

PSIR Answer Writing Module 2023

Test 12

Time Allowed: 1 Hour 30 Minutes

Max Marks: 120

Name: Astha Jain

Test Submission Date: 25/12/22

Email Address: _____

Instructions:

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. All questions are for **15 marks** each.
3. Word limit for each question is **200 words**.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of the booklet in the space provided.
5. Content of the answer is more important than its length.
6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
7. All parts of the question should be written at one place itself.
8. **Filling all the details in BLOCK LETTERS is mandatory.**

Q. No.	Marks	Q. No.	Marks
Q1		Q5	
Q2		Q6	
Q3		Q7	
Q4		Q8	
Total Marks:		Evaluator Code:	

For any issue related to PSIR Test Series, write only at testseries@shubhraranjan.com

SHUBHRA RANJAN

Always Ahead

25, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi 110005. ☎ 011 45612719

	Poor	Average	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Understanding of Questions					
Structure & Flow					
(a) Introduction					
(b) Conclusion					
(c) Overall					
Subject Knowledge					
Presentation					
(a) Underline					
(b) Paragraph					
(c) Overall					

Overall Remarks:

Dear Student,

Que.1

Is the rise of social movements a sign of opening up of popular space in political process or decline of representative politics? Examine.
(200 words, 15 Marks)

Social Movements are a form of collective mobilisation, spontaneous in nature, in which people go for non-institutional way of mobilising/political participation. People have common purpose come together for collective action to bring social change. For example — Iranian Revolution, 1979, Arab Spring, Chipko Andolan.

Social movements can be traced to the politics of left - street politics. Mainly in western nations, worker's movements were witnessed due to communist ideology. They were concerned about bread & butter issue. They are called as 'Old Social Movements.' The rise of such movements signals opening of popular space, to raise grievances and influence public policies.



Social movements offers a new avenue to articulate various interest. For example, protest against WTO, Me too movement, Black Rights matter. Democracy always works better if 'feedback' is integrated into 'input' of political system.

When political parties or trade unions fail to take up grievances or demands of certain groups, social movements become effective way of popular uprising, acting as a "3rd front". For example, the Farmers movement against farm bills in India.

At the same time, it's also signalling to the decline of representative politics. Since the 1990s, globalisation has eroded sovereignty of states, MNCs are dominating political process and public policies.

when welfare state gave way to Neo-liberal state, protest emerged. For example, Environment protests, protest in Greece.

Representative politics needs to be participatory otherwise, social movements become a way for people to raise their demands. In Lokpal agitation, failure of parliament to pass lokpal bill, led to protest. In this case, Judicial activism emerge as a response to social movements.

Social movements, thus, remains multi-faceted, multiple factors gave rise to these movements. The right way is to revive representative democracy, making it consociational and responsive.

Que.2

Examine the relevance of political economy approach to comparative politics. (200 words, 15 Marks)

Political economy approach study the ~~interaction between~~ economic policies of a state. It study the interference between economy and politics/state. Its origin can be traced to Kautilya in the east who book 'Arthashastra' can be regarded as 1st book in political economy.

In west, the classical school of pol. economy emerged with ADAM SMITH, the father of political economy in west. His book "Wealth of nation" described how laissez faire policy of state will increase wealth. In modern times, Karl Marx can be said as important political economist. He criticised Adam Smith's wealth of Nation and said that his

policy will only bring wealth of few.
He proposed communism as new political and economic system, alternative to capitalism.

Political Economy, emerged in modern times, to study developing and developed states, make comparative analysis and to describe nature of state according to their economic policy.

Eg - A state pursuing social welfare policies, is described as welfare state.

Not only descriptive, it is also prescriptive.
Neo-liberal scholars, like Hayek and
Mozick, prescribe states to pursue free
market economy. Similarly, welfare
economist like Amartya Sen, Jean Drèze
prescribe capacity building function of
state.



It's also analytical in nature. The neo marxist school which has dependency theory, analyzed nature of post colonial state and how they are still dependent on developed states.

The main strength of political economy lies in its quantitative nature, being scientific as well as normative, prescriptive and analytical. But, it focus solely on economic factor, which might be inadequate to study states.

Neo-institutional scholars like Theda Skocpol, calls for "Bringing the state back in" and not to make politics as a dependent variable on economy or society.

Despite this, political economy approach has produced rich research studies, helping to analyse states and politics.

Que.3

Discuss the impact of pandemic on the nature of states in advanced industrial societies. (200 words, 15 Marks)

"Political Science begins and ends with state" - Garner.

In the recent times, scholars are analysing impact of pandemic on states and its policies. States are evolving to new realities and keep on changing according to situations. The 3 major ~~issues~~ facing Advanced industrial society due to COVID are -

- a) health crisis.
- b) Economic Slowdown
- c) Depleting government funds.

Due to these challenges, states are turning more inwards - becoming more protectionist. Eg - America First policy of Trump.

Even before pandemic, globalisation is slowing retreating, States are becoming protectionist. Eg- BREXIT. This is signalling the rising power of states.

Similarly, to ease economic difficulties, government expenditure is rising. States are expanding. The threat is that rolling back of states will be difficult. States are moving from Neo-liberal to welfare.

Pandemic has also increased States' surveillance capacity. Harsh lockdowns, checkups etc. are giving space to State's interference. Entry of migrants, movement of goods etc. are getting scrutinised and controlled.

States are also turning hyper-nationalist, trying to get the lost space back and bouncing back.

For example, Vaccine Nationalism shows neo-rightist trend in States.

With each crisis, States increase its power which globalisation has taken. global financial crisis, decoupling of US-china economy, COVID and now Russia-ukraine crisis, are showing the rise of 'Bonapartist State' and 'welfare states' in advanced nations.

There is urgent need to check neo rightist and authoritarian trends and limiting state's encroachment in private spaces of citizens.



Que.4

Discuss the strength of political sociology approach. (200 words, 15 Marks)

Aristotle, is said to be the father of political sociology approach in comparative politics. His theory of Revolution explain how inequalities in a society can result into revolution. This approach study the interface between society and politics.

The major areas of study are -

- a) How inequalities in society based on caste, class, religion etc. impact State
- b) How social movements, pressure groups impact state
- c) Socio - political formation of state.
- d) Power relationships b/w social groups.

The emergence of modern pol. sociology can be traced to Karl Marx, who suggest to change basic structure of society, in order to change state.

Behavioral movement realised the important role of society in understanding state and politics, especially in developing countries, where text and context differ. So, the main strength of this approach is in its utility to analyse role of society in political system.

In western countries, elitist scholars like Robert Dahl, analysed nature of welfare states and socialist states. He suggested that whatever the nature of state be, "Oligarchy is the iron law". This analysis was important to understand true nature of state.

In India, political sociology approach has proved to be extremely useful. Scholars have analysed role of caste, religion etc. in politics.

Paul Brass has analysed role of religion, Christopher Jefferlot has analysed role of RSS and Rajni Kothari has studies caste. They provided detailed, indepth analysis of how political structure is shaped by sociological factors.

Immense popularity of this approach, alarmed scholars like Theda Skocpol who called for "Bringing the state back in." She warned against making politics as a sub-discipline of sociology. Also, states in developing society are

"Bonapartist" means executive is very strong. Leaders like Nehru, did attempted to change society.

Political sociology has emerged as an independent discipline, providing such analysis of interaction between society and state.

Que.5

Traditional form of globalization is in partial retreat and new agendas are morphing into the new forms of globalization. Analyse. (200 words, 15 Marks)

From 90's, the globalisation of world economy is happening at a fast and complex manner. This is the result of Neo liberalism promoted by West through IMF. This traditional form of globalisation was characterised by —

- Borderless World — free flow of goods and services, capital and people.
- Free trade and free market economy.
- Integrated supply chains.
- 'Global Village' — interconnected world.

But the 21st century is witnessing partial retreat of globalisation. Since 2008 global financial Crisis, protectionist policies of states are rising. WTO is declining and with it, global trade



is also in decline phase. Brexit represent deglobalisation trend in Europe and America's policy of US signals toward rising inward looking policies.

The Pandemic has further increased States' control and globalisation is severely hit. As C. Rajamohan said,

"COVID represent death of globalisation"

But this is ~~not~~ the death but reemergence of new form of globalisation with new agendas. As many scholars are pointing, "Regionalism is going to be new globalisation."

As new concerns and priorities are evolving, new regional organisations and new terms of interactions are coming.

Terrorism has not been tackled by global institution, so regional organisations are better suited. Eg - "SCO-RATS".

Similarly, taxes on global companies by OECD represent new interaction among nations.

RCEP is the foremost example of how countries are balancing protectionism and export promotion. Uniate change is forging new alliances among states.

Globalisation is a dynamic process changing according to situations. As the world is facing new threats and concerns, globalisation is mutating into new forms.

Que.6

Differentiate between the role of political parties and pressure groups with suitable examples. (200 words, 15 Marks)

Political parties, as defined by Edmund Burke, are a group of people, coming together, having a common ideology, to pursue national interest. Similarly, Pressure groups are also a form of collective mobilisation of people, coming together to further their particular interest, lobby for their demands and influence public policies.

Both political parties and pressure groups are form of collective mobilisation but they differ on many fronts.

Political parties are more institutionalised than pressure groups. Example - Congress has party office, elections are held for important posts, regular meetings are held, proper funding is ensured. But

pressure groups like Trade unions might not be this much institutionalised.

In political system, as per ^{Approach} ~~theory~~ of structural functional, political parties play the role of interest aggregation (input function). Various pressure groups perform input function of interest articulation of their particular interests. Political parties have to aggregate them for broader national interest and to gain wider support (Catch all Parties).

Political parties clearly differ from pressure groups on the front of elections. Pressure groups limit itself to preserving and influencing government policies for their interest. They don't run for political offices. While, parties contest elections, and occupy government positions. Thus, pressure groups are called as 'INVISIBLE'.



EMPIRES influencing politics from outside
Eg- BJP winning elections, RSS acting as invisible empire.

Political parties are classified by Duverger on basis of — 1) Social base — Mass parties v/s cadre based.

2) Organisation — cell, militia, caucus etc

3) Origin — Internal and External.

Pressure groups are classified by Almond —

1) Institutional — Eg- Bureaucratic groups

2) Associational — Eg- AITUC, FICCI

3) Non-Associational — Caste, religion based.

4) Anomic

They both have a complementary relation with each other, taking care of each other's interest, in the larger context of people's welfare. They both are vital for efficient functioning of democracy.

Que.7

Examine the changing trends in the nature of state in advanced industrial societies since the beginning of 21st century. (200 words, 15

Marks)

State has been a central area of research in political science. Its nature keeps on evolving according to prevailing circumstances. In Greece (Ancient times) city states were symbolising decentralised form of government. The Peloponnesian war resulted into shift of gravity of power from ~~Rome~~ Greece to Rome. The Roman Empire was a confederation with local centre of power (feudal).

The 'modern state' in west emerged in response to Capitalism and 16th-17th century is described as age of Nation states in Europe. Nation states are centralised authorities with fixed territory. With Capitalism state was working



on 'laissez faire' state - liberal State.
The pitfalls of this state resulted into
emergence of communist revolutions.

In its response, emerged Welfare State,
dominating till 70s. After that, again
Neo-liberal State emerged resulting
into globalisation (gas onwards).
globalisation diluted state's sovereignty
and non-State actors influenced States.

The 21st century began with 2001 attack
on US. In retaliation, US and west
launched 'global war on terrorism'.
After that global financial crisis, 2008
happened. Both these events gave
opportunity to states to increase its
power. Western States started protectionism
in economy.

The emergence of BRICS represented decline of advanced industrial states.

As a response to China threat, US started decoupling its economy and trump followed "America 1st policy".

This is signalling towards deglobalisation.

The emerging Non conventional threats like terrorism, climate change and Pandemic, has again increased states' surveillance power. Russia-Ukraine war has posed a major challenge in Europe. Rising inflation, economic slowdown, depleting states' funds, are all giving rise to welfare states but also authoritarian, rightist tinge in states.

Que.8

Globalisation has been too complex and too contradictory process. Discuss. (200 words, 15 Marks)

Globalisation refers to the increasing interdependence and interconnectedness of the world, resulting into the emergence of "Global Village." It has increased interdependence in such a complex way, that one event in a part of globe, impact others. For example, global financial crisis - from US to whole world.

In political sphere, it has given rise to "Borderless World" where states' boundaries have diluted and states' sovereignty has been eroded. The rise of Non state actors - MNCs, international organisations, are becoming more intense and impactful.

Response of different countries — developed and developing, different sections — women, religious groups, labour, has shown that globalisation is not only complex but contradictory process.

Scholars like Jagdish Bhagwati, neo-liberals like Nozick, are promoting globalisation as a way to tackle poverty in 'global south' and to increase prosperity. In India, the LPQ reforms, have increased its GDP and per capita income. Similar cases for China.

But at the same time, scholars are pointing towards its contradictions — "The dark side of globalisation."

Dependency School in Marxism are showing how 'drain of wealth' from post colonial states are continuing. Poverty is still rampant, jobless growth is happening.

Feminist like Simon de Beauvoir also showed how globalisation impact women more, increasing exploitation.

Environmentalists are concerned about exploitation of resources due to globalisation.

Globalisation was promoted by liberals in name of 'Complex Interdependence' but realist like Morishima points towards "Tragedy of Great power politics".

All these shows how Globalisation remain a contested, complex and contradictory process but there is no way out of it.

SHUBRA

25, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi 110005. 011 45612719

Space for Rough Work