

Political Science

(Politics in India Since Independence) (Chapter - 3) (Politics of Planned Development) (Class - XII)

Question 1:

Which of these statements about the Bombay Plan is incorrect?

- (a) It was a blueprint for India's economic future.
- (b) It supported state-ownership of industry.
- (c) It was made by some leading industrialists.
- (d) It supported strongly the idea of planning.

Answer 1:

- (a) It was a blueprint for India's economic future.

Question 2:

Which of the following ideas did not form part of the early phase of India's development policy?

- (a) Planning
- (b) Liberalization
- (c) Cooperative farming
- (d) Self-sufficiency

Answer 2:

- (b) Liberalization.

Question 3:

The idea of planning in India was drawn from

- (a) The Bombay plan
- (b) Experiences of the Soviet bloc countries
- (c) Gandhian vision of society
- (d) Demand by peasant organisations
- (i) (b) and (d) only
- (ii) (d) and (c) only
- (iii) (a) and (b) only
- (iv) All the above

Answer 3:

- (iv) All of the above.

Question 4:

Match the following:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) Charan Singh | i. Industrialisation |
| (b) P C Mahalanobis | ii. Zoning |
| (c) Bihar Famine | iii. Farmers |
| (d) Verghese Kurien | iv. Milk Cooperatives |

Answer 4:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) Charan Singh | iii. Farmers |
| (b) P C Mahalanobis | i. Industrialisation |
| (c) Bihar Famine | ii. Zoning |
| (d) Verghese Kurien | iv. Milk Cooperatives |

Question 5:

What were the major differences in the approach towards development at the time of Independence? Has the debate been resolved?

Answer 5:

At the time of independence, development was about becoming more like the industrialized countries of the West, to be involved with the breakdown of traditional social structure as well as rise of capitalism and liberalism.

- Modernization referred to growth, material progress and scientific rationality.
- India had two models of modern development at the time of independence into considerations to be adopted i.e. the liberal capitalist model like Europe and the US and the socialist model like the USSR.
- A debate had been occurred regarding adoption of model of development as communists, socialists and Pt. Nehru supported the socialist model to reflect a broad consensus to be developed during national movement.
- Above mentioned intentions cleared that the government made the priority to poverty alleviation along with social and economic redistribution.
- At the same time, these leaders differed and debated:
 - (a) Industrialization should be the preferred path or
 - (b) Agricultural development should take place or
 - (c) Rural poverty should be alleviated.

Question 6:

What was the major thrust of the First Five Year Plan? In which ways did the Second Plan differ from the first one?

Answer 6:

The First Five Year Plan was commenced in 1951 to be drafted by Young Economist K.N. Roy with the emphasis on poverty alleviation. Its main thrusts were as follows:

- To invest in dams and irrigation to improve agricultural sector with the urgent attention.
- Huge allocations were made for large scale projects like Bhakra Nangal Dam.
- It focused on land reforms for the development in rural areas.
- It aimed to increase level of National Income.

The first five year plan differed from the second five year plan:

- The Second Five Year Plan stressed on heavy industrialization.
- Second Five Year Plan wanted to bring quick structural transformation in all possible directions in place of slow and steady growth like First Five Year Plan.

Question 7:

Read the following passage and answer the questions below:

"In the early years of Independence, two contradictory tendencies were already well advanced inside the Congress Party. On the one hand, the national party executive endorsed socialist principles of state ownership, regulation and control over key sectors of the economy in order to improve productivity and at the same time curb economic concentration. On the other hand, the national Congress government pursued liberal economic policies and incentives to private investment that was justified in terms of the sole criterion of achieving maximum increase in production".—Francine Frankel

- (a)** What is the contradiction that the author is talking about? What would be the political implications of a contradiction like this?
- (b)** If the author is correct, why is it that the Congress was pursuing this policy? Was it related to the nature of the opposition parties?
- (c)** Was there also a contradiction between the central leadership of the Congress party and its state level leaders?

Answer 7:

- (a)** The author is talking about contradiction regarding adoption of development models either socialist or capitalist. Political implications of this contradiction may result the differences among party members itself and government can issue licensing and permits in more complicated manner.
- (b)** Congress was pursuing this policy as a sole criterion of achieving maximum increased in production. Yes, it was related to the nature of opposition parties to be pursued liberal economic policies and incentives to private investment.
- (c)** No, there was not a contradiction between the central leadership of the Congress Party and its state level leaders because state emphasized on states' ownership, regulation and control over key sectors improve productivity whereas control leadership pursued liberal economic policies and incentives to private investment.