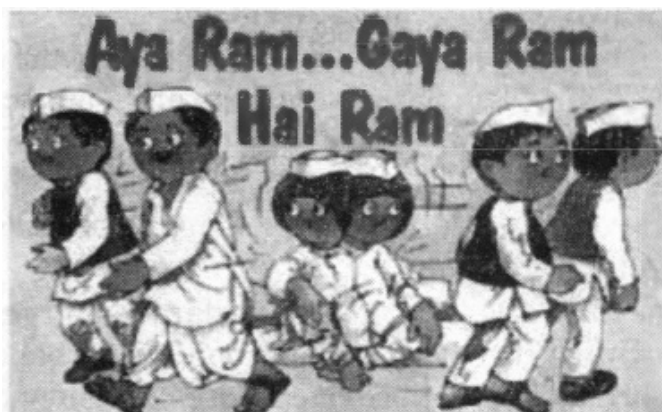


CBSE Test Paper 05

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

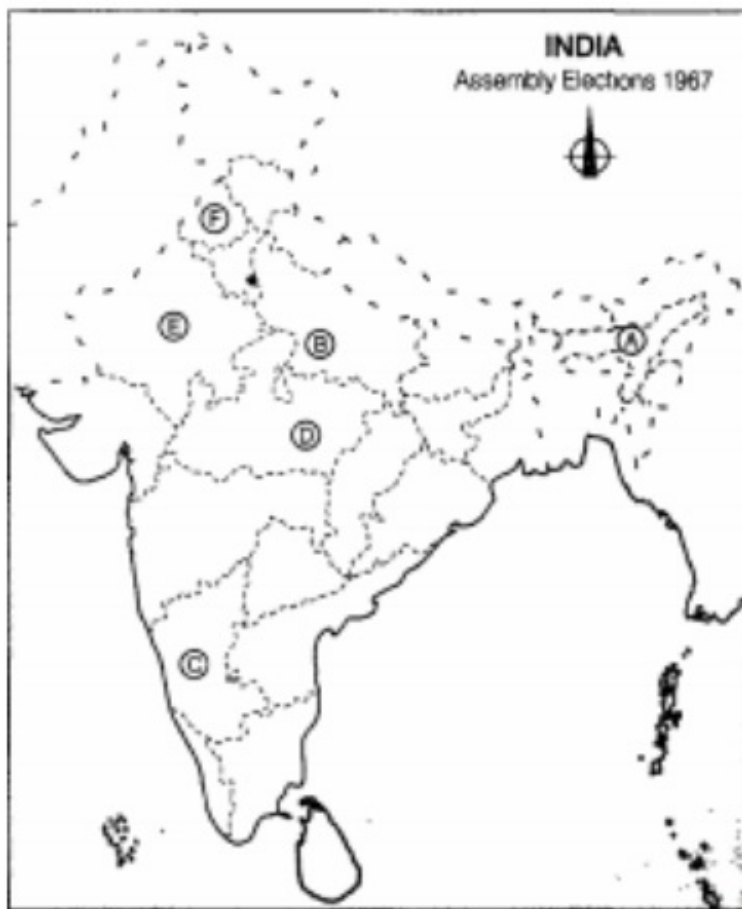
1. Which of the following leader was the deputy prime minister of India in the Vajpayee's government?
 - a. Lal Krishna Advani
 - b. Murali Manohar Joshi
 - c. Arun Jaitley
 - d. Sushma Swaraj
2. What was Kamaraj Plan?
3. Why are the results of 1967 elections in India called Political Earthquake?
4. Answer the following both questions:
 - a. The incident related to Aya Ram Gaya Ram refers to which year?
 - b. Name the person for whom the comment Aya Ram Gaya Ram was made.
5. Which period of Indian politics has been referred to as a dangerous decade?
6. How did Congress face challenge of political succession second time?
7. Why did Indira Gandhi government devalue the Indian Rupee in 1967?
8. What does 'defection' stand for in Indian politics? Highlight demerits of this practice?
9. What is meant by Privy Purse? Evaluate the role played by Indira Gandhi in the abolition of privy purses.
10. Explain causes of the split in the Congress Party in 1969.
11. Study the picture given below and answer the questions that follow:



Questions

- i. Which year is being referred by cartoon?
- ii. Who is being commented by the phrase 'Aya Ram Gaya Ram'?

12. In the given political outline map of India, six stages have been indicate by A, B, C, D, E and F.



Identify them with the help of information given below and write their correct names in your answer-book along with their respective serial number and the alphabet concerned as per the following table

- i. Two states where the Congress Party got a majority and formed the government.
 - ii. Two states where the breakaway Congress legislators played an important role in installing non-Congress governments.
 - iii. States where Congress Party did not get a majority but formed the government with the help of other parties.
 - iv. The state where 'Popular United Front' came into power.
13. Examine the main factors responsible for the rise and fall of the Congress Party's dominance in India.

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Answer

1. a. Lal Krishna Advani,
Explanation: Lal Krishna Advani was the deputy prime minister of India during 2002-2004 under the prime ministership of Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
2. In 1963 K. Kamaraj, Congress President and Chief Minister of Madras (Now Tamil Nadu) was a political plan, proposing that all senior Congressmen should resign from their posts and devote all their energy to the revitalization of the Congress. This proposal is famous as the 'Kamaraj Plan'.
3. The results of 1967, elections in India were called " Political Earthquake" because it jolted the Congress at both the central and state levels as Congress did not get a majority in Congress ruled states.
4. a. Aya Ram Gaya Ram refers to an incident of defection in 1967.
b. Gaya Lal was the person for whom the comment Aya Ram Gaya Ram was made.
5. 1960s period of Indian politics has been referred to as a dangerous decade.
6. The Congress party faced the challenge of succession for the second time in 1966 after the death of Lal Bahadur Shastri:
 - i. This challenge started with an intense competition between Morarji Desai and Indira Gandhi.
 - ii. Morarji Desai had served as chief minister of Bombay state and as a minister at the centre. Indira Gandhi, the daughter of Jawaharlal Nehru, had been Congress President in the past and had also been Union Minister for Information in the Shastri cabinet. This time the senior leaders in the decision to back Indira Gandhi, but the decision was not unanimous. The contest was resolved through a secret ballot among Congress MPs.
 - iii. Indira Gandhi defeated Morarji Desai by securing the support of more than two-third of the party's MPs.
 - iv. A peaceful transition of power, despite intense competition for leadership, was seen as a sign of maturity of India's democracy.
7. One of the first decisions of the Indira Gandhi government was to evaluate the Indian rupee to check economic crisis of 1967. Earlier one US dollar could be purchased for less than ₹ 5; after devaluation, it cost more than ₹ 7. The economic situation

triggered off price rise. People started protesting against the increase in prices of essential commodities, food scarcity, growing unemployment and overall economic condition in the country. The government saw the protests as a law and order problem and not as expressions of people's problems. This further increased public bitterness and reinforced popular unrest. The Communist and Socialist parties launched struggle to greater equality.

8. Defection means an elected representative leaves the party on whose symbol he/she is elected and joins another party. This culture developed in Indian Politics after 1967 elections. Its demerits were as follows:

- After the 1971 election defections played an important role in the making and unmaking of governments in the states frequently.
- After the 1967 general election, the breakaway Congress legislators played an important role in installing non-Congress governments in three States- Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.
- The constant realignments and shifting political loyalties in this period gave rise to the expression "Aaya Ram, Gaya Ram".
- The expression 'Aya Ram, Gaya Ram' describe the practice of frequent floor crossing by legislators. This phrase became the subject of numerous jokes. Later, the Constitution was amended to prevent defections.

9. **Meaning of Privy Purse**

At the time of integration of the princely states with the Indian Union, an assurance was given to the ruler's families would be allowed to retain the certain private property and given a grant in hereditary or government allowance, measured on the basis of the extent of revenue and potential of the merging State. This grant was the Privy Purse. At the time of accession, there was little criticism of these privileges since integration and consolidation was the primary aim.

- i. Following the 1967 elections, Indira Gandhi supported the demand that the government should abolish privy purses.
- ii. The government tried to bring a constitutional amendment in 1970, but it was not passed in Rajya Sabha.
- iii. Indira Gandhi made this into a major election issue in 1971 and got a lot of public support.
- iv. Following the massive victory in the 1971 election, the Constitution was amended

to remove legal obstacles for the abolition of Privy Purses.

10. The factors responsible for the split of the Congress party in 1969 were as follows:
 - i. In 1967 elections, the Congress lost power in many states, the result proved that the Congress could be defeated at the elections.
 - ii. The political tension inside Congress over the unsettled question of the relation between its ministerial and organisation wings became more pronounced.
 - iii. Indira Gandhi sidelined from the 'Syndicate', a group of powerful and influential leader within the Congress. She chose her trusted group of advisors from outside the party.
 - iv. She got the Congress Working Committee to adopt a Ten-Point Programme in May 1967. This programme included social control of banks, nationalisation of General Insurance, ceiling on Urban property and income, public distribution of food grains, land reforms and provision of house site to the rural poor.
 - v. Presidential election of 1969 brings out the factional rivalry between the Syndicate and Indira Gandhi. In the election, V. V. Giri was elected as president of India defeating the official Congress candidate N. Sanjeeva Reddy.
 - vi. The defeat of the official Congress candidate formalised the split in the party. The Congress President expelled the Prime Minister from the party. There was a vertical split in Congress which created Congress (Organisation) led by 'syndicate' and Congress (Requisitionists) led by Indira Gandhi.
11.
 - i. The 1967 year is being referred by the cartoon.
 - ii. The expression originated in an amazing feat of floor crossing achieved by 'Gaya Lal', an MLA in Haryana, in 1967. He changed the party thrice in a fortnight, from Congress to United Front, back to Congress and then within nine hours to United Front again. It is said that when Gaya Lal declared his intention to quit the United Front and join the Congress, the Congress leader, Rao Birendra Singh brought him to Chandigarh press and declared "Gaya Ram was now Aya Ram".
12.
 - i. Mysore and MP (C,D) were the states where Congress got a majority and formed the government.
 - ii. Uttar Pradesh and Haryana (B,F) were the states where the breakaway Congress legislators played an important role in installing a non-Congress government.
 - iii. Rajasthan (E) was the state where the Congress Party did not get a majority but formed the government with the help of other Punjab (F) was the state where '

Popular United Front ' came into power.

13. The main factors responsible for the rise of the Congress Party's dominance in India were:

- i. It was seen as the inheritor of the national movement. Many leaders who were at the forefront of that struggle were contesting elections as Congress candidates.
- ii. The Congress was the only party to have an organisation spread all over the country.
- iii. The congress was already a well-organised party while other parties could not even think of a strategy.
- iv. The party had organisational network down to the local level.
- v. Congress nature was all inclusive- a social and ideological coalition and had transformed into a rainbow-like social coalition, which accommodated the revolutionary as well as the pacifist.
- vi. The party had Jawaharlal Nehru the most popular and charismatic leader in Indian politics. He led the Congress campaign and toured through the country.

The main factors responsible for the fall of Congress Party's dominance in India were:

- i. Since 1969, the Congress party had starting shedding its character as an umbrella party which accommodated leaders and workers of different ideological dispensations and viewpoints. The Congress party now identified itself with a particular ideology, claiming to be the only socialist and pro-poor party. Thus with the early nineteen-seventies, the Congress's political success depended on attracting people on the basis of sharp social and ideological divisions and the appeal of one leader, Indira Gandhi.
- ii. With the change in the nature of the Congress party, other opposition parties relied more and more on what is known in Indian politics as 'non-Congressism'. Parties opposed to the Congress realised that the division of their votes kept the Congress in power. This factor played a major role in the elections in 1977.
- iii. In an indirect manner, the issue of welfare of the backward castes also began to dominate politics since 1977. The results of 1977 elections were at least partly due to a shift among the backward castes of North India.
- iv. The Lok Sabha elections, many states also held Assembly elections in 1977. Again, the Northern States elected non-Congress governments in which the leaders of the backward castes played an important role.

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- v. The Emergency and the period around it can be described as a period of constitutional crisis because it had its origins in the constitutional battle over the jurisdiction of the Parliament. On the other hand, it was also a period of political crisis. It was one of the prominent cause for the fall of the Congress Party's dominance.