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Class X Social Science — Board PYQ & Important Questions

CBSE 2026–27 · Subject Code 087 · 256 questions with marking-scheme style answers

FACULTY: MISHRA SIR · SESSION 2026–27

Please read — our honest note to students. These questions are marked **[PYQ]** where they have appeared in CBSE board papers, and **[Frequently asked]** where they follow repeatedly asked board patterns. We have not printed a year tag against each question because we could not verify every year; wording may differ slightly from the original paper. Answers are point-wise and follow NCERT. This material was organised with the help of AI-based tools — if anything looks doubtful, ask your teacher. Scope is checked against the official CBSE curriculum 2026–27.

How long should your answer be? 1 mark — option/one fact · 2 marks — 2 points (30–50 words) · 3 marks — 3 points (50–80 words) · 4 marks (case) — answer each sub-part separately · 5 marks — 5 points (100–120 words) · Map — 5 marks (History 2 + Geography 3).

CONTENTS

History · Chapter 1 — The Rise of Nationalism in Europe · **17 questions**

History · Chapter 2 — Nationalism in India · **16 questions**

History · Chapter 3 — The Making of a Global World (Sub-topics 1–1.3) · **12 questions**

History · Chapter 4 — The Age of Industrialisation · *Periodic Assessment only*

History · Chapter 5 — Print Culture and the Modern World · **14 questions**

Geography · Chapter 1 — Resources and Development · **14 questions**

Geography · Chapter 2 — Forest and Wildlife Resources · **12 questions**

Geography · Chapter 3 — Water Resources · **12 questions**

Geography · Chapter 4 — Agriculture · **15 questions**

Geography · Chapter 5 — Minerals and Energy Resources · **14 questions**

Geography · Chapter 6 — Manufacturing Industries · **13 questions**

Geography · Chapter 7 — Lifelines of National Economy · *Map pointing only (see map lists in main document)*

Political Science · Chapter 1 — Power-sharing · **13 questions**

Political Science · Chapter 2 — Federalism · **14 questions**

Political Science · Chapter 3 — Gender, Religion and Caste · **13 questions**

Political Science · Chapter 4 — Political Parties · **13 questions**

Political Science · Chapter 5 — Outcomes of Democracy · **12 questions**

Economics · Chapter 1 — Development · **13 questions**

Economics · Chapter 2 — Sectors of the Indian Economy · **13 questions**

Economics · Chapter 3 — Money and Credit · **13 questions**

Economics · Chapter 4 — Globalisation and the Indian Economy (Board: 2 sub-topics) · **13 questions**

Economics · Chapter 5 — Consumer Rights · *Project Work only — not in board exam*

The Rise of Nationalism in Europe

Study Notes · NCERT Solutions · Frequent PYQs & Case-Based Questions

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Who hosted the Congress of Vienna in 1815?

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| (a) Otto von Bismarck | (b) Duke Metternich |
| (c) Giuseppe Mazzini | (d) Napoleon |

Answer: (b) Duke Metternich

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which treaty recognised Greece as an independent nation?

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (a) Treaty of Vienna | (b) Treaty of Versailles |
| (c) Treaty of Constantinople | (d) Treaty of Paris |

Answer: (c) Treaty of Constantinople, 1832

C3 [PYQ]

1 Mark

The term 'Zollverein' refers to:

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| (a) A German army | (b) A customs union |
| (c) A Prussian parliament | (d) A secret society |

Answer: (b) A customs union formed in 1834 at the initiative of Prussia

C4**1 Mark**

Arrange in chronological order: I. Unification of Germany II. Act of Union (Britain) III. Greek independence recognised IV. Frankfurt Parliament

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

Answer: (a) II (1707), III (1832), IV (1848), I (1871)

C5 [PYQ]**1 Mark**

Identify the symbol: 'Broken chains' in the allegory of Germania stands for ...

- (a) Heroism (b) Being freed
(c) Readiness to fight (d) New era

Answer: (b) Being freed

C6 [PYQ]**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): The Frankfurt Parliament failed to unify Germany in 1848.

Reason (R): The middle classes who dominated it resisted the demands of workers and artisans, and the Prussian king rejected the crown.

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

Answer: (a)

C7**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): Napoleon's Civil Code of 1804 was welcomed everywhere without resistance.

Reason (R): It abolished feudal privileges and established equality before law.

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

Answer: (d) — A is false: increased taxes, censorship and forced conscription made people hostile; R is true.

C8 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

'Napoleon had destroyed democracy in France but in the administrative field he had incorporated revolutionary principles.' Justify.

ANSWER

- Destroyed democracy — made himself emperor, returned to monarchy.
- Civil Code 1804: equality before law, right to property, abolition of birth-privilege.
- Abolished feudal system, freed peasants; removed guild restrictions; uniform weights, measures and currency.

C9 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Describe any three features of conservatism that emerged after 1815 in Europe.

ANSWER

- Believed established traditional institutions — **monarchy, Church, social hierarchies, property and family** — should be preserved.
- Did not propose a return to pre-revolution society; recognised that modernisation (efficient bureaucracy, modern army, abolition of feudalism) could strengthen monarchy.
- Autocratic regimes: did not tolerate criticism; imposed censorship on newspapers, books, plays and songs.

C10 [PYQ]**3 Marks**

How did the Balkan issue become one of the major causes of the First World War?

ANSWER

- Ottoman disintegration + romantic nationalism made the Balkans explosive; Slavic nationalities struggled for independence.
- Balkan states fiercely jealous; each hoped to gain territory at the expense of others.
- European powers (Russia, Germany, England, Austro-Hungary) competed to control the region → wars → **First World War 1914.**

C11 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

'Liberalism and nationalism became increasingly associated with revolution in many regions of Europe in the first half of the 19th century.' Examine with examples.

ANSWER

- **July 1830 France:** Bourbons overthrown; constitutional monarchy under Louis Philippe — inspired Belgium to break from the Netherlands.
- **Greek War of Independence** (1821–1832) — liberal and national ideals combined against Ottoman rule.
- **1848:** educated middle classes demanded constitutionalism with national unification — Frankfurt Parliament.
- Secret societies (Carbonari, Young Italy, Young Europe) spread liberal-national ideas — Mazzini.
- Economic liberalism (Zollverein) linked with national unification; railways harnessed economic interests to unity.

C12. Case-Based**4 Marks**

Read the source: *'Mazzini believed that God had intended nations to be the natural units of mankind. So Italy could not continue to be a patchwork of small states and kingdoms. It had to be forged into a single unified republic within a wider alliance of nations.'*

- (i) Which secret societies did Mazzini found? (1)
- (ii) Why did Metternich call him the most dangerous enemy? (1)
- (iii) How did Mazzini's idea of a nation differ from that of Cavour? (2)

ANSWER

- (i) **Young Italy** (Marseilles) and **Young Europe** (Berne).
- (ii) His ideas of democratic republics and national unity threatened the conservative monarchical order restored in 1815.
- (iii) Mazzini wanted a **unified democratic republic** achieved through popular revolution; Cavour, neither revolutionary nor democrat, sought unification under the **monarchy of Sardinia-Piedmont** through diplomacy and war (alliance with France).

★ **More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)**

C13 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

Explain the process of unification of Italy.

ANSWER

- In the mid-19th century Italy was divided into **seven states**; only Sardinia-Piedmont was ruled by an Italian princely house.
- **Giuseppe Mazzini** formed *Young Italy* to spread the idea of a unitary Italian republic; revolutions of 1831 and 1848 failed.
- **Count Cavour**, Chief Minister of Sardinia-Piedmont, formed a diplomatic alliance with France and defeated Austria in **1859**.
- **Giuseppe Garibaldi** with his volunteers (Red Shirts) marched into South Italy and the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies in **1860** and won local support.
- In **1861 Victor Emmanuel II** was proclaimed King of united Italy (Rome was joined in 1870).

C14 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

How did culture play an important role in creating the idea of the nation in Europe? Explain with examples.

ANSWER

- **Romanticism** — a cultural movement that criticised reason and science and focused on emotions, intuition and mystical feelings to create a shared heritage.
- **Folk culture** — Herder said true German culture lay among the common people (*das volk*); collecting folk songs, poetry and dances spread the national spirit.
- **Language** — after Russian was imposed in Poland, Polish became a weapon of resistance; clergy used Polish for church gatherings.
- **Music** — Karol Kurpinski turned folk dances like the polonaise and mazurka into nationalist symbols.
- **Art and allegory** — painters personified nations as female figures (Marianne, Germania), making the abstract nation concrete.

C15 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Why did the Balkans become the most serious source of nationalist tension in Europe after 1871?

ANSWER

- The Balkans had great geographical and ethnic variety; a large part was under the **Ottoman Empire**, which was disintegrating.
- Romantic nationalism made Balkan peoples claim independence on the basis of history; the states were jealous of each other and wanted more territory.
- Big powers — Russia, Germany, England, Austro-Hungary — competed for control over the region; this led to a series of wars and finally the **First World War**.

C16 [Frequently asked]**4 Marks**

Case-based: Read the source — “Ernst Renan: A nation is the culmination of a long past of endeavours, sacrifice and devotion... A heroic past, great men, glory, that is the social capital upon which one bases a national idea... A nation is therefore a large-scale solidarity...”

(i) According to Renan, what is the social capital of a nation? (1)

(ii) Why, according to him, is the existence of nations a necessity? (1)

(iii) Explain how Renan's idea differs from the idea that a nation is formed by common language, race or territory. (2)

ANSWER

- (i) A heroic past, great men and glory.
- (ii) Because nations are the guarantee of liberty; their existence is necessary for freedom.
- (iii) Renan says a nation is formed by shared past, common will and sacrifices of the people — a “daily plebiscite”, not merely by common language, race, religion or territory; it is a large-scale solidarity by choice.

C17 [Frequently asked]**2 Marks**

What were the two meanings of liberalism in the early 19th century Europe?

ANSWER

- **Political:** government by consent, end of autocracy and clerical privileges, a constitution and representative government through parliament.
- **Economic:** freedom of markets and abolition of state-imposed restrictions on the movement of goods and capital (e.g. Zollverein, 1834).

Nationalism in India

Study Notes · Movement Workflows · NCERT Solutions · PYQs · Map Work

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Who organised the dalits into the Depressed Classes Association in 1930?

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| (a) Mahatma Gandhi | (b) B.R. Ambedkar |
| (c) Sitaram Raju | (d) C.R. Das |

Answer: (b) Dr B.R. Ambedkar

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

In which session of Congress was the demand of 'Purna Swaraj' formalised?

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| (a) Madras 1927 | (b) Calcutta 1920 |
| (c) Lahore 1929 | (d) Nagpur 1920 |

Answer: (c) Lahore, December 1929

C3 [PYQ]

1 Mark

The Inland Emigration Act of 1859 was related to:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| (a) Indigo planters | (b) Plantation workers of Assam |
| (c) Tribals of Andhra | (d) Peasants of Awadh |

Answer: (b) Plantation workers were not allowed to leave tea gardens without permission

C4 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Who wrote 'Vande Mataram'?

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| (a) Rabindranath Tagore | (b) Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay |
| (c) Abanindranath Tagore | (d) Natesa Sastri |

Answer: (b)

C5 [PYQ]**1 Mark**

Why was the Simon Commission opposed?

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (a) It had no British member | (b) It had no Indian member |
| (c) It supported Purna Swaraj | (d) It was sent by Gandhiji |

Answer: (b) It had no Indian member

C6 [PYQ]**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): Gandhiji called off the Non-Cooperation Movement in 1922.

Reason (R): The movement had turned violent at Chauri Chaura.

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

Answer: (a)

C7**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): Business classes lost enthusiasm for Civil Disobedience after 1931.

Reason (R): They were apprehensive of the spread of militant activities and prolonged disruption of business.

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

Answer: (a)

C8 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Explain the circumstances under which Gandhiji decided to launch a nationwide satyagraha against the Rowlatt Act (1919).

ANSWER

- Act passed despite opposition of Indian members; gave powers of detention without trial for 2 years.
- Gandhiji wanted non-violent civil disobedience against such unjust laws — hartal on 6 April 1919.
- Rallies, strikes in railway workshops, shops closed; British responded with repression culminating in Jallianwala Bagh.

C9 [PYQ]**5 Marks**

'Different social groups participated in the Civil Disobedience Movement with different aspirations.' Explain.

ANSWER

- **Rich peasants:** reduction of revenue demand amid depression-hit prices.
- **Poor peasants:** remission of rent to landlords; joined radical movements.
- **Business class:** protection against foreign goods, favourable rupee-sterling ratio; Swaraj = end of colonial restrictions on business.
- **Industrial workers:** (Nagpur) better wages and working conditions; boycott of foreign goods.
- **Women:** service to nation as sacred duty; manufactured salt, picketing.

CONCLUSION

- The concept of Swaraj meant different things to different groups; this explains both the strength and the limits of the movement.

C10 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

How did a variety of cultural processes develop a sense of collective belonging among Indians during the national movement?

ANSWER

- Image of **Bharat Mata** (Bankim Chandra; Abanindranath Tagore) — nation personified.
- **Folklore revival** — Rabindranath Tagore, Natesa Sastri — to restore true national identity.
- **Icons and symbols** — tricolour flags of Swadeshi movement (1905) and Gandhiji's Swaraj flag with spinning wheel.
- **Reinterpretation of history** — glory of ancient India; appeal to pride.
- Songs like Vande Mataram sung at meetings; limitation — Hindu iconography alienated others.

C11. Case-Based**4 Marks**

Read the source: *'On 6 April 1930 Gandhiji reached Dandi and ceremonially violated the law, manufacturing salt by boiling sea water. This marked the beginning of the Civil Disobedience Movement.'*

(i) *Why did Gandhiji choose salt? (1)*

(ii) *From where did the march begin and how many volunteers accompanied him? (1)*

(iii) *How was CDM different from NCM? (2)*

ANSWER

- (i) Salt was an essential item consumed by rich and poor alike; the tax was the most oppressive face of British rule.
- (ii) From **Sabarmati Ashram** (Ahmedabad) with **78 volunteers**.
- (iii) NCM asked people not to cooperate with the government; CDM asked them to **break colonial laws** (salt, forest laws); CDM also saw far larger participation of women.

★ More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)

C12 [Frequently asked]

5 Marks

Explain the circumstances in which the Non-Cooperation Movement was withdrawn and describe how different social groups participated in it.

ANSWER

- The movement was withdrawn in **February 1922** after the violent incident at **Chauri Chaura** (Gorakhpur), where a peaceful demonstration turned into a violent clash with the police; Gandhiji felt people were not ready for mass struggle.
- **Middle class in towns:** students left government schools, lawyers gave up practice, foreign cloth was boycotted and burnt; import of foreign cloth halved (1921–22).
- **Peasants of Awadh:** led by Baba Ramchandra against talukdars and landlords — demanded reduction of revenue, abolition of begar.
- **Tribals of Gudum Hills (Andhra):** Alluri Sitarama Raju led guerrilla war against closure of forest areas.
- **Plantation workers in Assam:** understood swaraj as the right to move freely in and out of the confined space of plantations (Inland Emigration Act, 1859).

C13 [Frequently asked]

5 Marks

Why did various classes and groups of Indians participate in the Civil Disobedience Movement? Explain.

ANSWER

- **Rich peasants** (Patidars of Gujarat, Jats of UP) — hit by trade depression and falling prices; demanded reduction of revenue.
- **Poor peasants** — wanted unpaid rent to the landlord to be remitted.
- **Business classes** — wanted protection against imports of foreign goods and a rupee-sterling exchange ratio that would discourage imports; formed FICCI (1927); leaders like Purshottamdas Thakurdas and G.D. Birla supported.
- **Industrial workers** — Nagpur workers participated, adopting boycott of foreign goods and protests against low wages.
- **Women** — participated in large numbers in protest marches, manufactured salt and picketed foreign cloth and liquor shops.

C14 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Why did Gandhiji choose salt as the symbol of the national movement?

ANSWER

- Salt was consumed by the **rich and the poor alike**; it was one of the most essential items of food.
- The **tax on salt** and the government monopoly over its production revealed the most oppressive face of British rule.
- Breaking the salt law was a simple act that could unite all sections of society; hence the **Dandi March** (12 March – 6 April 1930).

C15 [Frequently asked]**4 Marks**

Case-based: Read the source about the Rowlatt Act and Jallianwala Bagh (13 April 1919): a crowd gathered in the enclosed ground at Amritsar; General Dyer blocked the exit points and opened fire, killing hundreds.

(i) What powers did the Rowlatt Act give the government? (1)

(ii) Why had the crowd gathered at Jallianwala Bagh? (1)

(iii) What was Dyer's object and how did people react? (2)

ANSWER

- (i) It allowed detention of political prisoners **without trial for two years**.
- (ii) Some came to protest against the government's repressive measures; others had come to attend the annual **Baisakhi fair**.
- (iii) Dyer wanted to **produce a moral effect** — to create fear and awe in the minds of satyagrahis. Instead, crowds took to the streets in many north Indian towns, there were strikes and clashes, and the government responded with brutal repression.

C16 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

How did Dr B.R. Ambedkar and Gandhiji differ on the question of depressed classes? How was it resolved?

ANSWER

- Ambedkar organised the dalits into the Depressed Classes Association (1930) and demanded **separate electorates** for dalits at the Second Round Table Conference.
- Gandhiji believed separate electorates would slow down their integration into society and began a **fast unto death**.
- It was resolved by the **Poona Pact of September 1932** — reserved seats for depressed classes in provincial and central legislative councils, but voted in by the general electorate.

The Making of a Global World (Sub-topics 1–1.3)

Board-scope Notes · NCERT Questions · PYQs & Case-Based

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which of the following was the main destination of Indian and Chinese goods on the silk routes?

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| (a) Africa | (b) Europe |
| (c) America | (d) Australia |

Answer: (b) Europe

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which food crop was the staple of Irish poor peasants whose failure caused famine in 1845–49?

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| (a) Maize | (b) Wheat |
| (c) Potato | (d) Rice |

Answer: (c) Potato

C3

1 Mark

'El Dorado' was:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) A Spanish ship | (b) A fabled city of gold |
| (c) A silver mine in Peru | (d) A Portuguese king |

Answer: (b)

C4 [PYQ]**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): *The Spanish conquerors defeated the native Americans easily.*

Reason (R): *The most powerful weapon of the Spanish conquerors was not conventional military force but germs like smallpox.*

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

Answer: (a)

C5 [PYQ]**3 Marks**

'Silk routes were a good example of vibrant pre-modern trade and cultural links between distant parts of the world.'
Explain.

ANSWER

- Linked Asia with Europe and North Africa; carried Chinese silk, pottery, Indian spices westward; gold and silver eastward.
- Christian missionaries, Muslim preachers travelled these routes; Buddhism spread from eastern India in several directions.
- Thus trade and culture were closely entwined long before modern globalisation.

C6**2 Marks**

How did food travel in the pre-modern world? Give two examples.

ANSWER

- Noodles travelled from China westwards to become spaghetti in Italy.
- Potato, maize, tomato, chillies came from America to Europe and Asia after Columbus.

C7. Case-Based

4 Marks

Read the source: 'Ireland's poorest peasants became so dependent on potatoes that when disease destroyed the potato crop in the mid-1840s, hundreds of thousands died of starvation.'

- (i) When did the Irish Potato Famine take place? (1)
(ii) From which continent did the potato come to Europe? (1)
(iii) Explain how new crops could make the difference between life and death. (2)

ANSWER

- (i) 1845–1849.
- (ii) America (the 'New World').
- (iii) The potato allowed Europe's poor to eat better and live longer; but excessive dependence on a single crop made the Irish poor extremely vulnerable — its failure caused about a million deaths and mass emigration.

★ More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)

C8 [Frequently asked]

3 Marks

How did food travel across the world in the pre-modern period? Give examples.

ANSWER

- Food travelled with traders and travellers; new crops were introduced to new lands.
- **Noodles** travelled west from China to become spaghetti (a possibility mentioned in NCERT); Arab traders took pasta to Sicily in the fifth century.
- Many common foods — **potatoes, soya, groundnuts, maize, tomatoes, chillies, sweet potatoes** — came from America after Columbus reached it.

C9 [Frequently asked]

3 Marks

Explain how the introduction of the potato affected the poor in Europe, especially Ireland.

ANSWER

- The potato made a big difference to the lives of the poor in Europe — they began to **eat better and live longer**.
- Ireland's poorest peasants became so dependent on potatoes that when disease destroyed the crop in the mid-1840s, hundreds of thousands died of starvation.
- This is the **Great Irish Potato Famine (1845–49)**: around 1,000,000 people died of starvation and double that number emigrated.

C10 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

How did the Europeans conquer America in the 16th century? Explain the role of disease and precious metals.

ANSWER

- European sailors found a sea route to Asia and crossed the western ocean to America in the 16th century; America became a key part of the global exchange.
- The Portuguese and Spanish conquest and colonisation of America was decisively under way by the mid-16th century.
- Their most powerful weapon was not firepower but **germs such as smallpox**; America's original inhabitants had no immunity and the disease killed whole communities, paving the way for conquest.
- Precious metals, particularly **silver** from mines in present-day Peru and Mexico, enhanced Europe's wealth and financed its trade with Asia.
- Legends of fabled wealth (El Dorado) spread, and until the 18th century China and India were among the richest; Europe then emerged as the centre of world trade.

C11 [Frequently asked]**4 Marks**

Case-based: Read — “The silk routes are a good example of vibrant pre-modern trade and cultural links between distant parts of the world... Chinese pottery also travelled the same route, as did textiles and spices from India and Southeast Asia. In return, precious metals — gold and silver — flowed from Europe to Asia.”

- (i) Why is the name ‘silk routes’ given? (1)
- (ii) Name two items traded from Asia. (1)
- (iii) Explain two cultural roles of the silk routes. (2)

ANSWER

- (i) The name points to the importance of West-bound Chinese **silk cargoes** along this route.
- (ii) Chinese pottery, textiles and spices from India and Southeast Asia (any two).
- (iii) Early Christian missionaries and later Muslim preachers travelled this route; Buddhism emerged from eastern India and spread in several directions through intersecting points on the silk routes — linking cultures.

C12 [Frequently asked]**1 Mark**

Which disease spread by Spanish conquerors killed large numbers of people in America in the 16th century?

ANSWER

- **Smallpox.**

Print Culture and the Modern World

Study Notes · NCERT Solutions · PYQs & Case-Based

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Who wrote 'Amar Jiban', the first full-length autobiography in Bengali?

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| (a) Tarabai Shinde | (b) Pandita Ramabai |
| (c) Rashsundari Debi | (d) Kailashbashini Debi |

Answer: (c)

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

'Gulamgiri' (1871) was written by:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| (a) B.R. Ambedkar | (b) Jyotiba Phule |
| (c) Periyar | (d) Kashibaba |

Answer: (b)

C3 [PYQ]

1 Mark

The oldest Japanese book printed in AD 868 is:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| (a) Ukiyo | (b) Diamond Sutra |
| (c) Accordion book | (d) Chapbook |

Answer: (b)

C4

1 Mark

Who perfected the power-driven cylindrical press?

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| (a) Gutenberg | (b) Richard M. Hoe |
| (c) Marco Polo | (d) Erasmus |

Answer: (b)

C5 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Assertion (A): *The Vernacular Press Act was passed in 1878.*

Reason (R): *The colonial government wanted to control the growing nationalist criticism in vernacular newspapers.*

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

Answer: (a)

C6

1 Mark

Assertion (A): *Manuscripts were widely read in pre-colonial India.*

Reason (R): *Manuscripts were expensive, fragile and had to be handled carefully.*

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

Answer: (d) — A is false (they were not widely read); R is true.

C7 [PYQ]

3 Marks

'Printing press played a major role in shaping the society in 19th-century India.' Explain.

ANSWER

- Debates on religious and social reform reached a wide public (Sambad Kaumudi vs Samachar Chandrika).
- Women's reading and writing increased — voices against oppression.
- Caste injustices exposed by Phule, Ambedkar, Periyar; workers set up libraries — empowerment of the poor.

C8 [Frequently asked]

5 Marks

'The print revolution had a great impact on the life of the people of Europe.' Explain.

ANSWER

- **New reading public:** cheaper books, readership grew beyond elites.
- **Oral culture entered print:** ballads, folk tales printed with pictures.
- **Religious debates:** Luther's 95 Theses → Reformation.
- **Fear of print:** Church's Index of Prohibited Books; Erasmus' criticism.
- **Culture of debate:** spread of Enlightenment ideas → conditions for French Revolution.

C9. Case-Based

4 Marks

Read the source: 'In 1517, the religious reformer Martin Luther wrote *Ninety Five Theses* criticising many of the practices and rituals of the Roman Catholic Church. A printed copy of this was posted on a church door in Wittenberg.'

- (i) What did Luther criticise? (1)
- (ii) Which movement followed? (1)
- (iii) How did print help spread Luther's ideas and how did the Church react? (2)

ANSWER

- (i) Practices and rituals of the Roman Catholic Church.
- (ii) The Protestant Reformation.
- (iii) Luther's writings were reproduced in vast numbers and read widely, spreading dissent quickly; the Church responded with repression — Inquisition, and an Index of Prohibited Books from 1558.

★ More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)

C10 [Frequently asked]

5 Marks

How did print culture help in the growth of nationalism in 19th-century India?

ANSWER

- Newspapers conveyed news from one place to another, creating **pan-Indian identities**; ideas spread among people of different regions.
- Nationalist newspapers (e.g. Tilak's *Kesari*) reported colonial misrule and encouraged nationalist activities.
- Books, pamphlets and printed debates on social and religious reform reached the common people and helped build a public opinion.
- Printed images and cheap prints of national leaders spread nationalist sentiments.
- The government's attempts at control — the **Vernacular Press Act (1878)**, arrests of editors like Tilak (1908) — provoked protests all over India, strengthening nationalism.

C11 [Frequently asked]

3 Marks

Why did some people in 18th-century Europe think that print culture would bring enlightenment and end despotism?

ANSWER

- Print spread the ideas of **reason and rationality** of scientists and philosophers (Newton, Voltaire, Rousseau) to a wider public.
- Books were seen as a means of spreading progress and enlightenment; they could change society and free it from despotism and tyranny.
- Louise-Sébastien Mercier declared: "The printing press is the most powerful engine of progress and public opinion is the force that will sweep despotism away."

C12 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Explain the role of print in the religious reform debates in 19th-century India.

ANSWER

- There were intense debates on widow immolation, monotheism, Brahmanical priesthood and idolatry; print carried these arguments to a wider public in local languages.
- **Raja Rammohun Roy** published *Sambad Kaumudi* (1821) and the Hindu orthodoxy replied through *Samachar Chandrika*.
- The Deoband Seminary (1867) published thousands of fatwas; Muslim and Hindu reformers used cheap lithographic prints and printed religious texts in vernacular languages.

C13 [Frequently asked]**4 Marks**

Case-based: Read — “In 1878 the Vernacular Press Act was passed, modelled on the Irish Press Laws... it provided the government with extensive rights to censor reports and editorials in the vernacular press.”

- (i) Why was the Act passed? (1)
(ii) What powers did the government get? (2)
(iii) How did nationalist newspapers respond? (1)

ANSWER

- (i) After the Revolt of 1857, attitudes to freedom of the press changed; the government wanted to **control the nationalist vernacular press** that criticised colonial rule.
- (ii) It could **censor reports and editorials**; seditious reports were first warned against, and if the warning was ignored the **press could be seized and printing machinery confiscated**.
- (iii) Nationalist newspapers grew in number and continued to report colonial misrule and encourage nationalist activities (e.g. Tilak wrote with sympathy for revolutionaries in *Kesari*).

C14 [Frequently asked]**2 Marks**

What was the 'Index of Prohibited Books'?

ANSWER

- A list of banned books maintained by the **Roman Catholic Church** from **1558**.
- It was issued because the Church was troubled by new interpretations of faith (e.g. Menocchio) and wanted to control the books read by people.

Resources and Development

Study Notes · Soil Chart · NCERT Solutions · PYQs

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which soil is also called 'Regur'?

- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| (a) Laterite | (b) Black |
| (c) Alluvial | (d) Arid |

Answer: (b)

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which one of the following is an international resource?

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a) Minerals within territorial waters | (b) Resources beyond 200 nautical miles (EEZ) in oceans |
| (c) Village ponds | (d) Private houses |

Answer: (b)

C3 [PYQ]

1 Mark

The Earth Summit of 1992 was held at:

- | | |
|------------|--------------------|
| (a) Kyoto | (b) Rio de Janeiro |
| (c) Geneva | (d) New York |

Answer: (b)

C4

1 Mark

Assertion (A): Laterite soil is suitable for tea and coffee after adopting appropriate soil conservation.

Reason (R): Laterite soil is developed in areas of high temperature and heavy rainfall and is intensely leached.

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

Answer: (b)

C5 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Assertion (A): Resource planning is essential in India.

Reason (R): India has enormous diversity in availability of resources — some regions are rich in some resources and deficient in others.

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

Answer: (a)

C6 [PYQ]

3 Marks

'Resource planning is a complex process.' Explain its three stages.

ANSWER

- Identification and inventory of resources — surveying, mapping, qualitative and quantitative estimation.
- Evolving a planning structure with appropriate technology, skill and institutional set-up.
- Matching resource development plans with overall national development plans.

C7 [PYQ]

3 Marks

Distinguish between Khadar and Bangar.

ANSWER

• Khadar	Bangar
New alluvium	Old alluvium
Finer particles, more fertile	Higher concentration of kankar nodules, less fertile
Found in flood plains, renewed every year	Found away from river beds at higher level

C8 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

What is soil erosion? Explain the major causes and suggest methods of soil conservation.

MEANING

- Denudation of the soil cover and its subsequent washing down.

CAUSES

- Deforestation, overgrazing, construction and mining.
- Running water → gully & sheet erosion; wind blows off loose soil.
- Defective farming methods — ploughing up and down slopes.

CONSERVATION

- Contour ploughing, terrace farming, strip cropping, shelter belts, controlled grazing, afforestation.

C9. Case-Based**4 Marks**

Read the source: 'Sustainable economic development means development should take place without damaging the environment, and development in the present should not compromise with the needs of the future generations.'

(i) When and where was the first Earth Summit held? (1)

(ii) What is Agenda 21? (1)

(iii) Suggest two measures for sustainable use of resources. (2)

ANSWER

- (i) June 1992, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- (ii) A declaration signed at UNCED 1992 to achieve global sustainable development through global cooperation; every local government to draw its own local Agenda 21.
- (iii) Use renewable energy; reduce, reuse, recycle; afforestation; conservation-oriented resource planning.

★ More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)**C10 [Frequently asked]****5 Marks**

Explain any five measures to conserve soil and control soil erosion.

ANSWER

- **Contour ploughing** — ploughing along contour lines slows down the flow of water down the slopes.
- **Terrace cultivation** — steps cut out on slopes restrict erosion (Western and Central Himalayas).
- **Strip cropping** — strips of grass are left to grow between crops to break the force of wind.
- **Shelter belts** — rows of trees planted to break the wind; helped stabilise sand dunes in western India.
- **Controlled grazing, afforestation and plugging of gullies** (e.g. in the Chambal ravines) also check erosion.

C11 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

Describe the three stages of resource planning in India.

ANSWER

- **Identification and inventory** of resources across regions — surveying, mapping, qualitative and quantitative estimation and measurement.
- Evolving a **planning structure** with appropriate technology, skill and institutional set-up for implementing resource development plans.
- **Matching** the resource development plans with overall national development plans.
- Planning is essential in India because some regions are rich in some resources but deficient in others (e.g. Jharkhand, MP rich in minerals; Rajasthan rich in solar and wind but poor in water).
- Balanced planning ensures judicious use and **sustainable development**.

C12 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Differentiate between Khadar and Bangar soils. / State three features of black soil.

ANSWER

- **Khadar** — new alluvium, finer particles, more fertile; **Bangar** — old alluvium, has kankar nodules, less fertile.
- **Black soil** (regur) — made of extremely fine clayey material; known for its **capacity to hold moisture**; ideal for cotton.
- Rich in calcium carbonate, magnesium, potash and lime but poor in phosphoric contents; develops deep cracks in hot weather (self-aeration); sticky when wet.

C13 [Frequently asked]**4 Marks**

Case-based: Read — “In June 1992, more than 100 heads of states met in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil for the first International Earth Summit... The Summit adopted Agenda 21.”

- (i) Why was the Summit convened? (1)
- (ii) What is Agenda 21? (2)
- (iii) What is sustainable development? (1)

ANSWER

- (i) To address urgent problems of **environmental protection and socio-economic development** at the global level.
- (ii) A declaration signed at the Earth Summit (1992) aimed at achieving **global sustainable development**; it aims to combat environmental damage, poverty and disease through global cooperation on common interests, mutual needs and shared responsibilities. Every local government should draw its own local Agenda 21.
- (iii) Development should take place without damaging the environment, and development in the present should not compromise the needs of future generations.

C14 *[Frequently asked]*

1 Mark

Which soil is most widely spread and most important in India?

ANSWER

- **Alluvial soil.**

Forest and Wildlife Resources

Study Notes · IUCN Table · NCERT Solutions · PYQs

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Joint Forest Management was first adopted by which state?

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| (a) Rajasthan | (b) Odisha |
| (c) Kerala | (d) Uttarakhand |

Answer: (b) Odisha, 1988

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which state has the largest area under permanent forests?

- | | |
|------------|--------------------|
| (a) Kerala | (b) Madhya Pradesh |
| (c) Assam | (d) Odisha |

Answer: (b)

C3

1 Mark

Which category does the Gangetic dolphin belong to?

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| (a) Endangered | (b) Vulnerable |
| (c) Rare | (d) Endemic |

Answer: (b) Vulnerable

C4 [PYQ]**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): *The Buxa Tiger Reserve in West Bengal is seriously threatened.*

Reason (R): *Ongoing dolomite mining there disturbs the natural habitat and migration route of the great Indian elephant.*

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

Answer: (a)

C5 [PYQ]**3 Marks**

Distinguish between Reserved forests and Protected forests.

Reserved	Protected
More than half of total forest land	About one-third of total forest land
Most valuable for conservation of forests and wildlife	Protected from any further depletion
Local people generally not allowed any use	Some rights may be permitted under regulation

C6 [PYQ]**3 Marks**

Explain any three features of Project Tiger.

ANSWER

- Launched in **1973** to check the fall of tiger population (from 55,000 at the turn of the century to 1,827 in 1973).
- Threats: poaching for trade (skins, bones), shrinking habitat, depletion of prey base.
- Established tiger reserves (e.g. Corbett, Sundarbans, Bandhavgarh, Sariska, Manas, Periyar); protects the whole ecosystem.

C7. Case-Based

4 Marks

Read the source: 'The famous Chipko movement in the Himalayas has not only successfully resisted deforestation in several areas but has also shown that community afforestation with indigenous species can be enormously successful.'

- (i) What was the main aim of the Chipko movement? (1)
- (ii) Name one other community movement for conservation. (1)
- (iii) Why is community participation essential in conservation? (2)

ANSWER

- (i) To resist deforestation by hugging trees.
- (ii) Beej Bachao Andolan / Navdanya / JFM.
- (iii) Local communities depend on forests and know them best; their participation gives effective, low-cost protection, reduces conflict, and ensures sustainable use and benefit-sharing.

★ More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)

C8 [Frequently asked]

5 Marks

Describe how communities have conserved and protected forests and wildlife in India.

ANSWER

- In Sariska Tiger Reserve (Rajasthan) villagers fought against mining, citing the Wildlife Protection Act.
- Five villages in **Alwar district** declared 1,200 hectares of forest as the **Bhairodev Dakav 'Sonchuri'** with their own rules, banning hunting.
- The famous **Chipko movement** in the Himalayas resisted deforestation and promoted community afforestation with indigenous species.
- Farmers and citizens' groups like the **Beej Bachao Andolan** (Tehri) and Navdanya showed that adequate farm production is possible without synthetic chemicals.
- **Joint Forest Management (JFM)**, first adopted in **Odisha in 1988**, involves local communities in managing and restoring degraded forests; **Bishnois** of Rajasthan protect blackbuck and chinkara; sacred groves are protected by tribals.

C9 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Distinguish between reserved, protected and unclassified forests.

ANSWER

- **Reserved forests** — more than half of total forest land; regarded as most valuable for conservation of forest and wildlife.
- **Protected forests** — about one-third of total forest area; protected from any further depletion.
- **Unclassified forests** — other forests and wastelands belonging to both government and private individuals and communities.

C10 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

What are the major factors responsible for the depletion of flora and fauna in India?

ANSWER

- Expansion of **agriculture** during colonial rule and after (e.g. about 26,200 sq km of forest converted between 1951 and 1980); shifting cultivation.
- **Large-scale development projects** (river valley projects — e.g. Narmada Sagar project submerged 40,000 hectares of forest) and **mining** (Buxa Tiger Reserve threatened by dolomite mining).
- Grazing, fuel-wood collection, habitat destruction, hunting and poaching, over-exploitation, environmental pollution and forest fires.

C11 [Frequently asked]**4 Marks**

Case-based on Project Tiger: Tiger population fell to 1,827 in 1973. The government launched Project Tiger in 1973.

(i) Name two major threats to tiger population. (1)

(ii) Name two tiger reserves in India. (1)

(iii) Why is Project Tiger seen as more than an effort to save an endangered species? (2)

ANSWER

- (i) Poaching for trade; shrinking habitat; depletion of prey base; growing human population (any two).
- (ii) Corbett National Park (Uttarakhand), Sundarbans (West Bengal), Bandhavgarh (MP), Sariska (Rajasthan), Manas (Assam), Periyar (Kerala) — any two.
- (iii) Conservation of tigers means preserving **biotypes of sizeable magnitude** — whole ecosystems with many other species; tigers are at the top of the food chain.

Which state has the largest area under permanent forests?

ANSWER

- **Madhya Pradesh** (75% of its forest area is under permanent forests).

Water Resources

Study Notes · Harvesting Workflow · NCERT Solutions · PYQs · Dam Map List

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which state has made rooftop rainwater harvesting compulsory for all houses?

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| (a) Rajasthan | (b) Tamil Nadu |
| (c) Kerala | (d) Karnataka |

Answer: (b)

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Hirakud dam is built on which river?

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| (a) Krishna | (b) Mahanadi |
| (c) Godavari | (d) Narmada |

Answer: (b)

C3 [PYQ]

1 Mark

'Guls' or 'Kuls' are:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| (a) Underground tanks | (b) Diversion channels in western Himalayas |
| (c) Inundation channels | (d) Bamboo pipes |

Answer: (b)

C4 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Assertion (A): Water scarcity may be an outcome of large and growing population.

Reason (R): More people means more water for domestic use and more food production (irrigation).

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

Answer: (a)

C5

1 Mark

Assertion (A): Dams are called 'temples of modern India'.

Reason (R): They integrated agricultural and rural development with rapid industrialisation and growth of the urban economy.

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

Answer: (a)

C6 [PYQ]

3 Marks

'Multi-purpose projects and large dams have come under great scrutiny and opposition.' Give three reasons.

ANSWER

- Large-scale displacement of local communities (Narmada Bachao Andolan).
- Adverse ecological effects — sedimentation, fragmentation of rivers, submergence of forests.
- Salinisation, inter-state disputes, failure in flood control, induced earthquakes.

C7. Case-Based

4 Marks

Read the source: 'In Meghalaya, a 200-year-old system of tapping stream and spring water by using bamboo pipes is prevalent. About 18–20 litres of water enters the bamboo pipe system, gets transported over hundreds of metres, and finally reduces to 20–80 drops per minute at the site of the plant.'

(i) Name this system. (1)

(ii) Why is water reduced to drops at the plant? (1)

(iii) Suggest two other traditional water harvesting methods and their regions. (2)

ANSWER

- (i) Bamboo drip irrigation.
- (ii) To ensure efficient use — plants get water slowly at roots with minimum wastage.
- (iii) Guls/kuls in western Himalayas; tankas in Rajasthan; khadins in Jaisalmer; inundation channels in Bengal (any two).

★ More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)

C8 [Frequently asked]

5 Marks

Why are multi-purpose river projects facing resistance? Explain the disadvantages.

ANSWER

- Regulating and damming rivers affects their natural flow → poor sediment flow, excessive sedimentation at the bottom of reservoir.
- Rockier stream beds and poorer habitats for aquatic life; fragmentation of rivers makes migration difficult for aquatic fauna.
- **Large-scale displacement** of local communities; they have to give up their land and livelihood (e.g. Narmada Bachao Andolan, Tehri Dam Andolan).
- Reservoirs submerge vegetation and soil, leading to decomposition; floodplains lose fertile silt → land degradation; can cause earthquakes, water-borne diseases, pests.
- Inter-state water disputes (e.g. Krishna–Godavari dispute); benefits often go to landowners and large farmers, industries and urban centres.

C9 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Explain the rooftop rainwater harvesting system. Why is it important in Rajasthan?

ANSWER

- Rainwater falling on rooftops is collected through PVC pipes, filtered using sand and bricks, and stored in underground tanks (**tankas**) or used to recharge wells/groundwater.
- In the arid and semi-arid regions of **Rajasthan**, especially Bikaner, Phalodi and Barmer, almost all houses traditionally had tankas for storing drinking water; this '**palar pani**' is the purest form of natural water.
- It helps in the dry season; tankas were built inside the main house or courtyard and keep rooms cool.

C10 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Describe any three traditional methods of rainwater harvesting in India.

ANSWER

- **Guls / kuls** — diversion channels in the Western Himalayas.
- **Khadins and johads** — rain-fed storage structures in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan; **inundation channels** in the floodplains of Bengal.
- **Bamboo drip irrigation** in Meghalaya — 18–20 litres of water carried through bamboo pipes, reduced to 20–80 drops per minute at the plant.

C11 [Frequently asked]**4 Marks**

Case-based: Read — "*Jawaharlal Nehru proudly proclaimed the dams as the 'temples of modern India'... because they would integrate development of agriculture and the village economy with rapid industrialisation.*"

(i) What is a multi-purpose project? (1)

(ii) Give two purposes served by it. (1)

(iii) Give two reasons why dams have become sites of protest. (2)

ANSWER

- (i) A river valley project that serves many purposes at once.
- (ii) Irrigation, electricity generation, water supply, flood control, recreation, inland navigation, fish breeding (any two).
- (iii) Large-scale displacement of local people without proper rehabilitation; environmental damage — submergence of forests, loss of habitat, sedimentation (also inter-state disputes).

C12 *[Frequently asked]*

1 Mark

On which river is the Hirakud dam built?

ANSWER

- **Mahanadi** (Odisha).

Agriculture

Study Notes · Crop Tables · NCERT Solutions · PYQs

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

'Slash and burn' agriculture in the north-eastern states is called:

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| (a) Bewar | (b) Jhumming |
| (c) Kumari | (d) Dipa |

Answer: (b)

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Aus, Aman and Boro are three crops of:

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| (a) Wheat | (b) Jute |
| (c) Paddy | (d) Maize |

Answer: (c) Paddy (Assam, West Bengal, Odisha)

C3 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which crop is called 'golden fibre'?

- | | |
|------------|----------|
| (a) Cotton | (b) Jute |
| (c) Silk | (d) Hemp |

Answer: (b)

C4 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Arabica variety of coffee was initially brought from:

- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| (a) Brazil | (b) Yemen |
| (c) Ethiopia | (d) Kenya |

Answer: (b) Yemen

C5 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Assertion (A): Pulses are grown in rotation with other crops.

Reason (R): Pulses (except arhar) are leguminous and help restore soil fertility by fixing nitrogen from the air.

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

Answer: (a)

C6

1 Mark

Assertion (A): Rice is a subsistence crop in Punjab and Haryana.

Reason (R): In Punjab and Haryana rice is grown mainly for sale.

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

Answer: (d) — A is false (it is commercial there); R is true.

C7 [PYQ]

3 Marks

Distinguish between Rabi and Kharif crops.

Rabi	Kharif
Sown in winter (Oct–Dec)	Sown with onset of monsoon (Jun–Jul)
Harvested in summer (Apr–Jun)	Harvested in Sep–Oct
Wheat, barley, peas, gram, mustard	Paddy, maize, jowar, bajra, cotton, jute, groundnut, soyabean

C8 [PYQ]

3 Marks

Distinguish between primitive subsistence farming and commercial farming.

Primitive subsistence	Commercial
Small patches; primitive tools; family labour	Large scale; modern inputs — HYV, fertilisers, pesticides
Depends on monsoon & natural fertility	Irrigation and machinery used
Output for family consumption; low yield	Crops grown for sale; high yield

C9 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

Describe any five features of plantation agriculture.

ANSWER

- Single crop grown on a large area (tea, coffee, rubber, sugarcane, banana).
- Interface of agriculture and industry — produce is industrial raw material.
- Capital intensive; large tracts of land; migrant labour.
- Depends on well-developed network of transport and communication, processing industries and markets.
- Scientific methods of cultivation; high production for export.

C10. Case-Based**4 Marks**

Read the source: 'Millets — jowar, bajra and ragi — are the important millets grown in India. Though these are known as coarse grains, they have very high nutritional value.'

(i) Which state is the largest producer of bajra? (1)

(ii) Name the soil on which ragi grows well. (1)

(iii) Why should millet cultivation be promoted? (2)

ANSWER

- (i) Rajasthan.
- (ii) Red, black, sandy, loamy and shallow black soils.
- (iii) Very high nutritional value (ragi rich in iron, calcium, micronutrients, roughage); grow in dry regions with less water and inputs — ensure food and nutritional security and climate-resilient farming.

★ **More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)**

C11 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

Describe the institutional and technological reforms introduced by the government to improve Indian agriculture.

ANSWER

- **Land reforms** after independence — collectivisation, consolidation of holdings, cooperation and abolition of zamindari.
- **Green Revolution** (1960s–70s) based on HYV seeds, chemical fertilisers and irrigation; **White Revolution** (Operation Flood) for milk.
- Comprehensive land development programme; provision for **crop insurance** against drought, flood, cyclone, fire and disease.
- Establishment of **Grameen banks, cooperative societies and banks** for loans at lower rates; **Kisan Credit Card (KCC)** and **Personal Accident Insurance Scheme (PAIS)**.
- Special weather bulletins and agricultural programmes on radio and TV; **minimum support price** and remunerative and procurement prices for important crops.

C12 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Distinguish between Rabi and Kharif crops.

ANSWER

- **Rabi** — sown in winter (October–December) and harvested in summer (April–June); e.g. wheat, barley, peas, gram, mustard.
- **Kharif** — grown with the onset of monsoon and harvested in September–October; e.g. paddy, maize, jowar, bajra, tur, moong, urad, cotton, jute, groundnut, soybean.
- Rabi crops are helped by western temperate cyclones in winter; Kharif crops depend on monsoon rains. (Zaid — short season between the two: watermelon, muskmelon, cucumber.)

C13 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Describe the geographical conditions required for the growth of rice.

ANSWER

- Kharif crop requiring **high temperature (above 25°C)** and high humidity.
- **Annual rainfall above 100 cm**; in areas of less rainfall it grows with irrigation.
- Grown in the plains of north and north-eastern India, coastal areas and deltaic regions; canal irrigation and tubewells have made it possible in Punjab and Haryana. India is the second largest producer of rice after China.

C14 [Frequently asked]**4 Marks**

Case-based on primitive subsistence farming: *'Slash and burn' agriculture — farmers clear a patch of land, grow crops, and shift when soil fertility decreases.*

(i) What is it called in north-east India? (1)

(ii) Name two features of this type of farming. (2)

(iii) Why is it being discouraged? (1)

ANSWER

- (i) **Jhumming.**
- (ii) Practised on small patches with primitive tools (hoe, dao, digging sticks) and family labour; depends on monsoon and natural fertility of soil; land productivity is low as no fertilisers are used.
- (iii) It leads to deforestation, soil erosion and low productivity.

C15 [Frequently asked]**1 Mark**

Which crop is known as the 'golden fibre'?

ANSWER

- **Jute.**

Minerals and Energy Resources

Study Notes · Classification Diagrams · NCERT Solutions · PYQs · Map List

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which is the finest iron ore with up to 70% iron content?

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| (a) Haematite | (b) Magnetite |
| (c) Limonite | (d) Siderite |

Answer: (b)

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Kudremukh mines are located in:

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| (a) Odisha | (b) Chhattisgarh |
| (c) Karnataka | (d) Goa |

Answer: (c) Karnataka — a 100% export unit

C3 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Largest wind farm cluster in India is located from:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| (a) Jaisalmer to Barmer | (b) Nagercoil to Madurai |
| (c) Kutch to Porbandar | (d) Kochi to Kollam |

Answer: (b)

C4

1 Mark

Where is an experimental geothermal project located?

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| (a) Puga valley, Ladakh | (b) Neyveli |
| (c) Narora | (d) Talcher |

Answer: (a)

C5 [PYQ]**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): Petroleum refineries act as a nodal industry.

Reason (R): Refineries supply raw materials for synthetic textile, fertiliser and numerous chemical industries.

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

Answer: (a)

C6 [PYQ]**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): Mining is called a 'killer industry'.

Reason (R): Miners are exposed to dust, noxious fumes, risk of collapse, inundation and fire.

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

Answer: (a)

C7 [PYQ]**3 Marks**

Why is there a pressing need to use non-conventional sources of energy in India? Give three reasons.

ANSWER

- Growing consumption of energy — dependence on fossil fuels which are finite.
- Rising prices of oil and gas; import dependence threatens energy security.
- Fossil fuels cause environmental pollution; renewables are clean, sustainable and abundant (sun, wind).

C8 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

'Consumption of energy in all forms has been steadily rising all over the country.' Suggest and explain any five measures to conserve energy.

ANSWER

- Promote energy conservation and increased use of renewable sources.
- Use public transport instead of individual vehicles; car-pooling.
- Switch off electricity when not in use; use power-saving devices (LED, star-rated appliances).
- Use of non-conventional sources — solar, wind, biogas.
- Regular checking of power equipment; improve efficiency of thermal plants; 'Energy saved is energy produced'.

C9. Case-Based

4 Marks

Read the source: 'Rural areas are increasingly using biogas — shrubs, farm waste, animal and human waste are used to produce biogas for domestic consumption.'

- (i) What are 'Gobar gas plants'? (1)
(ii) Give one advantage of biogas over kerosene or dung cake. (1)
(iii) Explain the twin benefits of biogas plants to farmers. (2)

ANSWER

- (i) Biogas plants using cattle dung, set up at municipal, cooperative and individual levels.
- (ii) Higher thermal efficiency; smokeless, cleaner fuel.
- (iii) Provide **energy** (cooking/lighting gas) and **improved quality of manure** (slurry); prevent loss of trees and manure due to burning of fuel wood and cow-dung cakes.

★ More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)

C10 [Frequently asked]

5 Marks

Why is conservation of mineral resources essential? Suggest measures to conserve them.

ANSWER

- The formation of minerals takes a very long geological time; their rate of replenishment is infinitely small compared with present rates of consumption.
- Minerals are **finite and non-renewable**; continued extraction leads to increasing costs as deeper mining with lower quality.
- Use minerals in a **planned and sustainable** manner.
- Improved technologies to allow use of low-grade ores at low cost; **recycling of metals** using scrap metals.
- Use of **substitutes**; reduce wastage in mining and processing.

C11 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

Why is there a pressing need to use non-conventional sources of energy in India? Explain any three such sources.

ANSWER

- Growing consumption of energy has made India dependent on fossil fuels (coal, oil, gas); rising prices and potential shortages raise uncertainty about future energy supply; fossil fuels cause pollution.
- **Solar energy** — India is a tropical country; photovoltaic technology; largest solar plant near Bhuj (Madhapur) used to sterilise milk cans.
- **Wind power** — largest wind farm cluster from Nagarcoil to Madurai (Tamil Nadu); also Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, Lakshadweep.
- **Nuclear/atomic energy** — from uranium and thorium (Jharkhand, Aravalli in Rajasthan; monazite sands of Kerala).
- **Biogas, tidal and geothermal** — biogas plants ('Gobar gas'); tidal energy in the Gulf of Khambhat, Kachchh; geothermal projects at Parvati valley (Manikarn, HP) and Puga valley (Ladakh).

C12 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Distinguish between conventional and non-conventional sources of energy.

ANSWER

- **Conventional** — firewood, cattle dung cake, coal, petroleum, natural gas and electricity (hydel and thermal); used for a long time.
- **Non-conventional** — solar, wind, tidal, geothermal, biogas and atomic energy; developed recently.
- Conventional sources are mostly exhaustible and polluting; non-conventional sources are mostly renewable and eco-friendly.

C13 [Frequently asked]**4 Marks**

Case-based on coal: *In India coal is the most abundantly available fossil fuel.*

(i) Name the four types of coal in increasing order of carbon content. (1)

(ii) Name two coal fields of Gondwana age. (1)

(iii) Why is coal still important for India? (2)

ANSWER

- (i) Peat → Lignite → Bituminous → Anthracite.
- (ii) Damodar valley — Jharia, Raniganj, Bokaro (any two); also Godavari, Mahanadi, Son, Wardha valleys.
- (iii) It provides a substantial part of the nation's energy needs; used for power generation and to supply energy to industry and domestic needs; bituminous (metallurgical) coal is used in blast furnaces for smelting iron.

Which is the oldest oil producing state of India?

ANSWER

- **Assam** (Digboi).

Manufacturing Industries

Study Notes · Steel Workflow · NCERT Solutions · PYQs · Map List

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which city is known as the 'electronic capital of India'?

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| (a) Hyderabad | (b) Bengaluru |
| (c) Pune | (d) Chennai |

Answer: (b)

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

The first successful textile mill was established in:

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| (a) Kolkata | (b) Ahmedabad |
| (c) Mumbai | (d) Kanpur |

Answer: (c) Mumbai, 1854

C3 [PYQ]

1 Mark

In which ratio are iron ore, coking coal and limestone required for making steel?

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| (a) 4:2:1 | (b) 3:2:1 |
| (c) 2:1:1 | (d) 1:2:4 |

Answer: (a) 4:2:1

C4 [PYQ]**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): *Sugar mills are shifting towards southern and western states.*

Reason (R): *Cane produced there has higher sucrose content, the cooler climate ensures a longer crushing season, and cooperatives are more successful.*

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

Answer: (a)

C5**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): *Agriculture and industry are not complementary to each other.*

Reason (R): *Agro-industries have boosted agriculture by raising its productivity.*

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

Answer: (d) — A is false; R is true.

C6 [PYQ]**3 Marks**

Why is the iron and steel industry called a basic industry? Why are most integrated plants located in the Chotanagpur plateau?

ANSWER

- All other industries — heavy, medium and light — depend on it for their machinery.
- Chotanagpur has high-grade iron ore and coal in proximity, cheap labour, and vast growth potential of home market.

C7 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

Explain any five factors responsible for the concentration of jute mills along the Hugli river.

ANSWER

- Proximity to jute-producing areas (WB, Assam, Bihar).
- Inexpensive water transport; well-developed rail, road and waterway network.
- Abundant water for processing raw jute.
- Cheap labour from WB and adjoining states (Bihar, Odisha, UP).
- Kolkata — large urban centre providing banking, insurance and port facilities for export.

C8. Case-Based

4 Marks

Read the source: 'Manufacturing industries are the backbone of development. Agriculture and industry are not exclusive of each other. They move hand in hand.'

(i) How does manufacturing help agriculture? (1)

(ii) Why is manufacturing called the backbone of development? (1)

(iii) Explain two ways in which manufacturing helps reduce unemployment and regional disparities. (2)

ANSWER

- (i) Supplies irrigation pumps, fertilisers, insecticides, PVC pipes, machines and tools to farmers.
- (ii) It transforms raw materials into goods of higher value, earns foreign exchange and modernises the economy.
- (iii) Creates jobs in secondary and tertiary sectors and reduces dependence on agriculture; industries set up in tribal and backward areas under public/joint sector reduce regional disparities.

★ More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)

C9 [Frequently asked]

5 Marks

Explain how industries pollute the environment and suggest measures to control it.

ANSWER

- **Air pollution** — high proportion of undesirable gases like sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide; smoke from chemical and paper factories, brick kilns, refineries.
- **Water pollution** — organic and inorganic industrial effluents discharged into rivers (paper, pulp, chemical, textile, dyeing, petroleum refineries, tanneries); fly ash, phospo-gypsum and slag.
- **Thermal pollution** — hot water from factories and thermal plants drained into rivers before cooling; **land pollution** from dumping of wastes; **noise pollution**.
- **Control:** minimise use of water by reuse and recycling; rainwater harvesting; treat hot water and effluents before release (primary, secondary, tertiary treatment).
- Particulate matter can be reduced by fitting smoke stacks with electrostatic precipitators, fabric filters, scrubbers; use oil or gas instead of coal; **NTPC** example — ash utilisation, green belts, ecological monitoring.

C10 [Frequently asked]

3 Marks

Why is the cotton textile industry concentrated in Maharashtra and Gujarat?

ANSWER

- Availability of **raw cotton** in the black soil region.
- Market, transport (including accessible port facilities), labour, moist climate, etc.
- Early mills were set up here; Mumbai's port and capital helped (first successful mill in Mumbai, 1854).

C11 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Why is the iron and steel industry called a basic industry? Why is most of it concentrated in the Chhotanagpur plateau?

ANSWER

- All other industries — heavy, medium and light — depend on it for their machinery; hence it is a **basic industry**.
- Chhotanagpur has low cost of **iron ore**, high-grade raw materials in proximity, and cheap labour.
- It has vast growth potential in the home market.

C12 [Frequently asked]**4 Marks**

Case-based: *The IT industry in India has registered impressive growth; Bengaluru is the electronic capital of India.*

(i) Name two centres of software technology parks. (1)

(ii) How has the IT industry helped the economy? (2)

(iii) Which sector does the IT industry belong to? (1)

ANSWER

- (i) Mumbai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Pune, Chennai, Kolkata, Lucknow, Coimbatore (any two).
- (ii) It has provided employment to a large number of people (about 30% of employees are women); it is a major earner of **foreign exchange** through the fast-growing business process outsourcing (BPO) sector.
- (iii) Knowledge-based industry — part of the service/tertiary sector (NCERT lists it with electronics).

C13 [Frequently asked]**1 Mark**

Which is the only industry in India that is self-reliant and complete in the value chain?

ANSWER

- The **textile industry** — from raw material to the highest value-added products.

Power-sharing

Study Notes · Case Studies · NCERT Solutions · PYQs

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

In Belgium, the percentage of Dutch-speaking people is:

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| (a) 40% | (b) 59% |
| (c) 80% | (d) 1% |

Answer: (b)

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which Act of 1956 recognised Sinhala as the only official language of Sri Lanka?

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| (a) Official Language Act | (b) Sinhala Only Act (Act of 1956) |
| (c) Tamil Eelam Act | (d) Buddhist Act |

Answer: (b) An Act passed in 1956

C3 [PYQ]

1 Mark

'Checks and balances' is associated with:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| (a) Vertical power sharing | (b) Horizontal power sharing |
| (c) Community government | (d) Coalition government |

Answer: (b)

C4 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Assertion (A): Power sharing is good for democracy.

Reason (R): It helps to reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups.

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

Answer: (a)

C5

1 Mark

Assertion (A): In Sri Lanka, the Sinhala community sought to secure dominance over the government by virtue of their majority.

Reason (R): The Sri Lankan Tamils were the majority community.

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

Answer: (c) — A true, R false.

C6 [PYQ]

3 Marks

Describe any three majoritarian measures adopted by the Sri Lankan government and their effects.

ANSWER

- Sinhala made the only official language (1956).
- Preferential policies for Sinhala applicants in university positions and government jobs.
- State to protect and foster Buddhism.

EFFECT

- Tamils felt alienated → demand for Tamil Eelam → civil war.

C7 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

Describe the elements of the Belgian model of accommodation.

ANSWER

- Equal number of Dutch and French ministers in the central government; special laws need majority of each linguistic group.
- Many powers transferred to state governments of the two regions; not subordinate to the Centre.
- Brussels has separate government with equal representation of both communities.
- Community government elected by each language group for cultural, educational and language matters.
- Result: avoided civic strife and division; Brussels became EU headquarters.

C8. Case-Based**4 Marks**

Read the source: *'In a democracy, power is shared among different organs of government, such as the legislature, executive and judiciary... This results in a balance of power among various institutions.'*

- (i) Name this form of power sharing. (1)
- (ii) What is meant by 'checks and balances'? (1)
- (iii) Give two examples of checks and balances in India. (2)

ANSWER

- (i) Horizontal distribution of power.
- (ii) Each organ checks the others so that none can exercise unlimited power.
- (iii) Judges appointed by the executive can check functioning of the executive or laws made by legislature; ministers are answerable to Parliament / State Assemblies.

★ **More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)**

C9 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

Compare the power-sharing arrangements of Belgium and Sri Lanka.

ANSWER

- **Belgium** amended its constitution four times (1970–1993) to accommodate all communities: equal number of Dutch- and French-speaking ministers in the central government.
- Many powers given to **state governments**, which are not subordinate to the central government; Brussels has a separate government with equal representation.
- A third kind of government — the **community government** — elected by people of one language community, with power over cultural, educational and language issues.
- **Sri Lanka** adopted **majoritarian measures**: the 1956 Act made **Sinhala the only official language**; preference to Sinhala applicants in university positions and government jobs; the state was to protect and foster Buddhism.
- Result: Belgium avoided civic strife and remained united; Sri Lanka saw alienation of Tamils, demand for Tamil Eelam and a **civil war** that killed thousands.

C10 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Give one prudential and one moral reason for power sharing.

ANSWER

- **Prudential**: power sharing is good because it helps to **reduce the possibility of conflict** between social groups and ensures political stability.
- **Moral**: power sharing is the very **spirit of democracy** — people have a right to be consulted on how they are to be governed; legitimate government is one where citizens have a stake in the system.
- Prudential reasons stress better outcomes; moral reasons emphasise the act of power sharing as valuable in itself.

C11 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Explain the horizontal and vertical division of power with examples from India.

ANSWER

- **Horizontal**: power shared among different organs of government — legislature, executive and judiciary — placed at the same level; e.g. the judiciary can check the executive and legislature (checks and balances).
- **Vertical**: power shared among governments at different levels — Union government, State governments and local governments (panchayats, municipalities).
- Each level/organ exercises its own powers; this prevents concentration of power.

C12 [Frequently asked]**4 Marks**

Case-based: In 1956 an Act was passed in Sri Lanka to recognise Sinhala as the only official language, disregarding Tamil.

- (i) What is majoritarianism? (1)
- (ii) Give two other majoritarian measures. (1)
- (iii) How did these measures affect the Sri Lankan Tamils? (2)

ANSWER

- (i) A belief that the **majority community should be able to rule** a country in whichever way it wants, by disregarding the wishes and needs of the minority.
- (ii) Preferential policies favouring Sinhala applicants for university positions and government jobs; constitution provided that the state shall protect and foster Buddhism.
- (iii) Tamils felt alienated and discriminated against; they launched struggles for recognition of Tamil, regional autonomy and equal opportunity; by the 1980s demanded an independent Tamil Eelam, leading to civil war.

C13 [Frequently asked]**1 Mark**

What is the percentage of Dutch-speaking people in Belgium as a whole?

ANSWER

- **59%** (in the Flemish region); French-speaking 40%, German-speaking 1%.

Federalism

Study Notes · Lists & Tiers Diagrams · NCERT Solutions · PYQs

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which of the following subjects is included in the Concurrent List?

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| (a) Police | (b) Defence |
| (c) Education | (d) Banking |

Answer: (c)

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Computer software is a:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| (a) Union List subject | (b) State List subject |
| (c) Concurrent List subject | (d) Residuary subject |

Answer: (d) Residuary — Union can legislate

C3 [PYQ]

1 Mark

What proportion of seats is reserved for women in local bodies?

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| (a) One-fourth | (b) One-third |
| (c) One-half | (d) Two-third |

Answer: (b)

C4 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which one is an example of a 'coming together' federation?

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| (a) India | (b) Spain |
| (c) USA | (d) Belgium |

Answer: (c)

C5 [PYQ]**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): *The creation of linguistic states has made India more united.*

Reason (R): *It made administration easier and accommodated regional identities.*

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

Answer: (a)

C6**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): *India is a 'holding together' federation.*

Reason (R): *In India, all states have equal powers.*

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

Answer: (c) — A true; R false (some states have special status).

C7 [PYQ]**3 Marks**

Explain the three-fold distribution of legislative powers between the Union and the State governments.

ANSWER

- **Union List:** subjects of national importance (defence, foreign affairs, banking, currency) — only Union legislates.
- **State List:** state and local importance (police, trade, agriculture, irrigation) — only states legislate.
- **Concurrent List:** common interest (education, forest, trade unions, marriage, adoption) — both can legislate; Union law prevails in conflict. Residuary subjects — Union.

C8 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

'The real success of federalism in India can be attributed to the nature of democratic politics.' Justify.

ANSWER

- **Linguistic states** accommodated diversity and made the country more united.
- **Flexible language policy** — no imposition of Hindi; 22 scheduled languages.
- **Centre–state relations** restructured — coalition era after 1990 respected state autonomy; Supreme Court limited arbitrary dismissal of state governments.
- **Decentralisation** (1992) created a constitutionally protected third tier.
- Respect for diversity and desire for living together became shared ideals.

C9. Case-Based

4 Marks

Read the source: 'When power is taken away from Central and State governments and given to local government, it is called decentralisation. The basic idea behind decentralisation is that there are a large number of problems and issues which are best settled at the local level.'

(i) Who is the head of the Gram Panchayat? (1)

(ii) What is a Gram Sabha? (1)

(iii) Mention two provisions of the 1992 amendment that strengthened local government. (2)

ANSWER

- (i) Sarpanch (President).
- (ii) All voters of the village; approves budget and reviews performance of the gram panchayat.
- (iii) Mandatory regular elections; one-third seats for women; reservation for SC/ST/OBC; State Election Commission; sharing of powers and revenue (any two).

★ More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)

C10 [Frequently asked]

5 Marks

Explain any five key features of federalism.

ANSWER

- There are **two or more levels (tiers)** of government.
- Different tiers govern the same citizens, but each tier has its own **jurisdiction** in specific matters of legislation, taxation and administration.
- The jurisdictions of the respective levels are specified in the **constitution**; fundamental provisions cannot be unilaterally changed by one level — changes need the consent of both.
- **Courts** have the power to interpret the constitution and the powers of different levels; the highest court acts as an umpire in disputes.
- Sources of revenue for each level are clearly specified to ensure **financial autonomy**; federalism aims to safeguard unity while accommodating regional diversity.

C11 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

How is federalism practised in India? Explain with examples.

ANSWER

- **Linguistic states** — creation of states on the basis of language (1956 onward) made the country more united and administration easier.
- **Language policy** — no national language; Hindi as official language; 22 scheduled languages; English continues with Hindi; careful approach avoided conflict.
- **Centre–state relations** — restructuring strengthened federalism; after 1990 the era of **coalition governments** brought a new culture of power sharing and respect for autonomy of state governments.
- The Supreme Court made it difficult for the Central Government to dismiss state governments arbitrarily.
- **Decentralisation** — 1992 constitutional amendment made local self-government more powerful and effective (third tier).

C12 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Distinguish between the Union List, State List and Concurrent List.

ANSWER

- **Union List** — subjects of national importance (defence, foreign affairs, banking, communications, currency); only the Union Government can make laws.
- **State List** — subjects of state and local importance (police, trade, commerce, agriculture, irrigation); only State Governments can make laws.
- **Concurrent List** — common interest (education, forest, trade unions, marriage, adoption, succession); both can make laws; in case of conflict the Union law prevails. **Residuary** subjects go to the Union.

C13 [Frequently asked]**4 Marks****Case-based on the 1992 amendment:**

(i) Name the constitutional amendment of 1992 that made local governments more powerful. (1)

(ii) Give two provisions of it. (2)

(iii) Name the head of the Zilla Parishad. (1)

ANSWER

- (i) The **73rd and 74th Amendments** (1992).
- (ii) Regular elections to local government bodies are mandatory; seats reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs; **at least one-third** of all positions reserved for women; State Election Commission set up; state governments must share some powers and revenue with local bodies (any two).
- (iii) **Chairperson**.

What are 'coming together' federations? Give an example.

ANSWER

- Independent states come together on their own to form a bigger unit, pooling sovereignty — e.g. **USA, Switzerland, Australia.**

Gender, Religion and Caste

Study Notes · NCERT Solutions · PYQs & Case-Based

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

A system in which all work inside the home is done by women is called:

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| (a) Patriarchy | (b) Sexual division of labour |
| (c) Feminism | (d) Communalism |

Answer: (b)

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which Act provides that equal wages should be paid for equal work?

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (a) Equal Wages Act 1956 | (b) Equal Remuneration Act 1976 |
| (c) Factories Act | (d) Minimum Wages Act |

Answer: (b)

C3 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which of these countries has an official religion (as per NCERT)?

- | | |
|-----------|---------------|
| (a) India | (b) Sri Lanka |
| (c) USA | (d) France |

Answer: (b) Buddhism in Sri Lanka

C4 [PYQ]**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): Caste alone cannot determine elections in India.

Reason (R): No parliamentary constituency in India has a clear majority of one single caste.

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

Answer: (a)

C5**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): Feminist movements aimed at equality in personal and family life as well as public affairs.

Reason (R): Women in India have equal representation in Parliament.

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

Answer: (c)

C6 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

'Communalism can take various forms in politics.' Explain with examples. Also explain how the Constitution makes India secular.

FORMS

- Everyday beliefs — prejudice, stereotypes.
- Majoritarian dominance or separatist demands.
- Political mobilisation using sacred symbols and emotional appeal.
- Communal riots and massacres.

SECULAR PROVISIONS

- No official religion; freedom of religion; no discrimination on religion; state can intervene for equality.

C7 [PYQ]**5 Marks**

'Caste has not disappeared from contemporary India.' Examine. / How does politics influence caste?

ANSWER

- Endogamy continues; untouchability persists in some areas.
- Caste considerations in selecting candidates and forming governments.
- Caste groups expand by including sub-castes; form coalitions; new 'backward/forward' groups.
- Politicisation of caste gave voice to deprived communities (positive) but can divert from real issues and cause tension (negative).
- Yet elections are not decided by caste alone — voters weigh performance and issues.

C8. Case-Based**4 Marks**

Read the source: *'In India, the proportion of women in legislature has been very low. For example, the percentage of elected women members in Lok Sabha has touched 14.36 per cent of its total strength for the first time in 2019.'*

- (i) *What is the percentage of women in state assemblies? (1)*
(ii) *Where is one-third reservation for women effectively implemented? (1)*
(iii) *Why is it important to have more women in legislatures? (2)*

ANSWER

- (i) Less than 5%.
- (ii) Panchayati Raj institutions and municipal bodies.
- (iii) Women's issues (safety, education, health, wages) get adequate attention; it ensures fair representation of half the population and strengthens democracy.

★ **More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)**

C9 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

Describe the different forms that communalism can take in politics.

ANSWER

- **Everyday beliefs** — religious prejudices, stereotypes of religious communities and belief in the superiority of one's religion over others.
- A communal mind often leads to a **quest for political dominance** of one's own religious community — majoritarian dominance, or a desire to form a separate political unit for minorities.
- **Political mobilisation on religious lines** — use of sacred symbols, religious leaders, emotional appeal and plain fear to bring followers of one religion together in politics.
- In electoral politics this involves special appeal to the interests or emotions of voters of one religion in preference to others.
- Sometimes communalism takes its ugliest form of **communal violence, riots and massacres** (e.g. at the time of Partition).

C10 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

"Caste has not disappeared from contemporary India." Support the statement with examples.

ANSWER

- Most people still **marry within their own caste or tribe**.
- **Untouchability** has not ended completely despite constitutional prohibition.
- Effects of centuries of advantage and disadvantage continue: upper castes continue to be better educated and hold more economic resources.
- Caste is closely linked to **economic status** — the upper castes are better off; SCs and STs are over-represented among the poor.
- In **politics**, parties choose candidates keeping caste composition of the electorate in mind; they appeal to caste sentiment to muster support.

C11 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Why is India called a secular state? Mention three constitutional provisions.

ANSWER

- There is **no official religion** for the Indian state; unlike Buddhism in Sri Lanka or Islam in Pakistan.
- The Constitution provides to all individuals and communities **freedom to profess, practise and propagate** any religion, or not to follow any.
- It **prohibits discrimination** on grounds of religion; at the same time it allows the state to intervene in religious matters to ensure equality (e.g. banning untouchability).

C12 [Frequently asked]**4 Marks**

Case-based on women's representation: *The percentage of elected women members in Lok Sabha touched 14.36% for the first time in 2019; their share in state assemblies is less than 5%.*

(i) *What does this data show? (1)*

(ii) *How has reservation in local bodies helped women? (2)*

(iii) *What has been the demand of women's organisations? (1)*

ANSWER

- (i) Women's representation in legislatures in India is **very low**; India is among the bottom group of nations.
- (ii) One-third of seats in local government bodies (panchayats and municipalities) are reserved for women; now there are **more than 10 lakh elected women representatives** in rural and urban local bodies.
- (iii) Reservation of at least **one-third of seats in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies** for women. (Enrichment: the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, 2023 provides for this, to be implemented after delimitation.)

C13 [Frequently asked]**1 Mark**

What is a feminist movement?

ANSWER

- A radical women's movement aimed at **equality in personal and family life** and public affairs for women.

Political Parties

Study Notes · NCERT Solutions · PYQs & Case-Based

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

What is meant by 'partisanship'?

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| (a) Loyalty to a party / inclination to take sides | (b) Rule by one party |
| (c) Alliance of parties | (d) State funding |

Answer: (a)

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which country has a one-party system?

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| (a) USA | (b) UK |
| (c) China | (d) India |

Answer: (c)

C3 [PYQ]

1 Mark

What does the anti-defection law prevent?

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| (a) Criminal candidates | (b) Elected representatives from changing parties |
| (c) Dynastic politics | (d) Use of money |

Answer: (b)

C4 [PYQ]**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): India has a multi-party system.

Reason (R): India has vast social and geographical diversity that cannot be absorbed easily by two or three parties.

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

Answer: (a)

C5**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): Dynastic succession is a challenge to political parties.

Reason (R): Most parties do not practise open and transparent procedures for their functioning.

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

Answer: (a)

C6 [PYQ]**3 Marks**

Differentiate between a national party and a state party.

National party	State party
6% votes in Lok Sabha or Assembly elections in 4 states + 4 Lok Sabha seats	6% votes in a State Assembly election + 2 seats
Units in several states; same policies nationally	Base in one or few states
e.g. BJP, INC	e.g. DMK, Shiv Sena, TDP

C7 [PYQ]**3 Marks**

Describe any three efforts made to reform political parties in India.

ANSWER

- Anti-defection law: MLAs/MPs lose seat on changing party.
- Supreme Court: affidavit with details of property and criminal cases mandatory.
- Election Commission: organisational elections and filing of income-tax returns mandatory.

C8. Case-Based

4 Marks

Read the source: 'Political parties are one of the most visible institutions in a democracy. For most ordinary citizens, democracy is equal to political parties.'

- (i) Why do we need political parties? (1)
- (ii) What is an alliance? Give one example. (1)
- (iii) Explain two challenges faced by political parties. (2)

ANSWER

- (i) Representative democracy needs parties to gather views, form responsible governments and make policies.
- (ii) When several parties join hands to contest elections and win power — e.g. NDA / UPA.
- (iii) Lack of internal democracy (power concentrated in a few leaders); growing role of money and muscle power (rich and criminal candidates) — or dynastic succession / lack of meaningful choice.

★ More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)

C9 [Frequently asked]

5 Marks

Describe the major functions of political parties.

ANSWER

- Parties **contest elections**; candidates are chosen by the party leadership (in India) or by members (USA).
- They put forward **policies and programmes**; voters choose from them.
- They play a decisive role in **making laws** for the country; MPs follow the directions of party leadership.
- They **form and run governments**; parties that lose elections play the role of **opposition**, voicing different views and criticising the government.
- They **shape public opinion**, raise and highlight issues; and provide people **access to government machinery and welfare schemes**.

C10 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

What are the challenges faced by political parties in India? Suggest reforms.

ANSWER

- **Lack of internal democracy** — power concentrated in one or few top leaders; no regular organisational meetings or internal elections.
- **Dynastic succession** — top positions controlled by members of one family.
- **Growing role of money and muscle power** — parties nominate rich candidates or those who can raise money; criminals supported.
- **Lack of meaningful choice** — ideological differences among parties have reduced.
- **Reforms:** anti-defection law (MLA/MP changing party loses seat); candidates must file an affidavit giving details of property and criminal cases; EC made it compulsory for parties to hold organisational elections and file income tax returns; suggested: regulate internal affairs, one-third tickets to women, state funding of elections.

C11 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Distinguish between one-party, two-party and multi-party systems.

ANSWER

- **One-party system** — only one party allowed to control and run the government (e.g. China's Communist Party); not a good democratic option.
- **Two-party system** — power usually changes between two main parties (e.g. USA, UK).
- **Multi-party system** — several parties compete and more than two have a reasonable chance of coming to power, alone or in alliance (e.g. India); coalitions — NDA, UPA, etc.

C12 [Frequently asked]**4 Marks**

Case-based: *The Election Commission recognises parties as national or state parties.*

(i) State the criteria for recognition as a state party. (1)

(ii) State the criteria for a national party. (1)

(iii) Name any four present national parties. (2)

ANSWER

- (i) A party securing at least **6% of the total votes** in an election to the Legislative Assembly of a state and winning at least **two seats**.
- (ii) A party that secures at least **6% of the total votes in Lok Sabha elections or Assembly elections in four states** and wins at least **four seats in the Lok Sabha**.
- (iii) As recognised by the Election Commission (2026): **BJP, INC, BSP, CPI(M), AAP, NPP** — any four. (The NCERT textbook, based on 2019, also lists AITC, CPI and NCP, which lost national status in April 2023.)

What is 'defection' in politics?

ANSWER

- Changing party allegiance from the party on whose ticket a person got elected to a different party.

Outcomes of Democracy

Study Notes · NCERT Solutions · PYQs & Case-Based

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which is the most distinctive feature of democracy?

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| (a) Rapid economic growth | (b) Examination of decisions by people (transparency) |
| (c) Rule of the majority | (d) Quick decision-making |

Answer: (b)

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Democracy is based on:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| (a) Economic equality | (b) Political equality |
| (c) Social inequality | (d) Rule of a family |

Answer: (b)

C3 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Assertion (A): *Democracy is better than dictatorship.*

Reason (R): *Democracy promotes dignity and freedom of the individual and provides a way to correct mistakes.*

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

Answer: (a)

C4 [PYQ]**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): Democracies are slower in decision-making than dictatorships.

Reason (R): Democracy is based on deliberation and negotiation.

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

Answer: (a)

C5 [PYQ]**3 Marks**

'Democracy stands much superior to any other form of government in promoting dignity and freedom of the individual.' Justify.

ANSWER

- Democracy recognises respect for every individual; passion for respect and freedom is the basis of democracy.
- Women's struggles for dignity gained legal and moral backing (equal rights, reservations in local bodies).
- Disadvantaged castes gained strength to claim equal status and opportunity.

C6 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

'Democracy is not simply rule by majority opinion.' Analyse. / Explain how democracy accommodates social diversity.

ANSWER

- Majority must work with minority so the government represents the general view.
- Majority and minority opinions are not permanent; every citizen should have a chance of being in majority.
- Rule by majority must not become rule by majority community (religion/race/language).
- Democracy provides procedures to negotiate differences peacefully — Belgium's model.
- Where majoritarianism dominated (Sri Lanka), it led to conflict; so accommodation is the key.

C7. Case-Based

4 Marks

Read the source: 'Democracy is attentive to the needs and demands of people and is largely free of corruption — this is the expectation. But the record of democracies is not impressive on these two counts.'

(i) What is meant by transparency? (1)

(ii) Why is democratic government called legitimate? (1)

(iii) 'Democracy is slow in decision-making, but its decisions are more effective.' Explain. (2)

ANSWER

- (i) Citizens' right and means to examine the process of decision-making.
- (ii) It is people's own government, elected by them.
- (iii) Democracy follows procedures of deliberation and negotiation, which take time; but decisions are acceptable to people and hence implemented more effectively — the cost of time is worth it.

★ More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)

C8 [Frequently asked]

5 Marks

How does democracy produce an accountable, responsive and legitimate government?

ANSWER

- **Accountable:** citizens have the right and means to examine the process of decision-making (transparency); regular, free and fair elections.
- Open public debate on major policies and legislation; citizens' right to information about the government and its functioning.
- **Responsive:** democracy is attentive to the needs and expectations of people, though often it frustrates them; it ignores some demands.
- **Legitimate:** a democratic government is people's own government; people wish to be ruled by representatives elected by them.
- Democracy may be slow and less efficient, but it has the ability to generate its own support — a big outcome of democracy.

C9 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

"Democracy accommodates social diversity." Support the statement.

ANSWER

- Democracies usually develop procedures to accommodate various social groups and conduct their competition peacefully (e.g. Belgium).
- Majority rule means not rule by majority community in terms of religion, race or language; majority keeps changing and working with the minority.
- Rule by majority must not become rule by majority community; every citizen must have a chance of being in the majority at some point — this keeps society peaceful.

C10 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

How does democracy promote the dignity and freedom of citizens?

ANSWER

- Democracy is based on recognition of the **dignity of individuals**; it is superior to other forms in promoting it.
- Struggles of **women** for dignity and equality — respect and equal treatment of women are now accepted as necessary ingredients of a democratic society.
- Democracy strengthened claims of the **disadvantaged and discriminated castes** for equal status and opportunity; the evaluation of democracy is a never-ending process.

C11 [Frequently asked]**4 Marks**

Case-based: *Democracies are expected to produce economic growth. Evidence shows dictatorships have a slightly higher rate of economic growth (1950–2000).*

(i) Why may democracies have lower growth? (1)

(ii) Why is democracy still preferred? (2)

(iii) What has been the record on reducing inequality? (1)

ANSWER

- (i) Economic development depends on several factors — population size, global situation, cooperation from other countries, economic priorities; also slower decision-making.
- (ii) The difference in growth rates is negligible; democracy has several other positive outcomes — dignity, freedom, accountable government, peaceful accommodation of diversity.
- (iii) Democracies have not been very successful in reducing economic inequalities; a small number of ultra-rich enjoy a disproportionate share of wealth; the poor constitute a large proportion of voters.

Which is the most basic outcome of democracy?

ANSWER

- It produces a government that is **accountable to the citizens and responsive** to their needs and expectations.

Development

Study Notes · Worked Examples · NCERT Solutions · PYQs

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]**1 Mark***Average income is also called:*

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) National income | (b) Per capita income |
| (c) Gross income | (d) Net income |

Answer: (b)**C2 [PYQ]****1 Mark***HDI is published by:*

- | | |
|----------------|----------|
| (a) World Bank | (b) UNDP |
| (c) IMF | (d) WTO |

Answer: (b) UNDP**C3****1 Mark***A person with height 1.5 m and weight 45 kg has BMI of:*

- | | |
|--------|--------|
| (a) 20 | (b) 30 |
| (c) 18 | (d) 25 |

Answer: (a) 20 — $45 \div (1.5)^2 = 45 \div 2.25 = 20$ (normal)

C4 [PYQ]**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): Kerala has a low Infant Mortality Rate.

Reason (R): Kerala has adequate provision of basic health and educational facilities.

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

Answer: (a)

C5 [PYQ]**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): Per capita income is not a complete indicator of development.

Reason (R): It does not tell us how income is distributed among the people.

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

Answer: (a)

C6 [PYQ]**3 Marks**

'Different persons could have different as well as conflicting notions of a country's development.' Explain with examples.

ANSWER

- Industrialist wants more dams for electricity; tribal wants no displacement from land.
- Urban youth want jobs; farmers want irrigation and support prices.
- Girls want equal freedom; landless labourers want more days of work — development goals differ and may conflict.

C7 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

'Public facilities are needed for the overall development of the country.' Explain. / Why is money in your pocket not enough?

ANSWER

- Money cannot buy all goods and services — pollution-free environment, unadulterated medicines, protection from diseases.
- Collective provision is cheaper — security in a colony, schools, hospitals.
- Kerala's low IMR due to health and education facilities; PDS improves nutrition.
- Public facilities reduce inequality — poor gain access to basic needs.
- Human development (health, education) raises productivity and quality of life.

C8. Case-Based**4 Marks**

Read the source: *'Recent evidence suggests that the groundwater is under serious threat of overuse in many parts of the country. About 300 districts have reported a water level decline of over 4 metres during the past 20 years. Nearly one-third of the country is overusing its groundwater reserves.'*

(i) Name any two regions facing groundwater depletion. (1)

(ii) Why is groundwater called a renewable resource? (1)

(iii) How can we ensure sustainability of development? (2)

ANSWER

- (i) Punjab and western UP; hard-rock plateau of central & south India; coastal areas; Rajasthan & Maharashtra (any two).
- (ii) It is replenished by nature (rainfall) — like crops and plants.
- (iii) Use resources only at the rate of replenishment (rainwater harvesting, drip irrigation); shift to renewable energy; conserve and recycle; plan for future generations.

★ **More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)**

C9 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

Why is per capita income alone not a sufficient indicator of development? Explain with other indicators.

ANSWER

- Per capita income is an **average**; it hides disparities — it does not show how income is distributed among people.
- Money cannot buy all goods and services needed to live well — pollution-free environment, unadulterated medicines, protection from infectious diseases.
- **Infant Mortality Rate** — number of children who die before the age of one year per 1,000 live births; shows health facilities.
- **Literacy rate** and **Net Attendance Ratio** — show educational status.
- The **Human Development Index (UNDP)** uses health, education and income; e.g. Kerala has lower per capita income than Haryana but lower IMR and higher literacy due to public facilities.

C10 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

What is sustainable development? Why is it essential?

ANSWER

- Development that meets the needs of the present **without compromising the ability of future generations** to meet their needs.
- Resources like groundwater and crude oil are being over-used; e.g. about 300 districts have reported water-level decline over 4 metres in 20 years; crude oil reserves will last only a limited number of years.
- Environmental degradation does not respect boundaries; sustainability is a new area of knowledge that needs cooperation of scientists, economists, philosophers and social scientists.

C11 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

"Different people have different as well as conflicting notions of development." Explain with examples.

ANSWER

- People seek things that are most important for them; e.g. a landless rural labourer wants more days of work and better wages, while a prosperous farmer from Punjab wants assured high family income through higher support prices.
- Developmental goals can be conflicting: an industrialist may want more electricity (a dam), but it may displace tribals and submerge their land.
- A girl from a rich urban family may want as much freedom as her brother; for development people look at a mix of goals, including non-material ones.

C12 [Frequently asked]**4 Marks**

Case-based: Kerala has a lower per capita income than Haryana/Punjab, but lower Infant Mortality Rate and higher literacy.

(i) What is IMR? (1)

(ii) Why does Kerala do better? (2)

(iii) What does this show about development? (1)

ANSWER

- (i) The number of children that die before the age of one year as a proportion of 1,000 live children born in that year.
- (ii) Kerala has adequate provision of **basic health and educational facilities**; a well-functioning **PDS** also improves nutrition — public facilities.
- (iii) Income alone is not an adequate indicator; **public facilities** and non-income indicators are important for development.

C13 [Frequently asked]**1 Mark**

Which organisation publishes the Human Development Report?

ANSWER

- **UNDP** (United Nations Development Programme).

Sectors of the Indian Economy

Study Notes · Sector Tables · NCERT Solutions · PYQs

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which sector is also called the service sector?

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| (a) Primary | (b) Secondary |
| (c) Tertiary | (d) Public |

Answer: (c)

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Under MGNREGA, how many days of guaranteed employment are provided in a year?

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| (a) 50 | (b) 100 |
| (c) 150 | (d) 200 |

Answer: (b) 100

C3 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which of these is an example of the private sector?

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| (a) Indian Railways | (b) TISCO |
| (c) Post Office | (d) Air India (as in textbook) |

Answer: (b) TISCO

C4 [PYQ]**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): Tertiary sector has become the largest producing sector in India.

Reason (R): As incomes rise, people demand more services, and new ICT-based services have grown.

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

Answer: (a)

C5**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): The primary sector is the largest employer in India.

Reason (R): Enough jobs have been created in the secondary and tertiary sectors.

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

Answer: (c) — A true; R false.

C6 [PYQ]**3 Marks**

How can more employment be created in rural areas? Explain three ways.

ANSWER

- Irrigation facilities (canals, wells, check dams) → double cropping, more work.
- Rural roads, transport, storage → farmers sell at better prices; jobs in transport & trade.
- Cheap credit and agro-processing industries (dal mill, cold storage, honey, food processing); MGNREGA.

C7 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

Distinguish between organised and unorganised sectors on any five bases.

Basis	Organised	Unorganised
Registration	Registered with government	Not registered / outside control
Job security	Secure	Insecure
Working hours	Fixed; overtime paid	Not fixed; no overtime
Benefits	PF, gratuity, paid leave, medical	No such benefits
Laws	Factories Act, Minimum Wages Act followed	Rules not followed

C8. Case-Based**4 Marks**

Read the source: 'Laxmi's family has a small plot of land where all five members work throughout the year. Even if two of them move out, production will not fall.'

(i) Identify the type of unemployment. (1)

(ii) In which sector is it most common? (1)

(iii) Suggest two ways to reduce it. (2)

ANSWER

- (i) Disguised unemployment (underemployment).
- (ii) Primary (agriculture) sector.
- (iii) Set up agro-based / small industries in semi-rural areas; cheap credit; irrigation and roads; MGNREGA; skill training for non-farm jobs.

★ **More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)**

C9 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

Explain how the public sector contributes to the economic development of a nation.

ANSWER

- It provides essential services and infrastructure — roads, bridges, railways, harbours, electricity, dams — which need large investment beyond the private sector.
- It sells some goods at a **low cost** (e.g. electricity) so that small-scale industries can afford them; supports farmers through procurement at **fair (MSP) prices** and **PDS**.
- It provides health and education facilities — schools, hospitals, safe drinking water, housing for the poor.
- It creates employment opportunities and promotes balanced regional development.
- It aims at **public welfare**, not profit; ensures equality of income and wealth.

C10 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

Distinguish between the organised and unorganised sectors. How can workers in the unorganised sector be protected?

ANSWER

- **Organised sector** — enterprises registered with the government, follow rules and regulations (Factories Act, Minimum Wages Act, etc.); regular terms of employment; assured work; paid leave, PF, medical benefits.
- **Unorganised sector** — small and scattered units largely outside government control; rules not followed; low-paid, irregular jobs; no paid leave; job insecurity.
- **Protection:** the government can fix **minimum wages** and working hours; provide cheap loans to self-employed.
- Provide cheap and fair-priced basic services like education, health and food; support small farmers with irrigation, seeds, credit and storage; ensure they get fair prices.
- Special attention to vulnerable workers: SC/ST/backward communities, casual workers in urban areas.

C11 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

What is disguised unemployment? Explain with an example.

ANSWER

- A situation where more people are working than necessary; everyone appears to be working but none is **fully employed**; productivity of some workers is zero.
- Example: a small farmer's family of five works on a plot that needs only three; if two are removed, production does not fall.
- Common in agriculture; also seen in urban areas among casual workers (painters, plumbers, repairmen).

C12 [Frequently asked]

4 Marks

Case-based on MGNREGA 2005:

- (i) How many days of employment does it guarantee? (1)
(ii) What happens if the government fails to provide work? (1)
(iii) How does it help? (2)

ANSWER

- (i) **100 days** of employment in a year in 625 districts (NCERT).
- (ii) The government must give **unemployment allowance** to the people.
- (iii) It is implemented as **right to work**; it provides income to rural people; the work is meant to increase production from land (e.g. soil conservation, water harvesting).

C13 [Frequently asked]

1 Mark

Which sector is also called the service sector?

ANSWER

- **Tertiary sector.**

Money and Credit

Study Notes · Credit Workflows · NCERT Solutions · PYQs

PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Who issues currency notes in India?

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) State Bank of India | (b) Reserve Bank of India |
| (c) Finance Ministry | (d) NABARD |

Answer: (b)

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Deposits in bank accounts which can be withdrawn on demand are called:

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| (a) Fixed deposits | (b) Demand deposits |
| (c) Term deposits | (d) Recurring deposits |

Answer: (b)

C3 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Grameen Bank of Bangladesh was started by:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| (a) Amartya Sen | (b) Muhammad Yunus |
| (c) Sheikh Hasina | (d) Kofi Annan |

Answer: (b)

C4 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Assertion (A): Modern currency is accepted as a medium of exchange.

Reason (R): It is authorised by the government of the country.

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

Answer: (a)

C5

1 Mark

Assertion (A): Informal sources of credit are cheaper than formal sources.

Reason (R): There is no organisation which supervises credit activities in the informal sector.

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

Answer: (d) — A false; R true.

C6 [PYQ]

3 Marks

Explain any three terms of credit.

ANSWER

- **Interest rate** — the amount to be paid along with the principal.
- **Collateral** — asset as guarantee till repayment.
- **Documentation & mode of repayment** — papers required; repayment in instalments/lump sum.

C7 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

Distinguish between formal and informal sources of credit. Why should credit at reasonable rates be available for all?

Formal	Informal
Banks, cooperatives	Moneylenders, traders, relatives
Supervised by RBI	No supervision
Low interest	High interest
Collateral needed	Coercive recovery

WHY REASONABLE CREDIT FOR ALL

- Prevents debt trap; increases incomes; supports small producers, farmers and entrepreneurs; promotes development.

C8. Case-Based**4 Marks**

Read the source: 'A typical SHG has 15–20 members, usually belonging to one neighbourhood, who meet and save regularly. Saving per member varies from ₹25 to ₹100 or more.'

(i) Who takes decisions in an SHG? (1)

(ii) When does the group become eligible for bank loans? (1)

(iii) How do SHGs empower women? (2)

ANSWER

- (i) The members of the group.
- (ii) After one or two years of regular saving.
- (iii) Give women access to credit without collateral, help them start small enterprises and become financially self-reliant; regular meetings provide a platform to discuss social issues (health, nutrition, domestic violence).

★ **More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)**

C9 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

Why are formal sources of credit better than informal sources? Why should formal credit be expanded?

ANSWER

- Formal credit (banks, cooperatives) is supervised by the **RBI**, which monitors that banks give loans to small cultivators, small-scale industries and small borrowers.
- Formal lenders charge **lower interest**; informal lenders charge very high interest, so a large part of the borrower's earnings goes to repay the loan.
- No supervision of informal lenders; they can use unfair means to recover loans (e.g. taking land) and push borrowers into a **debt trap**.
- Cheap and affordable credit is crucial for the country's development — it helps people start businesses, raise incomes and invest.
- Hence banks and cooperatives should increase lending particularly in rural areas, and the benefits should reach the poor households (who depend mostly on informal sources).

C10 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

Explain the 'double coincidence of wants'. How does money solve this problem?

ANSWER

- In a barter system, both parties must agree to sell and buy each other's commodity — e.g. a shoemaker wanting wheat must find a farmer who has wheat and also wants shoes.
- This is rarely possible and makes exchange difficult.
- **Money** acts as an intermediate in the exchange process — a **medium of exchange**; the shoemaker sells shoes for money and uses money to buy wheat.

C11 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

What are the terms of credit? Why is collateral important?

ANSWER

- Terms of credit include **interest rate**, **collateral and documentation** requirement, and the **mode of repayment**.
- **Collateral** is an asset that the borrower owns (land, building, vehicle, livestock, deposits) and uses as a guarantee to the lender until the loan is repaid.
- If the borrower fails to repay, the lender can sell the collateral; many poor lack collateral and so cannot get bank loans.

C12 [Frequently asked]

4 Marks

Case-based on SHGs: A typical SHG has 15–20 members, usually from one neighbourhood, who pool their savings.

- (i) How do SHGs help the poor get loans? (2)
- (ii) Who takes the decisions regarding loans? (1)
- (iii) Give one social benefit of SHGs. (1)

ANSWER

- (i) Members save regularly (₹25 to ₹100 or more); the group gives small loans to members; after 1–2 years of regular saving, the SHG becomes **eligible for a bank loan**, sanctioned in the name of the group, **without collateral**.
- (ii) The group itself — about savings, loans, purpose, amount, interest and repayment schedule.
- (iii) Regular meetings give women a platform to discuss social issues such as health, nutrition and domestic violence; women become financially self-reliant.

C13 [Frequently asked]

1 Mark

Which institution supervises the functioning of formal sources of loans?

ANSWER

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**.

Globalisation and the Indian Economy (Board: 2 sub-topics)

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PART C — FREQUENTLY ASKED CBSE PYQS & COMPETENCY QUESTIONS

C1 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Which organisation aims to liberalise international trade?

- | | |
|---------|----------------|
| (a) IMF | (b) World Bank |
| (c) WTO | (d) UNICEF |

Answer: (c) WTO

C2 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Tax on imports is an example of:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| (a) Collateral | (b) Trade barrier |
| (c) Terms of credit | (d) Foreign investment |

Answer: (b) Trade barrier

C3 [PYQ]

1 Mark

Cargill Foods, an American MNC, bought over which Indian company?

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| (a) Amul | (b) Parakh Foods |
| (c) Britannia | (d) Dabur |

Answer: (b)

C4 [PYQ]**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): MNCs set up production where it is close to markets.

Reason (R): MNCs want cheap skilled labour and assured availability of resources.

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

Answer: (b)

C5**1 Mark**

Assertion (A): India removed trade barriers from 1991.

Reason (R): Indian producers were considered ready to compete with foreign producers.

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

Answer: (a)

C6 [PYQ]**3 Marks**

Explain the role of technology in stimulating globalisation.

ANSWER

- Faster, cheaper transport — containers reduce port handling costs.
- Telecom, computers and Internet — instant communication worldwide.
- IT enables services like designing, billing, call centres to be delivered from distant places.

C7 [Frequently asked]**5 Marks**

'Fair globalisation would create opportunities for all.' Suggest measures.

ANSWER

- Government policies should protect interests of all, not only the rich.
- Proper implementation of labour laws.
- Support small producers to improve performance and compete.
- Use trade and investment barriers when necessary.
- Negotiate at WTO for fairer rules; alliance of developing countries; people's organisations can influence decisions.

C8. Case-Based

4 Marks

Read the source: 'Ford Motors, an American company, came to India in 1995 and spent Rs 1700 crore to set up a large plant near Chennai, in collaboration with Mahindra and Mahindra.'

- (i) Is Ford Motors an MNC? Why? (1)
- (ii) What is this form of MNC investment called? (1)
- (iii) Give two reasons why Ford chose India. (2)

ANSWER

- (i) Yes — it controls production in more than one country.
- (ii) Joint production / foreign investment with a local company.
- (iii) Large growing Indian market; cheap skilled labour and components; export to other countries from India.

★ More Board-favourite Questions (added in revision)

C9 [Frequently asked]

3 Marks

What is globalisation? How does it integrate countries?

ANSWER

- Globalisation is the process of **rapid integration or interconnection between countries**.
- It happens through movement of **goods and services** (trade), **investments** (MNCs), **technology** and, to a limited extent, **people** between countries.
- More and more goods, services, investments and technology move between countries, making markets and production linked across the world.

C10 [Frequently asked]

5 Marks

Explain the factors that have enabled globalisation.

ANSWER

- **Technology:** rapid improvement in **transportation** technology — faster delivery of goods across long distances at lower costs (e.g. containers).
- Developments in **information and communication technology** — telecommunication, computers, internet; e.g. a news magazine in London designed and printed in Delhi.
- **Liberalisation of foreign trade and investment policy:** removing barriers or restrictions set by the government — **trade barriers** like tax on imports.
- Around **1991**, India changed its policies; barriers on foreign trade and foreign investment were removed to a large extent.
- Indian producers could compete with producers around the globe; this improved performance and quality — helping globalisation.

C11 [Frequently asked]**3 Marks**

What is a trade barrier? Why did the Indian government put barriers to foreign trade and investment after independence?

ANSWER

- A **trade barrier** is a restriction on foreign trade, e.g. a **tax on imports**.
- After independence the government put barriers to **protect the producers within the country** from foreign competition.
- Industries were just coming up in the 1950s–60s; competition from imports would not have allowed them to grow; imports were allowed only for essential items (machinery, fertilisers, petroleum).

C12 [Frequently asked]**4 Marks**

Case-based: Read — “Rapid improvement in technology has been one major factor that has stimulated the globalisation process... Even more remarkable have been the developments in information and communication technology.”

(i) Name one development in transport technology. (1)

(ii) How has IT helped spread production across countries? (2)

(iii) What is liberalisation? (1)

ANSWER

- (i) **Containers** for transport of goods — goods are placed in containers that can be loaded intact onto ships, railways, planes and trucks; this reduced port handling costs.
- (ii) Telecommunication facilities (telegraph, telephone, mobile, fax, satellite) help contact one another around the world, access information instantly; computers and the internet let people share information — e.g. a London magazine designed in Delhi, and **IT-enabled services** like call centres.
- (iii) **Removing barriers or restrictions** set by the government on trade and investment.

C13 [Frequently asked]**1 Mark**

In which year did India liberalise its trade and investment policies?

ANSWER

- **1991.**