

# **Bihar Board Class 10, 2026 Social Science Question Paper with Solutions**

<b>Time Allowed :3 Hours</b>	<b>Maximum Marks :100</b>	<b>Total questions :38</b>
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## **General Instructions**

**Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:**

1. Section A is compulsory for all candidates and generally includes objective-type questions, short answer questions, and long answer questions from the prescribed syllabus.
2. In Section A, candidates are required to answer all questions. The questions will cover topics from ancient, medieval, and modern history as prescribed by the syllabus.
3. Section B consists of elective questions. Candidates are required to attempt questions from the chosen topic according to the provided options.
4. The questions in Section A will be in the form of multiple-choice, short answer, and essay-type questions.
5. Answers to all questions must be written in neat and legible handwriting. Candidates must adhere strictly to the word limit mentioned in the questions.
6. Use of unfair means or electronic devices during the examination is strictly prohibited.
7. Candidates must ensure that they write their answers in the correct format, following the instructions given for each section.

**1. Which of the following is the source of non-institutional finance?**

- (A) Regional Rural Bank  
(B) Land Development Bank

- (C) Moneylender
- (D) Cooperative Bank

**Correct Answer:** (C) Moneylender

**Solution:**

Non-institutional finance refers to credit provided by informal sources that are not regulated by the government or central banking authorities. These sources often rely on personal relationships and typically charge much higher interest rates than formal institutions.

**Step 1: Analyze the options.**

- (A) Regional Rural Bank: These are formal financial institutions established under the RRB Act to provide credit specifically to rural and agricultural sectors under government oversight.
- (B) Land Development Bank: These are institutional sources that provide long-term credit to farmers for land improvement and permanent assets.
- (C) Moneylender: This is a non-institutional source. Moneylenders operate outside the formal banking system, offering quick loans without legal documentation, but usually at exploitative interest rates.
- (D) Cooperative Bank: These are organized financial institutions owned and operated by their members, forming part of the formal institutional credit structure.

**Step 2: Conclusion.**

The correct answer is Moneylender, as it is the only informal, non-regulated source among the given choices.

**Final Answer:**

(C) Moneylender

**Quick Tip**

Institutional sources (like Commercial Banks and Cooperatives) are regulated by the RBI, while Non-institutional sources (like Moneylenders and Relatives) are unregulated.

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**2. Which of the following is the source of non-institutional finance?**

- (A) Regional Rural Bank
- (B) Land Development Bank
- (C) Moneylender
- (D) Cooperative Bank

**Correct Answer:** (C) Moneylender

**Solution:**

Non-institutional finance refers to credit provided by informal sources that are not regulated by the government or central banking authorities. These sources generally lack standardized rules and often charge higher interest rates.

**Step 1: Analyze the options.**

- (A) Regional Rural Bank: These are formal financial institutions established under the RRB Act to provide credit to rural and agricultural sectors.
- (B) Land Development Bank: These are institutional sources that provide long-term credit to farmers for land improvement and development.
- (C) Moneylender: This is a non-institutional source. Moneylenders operate outside the formal banking system, usually providing loans based on personal contact rather than legal documentation.
- (D) Cooperative Bank: These are organized financial institutions owned by members, operating under formal cooperative credit structures.

**Step 2: Conclusion.**

The correct answer is Moneylender, as it is an informal, non-institutional source of credit.

**Final Answer:**

(C) Moneylender

**Quick Tip**

Institutional sources are regulated by the RBI, while non-institutional sources (like moneylenders and relatives) are unregulated and often charge higher interest.

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**3. Which of the following is the source of non-institutional finance?**

- (A) Regional Rural Bank
- (B) Land Development Bank
- (C) Moneylender
- (D) Cooperative Bank

**Correct Answer:** (C) Moneylender

**Solution:**

Non-institutional finance refers to credit provided by informal sources that are not regulated by the government or central banking authorities. These sources typically operate on personal trust and often charge higher interest rates.

**Step 1: Analyze the options.**

- (A) Regional Rural Bank: These are formal financial institutions regulated by the government to provide credit to rural areas.
- (B) Land Development Bank: These are institutional sources that provide long-term credit to farmers for land improvement.
- (C) Moneylender: This is a non-institutional source. Moneylenders operate independently of the formal banking system and legal framework.
- (D) Cooperative Bank: These are organized financial institutions run by members under a formal credit structure.

**Step 2: Conclusion.**

The correct answer is (C) Moneylender, as it is an informal source of finance.

**Final Answer:**

(C) Moneylender

**Quick Tip**

Non-institutional sources include moneylenders, traders, and relatives, whereas institutional sources include commercial and cooperative banks.

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**4. In which season are Rabi crops sown?**

- (A) Winter
- (B) Summer
- (C) Monsoon
- (D) None of these

**Correct Answer:** (A) Winter

**Solution:**

Agricultural crops in India are primarily classified into three seasons: Kharif, Rabi, and Zaid, based on the timing of their sowing and harvesting.

**Step 1: Analyze the options.**

- (A) Winter: Rabi crops are known as winter crops. They are typically sown in mid-October to November and harvested in the spring (March–April).
- (B) Summer: Zaid crops are grown during the short summer months between the Rabi and Kharif seasons.
- (C) Monsoon: Kharif crops are sown at the beginning of the first rains in July, during the south-west monsoon season.
- (D) None of these: This is incorrect as option (A) accurately identifies the season.

**Step 2: Conclusion.**

Since Rabi crops like wheat and peas require a cool climate for germination, they are sown in the Winter season.

**Final Answer:**

(A) Winter

**Quick Tip**

Common Rabi crops include wheat, barley, gram, and mustard, while Kharif crops include rice, maize, and cotton.

**5. What percentage of total water is in the ocean?**

- (A) 93.5
- (B) 96.5
- (C) 95.5
- (D) 97.5

**Correct Answer:** (B) 96.5

**Solution:**

The distribution of water on Earth is highly uneven, with the vast majority being saline water held in the global oceans.

**Step 1: Analyze the options.**

According to geological and hydrological data (such as that from the USGS), approximately 96.5% of Earth's water is located in the oceans. This water is saline and not directly suitable for human consumption without desalination.

**Step 2: Compare with freshwater.**

The remaining 3.5% of Earth's water is freshwater, most of which is locked in glaciers, ice caps, and deep groundwater. Only a tiny fraction is available in rivers and lakes.

**Step 3: Conclusion.**

The most accurate figure representing the oceanic share of total global water is 96.5%.

**Final Answer:**

(B) 96.5

**Quick Tip**

While 96.5% of water is in the ocean, only about 1% of all Earth's water is easily accessible freshwater for human use.

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**6. Who was the Chancellor of Austria?**

- (A) Bismarck

- (B) Metternich
- (C) Count Cavour
- (D) Hitler

**Correct Answer:** (B) Metternich

**Solution:**

The question refers to the historical figure who played a dominant role in European politics during the 19th century as the head of the Austrian government.

**Step 1: Analyze the options.**

(A) Bismarck: Otto von Bismarck was the Minister President of Prussia and later the first Chancellor of the German Empire. He was the chief architect of German unification.

(B) Metternich: Klemens von Metternich was the Chancellor of the Austrian Empire from 1821 to 1848. He was a central figure in the Congress of Vienna and the "Metternich System," which aimed to maintain conservative order in Europe.

(C) Count Cavour: Camillo Benso, Count of Cavour, was an Italian statesman and a leading figure in the movement toward Italian unification (Risorgimento). He was the first Prime Minister of Italy.

(D) Hitler: Adolf Hitler was born in Austria but became the Führer and Chancellor of Nazi Germany. While he annexed Austria (Anschluss), he is not historically categorized as the "Chancellor of Austria" in this context.

**Step 2: Conclusion.**

Metternich is the historical figure most famously associated with the title of Chancellor of Austria during the era of European monarchies.

**Final Answer:**

(B) Metternich

**Quick Tip**

Metternich is often described as the "Coachman of Europe" because of his immense influence over the continent's diplomatic affairs for nearly thirty years.

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**7. Public welfare is the objective of which economy?**

- (A) Capitalistic economy
- (B) Socialistic economy
- (C) Market economy
- (D) None of these

**Correct Answer:** (B) Socialistic economy

**Solution:**

Economic systems are categorized based on how they allocate resources and what their primary driving force is—whether it be private profit or collective well-being.

**Step 1: Analyze the options.**

- (A) Capitalistic economy: This system is driven by private ownership and the motive of individual profit. Resource allocation is determined by market forces (supply and demand).
- (B) Socialistic economy: In this system, the means of production are owned or regulated by the community or the state. The central goal is to ensure equitable distribution of resources and maximize public welfare rather than private profit.
- (C) Market economy: This is essentially another term for a capitalistic economy where decisions regarding investment, production, and distribution are guided by the price signals created by supply and demand.
- (D) None of these: This is incorrect as option (B) accurately describes the economy focused on welfare.

**Step 2: Conclusion.**

Because a socialistic economy prioritizes social justice and the needs of all citizens over individual gain, public welfare is its core objective.

**Final Answer:**

(B) Socialistic economy

### Quick Tip

While Capitalism focuses on "Profit Motive," Socialism focuses on "Social Welfare," and a Mixed Economy (like India's) attempts to balance both.

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## 8. Who tried to calculate national income before independence?

- (A) M. S. Swaminathan
- (B) K. C. Pant
- (C) Dadabhai Naoroji
- (D) Prof. Keynes

**Correct Answer:** (C) Dadabhai Naoroji

### Solution:

Before India gained independence, several individual attempts were made to estimate the country's national income to highlight the economic condition of the people under colonial rule.

### Step 1: Analyze the options.

- (A) M. S. Swaminathan: Known as the "Father of the Green Revolution in India," his work focused on agriculture and food security in the post-independence era.
- (B) K. C. Pant: A prominent Indian politician and former minister who served in various capacities much later in independent India.
- (C) Dadabhai Naoroji: Known as the "Grand Old Man of India," he was the first to attempt an estimation of national income in 1867–68. He famously authored "Poverty and Un-British Rule in India," where he put forward the "Drain of Wealth" theory.
- (D) Prof. Keynes: John Maynard Keynes was a British economist whose theories (Keynesian economics) changed the practice of macroeconomics globally, but he did not calculate India's national income before independence.

### Step 2: Conclusion.

Dadabhai Naoroji is the pioneering figure who first calculated India's national income to demonstrate the economic exploitation by the British.

**Final Answer:**

(C) Dadabhai Naoroji

**Quick Tip**

Dadabhai Naoroji estimated the per capita income of India to be 20 per year in his 1867–68 study.

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**9. Which is the apex body for disaster management in India?**

- (A) National Disaster Management Authority
- (B) National Disaster Response Force
- (C) Rural Disaster Management Committee
- (D) Office of District Magistrate

**Correct Answer:** (A) National Disaster Management Authority

**Solution:**

Disaster management in India is organized through a multi-tier institutional structure established by the Disaster Management Act of 2005 to ensure a proactive and coordinated response to natural and man-made calamities.

**Step 1: Analyze the options.**

- (A) National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA): This is the highest policy-making body for disaster management in India. It is headed by the Prime Minister and is responsible for laying down policies, plans, and guidelines for disaster management.
- (B) National Disaster Response Force (NDRF): While a crucial organization, the NDRF is a specialized force meant for disaster response and rescue operations. It works under the guidance of the NDMA but is not the "apex body" for policy and governance.
- (C) Rural Disaster Management Committee: These committees function at the local or village level to manage disasters within rural communities but do not have national jurisdiction.

(D) Office of District Magistrate: The DM (or District Collector) heads the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA). While they are the apex authority at the district level, they are not the apex body for the entire country.

**Step 2: Conclusion.**

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) serves as the top-most (apex) body governing disaster management across India.

**Final Answer:**

(A) National Disaster Management Authority

**Quick Tip**

The NDMA was formally constituted on 27th September 2006 under the Disaster Management Act, 2005, and is chaired by the Prime Minister of India.

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**10. Damodar River is the main cause of flood in which state?**

- (A) Bihar
- (B) Assam
- (C) West Bengal
- (D) Andhra Pradesh

**Correct Answer:** (C) West Bengal

**Solution:**

The Damodar River, which flows through Jharkhand and West Bengal, has a long history of devastating floods due to its high discharge during the monsoon season.

**Step 1: Analyze the options.**

- (A) Bihar: The Kosi River is known as the "Sorrow of Bihar" because of its frequent and destructive flooding.
- (B) Assam: The Brahmaputra River is the primary cause of massive flooding in the state of Assam.

(C) West Bengal: The Damodar River was traditionally known as the "Sorrow of Bengal" because it caused frequent floods in the plains of West Bengal. To control this, the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) was established in 1948.

(D) Andhra Pradesh: Flooding in Andhra Pradesh is typically associated with the Godavari and Krishna rivers.

**Step 2: Conclusion.**

Historically and geographically, the Damodar River is the main cause of flooding in the state of West Bengal.

**Final Answer:**

(C) West Bengal

**Quick Tip**

While the Damodar River was the "Sorrow of Bengal," the construction of dams by the DVC has significantly mitigated flood risks in the region today.

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**11. Which is the most destructive earthquake wave?**

- (A) P-wave
- (B) S-wave
- (C) L-wave
- (D) None of these

**Correct Answer:** (C) L-wave

**Solution:**

Earthquakes release energy in the form of seismic waves, which are broadly classified into body waves (which travel through the Earth's interior) and surface waves (which travel along the Earth's crust).

**Step 1: Analyze the options.**

(A) P-wave (Primary wave): These are the fastest seismic waves and the first to arrive at a seismic station. They are longitudinal waves but generally cause the least amount of structural damage.

(B) S-wave (Secondary wave): These arrive after P-waves. They are transverse waves and can only travel through solids. While more destructive than P-waves, they are not the most damaging.

(C) L-wave (Love wave/Long wave): These are surface waves. Surface waves have higher amplitudes and lower frequencies than body waves. Because they travel along the surface where buildings and infrastructure are located, and cause horizontal shifting of the ground, they are the most destructive.

(D) None of these: This is incorrect as option (C) identifies the correct wave type.

**Step 2: Conclusion.**

The L-wave (surface wave) is the most destructive because it focuses its energy on the Earth's surface, leading to the collapse of structures.

**Final Answer:**

(C) L-wave

**Quick Tip**

Surface waves (L-waves and Rayleigh waves) are responsible for almost all the damage associated with an earthquake, even though they are the slowest to arrive.

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**12. Which is the most destructive earthquake wave?**

- (A) P-wave
- (B) S-wave
- (C) L-wave
- (D) None of these

**Correct Answer:** (C) L-wave

**Solution:**

Earthquakes release energy in the form of seismic waves, which are broadly classified into body waves (which travel through the Earth's interior) and surface waves (which travel along the Earth's crust).

**Step 1: Analyze the options.**

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**Step 2: Conclusion.**

The L-wave (surface wave) is the most destructive because it focuses its energy on the Earth's surface, leading to the collapse of structures.

**Final Answer:**

(C) L-wave

**Quick Tip**

Surface waves (L-waves and Rayleigh waves) are responsible for almost all the damage associated with an earthquake, even though they are the slowest to arrive.

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**13. What is the reason for the disruption of normal communication system?**

(A) Breakage of cable

(B) Damage to transmission tower

(C) Disruption of power supply

(D) All of these

**Correct Answer:** (D) All of these

**Solution:**

Normal communication systems rely on a complex network of physical infrastructure, electrical power, and signal transmission. A failure in any of these critical components can lead to a total breakdown of the system.

**Step 1: Analyze the options.**

(A) Breakage of cable: Physical communication lines, such as fiber optic cables or telephone wires, are essential for carrying data. If these are cut or broken—often during natural disasters like earthquakes or floods—the flow of information stops.

(B) Damage to transmission tower: Towers are responsible for sending and receiving wireless signals (mobile, radio, etc.). Structural damage to these towers prevents the propagation of signals across the network.

(C) Disruption of power supply: Communication hardware (servers, routers, base stations) requires a constant supply of electricity. Without power, even physically intact infrastructure cannot function.

(D) All of these: Since all the factors mentioned above are vital for maintaining connectivity, any of them (or a combination) can cause a disruption.

**Step 2: Conclusion.**

Because communication is dependent on infrastructure, transmission, and power, the correct answer is "All of these."

**Final Answer:**

(D) All of these

**Quick Tip**

During major disasters, "All of these" factors often fail simultaneously, which is why satellite phones and HAM radio are used as emergency backups since they are less dependent on local infrastructure.

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**14. How many princely states were there in India before independence?**

- (A) 565
- (B) 562
- (C) 620
- (D) 728

**Correct Answer:** (A) 565

**Solution:**

Before the independence and partition of India in 1947, the Indian subcontinent consisted of British India (provinces directly ruled by the British) and a vast number of semi-autonomous states ruled by local monarchs.

**Step 1: Analyze the options.**

(A) 565: This is the widely accepted historical figure used by the Government of India and the Ministry of States. These states covered approximately 40% of the area of pre-independence India and were integrated into the Indian Union primarily through the efforts of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

(B) 562: Some historical sources cite 562 as the number of states that were officially recognized as part of the Chamber of Princes, but 565 is the standard educational and governmental figure.

(C) 620: This figure is significantly higher than the recorded number of recognized political entities under the British Raj.

(D) 728: This number is incorrect and does not align with historical data regarding the integration of India.

**Step 2: Conclusion.**

There were 565 princely states in India before independence, ranging from large states like Hyderabad to very small estates.

**Final Answer:**

(A) 565

### Quick Tip

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, known as the "Iron Man of India," played the most pivotal role in the political integration of these 565 princely states into the Indian Union.

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#### 15. How many princely states were there in India before independence?

- (A) 565
- (B) 562
- (C) 620
- (D) 728

**Correct Answer:** (A) 565

#### **Solution:**

Before independence, the Indian subcontinent was divided into British India and various princely states that were under local rulers but subject to British suzerainty.

#### **Step 1: Analyze the options.**

(A) 565: This is the officially recognized number of princely states in India at the time of independence. These states were integrated into the Indian Union through the diplomatic efforts of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

(B) 562: While some historical records mention 562 states, the figure of 565 is the standard used in Indian constitutional and historical contexts.

(C) and (D): These figures are historically inaccurate.

#### **Step 2: Conclusion.**

The correct number is 565, representing the vast array of kingdoms and estates that existed alongside British provinces.

#### **Final Answer:**

(A) 565

### Quick Tip

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel is known as the "Bismarck of India" for his role in uniting these 565 states into a single nation.

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**16. Which of the following soils is formed by the disintegration of basalt?**

- (A) Laterite soil
- (B) Regur
- (C) Alluvial soil
- (D) Mountain soil

**Correct Answer:** (B) Regur

**Solution:**

The formation of soil depends heavily on the parent rock material and the weathering process it undergoes. Basalt is a volcanic rock common in the Deccan Plateau.

**Step 1: Analyze the options.**

- (A) Laterite soil: Formed in areas with high temperature and heavy rainfall through the process of leaching.
- (B) Regur: Also known as Black Soil or Black Cotton Soil, it is formed by the weathering and disintegration of basaltic lava rocks. It is rich in clay and retains moisture well.
- (C) Alluvial soil: Formed by the deposition of silt and sediment by rivers.
- (D) Mountain soil: Formed in hilly regions with sufficient rain forest cover, varying in texture based on altitude.

**Step 2: Conclusion.**

Regur (Black Soil) is specifically the product of basalt rock disintegration, making it ideal for cotton cultivation.

**Final Answer:**

(B) Regur

**Quick Tip**

Regur soil is called "Black Cotton Soil" because it is the most suitable soil for growing cotton in India, particularly in Maharashtra and Gujarat.

**17. Who among the following was a moderate leader?**

- (A) Pherozeshah Mehta
- (B) Subhas Chandra Bose
- (C) Lala Lajpat Rai
- (D) Bal Gangadhar Tilak

**Correct Answer:** (A) Pherozeshah Mehta

**Solution:**

The Indian National Congress in its early years was divided into two main factions: the Moderates and the Extremists (Radicals), based on their methods of seeking political reforms from the British.

**Step 1: Analyze the options.**

(A) Pherozeshah Mehta: He was one of the founding members of the Indian National Congress and a key leader of the Moderate faction. Moderates believed in "constitutional agitation" and the use of petitions and prayers.

(B) Subhas Chandra Bose: He was a radical nationalist who believed in complete independence through revolutionary means and military force.

(C) Lala Lajpat Rai & (D) Bal Gangadhar Tilak: Along with Bipin Chandra Pal, they formed the famous "Lal-Bal-Pal" trio. They were the leaders of the Extremist wing, advocating for Swadeshi and Boycott movements.

**Step 2: Conclusion.**

Pherozeshah Mehta is the only leader among the choices who belonged to the Moderate group of the early Congress.

**Final Answer:**

(A) Pherozeshah Mehta

**Quick Tip**

Other prominent Moderate leaders included Dadabhai Naoroji, Gopal Krishna Gokhale, and Surendranath Banerjee.

