

ICSE Board
Class X History and Civics
Board Paper – 2014 Solution

Answer 1

- a) The President of India administers the oath of office to the Council of Ministers.
- b) The Rajya Sabha is not subject to dissolution and hence it is called a 'Permanent House'.
- c) The Lok Sabha must meet twice each year, with no more than six months between sessions.
- d) The Electoral College in the election of the President of India, consists of the elected members of both Houses of Parliament, and the elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of the States.
- e) An Ordinance is a temporary law passed by the government. It is promulgated by the President when the Parliament is not in session.
- f) The Opposition in the Parliament can check the authority of the Prime Minister by grilling him over matters in which his government or any particular Ministry has underperformed, or its policies are unsatisfactory.
- g) The concept of 'Individual Responsibility' in a parliamentary democracy entails that the ministers are individually responsible to the Head of the State, i.e. the President. They hold office during the pleasure of the President and may also be dismissed by him.
- h) The existence of a 'Single Integrated Judicial System' in India implies that all the courts of the country interpret and enforce the same laws that are made by the Union Parliament.
- i) The 'Appellate Jurisdiction' of the High Court means that it has the authority to accept appeals against the decisions of District Courts, in civil as well as criminal matters.
- j) The District Judge decides on civil cases whereas the Sessions Judge decides on criminal cases.

Answer 2

- a) Two political causes responsible for the First War of Independence are:
- The introduction of the Doctrine of Lapse by Lord Dalhousie. This doctrine imposed an unsentimental law of 'no adoption policy' for rulers and in the absence of a natural heir the kingdom would fall into the hands of the British.
 - Introduction of the British policy of annexation of kingdoms under the pretext of inefficient administration of the rulers.
- b) The press helped in promoting nationalist sentiments among Indians in the following ways:
- It passed on the message of patriotism and modern liberal ideals of liberty, freedom, equality, home rule and independence, spread among people.
 - It made the exchange of views between different social groups from different parts of the country possible.
 - It carried on daily criticism of the unjust politics of the British towards the Indians.
 - It made the people of India aware of the happenings taking place all over the world.
- c) Two important contributions of Lala Lajpat Rai:
- He started the monthly magazine 'Young India' to spread the message of the right of India to attain Swaraj.
 - He was influential in the expansion of D.A.V. College in Lahore in 1886. He also opened various orphanages, hospitals and schools.
- d) Two basic reasons responsible for the Surat Split in 1907 were:
- The Early Nationalists wanted to confine the movements of Swadeshi boycott to Bengal, at the same time the Assertive Nationalists wanted to extend these movements to the rest of the country.
 - The Early Nationalists wanted Rashbehari Gosh as the President of the Surat session, while the Assertive Nationalists wanted Lala Lajpat Rai.
- e) The Gandhi-Irwin Pact of 1931 was signed between Mahatma Gandhi and Lord Irwin because both wanted peace in the country. The following are one provision each of the pact:
- The British government decided to release all political prisoners excluding the ones that were guilty of violence.
 - In return, the Congress agreed to suspend the Civil Disobedience Movement.
- f) The main objectives of the Indian National Army were as follows:
- To organise a provisional government of Free India in order to mobilise all the forces effectively.
 - Total mobilisation of Indian man-power and money for a total war.
 - To organise an armed revolution and to fight the British army of occupation with modern arms.
 - The armed revolution had to be arranged by the Indians living abroad, particularly in East Asia as it was not possible for the Indians staying in India to organise it.

- g) The three members of the Cabinet mission were:
 - i. Lord Pethic Lawrence
 - ii. Sir Stafford Cripps
 - iii. A.V. Alexander
- h) The following are two important terms of the Treaty of Versailles:
 - i. It held Germany responsible of aggression that resulted in the war.
 - ii. It confirmed that Belgium, Poland, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia were completely independent nation-states.
- i) Two factors responsible for the failure of the League of Nations were:
 - i. The League of Nations could not take any effective action against China when it attacked Manchuria, or when Italy attacked Abyssinia.
 - ii. The USA never joined the League. This was a major setback as USA was a major world power.
- j) Two functions of the General Assembly are:
 - i. To make recommendations for the peaceful settlement of disputes.
 - ii. To consider and make recommendations on the principles of cooperation, in the maintenance of international peace and security.

Answer 3

- a) The tenure of the members of the Lok Sabha is five years, if the Lok Sabha is not dissolved earlier. When a Proclamation of Emergency is in operation, the life of the House may be extended by no more than one year at a time. In the case of the Rajya Sabha, one-third of its members retire at the end of every second year. So in effect, the term of the members of the Rajya Sabha is 6 years.
- b) The maximum strength of the Lok Sabha is 552. Out of this number, up to 530 represent the States and not more than 20 represent the Union Territories. Besides, 2 members of the Anglo-Indian community may be nominated by the President in case he feels that the community is not adequately represented. The allotment of members to the States is roughly on population basis.
The Rajya Sabha consists of not more than 250 members. Out of these, 12 members are nominated by the President from among people having special knowledge or experience in literature, science, art or social service. The remainder of the members are elected by the people from the States and Union Territories. The allocation of seats among the States and the Union Territories is done on the basis of the population.
- c) The following are the powers of the Parliament with regards to the Union List and the Concurrent List respectively:
 - i. The Parliament has exclusive powers to make laws on all the 97 subjects enumerated in the Union List. These include important subjects like Defence, Communications, Foreign Policy, etc.
 - ii. Along with the State Legislative Assemblies, the Parliament can also make laws on the 47 topics enumerated in the Concurrent List. If there is a conflict between

the Union Parliament and the State Legislature on a law in this list, the Constitution dictates that the Union Law shall prevail.

Answer 4

- a) The Cabinet consists of a small but important body of senior members of the Council of Ministers. The Cabinet, in effect, forms the nucleus of the administration. Its members hold the most important portfolios and decide crucial policies of the government. After the Cabinet has deliberated on important policy matters, its decisions are communicated to the other Ministers and they have to follow these decisions even though they might not have been party to such decisions.
- b) The following are two important administrative powers of the Cabinet:
 - i. The cabinet prepares the policy on external as well as domestic matters. It takes decisions on topics like defence, economic policy, security, President's Rule, formation of new states, industrial policy, imports and electoral reforms. The Ministries have freedom of action but in effect it is the Cabinet that they have to consult before practicing it.
 - ii. Once a policy decision is made by the Cabinet, it is communicated to the concerned Minister of the State and the Deputy Minister. They work out the details and pass it on to the civil servants who are to implement it. In this way, governance is carried out by the Council of Ministers and the civil servants entrusted with the responsibility.
- c) The following are two important legislative powers of the Cabinet:
 - i. The ministers along with the secretaries of the concerned departments answer questions asked by the members of the Lok Sabha and thus provide information to the public through their representatives.
 - ii. The Cabinet plays a major role in planning and moving the amendment to the Constitution.

Answer 5

- a) The power of Original Jurisdiction means the power to hear and determine a dispute in the first instance, i.e., those cases which cannot be moved in any other court but the Supreme Court. This kind of jurisdiction extends to the following:

Centre-State or inter-State Disputes: The Supreme Court has exclusive original jurisdiction over disputes between the Centre and one or more States; Centre and any State or States on one side and one or more States on the other side; or between two or more States. However, this jurisdiction is not extended to a dispute arising out of a treaty, agreement, etc., which is in operation or disputes arising out of inter-State water disputes, matters under the consideration of Finance Commission, etc. Also, the jurisdiction doesn't apply to adjustment of certain expenses and pensions between the Union and the States.

Protection of Fundamental Rights: The Supreme Court can adjudicate on matters pertaining to violation of the Fundamental Rights of citizens and issue Writs for their protection. Any individual citizen can approach the Supreme Court in case of such a violation and seek justice.

Transfer of Cases from Lower Courts: Under Article 139 A of the Constitution, the Supreme Court can transfer to itself cases from one or more High Courts if these involve questions of law or cases are of great importance. The Supreme Court may transfer cases from one High Court to another in the interest of justice.

Interpretation of Constitution: All cases where interpretation of the Constitution is required can be directly filed in the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has the power of exclusive jurisdiction under Article 131A with regard to questions as to the Constitutional validity of central laws.

- b) The Supreme Court has advisory jurisdiction over any question of law or fact of public importance as may be referred to it by the President. Any question of law may be referred to the Supreme Court if the President considers that the question is of public importance and it is necessary to seek Supreme Court's opinion. However, such opinion is advisory and not binding on the government nor is it executable as a judgment of the Supreme Court. Also, disputes arising out of pre-Constitution treaties and agreements which are excluded from original jurisdiction by Article 131.
- c) The Supreme Court is designated as the guardian and protector of fundamental rights. Any private citizen can approach it for the protection of his fundamental rights and the Supreme Court may issue Writs like habeas corpus, mandamus, quo warranto and certiorari for their enforcement. The Union and the State governments are prohibited from making any law which takes away or abridges the Fundamental Rights. If this is done, the Supreme Court can declare it null and void.

Answer 6

- a) The Indian National Congress was established and had its first session in December 1885 and it was presided over by W.C. Bonnerjee.
- b) The aims of the Indian National Congress (INC) were declared to be as follows:
 - i. Promoting friendly relations between nationalist political workers from different parts of the country;
 - ii. Developing and consolidating the feelings of national unity irrespective of caste, religion or province;
 - iii. Formulating popular demands and presenting them before the government;
 - iv. Training and organising the public opinion in the country.
- c) The four basic beliefs of the early nationalists are as follows:
 - i. They had faith in the British sense of justice, fair play, honesty and integrity.
 - ii. They believed that the colonisers would see the logic of their argument and grant India 'Home Rule'.
 - iii. They opined that British rule was beneficial to India since it outlawed social evils like sati, untouchability and child marriage.
 - iv. They also believed that Britain would help Indians govern themselves according to Western standards.

Question 7

- a) Non-cooperation is 'a way of protesting in which one does not cooperate with the evil doer'. Gandhi had asked the people to refuse cooperation to the British colonial rulers in order to protest against the injustice meted out to them.
- b) The following were the objectives of the non-cooperation movement:
 - i. Attaining self government within the British Empire if possible and outside if necessary.
 - ii. Annulment of the Rowlatt Act and remedying the 'Punjab wrong', i.e., the British government should express its regret over happenings in Punjab and particularly in Amritsar.
 - iii. Remedying the 'Khilafat wrong', i.e., the British should adopt a lenient attitude towards Turkey and restore the old status of the Sultan of Turkey.
- c) The following are the different facets of the impact of the non-cooperation movement on India's freedom struggle:
 - i. Non-cooperation turned the Indian national movement into a mass movement since it drew participants from such sections of society as peasants, workers, students, teachers, women, etc.
 - ii. The non-cooperation movement turned the Indian National Congress from a deliberative body into an organisation for action. It actually became an organiser and leader of a mass movement.
 - iii. The non-cooperation movement brought an element of Hindu-Muslim unity in national politics by merging the Khilafat issue with that of non-cooperation.
 - iv. The movement promoted prohibition and removal of untouchability. Many national schools and colleges were also set up in different parts of the country.

- v. Though the movement had the goal of attaining 'swaraj' or self rule within the British empire and outside it if necessary, it actually radicalised many of its later actions. Though it failed to achieve swaraj in the immediate period, it definitely speeded up activities in that regard.
- vi. While earlier, the activities of the INC had been limited to the urban areas and involved only the upper classes and castes, the non-cooperation movement actually extended nationalist politics to every nook and cranny of the Indian rural landscape. The Congress was organised into provincial committees at the Nagpur session of December 1920 and hence began the process of reaching out to the rural poor through regional endeavours.
- vii. It also instilled a certain confidence among the people and generated a desire amongst them to challenge colonial rule and attain freedom.

Answer 8

- a) The Viceroy in the picture is Lord Mountbatten.
- b) Lord Mountbatten was sent to India in order to execute the transfer of power from the British crown to the Indians. The immediate task entrusted to him was to restore peace among the two warring factions – the Congress and the League – both in his executive council and the country at large.
- c) Lord Mountbatten felt that the differences between the political leadership of the major religious communities in India were irresolvable. He also opined that the Cabinet Mission Plan was unworkable and a partition of India was necessary if any future trouble was to be avoided. He therefore intended to execute the transfer of power without any delay.
- d) The following are three important reasons why the Congress accepted the Mountbatten Plan:
 - i. The horrific communal riots that had taken place between the Hindus and Muslims of the country had resulted in Congress leaders resigning themselves to the inevitability of the partition of the country.
 - ii. The Muslim League had joined the interim government to obstruct and not to cooperate. The experience of working with its ministers had made the Congress realise that it would be impossible to work with them.
 - iii. The only alternative to partition was a Federation with a weak Centre. The Congress felt that a smaller India with a strong central authority was better than a bigger State with a weak centre.

Answer 9

a)

- i. The rise of extreme nationalism in the form of Fascism and Nazism pushed the world towards the Second World War. Mussolini, the leader of the Fascists in Italy, established a dictatorship and committed his nation to the Anti-Comintern Pact in 1937 and later to a ten year alliance with Germany in 1939. He also attacked Abyssinia in pursuance of his imperialistic designs. On this, the League of Nations failed to take any action, which exposed the political weakness of the League. In Germany, the rise of Hitler and his brand of Nazism made conditions explosive. He flouted the military clauses in the Treaty of Versailles and declared re-armament. In 1938, he annexed Austria and attacked Czechoslovakia.
 - ii. The Japanese policy of imperial expansion was another important cause for the outbreak of the Second World War. In pursuance of its imperialistic ambitions, Japan intervened in Manchuria in 1931, occupied it and set up a government despite the League of Nation's opposition. The Japanese also started an undeclared war against China in the same year. Despite China's cries of help, the League of Nations took no action. Japan also joined the Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Axis to further its policy of conquest and expansion. In 1933, it left the League of Nations and began to occupy British and American properties in China. Still, the leading members of the League continued their policy of appeasement. Thus, this chronology of events contributed significantly to the eventual outbreak of the Second World War.
- b) The major destruction caused by the two World Wars and the abject failure of the League of Nations to deal with it compelled the Big Three – Roosevelt of USA, Churchill of Britain and Stalin of Russia – to meet at Yalta in February 1945. They resolved to convene a conference of the representatives of all nations at San Francisco to draw up the 'Charter of United Nations'. This led to the establishment of the United Nations Organisation on October 24, 1945.

Answer 10

- a) Non Alignment is the international policy of a sovereign state according to which it does not align itself with any of the power blocs and at the same time actively participates in international affairs to promote international peace, harmony and cooperation. The main features of the policy of non-alignment are as follows:
- A non aligned country does not align itself with any power bloc.
 - It does not join military alliances like NATO, Warsaw Pact, etc.
 - It protects its sovereignty completely and takes its foreign policy decisions independent of outside influence.
 - Non alignment is not passive and hence the states involved actively participate in world affairs and international politics.
 - It explicitly upholds the rights of all people to freedom and justice without any discrimination.
- b) The following are two important factors responsible for the formation of the Non Aligned Movement:
- Most of the newly independent colonies of Asia and Africa felt that the division of the world into two hostile military blocs was detrimental to their interests. For economic development and political consolidation, they needed world peace which was likely to be endangered unless they distanced themselves from both the power blocs.
 - The newly independent nations of Asia and Africa also felt that by being non-aligned, they would retain their freedom to make independent political decisions without outside interference. This was a practical as well as an emotional requirement for these long suppressed societies.
- c) Jawaharlal Nehru can be justly called the initiator of the Non-Aligned Movement. Having realised that getting involved in the power politics of the two Cold War military blocs would only bring death and destruction, he advocated that the newly independent nations of Africa and Asia should maintain equidistance from both the camps. He advocated mutual respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations. It was him who gradually convinced the newly independent colonies to accept the concept of non-alignment.
- Despite Nehru's preference for western liberalism and democracy and his ideological inclination towards socialism, he did not support the military alliances led by US and USSR. He opposed them based on his conviction that these encouraged imperialism and colonialism and led to arms races. His brand of non-alignment refused to become a third power bloc but instead pursued freedom of decision making for the recently decolonised states.
- Thus, under Nehru's leadership, India initiated and supported many endeavours to promote the principles of non-alignment. This included the sponsorship of a 1962 UN Resolution, calling upon the member nations to take diplomatic and economic steps against the apartheid regime in South Africa. Nehru was also in favour of disarmament and abolition of nuclear stockpiles. It was in pursuance of this goal that India signed a treaty in 1963 for banning of atomic tests.