
CBSE Test Paper 02
Class 12 - Political Science (B-2 Ch-6 Crisis of the Democratic Order)

1. Name the first commission which was formed for other backward classes.
 - a. Mukherjee commission
 - b. Kalelkar commission
 - c. Mandal commission
 - d. Sachchar commission
2. Which characteristics made the Congress an ideological coalition during the freedom movement of India?
3. Name the political party which came to power at the centre in 1977.
4. Mention the Historic decision given by the court in famous Kesavananda Bharati Case.
5. In January 1974, Students of Gujarat started an agitation against which two major problems?
6. What was Shah Commission of Inquiry? How did the government react to it?
7. Mention circumstances to be characterised for imposition of emergency?
8. On what grounds the critics of Emergency justified the protests and movements against the government in 1975?
9. Discuss the role of Jayaprakash Narayan in Bihar movement and national politics.
10. Explain any four consequences of the Emergency declared on 25 June 1975.
11. Read the speech given below and answer the questions that follow:

"In the name of democracy it has been sought to negate the very functioning of democracy. Duly elected governments have not been allowed to function. ... Agitations have surcharged the atmosphere, leading to violent incidents. ... Certain persons have gone to the length of inciting our armed forces to mutiny and our police to rebel. The forces of disintegration are in full play and communal passions are

being aroused, threatening our unity. How can any Government worth the name stand by and allow the country's stability to be imperilled? The actions of a few are endangering the rights of the vast majority. ”

- i. Who made the above speech and when and where?
- ii. Which allegations have been changed in the speech and against whom?
- iii. Do you agree with the allegations mentioned in the speech?

12. Look at the cartoon given below and answer the questions that follow:



- i. What has been shown in the cartoon?
- ii. Which election was fought on the slogan of 'save democracy' and by which political party?
- iii. What do you understand by corruption, lawlessness and violence in the cartoon?

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

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Answer

1. b. Kalelkar commission

Explanation: Kalelkar commission was formed in 1953 to look into the status of other backward classes.

2. The characteristics which made the Congress an ideological coalition during the freedom movement of India was the inclusive and accommodative nature of Congress. It brought together successfully diverse groups, whose interests were often contradictory.
3. The Janata Party and its allies was the political party which came to power at the centre in 1977 by defeating Congress Party.
4. In this case, the court gave a decision that there are some basic features of constitution and the Parliament cannot amend these features. It further added to the tension between the judiciary and the executive.
5. In January 1974, Students of Gujarat started an agitation against the two major problems which were as follows:
- i. Rising prices of food grains, cooking oil and other essential commodities.
 - ii. Corruption in high places.
6. In May 1977, the Janata Party government appointed a Commission of Inquiry headed by Justice J.C Shah, retired Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India to inquire "into several aspects of allegations of abuse of authority excesses and malpractices committed in the wake of the emergency proclaimed on the 25th June, 1975". The Government of India accepted the findings, observations and recommendations contained in the two interim reports and third and final report of the Shah commission. The reports were also tabled in the two houses of Parliament.
7. The circumstances to be characterised for imposition of emergency were:
- i. Emergence of Indira Gandhi.

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- ii. Power Politics became personalised and governmental authority was converted into personalisation.
 - iii. Bitter party competition.
 - iv. Tense relations between the government and judiciary.
8. The protests and movements against the government were justified on the following grounds:
- i. Indian politics had a history of popular struggles, helps to understand better the nature of democratic politics.
 - ii. Peaceful and non-violent agitations in Bihar and Gujarat.
 - iii. No case registered against detainees.
 - iv. No concern about law and order by the Home Ministry.
 - v. The movements suggest the routine functioning of democracy.
9. The role of Jayaprakash Narayan in Bihar movement and national politics were as follows:
- i. Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan from Janata Party was a Marxist of youth, who became a Gandhian and was involved himself in the Bhoodan movement.
 - ii. He led Bihar movement.
 - iii. Bihar students invited him and he accepted on the condition of movement to be non-violent and not to limit only to Bihar territory. Hence, Bihar movement assumed a political character and national appeal.
 - iv. This movement demanded dismissal of Congress government in Bihar and called for total revolution in social, economic and political aspects to establish a total democracy.
 - v. A series of bandhs, gehraos, and strikes were organised in protest in the Bihar. The employees of the railways gave a call for a nationwide strike. This threatened to paralyse the country.
 - vi. In 1975, JP led a people's march to the parliament. This was one of the largest political rallies ever held in the capital.
 - vii. He was supported by non- Congress parties like the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, the Congress (O), the Bharatiya Lok Dal, the socialist party and others, which projected JP as an alternative to Indira Gandhi.

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- viii. He became the symbol of opposition to Emergency.
10. On 25th June 1975, the National Emergency was declared. The following were its main consequences:
- i. This brought the agitation (popularly known as JP movement) to an abrupt stop, strikes were banned, many opposition leaders were put in jail, the political situation became very quiet though tense.
 - ii. Deciding to use its special powers under Emergency provisions, the Central Government (of Indira Gandhi) suspended the freedom of the press (mass media). Newspapers were asked to get prior approval for all materials to be published. This is known as press censorship.
 - iii. Most importantly, under the provisions of Emergency, the various Fundamental Rights of the Indian citizens stood suspended, including the right of citizens to move the court for restoring their Fundamental Rights.
 - iv. The government made extensive use of preventive detention. Under this provision, people are arrested and detained not because they have committed any offence but on the doubt of the offences.
11. i. Indira Gandhi made the above speech in her address to the nation on All India Radio on 26 June 1975.
- ii. The following allegations were charged against the opposition parties under the leadership of Jayaprakash Narayan.
 - a. The negation of the functioning of democracy and duly elected governments.
 - b. Violent incidents in the country.
 - c. Incitement to an army to mutiny and police to rebel.
 - d. Arousing of communal passions.
 - e. The threat to stability.
 - iii. The allegations seem to be correct because on 25 June 1975, in his speech at Delhi's Ramlila grounds, Jayaprakash Narayan announced a nationwide satyagraha and asked the army, the police, and government employees not to obey "illegal and immoral orders".
12. i. The cartoon shows that Jayaprakash Narayan is sitting on dharna in order to save democracy.
- ii. On the slogan of 'save democracy' the 1977 elections were fought by the opposition

parties.

iii. Corruption, lawlessness and violence imply that there was corruption in high places in the government. The violence was on the rise in the country and there was no law and order in the country.

13. i. The Shah Commission was appointed to inquire “into several aspects of allegations of abuse of authority, excesses and malpractices committed and action taken in the wake of Emergency proclaimed on the 25th June 1975”.

ii. Its findings were as follows:

a. In all 676 opposition leaders were arrested.

b. Nearly one lakh eleven thousand people were arrested under preventive detention laws.

c. Severe restrictions were put on the press, sometimes without legal sanctions.

d. The General manager of the Delhi Power Supply Corporation received verbal orders from the office of Lt. Governor of Delhi to cut electricity to all newspaper presses at 2 a.m. on 26th June 1975. Electricity was restored two to three days later the censorship apparatus had been set up.

e. Torture and custodial deaths occurred during the emergency.

f. Arbitrary relocation of poor people took place.

g. Over-enthusiasm for population control led to cases of compulsory sterilisation.

h. Governmental power was exercised by those who held no official position.

i. The administration and the police because vulnerable to political pressures.