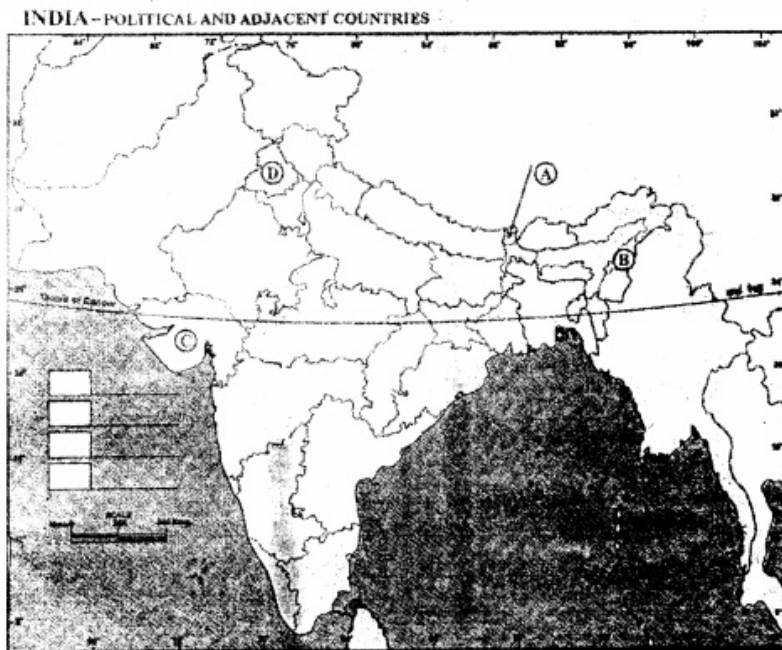


CBSE Test Paper 04

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

1. Which of the following Article of the Indian constitution describes a financial emergency?
 - a. 356
 - b. 366
 - c. 350
 - d. 360
2. What was the position of the BJP in 1996 elections of Lok Sabha? Why its government could not secure the support of the majority in the Lok Sabha?
3. Name the founder of Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP).
4. Who led the NDA governments from May 1998 to June 1999 and again from October 1999 to May 2004?
5. Why was a case against the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh registered in the Supreme Court in 1993? What punishment was awarded to him?
6. Who was the chairperson of Mandal Commission? State any one recommendation made by him/her.
7. Describe any two advantages and two disadvantages of 'coalition government' in India.
8. When did the BJP come to power at the Centre and how?
9. How far is it correct that coalition governments in India have helped in achieving some consensus?
10. What was the main recommendation of Mandal Commission?
11. In the given political outline map of India, four States have been marked as (A), (B), (C) and (D). Identify them with the help of the information given below and write their correct names in your answer book along with their respective serial numbers and the alphabets concerned:



- i. The State wherefrom Prime Minister V.P. Singh was elected.
- ii. The former Prime Minister from June 1996 to April 1997 belonged to this State.
- iii. The State to which the Chairman of Mandal Commission (1977-79) belonged.
- iv. The State where the National Conference ruled from 1952 to 1967.

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



- i. Identify any four national leaders from the above cartoon and mention the serial number of each.
- ii. Which was the most controversial issue of the period related to leader No.2 as Prime Minister of India?
- iii. What was the position of the party led by leader No. 1 in the Lok Sabha elections of 1989?

13. Two-party system is considered as the best form for a democratic system. India, on the other hand, has a multi-party system. Assess the advantages of the multi-party system in India.

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Answer

1. d. 360

Explanation: Article 360 states that govt. can declare emergency if nation face financial crisis.

2. i. The BJP emerged as the largest party in the 1996 election and was invited to form the government.
ii. The BJP government could not secure majority support in the Lok Sabha because most other parties were opposed to its policies.
3. The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) is a national political party in India. 'Kanshi Ram' was the founder of party.
4. A.B. Vajpayee led the NDA Government from May 1998 to June 1999 and again from October 1999 to May 2004.
5. A case against the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh who registered in the Supreme Court in 1993 for contempt of court. A token of imprisonment of one day was awarded to him
6. Bindeshwari Prasad Mandal was the chairperson of the Mandal Commission set up in 1978 to investigate the extent of educational and social backwardness among various sections of society and recommend ways to identify these classes. The Mandal Commission gave its recommendations in 1980:
 - i. Reserving 27 percent of seats in educational institutions and government jobs for these groups.
 - ii. It recommended land reforms to improve the condition of OBCs.
7. i. Advantages of 'coalition government' in India:
 - a. It eliminates the fear of a one-party dictatorship.
 - b. Different groups and regions get due representation in the government due to various regional and smaller political parties.ii. Disadvantages of 'coalition government' in India:
 - a. It leads to instability of the government because the withdrawal of support by

any political party may lead to a fall of the government.

b. The government remains under pressure from its partners on various policy matters.

8. The BJP led a well-known coalition known as the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), after the 1998 general election. The BJP came to power at the Centre by leading the NDA under Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and formed a government from May 1998 to June 1999. It was re-elected in October 1999 and this government completed its full term. This is the first time for a Non- Congress government to last full time in office.

9. The coalition governments in India have helped in achieving consensus. This consensus consists of six elements as mentioned below:

- i. **New economic policies:** Most of the political parties support the new economic policies which are being followed since 1991. The parties believe that these policies would lead the country to prosperity and the status of economic power in the world.
- ii. **Acceptance of the political and social claims of the backward castes:** All the political parties support the political and social claims of the backward castes. They support the reservation of seats for these classes in education and employment. Political parties are willing to ensure that the OBCs get an adequate share of power.
- iii. **Role of State-level parties in the governance of the country:** It has been recognized that the state level or regional parties play an important role in the governance of the country. No government at the center can be formed without their support because no single party has won the majority of seats in the Lok Sabha since 1989.
- iv. **Emphasis on pragmatic considerations:** The political parties now put more emphasis on pragmatic considerations rather than ideological positions. Coalition politics has shifted the focus of political parties from ideological differences to power-sharing arrangements. For example, most parties of the NDA did not agree with the 'Hindutva' ideology of the BJP, yet they came together to form a government and remained in power for a full term.
- v. **A stronger government:** A stronger government with a majority coalition than a

party having to try ruling with a minority is very advantageous. More than one person's views are represented in the policies implemented than having just one party ruled. Potentially a stronger and more talented team has to lead the government, as the Prime Minister can then choose the talent from both parties, rather than just his own one.

- vi. **Promise for a healthy democracy:** Compromise is an important factor of a healthy democracy because it reduces both political inequality and hostility in economic and social politics and in the society alike. That's important for a healthy democracy to function well as well as having the coalition government at the same time.

10. The main recommendations of the Mandal Commission were:

- i. It recommended reserving 27% of seats in educational institutions and government jobs for OBCs (Other Backward Castes).
- ii. The Mandal Commission also make many other recommendations, like land reforms, to improve the conditions of the OBCs.
- iii. In August 1990, the National Front Government decided to implement their recommendations. The decision sparked agitations and violent protests in several cities of north India. The decision was also challenged in the Supreme Court of the country. In November 1992, the court gave a ruling upholding the decision of the government. Now the policy of reservation for the OBC has the support of all the major political parties of the country.

11. i. B - Uttar Pradesh.

ii. C - Karnataka.

iii. D - Bihar.

iv. A - Jammu and Kashmir.

12. i. VP Singh, LK Advani, Chandrashekhar and Devi Lai.

ii. V P Singh

iii. The party led by leader No-1 get only 197 seats in the Lok Sabha election of 1989.

13. Two party systems are required for a successful democracy. However, the multi-party system has the following advantages :

- i. **No place for dictatorship:** Even if a party enjoys a full majority, it can not

function as a dictator. In a democratic country, any person or a group have the freedom to form their own political party. This system ensures a healthy competition among different parties and prevents the dictatorship of a single party thereby providing chances for the growth of the nation.

- ii. **Multiple choices of voters:** The voters have choices about whom they want to cast their votes since 1989 elections.
- iii. **True reflection of public opinion:** Parliament is the reflection of people. In the case of multi-party systems, Parliament becomes a true reflector of people because of the diversity of culture, language is noticeable in Parliament. For a vast and socio diverse country, the multi-party system is best as it represents the voices and opinions of each section of the society.
- iv. **Possibility of stable government:** There is government majority in Parliament and Council of Ministers work according to the majority. This restricts Parliament not to pass a no-confidence motion. Hence, the multi-party system is comparatively stable.
- v. **Passing of bills:** Bills favouring people are passed by the Parliament and it is a coalition government which always asks its member parties to do so.
- vi. **Check the division of the two camps:** The two-party system leads to two camps. But the multi-party system checked the two hostile camps. It is rather a cementing force between groups of divergent loyalties.