

Short Answer Questions

Q.1. What kinds of difficulties were involved in the process of partition?

[CBSE Sample Paper 2015]

Ans. (i) Areas of Muslim majority were not clearly delineated. As a compromise, Pakistan was to have two zones: west and east separated by a long expanse of Indian territory.

(ii) Opposition to the two-nation theory within Muslim region and community, e.g., opposition by Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan.

(iii) Bifurcation of certain areas like Punjab and Bengal were very difficult and traumatic.

(iv) Problem of minorities on both sides. Minorities had to leave at a very short notice during the scenes of violence.

Q.2. Explain four challenges faced by India during Independence.

[CBSE Sample Paper]

Ans. Four challenges faced by India during the Independence were:

(i) Displacement and rehabilitation after partition.

(ii) Diversity of language, culture and religion.

(iii) Establish democracy.

(iv) Formulate policy for economic development and eradication of poverty.

Q.3. Describe the reorganisation of states.

Ans. After independence, India had a huge challenge of reorganisation of states. Initially it was to reorganise states on the basis of language. But later on the decision was postponed due to the apprehension of disruption and disintegration of the country. This was challenged by the local leaders and the people. Protests began in the Telugu speaking areas of the old Madras province, who demanded for the creation of Andhra Pradesh. Finally, the Prime Minister announced the formation of a separate Andhra state in December 1952. Thereafter state of Kerala, Punjab, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh were created on the basis of language. But in the later years, states like Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Uttrakhand were created on the basis of regional culture, development and regional imbalance.

Q.4. Describe the Nehru proposal for nation building.

Ans. All colonized countries adopted political and administrative system of the colonial country of their rulers; India was no exception to it. After the independence, under the able leadership of its first Prime Minister, India began the process of nation building. Pt. Nehru during his visit to USSR in 1927 was deeply inspired by the development model of Soviet Union. From the initial days of independence, he all wanted to establish an Indian society on the principles of socialism and secularism. Thus the goal of planned economy was initiated with the acute onset of industrialisation on a large scale. Development of science and technology and strengthening of parliamentary democracy, on the basis of socialism and secularism. This way he laid the foundation of developing nation and invigorated the position of congress. As a founder of nonaligned movement, he earned India a place on global political stage. He guided india towards development on the basis of secularism, pluralism, welfare and non-alignment. This was popularly known as Nehruvian model of nation building.

Q.5. Describe the role of Sardar Patel in the integration of princely states into Indian Union.

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Ans. As the deputy prime minister and the first home minister of India, he considered integration of 565 princely states into Indian union as his primary responsibility. It may look easy now. But it was a very complicated task which required skilful persuasion. He evoked patriotic spirit to get the signatures on 'Instrument of Accession' which meant that the states agreed to become a part of the Union of India. Accession of the Princely States of Junagadh, Hyderabad, Kashmir and Manipur proved more difficult than the rest. But Sardar Patel, with his diplomatic skills successfully integrated these states into the Indian Union.

Q.6. What was the task of the States Reorganisation Commission? What was its most salient recommendation?

[NCERT]

Ans. The formation of Andhra spurred the struggle in other parts of the country for making of other states on linguistic basis. These struggles forced the Central Government into appointing a State Reorganisation Commission in 1953 to look into the question of redrawing of the boundaries of states. The Commission in its report accepted that the boundaries of the state should reflect the boundaries of different languages. On the basis of its report the States Reorganisation Act was passed in 1956. This led to the creation of 14 states and six union territories.