CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

CBSE 2026-27

Social Science – Political Science

Subject Code: 087 | Class X

Question Bank – Set 2

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	Total	**40**	**15**	**20**	**20**	**15**	**10**	**120**

MCQs = Multiple Choice; A-R = Assertion–Reason; VSA = Very Short Answer; SA = Short Answer; LA = Long Answer; CS = Case Study / Source-based.

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1. Power-sharing

Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

Q1. Which one of the following languages was declared the official language of Sri Lanka by an Act passed in 1956? **[1]**

[Board 2023]

(a) Sinhala (b) Tamil (c) Hindi (d) English

Q2. Vertical division of power means: **[1]**

[Board 2024 Comptt]

(a) power is shared among governments at different levels
(b) power is shared among different organs of government
(c) power is shared among different social groups
(d) power is shared among different political parties

Q3. In the capital city Brussels, the linguistic division is: **[1]**

(a) 80 per cent Dutch speaking, 20 per cent French speaking
(b) 60 per cent German speaking, 40 per cent French speaking
(c) 50 per cent French speaking, 50 per cent Dutch speaking
(d) 80 per cent French speaking, 20 per cent Dutch speaking

Q4. Consider the following statements about power sharing arrangements in Belgium and choose the correct option. I. Brussels has a separate government with equal representation. II. Dutch and French speaking ministers are equal in the central government. III. The community government is elected by people belonging to one language community. IV. A series of majoritarian measures was adopted in Belgium. **[1]**

[Board 2024]

(a) I, II and IV (b) I, III and IV (c) I, II and III (d) II, III and IV

Q5. Why is power shared among different organs of government called horizontal distribution of power? **[1]**

[SQP 2021-22]

(a) It gives the judiciary more power than the legislature and executive.
(b) It allows different organs of government to be placed at the same level.
(c) It gives representation to different ideologies at the political level.
(d) It influences and coordinates the decision-making process.

Q6. Identify the primary objective of the power sharing arrangements made in Belgium. **[1]**

[Board 2024]

(a) Establishing a unitary form of government
(b) Centralised political control of government
(c) Promoting only the cultural and educational matters of the Dutch
(d) Accommodating linguistic and regional interests

Q7. Which of the following is an example of horizontal power sharing in Indian democracy? **[1]**

(a) Division of power between Central and State Governments
(b) Division of power among Legislative, Executive and Judiciary
(c) Division of power among Administration, Judiciary and Army
(d) Division of power between Rural and Urban Governments

Q8. How many times did Belgium amend its constitution between 1970 and 1993 to accommodate its communities? **[1]**

(a) Two (b) Three (c) Four (d) Five

Assertion–Reason

Q9. **Assertion (A):** Belgium amended its constitution four times between 1970 and 1993.
Reason (R): The amendments were made to enable everyone to live together within the same country. **[1]**

(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Q10. **Assertion (A):** Belgium's power sharing arrangements were designed to accommodate its linguistic and cultural divisions.
Reason (R): Belgian leaders recognised the existence of regional differences and cultural diversities. **[1]**
(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Q11. **Assertion (A):** Belgium's 'community government' has power regarding cultural, educational and language-related issues.
Reason (R): The state governments in Belgium are subordinate to the central government. **[1]**
(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Very Short Answer (VSA)

Q12. How did measures taken by the Sri Lankan government increase the feeling of alienation among the Tamils? Explain. **[2]**

[Board 2024 Comptt]

Q13. Explain the effectiveness of the horizontal distribution of power in the context of India. **[2]**

[Board 2025]

Q14. Why is power sharing essential? Explain. **[2]**

[Board 2026 Second]

Q15. Define majoritarianism. **[2]**

[SQP 2020-21 (adapted)]

Short Answer (SA)

Q16. 'Power sharing is the very spirit of democracy.' Support the statement with suitable arguments. **[3]**

[Board 2025]

Q17. 'Political power cannot be divided.' Analyse suitable arguments against the statement. **[3]**

[Board 2025]

Q18. 'Sri Lanka teaches us that majoritarianism undermines democracy.' Justify the statement. **[3]**

Q19. 'India with its vast population and diversity represents a classic example of power sharing that exemplifies the very spirit of democracy.' Justify the statement. **[3]**

[SQP 2024-25]

Long Answer (LA)

Q20. 'Power sharing is the essence of a democratic government.' Examine the statement. **[5]**

[SQP 2020-21]

Q21. Explain the four major forms of power sharing in modern democracies with one example each. **[5]**

Q22. 'The law enacted in 1956 and other constitutional provisions led to major conflict between the two communities in Sri Lanka.' Support the statement. **[5]**

Case Study

Case Study: Power sharing among organs of government Power is shared among different organs of government, such as the legislature, executive and judiciary. Let us call this horizontal distribution of power because it allows different organs of government placed at the same level to exercise different powers. Such a separation ensures that none of the organs can exercise unlimited power. Each organ checks the others. This results in a balance of power among various institutions. Last year, we studied that in a democracy, even though ministers and government officials exercise power, they are responsible to the Parliament or State Assemblies. Similarly, although judges are appointed by the executive, they can check the functioning of executive or laws made by the legislatures. This arrangement is called a system of checks and balances.

Q23. Read the source above and answer the questions that follow. **[4]**

[Board 2026]

(i) Explain the term 'balance of power'. [1]

(ii) Why is the judiciary considered independent in a democracy? [1]

(iii) How is power shared among different organs of government? [2]

Case Study: Sri Lankan Tamils: from demands to conflict By 1980s several political organisations were formed demanding an independent Tamil Eelam (state) in northern and eastern parts of Sri Lanka. The distrust between the two communities turned into widespread conflict. It soon turned into a civil war. As a result thousands of people of both the communities were killed. Many families were forced to leave the country as refugees. Many more lost their livelihoods. The civil war also caused a terrible setback to the social, cultural and economic life of the country. It ended in 2009, but the price of the war was enormous for a small country like Sri Lanka.

Q24. Read the source above and answer the questions that follow. **[4]**

(i) What was the demand of Tamil political organisations in the 1980s? [1]

(ii) What was the price of the civil war for Sri Lanka? [1]

(iii) How could the civil war have been avoided? Suggest two lessons for a democracy. [2]

2. Federalism

Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

Q1. 'Education' falls under which one of the following lists given in the Indian Constitution? **[1]**

[Board 2024]

(a) Union List (b) State List (c) Residuary Subjects (d) Concurrent List

Q2. Match the Column I with Column II and choose the correct option. Column I: i. Union List, ii. State List, iii. Concurrent List, iv. Residuary Subjects. Column II: 1. Agriculture, 2. Computer Software, 3. Banking, 4. Education. **[1]**

[Board 2023]

(a) i - 3, ii - 1, iii - 4, iv - 2
(b) i - 4, ii - 3, iii - 2, iv - 1
(c) i - 2, ii - 4, iii - 3, iv - 1
(d) i - 1, ii - 2, iii - 3, iv - 4

Q3. Which of the following is responsible for resolving disputes between the Centre and States? **[1]**

[Board 2024]

(a) Finance Commission of India
(b) Supreme Court of India
(c) President of India
(d) Prime Minister of India

Q4. The meaning of 'vertical distribution of power' in the context of Indian federalism is: **[1]**

[Board 2026 Second]

(a) Distribution of power between the Executive and the Legislature
(b) Distribution of power between the Political Parties and interest groups
(c) Distribution of power between the Executive and the Judiciary
(d) Distribution of power between the Union and State Governments

Q5. How does the judiciary act as an umpire in a federal nation? **[1]**

[SQP 2021-22]

(a) Judiciary rules over Centre and State
(b) Centre and Judiciary work collectively
(c) Courts use the power to interpret the Constitution
(d) Courts can change the structure of the Constitution

Q6. Which of the following is a positive outcome of the Constitutional Amendment of 1992 regarding decentralisation of power in India? **[1]**

[Board 2025 Comptt]

(a) Centralizing of power to maintain uniformity across the nation.
(b) Increasing reliance on state governments for local decision-making roles.
(c) Empowering communities by ensuring fair and regular local elections.
(d) Unlimited rights to the local representatives in decision-making matters.

Q7. Read the given statements regarding urban local government and choose the correct option. I. Municipalities are set up in towns. II. Big cities have Municipal Corporations. III. Municipal chairperson is the head of Block Samiti. IV. The officer in Municipal Corporation is called Mayor. **[1]**

[Board 2026]

(a) Only I, II and III are correct.
(b) Only I, II and IV are correct.
(c) Only I, III and IV are correct.
(d) Only II, III and IV are correct.

Q8. The feature 'two or more levels of government' belongs to: **[1]**

(a) Federal system (b) Unitary system (c) Monarchical system (d) One-party system

Assertion–Reason

Q9. **Assertion (A):** The 73rd Amendment made the third tier of democracy more powerful and effective.
Reason (R): It provided constitutional status to the Panchayati Raj institutions and mandated regular elections

to them. **[1]**

(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Q10. **Assertion (A):** Both the Union and the state governments can legislate on subjects in the Concurrent List.
Reason (R): In case of conflict, the state law prevails over the Union law. **[1]**

(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Q11. **Assertion (A):** Courts have the power to interpret the constitution and the powers of different levels of government.
Reason (R): The highest court acts as an umpire if any dispute arises between levels of government. **[1]**

(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Very Short Answer (VSA)

Q12. Why are constitutional provisions necessary for the success of federalism? Explain. **[2]**

[Board 2023]

Q13. Examine the role of the Supreme Court in the federal system of India in two points. **[2]**

[Board 2025 (OR alternative)]

Q14. What is a Gram Sabha? Mention its role. **[2]**

Q15. What is meant by decentralisation? Why is it important in a democracy? **[2]**

Short Answer (SA)

Q16. 'Sharing of power between the Union Government and the State Governments is basic to the structure of the Indian Constitution.' Support the statement with examples. **[3]**

[Board 2024]

Q17. How does the Indian Constitution ensure the division of powers between the Union and State governments? Explain. **[3]**

[Board 2025]

Q18. 'Local government is an effective way to uphold the democratic principle of decentralisation.' Justify the statement. **[3]**

Q19. Describe the structure of rural local government (Panchayati Raj) in India. **[3]**

Long Answer (LA)

Q20. 'Power sharing between the Union and the State governments is basic to the structure of the Indian Constitution.' Support the statement with examples. **[5]**

[Board 2024]

Q21. How does India stand out among the federations of the world? Explain the distinctive features of Indian federalism. **[5]**

Q22. Explain the process of decentralisation in India before and after 1992. **[5]**

Case Study

Case Study: Panchayati Raj We need to give more power to the Panchayats to realise the dream of Mahatma Gandhi and the hopes of the makers of our Constitution. Panchayati Raj establishes true democracy. It restores power to the only place where power belongs in a democracy — in the hands of the people. Giving power to Panchayats is also a way to reduce corruption and increase administrative efficiency. When people participate in the planning and implementation of developmental schemes, they would naturally exercise greater control over these schemes. This would eliminate the corrupt middlemen. Thus, Panchayati Raj will strengthen the foundations of our democracy.

Q23. Read the source above and answer the questions that follow. **[4]**

[Board 2024]

(i) How does giving power to Panchayats relate to the vision of Mahatma Gandhi? [1]

(ii) Explain the primary objective of giving power to the Panchayats. [1]

(iii) How does the establishment of Panchayati Raj contribute to democracy? Explain. [2]

Case Study: Linguistic states In 1947, the boundaries of several old provinces of British India were changed to create new provinces. Later, these provinces were made states. In 1948, in the Constituent Assembly, there was a demand to reorganise provinces on linguistic lines. Many national leaders feared that this would further divide the country on religious and linguistic lines. When the demand for a separate Andhra Pradesh was raised, it was resisted by the central government. After a popular movement and the death of Potti Sriramulu after a fast of 56 days, Andhra Pradesh was created in 1953. This demand for linguistic states led to the States Reorganisation Act of 1956, which redrew the map of India on linguistic lines.

Q24. Read the source above and answer the questions that follow. **[4]**

(i) Why did many national leaders fear the demand for linguistic states? [1]

(ii) Which state was created in 1953 and after what event? [1]

(iii) How did linguistic reorganisation strengthen Indian unity? Explain. [2]

3. Gender, Religion and Caste

Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

Q1. Which one of the following statements is NOT true? **[1]**

[Board 2023]

(a) The Constitution prohibits discrimination on the grounds of religion.
(b) As per the Constitution, religion can never be separated from politics.
(c) The state can intervene in religious matters to ensure equality within communities.
(d) The Constitution allows us to practise, profess and propagate any religion, or none.

Q2. Which of the following statements best describes women empowerment? **[1]**

[Board 2024]

(a) Encouraging men to take leadership roles.
(b) Promoting superiority of women over men.
(c) Limiting the rights of men in all spheres.
(d) Ensuring equal opportunities and rights for women.

Q3. Which of the following is the true meaning of 'Equal treatment of women' as a necessary ingredient of a democratic society? **[1]**

[SQP 2024-25]

(a) Women are always treated with respect and dignity.
(b) Women are now treated as equals in the political arena.
(c) Most societies across the world are now women dominated.
(d) It is now easier for women to legally wage struggle for their rights.

Q4. 'Secular state' means a state that: **[1]**

(a) has no official religion and treats all religions equally
(b) favours the majority religion
(c) has an official religion
(d) bans all religions

Q5. Which of the following statements about the 'sexual division of labour' is correct? **[1]**

(a) All household work is valued and paid for.
(b) A sex-based division: women do housework and men work outside.
(c) Women's work inside the home is recognised in national income accounts.
(d) Men and women share household work equally everywhere.

Q6. Which of the following expressions of communalism involves 'a quest for political dominance of one's own religious community'? **[1]**

(a) Routine beliefs and stereotypes of religious communities
(b) State intervention in religion for social reform
(c) Majoritarian dominance or desire for separate political units
(d) Religious freedom guaranteed to citizens

Q7. In India, the girl child's share in the population has been declining. This is reflected in: **[1]**

(a) the rise in women's literacy
(b) the rise in women's employment
(c) the decline in child sex ratio
(d) the rise in women's representation in legislatures

Q8. Which of the following statements about the 'private-public' divide is correct? **[1]**

(a) The gendered division assigns home (private sphere) to women and public life to men.
(b) Women's household work is part of the public domain.
(c) The private domain is the arena of paid work and public life.
(d) Feminist movements accept this division.

Assertion–Reason

Q9. **Assertion (A):** Exclusive attention to caste can produce negative results in democracy.
Reason (R): It can divert attention from other important issues, leading to tensions, conflicts and even violence. **[1]**
(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Q10. **Assertion (A):** Women in India face disadvantages and discrimination in many areas of life.
Reason (R): The literacy rate among women is lower than among men, and girls drop out more often as parents prefer to spend resources on boys' education. **[1]**
(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Q11. **Assertion (A):** India is a secular state.
Reason (R): There is no official religion for the Indian state and the Constitution prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion. **[1]**
(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Very Short Answer (VSA)

Q12. Describe any two provisions made in the Constitution to establish the model of 'secular governance' in India. **[2]**

[Board 2025]

Q13. Explain the role of women in the political field of India. **[2]**

[Board 2024 Comptt]

Q14. Explain two provisions related to religious freedom mentioned in the Indian Constitution. **[2]**

[Board 2026 Second]

Q15. Suggest two measures to ensure equal opportunities for women in all professions. **[2]**

[Board 2026 Second]

Short Answer (SA)

Q16. Suggest any three ways to enhance the political participation of women in India. **[3]**

[Board 2025 Comptt]

Q17. Explain any three ways in which caste is politicised in India. **[3]**

Q18. Explain the statement that 'the sexual division of labour is a form of social division'. **[3]**

Q19. Explain any three steps through which caste inequalities have declined in India. **[3]**

Long Answer (LA)

Q20. Mention the forms in which communalism is expressed in politics and describe the solution provided by the Constitution makers of India to meet this challenge. **[5]**

[SQP 2018-19]

Q21. Explain the ways in which the Indian Constitution upholds secularism. **[5]**

Q22. How has the political expression of gender division helped to improve women's role in public life? Explain with examples. **[5]**

Case Study

Case Study: Women in public life The gender division of labour is a form of social division. Women do the work inside the home — cooking, cleaning, bringing up children — while men work outside and take part in public life. This division is not natural or biological; it is a social expectation. Because housework is not paid, it is often not recognised as productive work. Feminist movements in different parts of the world have demanded that women be treated equally with men in personal and family life as well as in public life. Today women work as doctors, engineers, lawyers, managers and university teachers, but their proportion in the highly paid and valued jobs is still small, and they are paid less than men even when both do exactly the same work.

Q23. Read the source above and answer the questions that follow. **[4]**

(i) What is meant by the gender division of labour? [1]

(ii) Why is women's housework not counted as productive work? [1]

(iii) How have feminist movements changed the position of women in public life? [2]

Case Study: Caste in modern India Caste has not disappeared from contemporary India. But some of the older forms of the caste system have been transformed. Even now most people marry within their own caste or jati. The effects of centuries of advantages and disadvantages of caste can be seen even today. Groups that were placed in the privileged position in the caste system have better access to education and wealth, while groups that were placed low in the caste hierarchy continue to do badly. The Constitution prohibited untouchability and provided reservations for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Social reformers like Jyotiba Phule, Gandhiji and Dr. Ambedkar worked throughout their lives against caste discrimination.

Q24. Read the source above and answer the questions that follow. **[4]**

(i) How do marriage practices show that caste has not disappeared? [1]

(ii) Name any two social reformers who fought against caste discrimination. [1]

(iii) How have centuries of caste advantages and disadvantages continued in modern India? Explain. [2]

4. Political Parties

Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

Q1. In which one of the following options are political parties a necessary condition? **[1]**

[Board 2023 Comptt]

(a) Despotism (b) Authoritarian (c) Dictatorship (d) Democracy

Q2. The emergence of _____ is directly connected to the rise of political parties. **[1]**

[SQP 2023-24]

(a) Representative democracies
(b) Direct democracies
(c) Monitory democracies
(d) Constitutional democracies

Q3. How do political parties ensure accountability to the public? **[1]**

[Board 2024]

(a) Through press conferences
(b) Through social media campaigns
(c) Through elections and voter support
(d) Through encouraging partisanship

Q4. To reform the party system, which of the following tasks have been made compulsory for the political parties? I. It is now compulsory for all the political parties to file income tax returns. II. It is now compulsory for all parties to have one-third women candidates. III. It is now compulsory for all the political parties to hold their organisational elections. **[1]**

[Board 2025 (adapted)]

(a) Only I, II and III are correct.
(b) Only I and III are correct.
(c) Only I, II and IV are correct.
(d) Only II and III are correct.

Q5. Read the following statements about party systems and choose the correct option. I. In a one-party system only one party is allowed to control and run the government. II. In a two-party system power usually changes between two main parties. III. In a multi-party system several parties compete and alliances are common. IV. A one-party system is the ideal democratic arrangement. **[1]**

(a) I, II and III (b) II, III and IV (c) I, III and IV (d) I, II and IV

Q6. Why does the challenge of money and muscle power arise in elections? **[1]**
(a) The Election Commission funds parties
(b) Voters demand money from parties
(c) Parties tend to use short-cuts to win elections and rich candidates get tickets
(d) Elections are held every year

Q7. What is meant by a 'coalition government'? **[1]**
(a) A government formed by a single party with a majority
(b) A government formed by an alliance of parties
(c) A government headed by the President
(d) A government of independent candidates only

Q8. A party that is present in only one state and seeks to represent regional interests is called: **[1]**

(a) a national party
(b) an unregistered party
(c) an international party
(d) a state or regional party

Assertion–Reason

Q9. **Assertion (A):** Political parties are a necessary condition for a democracy.
Reason (R): Without parties, no one would be responsible for running the country. **[1]**
(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Q10. **Assertion (A):** Most political parties in India face the challenge of dynastic succession.
Reason (R): There are very few ways for an ordinary worker to rise to the top in a party. **[1]**
(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Q11. **Assertion (A):** Modern democracy cannot function without political parties.
Reason (R): Elected representatives will be accountable only to their constituencies, not towards the country. **[1]**
(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Very Short Answer (VSA)

Q12. How do political parties shape public opinion? **[2]**

[Board 2024 Comptt]

Q13. What is meant by a national party? State the Election Commission's criterion (any one). **[2]**

Q14. What is meant by the 'challenge of dynastic succession'? **[2]**

Q15. How do parties provide people access to government machinery and welfare schemes? **[2]**

Short Answer (SA)

Q16. Explain any three challenges faced by political parties in India. **[3]**

[Board 2023]

Q17. Explain the role of opposition parties in a democracy. **[3]**

[Board 2025 Comptt]

Q18. Explain any three characteristics of a two-party system. **[3]**

[Board 2024 Comptt]

Q19. Explain any three reforms suggested to make parties more democratic and transparent. **[3]**

Long Answer (LA)

Q20. 'Political parties have become omnipresent in democracies all over the world.' Explain the statement with examples. **[5]**

[Board 2024]

Q21. Exhibit the role of money and muscle power among political parties during elections. **[5]**

[SQP 2018-19 (OR alternative)]

Q22. 'Political parties play a significant role in the effective working of a democracy.' Explain. **[5]**

[SQP 2025-26]

Case Study

Case Study: Rise of political parties The rise of political parties is directly linked to the emergence of representative democracies. As we have seen, large societies need representative democracy. As societies became large and complex, they also needed some agency to gather different views on various issues and to

present these to the government. They needed some ways to bring various representatives together so that a responsible government could be formed. They needed a mechanism to support or restrain the government, make policies, justify or oppose them. Political parties fulfil these needs that every representative government has.

Q23. Read the source above and answer the questions that follow. **[4]**

[Board 2023]

(i) Explain the meaning of a 'political party'. [1]

(ii) 'The rise of political parties is directly linked to the emergence of representative democracies.' Support this statement. [1]

(iii) Why are political parties a necessary condition for a democracy? Explain. [2]

Case Study: Reforming political parties Worried about the role of money and muscle power in politics, and about the lack of internal democracy in parties, Indian reformers have suggested many measures. Some say the answer lies in a law to regulate the internal affairs of parties, including compulsory maintenance of membership registers and regular internal elections. Others argue that parties should be made to give at least one-third of tickets to women candidates and to reserve a share of decision-making posts for women. A third suggestion is state funding of elections — the government giving parties support in kind (petrol, paper, telephone) or cash based on the votes they secured in the last election. Citizens too have a role: they can refuse to support parties that use unfair means, and can actively participate in the internal life of parties to democratise them.

Q24. Read the source above and answer the questions that follow. **[4]**

(i) What is meant by state funding of elections? [1]

(ii) Why do reformers demand a women's quota within parties? [1]

(iii) Explain the role citizens can play in reforming parties. Give two points. [2]

5. Outcomes of Democracy

Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

Q1. Which one of the following is NOT true about a democratic government? **[1]**

[Board 2023]

(a) Democratic government is a legitimate government.
(b) Democratic government is a responsive government.
(c) Democratic government is the people's own Government.
(d) It does not allow room to correct mistakes.

Q2. If a government provides its citizens a right and means to examine the process of decision, it is _____. **[1]**

[SQP 2023-24]

(a) A responsible government.
(b) An accountable government.
(c) A transparent government.
(d) A stable government.

Q3. Which of the following promotes transparency in governance? **[1]**

[SQP 2020-21 (extract)]

(a) Right to information
(b) Right to education
(c) Right against exploitation
(d) Right to constitutional remedies

Q4. The basic outcome of democracy, according to the textbook, is that it produces a government that is: **[1]**
(a) answerable only to the ruler
(b) controlled by the army
(c) nominated by judges
(d) accountable to citizens and responsive to their needs

Q5. What does 'one person, one vote, one value' express? **[1]**

(a) Economic equality (b) Social equality (c) Political equality (d) Gender equality

Q6. Democracies are better at handling social differences because they: **[1]**
(a) accommodate social divisions through procedures and power-sharing
(b) ignore minority communities
(c) suppress internal differences
(d) hand over power to one community

Q7. Why is democracy better than dictatorship in dealing with conflicts? **[1]**
(a) It suppresses all conflicts
(b) It avoids all disagreements
(c) It provides methods to negotiate and resolve conflicts
(d) It postpones conflicts indefinitely

Q8. Which of the following is the MOST preferred form of government in South Asia? **[1]**

(a) Military rule (b) Democracy (c) Monarchy (d) One-party rule

Assertion–Reason

Q9. **Assertion (A):** Democracy is the best way to accommodate social diversity.
Reason (R): Democracies develop procedures to conduct competition among social groups, which reduces the possibility of violence. **[1]**
(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Q10. **Assertion (A):** Rule by majority in a democracy means the will of the majority alone should prevail.
Reason (R): The majority needs to work with the minority so that everyone lives together peacefully. **[1]**

(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Q11. **Assertion (A):** Democratic government may be slow in taking decisions.
Reason (R): Democracy is based on deliberation and negotiation, which take time. **[1]**
(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
(d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Very Short Answer (VSA)

Q12. 'Democracies are based on political equality.' Examine the statement. **[2]**

[Board 2022 Comptt]

Q13. Why is a democratic system of government regarded as the best form of governance in terms of involving the maximum number of citizens as stakeholders in political power? **[2]**

[SQP 2026-27]

Q14. What is meant by 'legitimate government'? **[2]**

Q15. How does democracy give the poor a voice even when it does not abolish poverty? **[2]**

Short Answer (SA)

Q16. 'Democracy produces an accountable, responsive and legitimate government.' Justify this statement. **[3]**

[Board 2023 Comptt]

Q17. 'Democratic government is a responsive government.' Support the statement. **[3]**

[Board 2022 Comptt]

Q18. 'Reducing social conflict is an important feature of democracy.' Examine the statement. **[3]**

[Board 2026 Second]

Q19. Differentiate between democratic and non-democratic government. **[3]**

[SQP 2022-23 MS]

Long Answer (LA)

Q20. 'Democracy is a better form of government than any other alternative.' Analyse the statement. **[5]**

[Board 2022]

Q21. Explain with examples the role of democracy in the reduction of inequality and poverty. **[5]**

[Board 2024]

Q22. 'There is an overwhelming support for the idea of democracy in South Asia.' Support the statement with examples. **[5]**

[SQP 2021-22 (OR) MS]

Case Study

Case Study: Expected versus actual outcomes When we talk to people around us, everyone almost invariably wants a democracy. But careful reflection reveals that people want it for different reasons. Some expect democracy to deliver higher economic growth; others want it to reduce inequality and poverty; some hope

democracy will accommodate all social diversity; and many value it for the dignity and freedom it promises every individual. In actual life, democracies have mixed records on all of these. Democracies have not shown a sharp economic advantage over dictatorships. They have not been very successful in reducing economic inequalities. But they do accommodate social diversity better, and they clearly stand superior in promoting the dignity and freedom of the individual. Thus the actual outcomes fall short of expectations, yet the idea of democracy keeps drawing support.

Q23. Read the source above and answer the questions that follow. **[4]**

(i) Which expected outcome of democracy do democracies NOT clearly achieve over dictatorships? [1]

(ii) State one expected outcome that democracies clearly achieve. [1]

(iii) Why does democracy still draw support despite falling short of expectations? Give two reasons. [2]

Case Study: Corruption and the scrutiny of democracy Stories of corruption appear regularly in the news of every democracy. Politicians are accused of taking bribes; officials are charged with misusing public funds; and elections are said to be fought with black money. Such stories remind us that no system is entirely without shortcomings, even democracies. Yet there is a difference. In a democracy, these very stories can be printed in the press, investigated by agencies, argued in courts and punished by law. The government of the day can be questioned and removed by voters. The scrutiny of democracy never ends: every failure is examined publicly, and every shortcoming becomes the agenda for reform.

Q24. Read the source above and answer the questions that follow. **[4]**

(i) Which shortcoming of democracies appears regularly in the news? [1]

(ii) Why can democracies punish corruption better than dictatorships? [1]

(iii) What does ‘the scrutiny of democracy never ends’ mean? Give two points. [2]

Answer Key (MCQs and Assertion–Reason)

Ch. 1: Q1-(a), Q2-(a), Q3-(d), Q4-(c), Q5-(b), Q6-(d), Q7-(b), Q8-(c), Q9-(a), Q10-(a), Q11-(c)

Ch. 2: Q1-(d), Q2-(a), Q3-(b), Q4-(d), Q5-(c), Q6-(c), Q7-(b), Q8-(a), Q9-(a), Q10-(c), Q11-(a)

Ch. 3: Q1-(b), Q2-(d), Q3-(d), Q4-(a), Q5-(b), Q6-(c), Q7-(c), Q8-(a), Q9-(a), Q10-(a), Q11-(a)

Ch. 4: Q1-(d), Q2-(a), Q3-(c), Q4-(b), Q5-(a), Q6-(c), Q7-(b), Q8-(d), Q9-(a), Q10-(a), Q11-(c)

Ch. 5: Q1-(d), Q2-(b), Q3-(a), Q4-(d), Q5-(c), Q6-(a), Q7-(c), Q8-(b), Q9-(a), Q10-(d), Q11-(a)