



Passage Based Questions [5 Marks]

1. Read carefully the passage given below and answer the following questions:

The New Congress had something that its big opponents lacked—it had an issue, an agenda and a positive slogan. The Grand Alliance did not have a coherent political programme. Indira Gandhi said that the opposition alliance had only one common programme 'Indira Hatao'. In contrast to this, she put forward a positive programme captured in the famous slogan 'Garibi Hatao'.

Questions

1. Which Congress is being referred to as 'the New Congress'?
2. Highlight any two steps taken by Indira Gandhi to remove poverty.
3. How far is it justified to call the 'opposition alliance' as the 'Grand Alliance'?

Answer:

1. Congress (O) is being referred to as the 'New Congress'.
2. She focused on the growth of the public sector. She focused on the removal of disparities in income and opportunity.
3. It is justified to call the 'opposition alliance' as the 'Grand Alliance' because it came into existence to make matters worse for Indira Gandhi.

2. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions:

The defeat of the official Congress candidate formalised the split in the party. The Congress President expelled the Prime Minister from the party; she claimed that her group was the real Congress. By November 1969, the Congress group led by the 'syndicate' came to be referred to as the Congress (Organisation) and the group led by Indira Gandhi came to be called the Congress (Requisitionists). These two parties were also described as Old Congress and New Congress. Indira Gandhi projected the split as an ideological divide between socialists and conservatives, between the pro-poor and the pro-rich.

Questions

1. What formalised the split of Congress?
2. Mention two groups created after the split.
3. How did Indira Gandhi project the split?

Answer:

1. The defeat of official candidate during presidential elections in 1969.
2. Congress (O) i.e. Organisation led by syndicate known as old Congress, Congress (R) i.e. requisitionists led by Indira Gandhi known as new Congress.
3. Indira Gandhi projected the split as an ideological divide between socialists and conservatives, between pro-rich and pro-poor.

3. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions:

But does it mean that the Congress system was restored? What Indira Gandhi had done was not a revival of the old Congress party. In many ways she had re-invented the party. The party occupied a similar position in terms of its popularity as in the past. But it was a

different kind of a party. It relied entirely on the popularity of the supreme leader. It had a somewhat weak organisational structure. This Congress party now did not have many functions, thus it could not accommodate all kinds of options and interests. While it won elections, it depends more on some social groups: the poor, the women, Dalits, Adivasis and the minorities. It was a new Congress system by changing the nature of the Congress system itself.

Questions

1. Had Indira Gandhi revived Congress?
2. How did Indira Gandhi restore the Congress system?
3. Why did Congress not have all kinds of opinions and interests?

Answer:

1. No, whatever had been done by Indira Gandhi, was not a revival of old Congress system but it was a re-invention of party.
2. Indira Gandhi restored the Congress system changing the nature of Congress system itself, to be dependent more on poor, women, dalits, adivasis and minorities.
3. It had a somewhat weak organisational structure and it did not have many factions also to accommodate all kinds of opinions and interests.

Long Answer Type Questions [6 Marks]

I. Analyse any three major factors which led the popularity of Indira Gandhi's Government in the early 1970s.

Answer:

(i) The fifth general elections to Lok Sabha were held in February 1971. The electoral contest appeared to be loaded against Congress (R). After all, the new Congress was just one faction of an already weak party. Everyone believed that the real organizational strength of the Congress Party was under the command of Congress (O). To make matters worse for Indira Gandhi, all the major non-Communist, non Congress opposition parties formed an electoral alliance known as the Grand Alliance. Yet the new Congress had something that its big opponents lacked — it had an issue, an agenda and a positive slogan. The Grand Alliance did not have a coherent political programme. Indira Gandhi said that the opposition alliance had only one common programme Indira Hatao (Remove Indira). In contrast to this, she put forward a positive programme captured in the famous slogan: Garibi Hatao (Remove poverty).

(ii) Indira Gandhi focussed on the growth of the public sector, imposition of ceiling on rural land holdings and urban poverty, removal of disparities in income and opportunity, and abolition of princely privileges. Thus, the slogan Garibi Hatao and the programmes that followed it were part of Indira Gandhi's political strategy of building an Independent nationwide political support base. As a result, she won 352 seats with about 44 per cent of the popular votes on its own in the Lok Sabha elections of 1971.

(iii) Soon after the 1971 Lok Sabha election, a major political and military crises broke out in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh). The 1971 elections were followed by the crisis in East Pakistan and the Indo-Pak war leading to the establishment of Bangladesh. These events added to the popularity of Indira Gandhi. Even the opposition leaders admired her statesmanship.

2. Examine the three main reasons responsible for the split in Congress during 1969.

Or

Describe the various aspects of presidential election of 1969.

Answer: The formal split in Congress took place in 1969 on the issue of nomination of the candidate during presidential elections:

1. Despite, Indira Gandhi's representatives, the syndicate nominated Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy, as the official Congress candidate for ensuring presidential elections.
2. Indira Gandhi retaliated the situation by encouraging Mr. V.V. Giri,

the then Vice President, to be nominated as an independent candidate.

3. During election, the then Congress president S. Nijalingappa issue a 'Whip' asking all Congress MPs, MLAs to vote for N. Sanjeeva Reddy.

4. On the other hand, after silently supporting V.V. Giri, the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi openly called for a conscience vote to vote the way they want.

5. Elections went in favour of V.V. Giri due to this diplomatic effort and N. Sanjeeva Reddy was defeated.

6. The defeat of N. Sanjeeva Reddy, the formal Congress candidate, formalised the split of party into two:

(a) Congress (O) i.e organisation led by Syndicate, known as Old Congress.

(b) Congress (R) i.e. requisitionists led by Indira Gandhi, known as New Congress.

3. Which six factors contributed to the popularity of Indira Gandhi's government in the decade of 1970s?

Answer: Because:

1. Socialist credentials became main projects during this period.

2. Indira Gandhi campaigned to implement land reform legislation and land ceiling legislations.

3. She ended her dependence on other political parties by strengthening her party's position and recommended the dissolution of Lok Sabha in December 1970.

4. The crisis in East Pakistan and Indo- Pak war to establish Bangladesh as an independent one, also enhanced the popularity of Indira Gandhi.

5. Indira Gandhi and her government was not accepted only as a protector of the poor and under privileged but as a strong government also.

6. Congress became popular among different social sections and restored dominance again.

4. Examine the grave economic crisis prior to fourth general election of 1967. Assess the electoral verdict also.

Answer: Indira Gandhi government devalued Indian rupee to check economic crisis of 1967. Consequently, one US dollar could be purchased for less than ₹ 5 after devaluation, it cost more than ₹ 7.

1. The economic situation triggered a price rise.

2. People started protest against increase in prices of essential commodities and unemployment etc.

3. The Communist and Socialist parties launched struggle to avail greater equality.

The fourth general election was held in 1967 for the first time without Nehru:

1. The election verdict was not in favour of Congress and results jolted the Congress both at the national and state levels.

2. Half the ministers in Indira Gandhi's cabinet were defeated including K. Kamraj in Tamilnadu, S.K. Patil in Maharashtra, Atulya Ghosh in West Bengal, K.B. Sahay in Bihar.

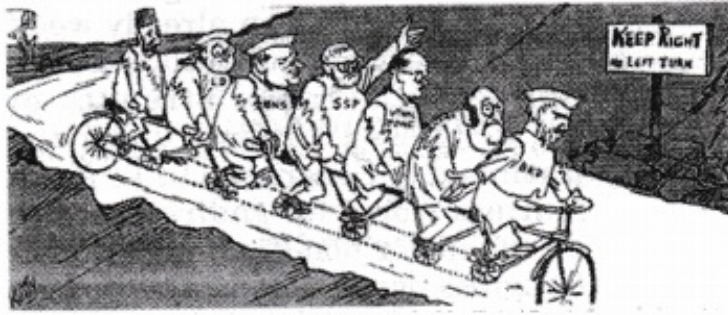
3. Congress did not lose only majority in seven states but two other states also prevented it to form government due to defections.

4. For the first time any non-Congress party secured majority in any state and in other eight states different non-Congress parties formed the coalitions.

5. These election results were called as a 'Political Earthquake'.

Picture/Map Based Questions [5 Marks]

1. Study the picture given below and answer the questions that follow:



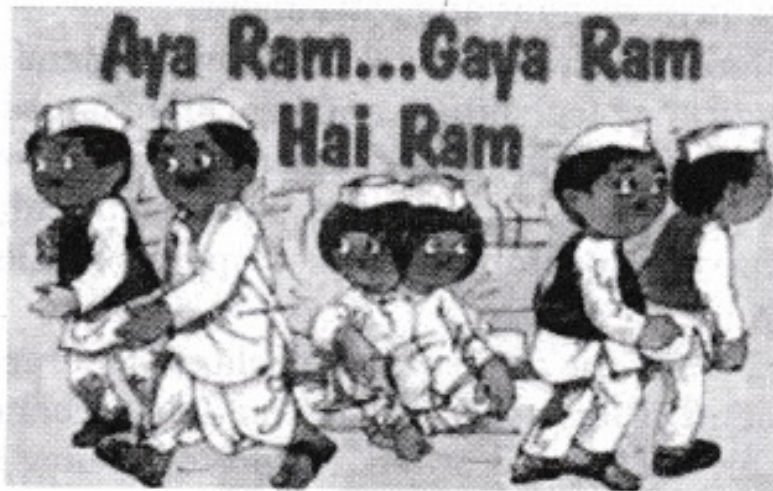
Questions

1. What is meant by 'Keep Right, No Left Turn'?
2. In the picture what does the following stand for:
 - (a) LD
 - (b) BKS
 - (c) SSP
 - (d) BKD
3. What is a hung assembly?

Answer:

1. United Front Party was formed on the basis of non-Communist ideology and supposed to follow the 'rightist' only.
2. (a) Lok Dal
(b) Bihar Kranti Sabha
(c) Samyukt Socialist Party
(d) Bharatiya Kranti Dal
3. It is dominated by coalition government where no single party gets majority and this is very uncertain also.

2. Study the picture given below and answer the questions that follow:



Questions

1. Which year is being referred by cartoon?
2. Who is being commented by the phrase 'Aya Ram Gaya Ram'?

Answer:

1. 1967
2. Haryana's MLA 'Gaya LaP who changed the party thrice in a fortnight from Congress to United Front, back to Congress and then within nine hours to United Front again.

3. Study the picture given below and answer the questions



Questions

1. What does the cartoon represent?
2. Identify the lady in the cartoon and give reason for her pleasure.
3. Identify the person wearing garland in winning position.
4. Who is lying on the ground?

Answer:

1. Presidential elections of 1969.
2. Indira Gandhi on winning of her candidate V.V. Giri in presidential elections.
3. V.V. Giri.
4. N. Sanjeeva Reddy.

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