourth general elections.
5. Privy Purse was the special privileges given to former princely rulers on the basis of the extent of their property.
6. The opposition unity and the Congress split posed a challenge to the Congress dominance in the following ways:
 - i. Before 1967 elections the opposition parties had realised that division of their votes kept the Congress in power. They, therefore, formed anti-Congress fronts. As a result of this, Congress lost a majority in seven states. Non-Congress governments were formed in Punjab, UP, Bihar, and other states. The results proved that the Congress could be defeated at the elections.
 - ii. The split in the Congress reduced Indira Gandhi government to a minority. However, she remained in office with the support of the Communist Party of India and DMK. It was issue-based support. The fact was, however, that the new Congress of Indira Gandhi was just one faction of an already weak party and split had further weakened its position.
7. The 1960s were labelled as the 'dangerous decade' due to some unresolved problems like poverty, inequality, communal and regional divisions etc. could lead to a failure

of the democratic project or even disintegration of the country.

8. The reasons for the popularity of Indira Gandhi during 1971 election were as:
 - i. She focused on the growth of the public sector and imposed ceiling on rural land holdings and urban property.
 - ii. She ended her dependence on other political parties by strengthening her party's position and recommended the dissolution of Lok Sabha in December 1970.
 - iii. The crisis in East Pakistan and Indo-Pak war to establish Bangladesh as an independent one, also enhanced the popularity of Indira Gandhi.
 - iv. She abolished princely privileges and put forth the popular slogan 'Garibi Hatao', remove poverty.
9. Congress faced the challenge of political succession again on 10th January 1966, Shastri's Prime Ministership came to an abrupt end, when he suddenly expired in Tashkent, then in USSR and currently the capital of Uzbekistan.

The senior leaders in the party decided to back Indira Gandhi, but the decision was not unanimous.

There was an intense contest between Morarji Desai and Indira Gandhi. The contest was resolved through a secret ballot among Congress MPs.

Indira Gandhi got the support of more than two-thirds of the Congress party's MP's.

The factors that led to the popularity of Indira Gandhi's Government in the early 1970s were:

 - i. Her socialist approach worked in her favour and her ideas like land reform and land ceiling legislation as well.
 - ii. Her slogan 'garibi hatao' was the need of that time. People took it positively and supported her.
 - iii. Her focus was on the growth of the public sector, the imposition of ceiling on rural land holdings and urban property, removal of inequality in income and opportunity and abolition of privy purse gained popularity.
 - iv. Through, 'garibi hatao' she became popular among the disadvantaged, especially among the landless labourers, Dalits and Adivasis, minorities, women, and the unemployed youth.
 - v. The 1971 elections were followed by the crisis in East Pakistan and the Indo-Pak war added to her popularity. She managed the political and economic affair of that time effectively. She was admired by opposition also.

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- vi. With two successive election victories, one at the centre and other at the state level, the dominance of the Congress was restored.
 - vii. She was seen as a protector of the poor and the underprivileged, but also a strong and capable national leader.
10. a. 'Syndicate' means a group of powerful and influential leaders from within Congress. Syndicate was the informal name given to a group of Congress leaders who were in control of the party's organisation. This was led by the then Congress President K. Kamraj former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and included powerful state leaders like S.K. Patil of Bombay (later named as Mumbai), S. Nijalingappa of Mysore, N. Sanjeeva Reddy of Andhra Pradesh and Atulya Ghosh of West Bengal. Their role in the Congress party was significant.
- b. Both Lal Bahadur Shastri and later Indira Gandhi became Prime Ministers due to the support received from the syndicate. The group had a decisive say in Indira Gandhi's first Council of Ministers and also in policy formulation and implementation.
- c. After the Congress split the leaders of the syndicate and those owing allegiance to them stayed with the Congress (O). Since it was Indira Gandhi's Congress(R) that won the test of popularity, all these big and powerful men of Indian politics lost power and prestige.
11. i. Several human qualities rolled into Shastriji. We should take a lesson from him on how we should face the challenges. We teach us that we must have the determination to face challenges.
- ii. The slogan Jai Jawan-Jai Kisan was given by Lal Bahadur Shastri. It symbolised the country's resolve to face severe challenges.
- iii. The country was confronted with the following challenges:
- a. India was recovering from the economic implications of the war with China.
 - b. Failed monsoons, drought and serious food crisis presented a grave challenge.
12. i. After assembly elections results of 1967 Congress Party got a majority in the following states:
- a. Jammu and Kashmir
 - b. Himachal Pradesh
 - c. Gujarat
 - d. Madhya Pradesh

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- e. Maharashtra
 - f. Mysore
 - g. Andhra Pradesh
 - h. Assam
 - i. Tripura
 - j. Manipur. (Write any six)
- ii. After Assembly election results of 1967 Congress Party did not get a majority but formed a government with the help from other parties and independents:
- a. Punjab
 - b. Rajasthan
 - c. Uttar Pradesh
 - d. Bihar
 - e. West Bengal
 - f. Orissa
 - g. Kerala
 - h. Madras
 - i. Goa. (Write any eight)
- iii. a. Laccadive Islands and
b. Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
13. i. The agricultural situation went from bad to worse in the 1960s. Already, the rate of growth of grain production in the 1940s and 1950s was barely staying above the rate of population. Between 1965 and 1967, severe droughts occurred in many parts of the country. This was also the period when the country faced two wars and a foreign exchange crisis. All this resulted in a severe food shortage and famine-like conditions in many parts of the country.
- ii. It was in Bihar that the food-crisis was most acutely felt as the state faced a near-famine on. The food shortage was significant in all districts of Bihar, with 9 districts producing than half of their normal output.
- iii. Food deprivation subsequently led to acute and widespread nutrition. The government had to import wheat and had to take foreign aid, mainly from the US. Now the first priority of the planners was to somehow self-sufficiency in food. The entire planning process and sense of optimism and pride rated with it suffered a setback.