

Class 10th

Political Science

Chapter:- 1

Power Sharing

Q1: What are the different forms of Power Sharing in modern democracies? Give an example of each of these.

Ans: Different forms of Power Sharing in modern democracies are as follows:

- a. Power sharing in different organs of the government.

Example: Power sharing among Legislature, Executive and Judiciary.

- b. Power sharing among government at different levels:

Example: Power sharing between federal government and provincial or regional government. In India federal government is referred to as the central or Union Government while Provincial or regional government is known as the state government.

- c. Power sharing among different social groups such as the religious and linguistic groups etc.

Example: Community government in Belgium. Reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled tribes in government Jobs and Legislature in India.

- d. Power sharing among various pressure groups:

Example: representation of trade Union being consulted while making a new labour law.

Q2: State one prudential reason and moral reason for power sharing with an example from the Indian context.

Ans: A prudential reason for power sharing is that It helps to reduce the possibility of conflict between the various social groups. Since social conflict often leads to violence and political instability, power sharing is a good way to ensure political stability. Imposing the will of the majority community over other may look like an attractive option in the short run, but in the long run, it undermines the unity of the nation. In India, seats have been reserved in the Legislatures for the socially weaker sections keeping in mind the prudential reason for power sharing. A moral reason for power sharing is that it upholds that spirit of democracy. In a democratic set up, the citizens too have a say in governance. People have a right to be consulted on how they are to be governed. In India, the citizens can come together to debate and criticize the policies and decisions of the government. This in turn puts pressure on the government to re-design its policies and reconsider its decisions. This active political participation is in keeping with the moral reason for power sharing.

Q4: The Mayor of Mechtem, a town near Brussels in Belgium has defended a ban on speaking French in the town's schools. He said that the ban would help all non-Dutch speakers integrate in the Flemish town. Do you think that this measure is in keeping with the spirit of Belgium's power sharing arrangements? Give your reasons in about 50 words.

Ans: This measure has not been taken in keeping with the spirit of Belgium's power sharing arrangement. AS per the power sharing arrangement in Belgium, Dutch speakers and French speaker have stake in power. The Brussels government has equal representation from French speaking people and Dutch speaking people, which shows that both groups have to respect each other's rights. By banning French, there will be evil unrest in the country. Both the languages should be made acceptable in the town schools as the main purpose of the

power sharing arrangement is to maintain peace between the French and the Dutch speaking constituencies. This bi-lingual education system will be a better way to integrate the people of the town. Hence, the Mayor of Merchtem is wrong in banning the French language in the schools.

CHAPTER:- 2

FEDERALISM

Q4: What is the main difference between a federal form of government and a unitary one? Explain with an example.

Ans: A Federal form of a government is a government in which the powers are shared between a central government or units of the country. Example, In India, power is divided between the government at the Centre and the state governments.

In a unitary form of government, all the powers is exercised by only one government. Example, In Srilanka, the National government has all the powers.

Q5: State any two differences between the local government before and after the constitutional amendment in 1992

Ans: A major step towards decentralization was taken in 1992. The constitution was amended to make the third-tier of democracy major powerful and effective.

- i. Now it is constitutently mandatory to hold regular elections to local government bodies.
- ii. Seats are reserved in the elected bodies and the executive heads of these institutions for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes.
- iii. At least one-third of all positions are reserved for women. iv. An independent institution called the State Elections Commission was created in each State to conduct Panchayat and municipal elections.
- iv. The State governments are required to share some powers and revenue with local government bodies. The nature of sharing varies from State to State. But before 1992, there was no reservation for women in all States.

Q7:- Here are three reactions to the language policy followed in India. Give an argument and an example to support any of these positions.

Sangeeta: The policy of accommodation has strengthened national unity.

Arman: Language based states has divided us by making everyone conscious of his her language.

Harish: This policy has only helped to consolidate the dominance of English over all other languages.

Ans: Sangeeta's reaction is better than those of the other two. Unlike Sri-Lanka, where the language of the majority has been promoted, the Indian policy has given equal status to all the major languages spoken in the country. This has led to the avoidance of social conflict on linguistic basis. The policy of accommodation has made the administration of the states easier. The language policy of India is an attempt to instill a sense of respect of others culture and this has definitely helped in strengthening national unity.

Chapter:- 3**Democracy and Diversity****Q1: Discuss three factors that determine the outcomes of politics of social divisions.**

Ans: The factors that determine the outcomes of politics of social divisions are listed as under

i) The people's perception of the identities: The outcome depends on how people perceive their identities. If they see themselves as having unique and exclusive identities, it would be very difficult to integrate different groups into one compact group. In other words, as long as the Irish people see themselves as either catholic or Protestants and not as citizens of Ireland, their differences would be difficult to settle.

ii) Rising of demands by political leaders: The second observation about politics of social division concerns how political parties led by leaders create friction between different ethno religious groups. Just to further their own political ambitions. If the interests of the political leaders do not coincide with the interests of the groups for which they are fighting, then things may get even more complicated. Further, if leaders of different groups raise their demands groups raise their demands within the constitutional framework, then it would be easy to reconcile the interests of different social groups. Thus, in Sri-Lanka, the demand for "Only Sinhala" at the cost of the interests of Tamil is, quite understandably an indigestible demand. As long such demands persist, peaceful co-existence between the two communities can never come about.

iii) Reaction of the government to the demands of different groups: the third observation is related to how government reacts to the demands raised by different social groups. Take the example of Sri-Lanka in the light of the Belgian experience; if the government responds positively to the demands of different minority groups for autonomy in power sharing, then chances of violent conflicts would be minimized. But if government tries to suppress such demands, the end result would be quite the opposite, i.e. violent.

Q2: When does a social difference become a social division?

Ans: Social division takes place when some social difference overlaps with other differences. In other words, a social difference becomes a social division when it coincides with other social differences, which in turn serve to heighten the said difference. For example: In Northern Ireland, religion and social class (social status) overlap each other. Northern Ireland is predominantly a Christian country with two segments- Catholics and Protestants. The Catholic segment is relatively inferior in social status and faces social discrimination, while Protestants are relatively wealthier and enjoy higher social status. This is how social difference becomes a social division.

Q3: How do social divisions affect politics? Give two examples.

Ans: Negative effect: The politics of a country cannot remain untouched by social divisions. The combination of social divisions and politics can be really dangerous. A democracy involves competition among various political parties. Their competition tends to divide any society, if they start competing in terms of some existing social divisions, it can make social divisions into political divisions and lead to conflict, violence or even disintegration of a country.

Positive effect: The combination of social divisions and politics is not always negative. In a democracy, it is natural that political parties would talk about these divisions, make promises to different communities, look after due representation to redress the grievances of the disadvantaged communities. For example, the system of reservation of seats in the Indian Legislatures for socially disadvantaged has allowed such social groups to have an adequate representation in the decision making process.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

Q1: Write a short not on origin and nature of social difference.

Ans: The social differences are mostly based on accident of birth. Normally we do not choose to belong to our community are belong to it simply because we were born into it. Further, there are certain organic differences between different groups in the society. For example, physical traits like proportionate height and weight and complexion. There are due to genetic differences based on heredity and again are accidents of birth. However, not all social differences are based on birth criteria, rather these are based on individual or group preferences or choices. For example, some people are atheists, they do not believe in God and any religion. In the other hand, some people prefer to follow the ideals of a religion other than the religion in which they were born. Thus, all these circumstances lead to the formation of social groups that are based on individual choices and interests. However, the various aspects of social differences do not result in the formation of social divisions. Social differences have both disintegrating and uniting features as they often separate similar people from one another while uniting very different people committed to some cause or ideal. For example, Carlos and Smith were similar in one way as both were African-American and thus, different from Norman who was a white. But all the three were similar in the sense that they were all sportspersons who supported communal harmony and opposed racial discrimination. It is firmly common for people belonging to the same religion to feel that they do not belong to one identity and can belong to more than one social group. We have different identities in different contexts.

Q2: What is meant by the term democracy? What are its merits?

Ans: The word "Democracy" has originated from the two Greek words "Demos" and "Croatia" means a form of government in which the people exercise the power. The people have some kind of control over decision-making. It is a govt. by consent and not by force. Democracy is based on the ideas of freedom and equality. Every citizen above the age of 18 has the right to vote. Democracy is based on the principal of politically equality. According to Abraham Lincoln, Democracy is a government of the people, by the people and for the people.

MERITS OF DEMOCRACY

- a. It is based on equality. There is no discrimination among citizen on the basis of caste, colour, creed, religion, language, or sex.
- b. It aims at the welfare of all. The govt. works for the welfare of all people without any discrimination.
- c. It is based on public opinion. The representatives who are elected by the people run the administration.
- d. The govt. is responsible and accountable to the people.

- e. It protects right and liberties of the people.
- f. Government can be changed through elections
- g. It serves as a school for good citizenship.
- h. A lot of importance is accorded to individual's political, social, and intellectual matters.
- i. Democracy reduces separation between the electorate and the legislature.
- j. Democracy enhances the principles of liberty, equality, and fraternity.

Chapter:- 4 Gender, Religion and Caste

Q1: Mention different aspects of life in which women are discriminated or disadvantaged in India?

Ans: In India women are discriminated and disadvantaged in the following ways:

1. Women are not provided adequate education. The literacy rate among women is only 65.46% compared with 82.14% among men. They usually drop out from the education institutions because their parents prefer to spend their resources for their boy's education rather than spending equally on their sons and daughters
2. The proportion of women among the highly paid and valued jobs is still very small. On an average, an Indian woman works one hour more than average men every day. Yet more of her work is not paid and therefore often not valued.
3. The equal wages Act provides that equal wages should be paid to equal work. However almost all areas of work, from sports and cinema, to factories and fields, women are paid less than men, even when both do exactly the same work.
4. In many parts of India, parents prefer to have sons and find ways to have their girl child aborted before she is born. Such practices have led to a decline in child sex ratio in our country to merely 927 girls per thousand boys. There are reports of various kinds of harassment, exploitation and violence against women.

Q2: State different forms of communal politics with one example each.

Ans: Communalism can take various forms in politics. Some of these are listed as under:

- i. **Communalism in daily beliefs:** The most common expression of communalism is in everyday beliefs. These routinely involve religious prejudices, stereotypes of religious community and belief in the superiority of one's religion over other religions. This is so common that we fail to notice it, even when we believe in it. Religious groups present in many parts of India are good examples of this.
- ii. **Formation of political parties based on religious communities:** A communal mind of leaders leads to a quest for political dominance of one's own religious community. For example belonging to the majority community, this takes the form of majoritarian dominances of those belonging to the minority; it can take the form of a desire to form a separate political unit. Separatist leader and political parties in many parts of India are an example of this kind of communalism.

- iii. **Political mobilization on religious lines:** Political mobilization on religious line is a frequent form of communalism. This involves the use of scared symbols, religious lectures and emotional appeals in order to bring the followers of one religion together in the political arena. For example, this technique is applied by many politicians to influence voter to the larges religious communities in the country.
- iv. **Communal Riots:** Sometimes communalism takes its most ugly form of communal violence or riots and massacre. India and Pakistan suffered some of the worst communal riots at the time of the partition. The post-independence period has also seen large scale communal violence. The riots in Gujarat in 2002 are an example of this.

Q3: State how caste inequalities are still continuing in India?

Ans: Caste inequalities have not completely disappeared from contemporary India. Some of the aspects of caste have persisted. Even today most people marry within their own caste. Despite constitutional prohibition, untouchability has but ended completely. Effect of the caste is taking advantages and disadvantages of the caste continue to be felt today. The caste groups try to have access to education under the old system have done very well in acquiring the modern education while those groups that did not have access to education have naturally lagged behind. Consequently, the poor are mostly the low castes while the rich are the high castes, thereby showing that caste inequalities are still continuing in India.

Q4: State two reasons to say that caste alone cannot determine election results in India?

Ans: Caste alone cannot determine the election results in India because of the following reasons.

- No parliamentary constituency in the country has a clear majority of one single caste so every candidate and party needs to win the confidence of more than one caste and community to win the elections.
- ii) The ruling party and the sitting MP or MLA frequently lose elections in our country. It could not have happened if all castes and communities were frozen in their political preferences.

Q5: What is status of women's representation in India's Legislative bodies?

Ans: In India, the proportion of women in the Legislative bodies has been very low. In this respect, India is among the bottom group of nations in the world. Women's representation have always been less than 10% in the Lok Sabha and 5% in the State Legislative Assemblies. In the 2014 Lok Sabha elections, the percentage of women in the Indian parliament is around 11%. It still remains far below the global average of around 21%. On the other hand, the situation is different in the case of local governmental bodies. As one-third of seats in local governmental bodies are reserved for women. There are more than 10 lakh elected women representatives in rural and urban local bodies.

Q6: Mention any two constitutional provision that make India a secular state?

Ans: The two constitutional provisions that make India a secular state are as under:

- i) There is no official religion for the Indian state. Unlike the states of Buddhism in Sri-Lanka, that of Islam in Pakistan and that of Christianity in England, the Indian constitution does not give a special status to any religion.

- ii) The constitution provides to all individuals and communities, the freedom to profess, practice and propagate any religion or not to follow any.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

Q1: Define sex ratio. What is its significance?

Ans: Sex ratio is a sensitive indicator of status of women in the society. It gives indication of forbearance for girl child, their upbringing and nature of gender relation in the society. Particularly important is the child sex ratio, which counts number of female children against male children in the age group of 0-6 years. This is a critical figure for any society because of its long term consequences on the gender composition of population. It also shows the status of inherent bias prevalent against girl child in the society.

Q2: What do you mean by gender?

Ans: Gender division is a form hierarchical social division seen everywhere, but is rarely recognized in the study of politics. The gender division tends to be understood as natural and unchangable. However, it is not based on biology but on social expectations and stereotypes. In most families, women do all work inside the home such as cooking, cleaning, washing clothes etc. and men do all the work outside the home. It is not that men cannot do housework; they simply think that it is for women to attend o these things. When these jobs are paid for, men are ready to take up these works. Similarly, it is not that women do not work outside their home. In villages, women fetch water, collect fuel and work in the fields. In urban areas, poor women work as domestic helpers in middle class homes while middle class women work in offices. In fact the majority of women do some sort of paid work in addition to domestic labour. But their work is not valued and does not get recognition.

Q3: What are feminist movements and describe some of their major demands?

Ans: The Feminist Movements are the movements organized by various women organizations to create equality for women in personal and family life. These Feminist Movements demanded equal rights for women in all spheres of life. There were agitations in different countries for the extension of voting rights to women. These agitations demanded enhancing the political and legal status of women. These movements also demanded improvement in the educational and career opportunities for women.

Q4: How have feminist movements helped in improving women's conditions?

Ans: The Feminist Movements helped to raise the issue related to Gender division politically. Political mobilization on this issue helped to improve the women's role in public life. Now women are working as scientists, doctors, engineers, lawyers, managers and college and university teachers which were earlier not considered suitable for women. In some parts of the world, for example in few countries such as Sweden, Norway and Finland, the participation of women in public life if very high.

Q5: What is communalism?

Ans: Communalism is a situation when a particular community based on religions tries to promote its own interest at the cost of other communities and feels that its religion is superior to other religions and places it even above the nation.

Q6: What is caste system?

Ans: Hereditary occupational division is known as the caste system. It has its roots in the ancient Varna system which has the following castes:

- Brahmines
- Kshatriyas
- Vaishyas
- Shudras.

The people who did not belong to any caste were referred to as the untouchables. There was no social mobility in the caste system.

Chapter:- 5**Popular Struggles and Movements****Q1: In what ways do pressure groups and movements exert influence on politics?**

Ans: Pressure groups and movements exert their influence over the politics in the following ways:

i) Pressure groups and politics: Pressure groups are usually formed of varied ways and varied groups of people as per their occupation, interests, organizations or opinion. These groups raise their demands before the ruling government through obtaining articles published in newspapers, peaceful processions, demonstrations, debates, seminars etc.

ii) Movements and politics: Movements are the largest form of manifestation of public fury. Like SPA (seven Party alliance) in Nepal, many interest groups/ pressure groups establish inter connections by debates, rally and reconciliation of demands, setting up strategy with common consensus and hence, this accumulated ocean of people is capable to bring about tsunami on roads, emergency administration, normal conditions and the cause of life, in and around the region. Outcomes of it are observed in breakdown, deadlock, killing and gruesome tumult. Both these exert pressure upon government to run in the interests of all citizens that manifests in internal peace, commotion free roads and people start to live in mentality calm and composed. The ways pressure groups and movements exert influence on politics are as under:

1. Usually the pressure groups promote only the interests of their section and ignore the entire society in general.
2. The pressure groups are not accountable to the people in general. They are not answerable to the general public for their actions and decisions. They can also influence public opinion through spending a lot of money on advertising their idea.
3. They mostly organize protest activities.
4. They employ professional lobbyists or sponsor expensive advertisements.

Q2: Describe the forms of relationship between pressure groups and political parties?

Ans: Direct Ways:

- i. Pressure groups are formed by political parties: usually pressure groups are formed by the leader of the political parties. They also act as extended arms of political parties e.g. trade union, student union, labour union association of

industrialists are either established by or recognized by the major political parties.

- ii. Political parties evolve from pressure groups: In another way political parties also come out from pressure groups like DMK and AIADMK evolved from the movement groups of Tamil Nadu of 1930s and 1940s are the examples of direct relationships.

Indirect ways: Pressure groups and political parties are opposite to each other. But in most cases the relationships between tow is not very direct because the main aim of pressure groups is to pressurize the ruling party.

Q3: Explain how the activities of pressure groups are useful in the functioning of a democratic government?

Ans: The activities of pressure groups and movements exert influence on politics as well as democracy in a variety of ways:

- Gain pubic support and sympathy: Usually pressure groups follow out information campaigns, organize meetings, and file petitions etc. in order to gain pubic support and sympathy to achieve their goals.
- ii) Role of invisible government and unofficial government: Pressure groups are part of a under political process. They protect the collective interests of its members and try to influence those in power like the ministers, bureaucrats, politicians, etc. to change direction of policy and not to capture power
- iii) Articulate, forms and linkage of communication: Pressure groups articulate the claims of their members. They are a form of linkage and means of communication between the masses and the elite. Pressure groups provide a scope for expanding participation and are barometers of the political climate.
- Organize protest activity: Most of the time pressure groups involve protest activity like strikes, hartal bandh to disrupt governmental programme.

Q4: What is a pressure group? Give a few examples.

Ans: Pressure group is an organized aggregate group, which seeks it influence the government's decision making without attempting to place their members in formal governmental capacity. A pressure group uses extra-constitutional measures to influence the government. **Examples:**

1. Farmers, organizations: Bharitya Kissan Union etc.
2. **Trade Unions:** All India Trade union Congress, Indian National Trade Union Congress and Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh etc.
3. **Business groups:** FICCI, ASSOHAM, CII etc.

Q5: What is the difference between a pressure group and a political party?

Pressure Groups	Political Parties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pressure groups have specific interest and work for the collective interests of its membership only. • Membership of pressure groups is limited and that too of a particular kind, that is a student's pressure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While political parties have a broad based programme that covers many aspects of national like influence and coerce the government. • On the other hand, membership of the parties is very broad.

<p>group will consist only of students and not of traders etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pressure groups resort to agitation politics like marches, demonstrations, strikes etc. • Pressure groups are informal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whereas political parties use only constitutional means to achieve their aims. • Political parties are formal.
---	---

Additional Questions

Q1: List out the main characteristics of popular struggle of Nepal and Bolivia which took place for democracy.

Ans: The two popular movements of Nepal and Bolivia involved mass mobilization and public demonstration of mass support clinched the dispute. Both these struggles showed how the democracy evolved all over the world. For example:

1. Democracy evolved through popular struggles: Democracy evolves through popular struggles. It is possible that some significant decision may take place through consensus and may not involve any conflict at all.
2. Democratic conflict and mobilization: Democratic conflict is resolved through mass mobilization. Sometimes it is possible that the conflict is resolved by using the existing institutions like the Parliament or the Judiciary. But when there is a deep dispute very often these institutions themselves get involved in the dispute.
3. Democracy and political organization: These conflicts and mobilization are based on new political organizations but the spontaneous public participation becomes effective with the help of organized politics like political parties, pressure groups and movements.

Q2: Write a note on movement groups?

Ans: Movement groups are the groups involved with movement and have varied nature. Movement groups actions are very spontaneous and without any formal planning. Movement groups are of two types:

- i. **Issue specific.**
- ii. **Generic movements.**

Issue specific movement aims at single objective with limited period of time. Hence they are also called "single issued movement".

Other movement group aims at broad goal with longer period of time hence, called Generic movement or long term movement.

CHAPTER:- 6

Political Parties

Q1: State the various functions political parties perform in a democracy?

Ans: Basically political parties fill political offices and exercise political powers. Parties do so by performing a series of functions:

1. **Contest election:** In most democracies, elections are fought mainly among the candidates fielded by political parties select their candidates in different ways.

2. Put forward political programmes: Parties put forward different policies and programmes and the voters choose from them.

3. Provide base to the ruling party: A party reduces a vast multitude of opinions into a few basic positions which it supports. A government is expected to base its policies on the line take by the ruling party.

4. Making laws: Political parties play a decisive role in making laws for a country.

5. Running government: To run the government political parties (ruling party) prepares the council of ministers by training and recruiting the leaders.

6. Government machinery and welfare schemes: Political parties provide people access to government machinery and welfare scheme implemented by government.

7. Role of opposition: The party which loses election plays the role of opposition. Opposition party tries to put check on the ruling party by criticizing government for its unjust policies.

8. Shape public opinion: One of the most important functions of the political parties is to shape public opinion on relevant issues for proper functioning of the government and to deepen the concept of democracy.

Q2: What are the various challenges faced by political parties?

Ans: As political parties are the essence of democracy so, it is very natural that they are often blamed for the failure of any policy or the working of democracy. Mostly political parties face four challenges in their working area such as:

a) **Lack of internal democracy:** Political parties face the problem of internal democracy which implies:

- Parties do not hold organizational meeting.
- No regular election to elect their party leaders.

- Membership of the party members is not fairly registered.

b) **Dynastic succession:** Another challenge is that in most of the political parties the top posts are always assigned to the members of one family which is very unjust for democratic principles.

• This also reveals that other members do not have capability or popular support to hold that position.

• The challenge of dynastic succession is present in most of the dominant democratic countries of the world which is very unfair to other experienced party members.

c) **Money and muscle power:** Nowadays elections are focused mainly on winning at any cost so parties try to use shortcuts like using money and muscle power.

• They try to select or rather nominate those candidates who can raise money or provide muscle power.

• Sometimes wealthy people and big companies also get involved in the democratic politics for their own interests and like to influence decision making process.

d) **Absence of meaningful choice:** In the present politics scenario, there is no ideological difference among the political parties so they do not provide meaningful choice to voters.

- Those voters who really want a change in the government and its policies never get any positive option.
- For instance, in Britain having Bi-party system there is a little difference between the “Labour Party and Conservative Party”. Even in India having multiparty system the differences between the parties over the economic matter have got decline and people do not have any meaningful choice.

Q3: Suggest some reforms to strength parties so that they perform their functions well?

Ans: As political parties are facing various challenges so there is need to bring some changes or reforms in the system. Some reforms are as under:

1. **Anti-Defection law:** The constitution was amended and a new anti-defection law has been passed to prevent elected MLA’s and MP’s from changing parties. This was done because many elected representatives were indulging in defection not become ministers or for cash rewards.
2. **Affidavit:** In order to reduce the influence of money and criminal power the Supreme Court has passed an order in the form of “Affidavit”. Now it is mandatory for a candidate to file an Affidavit detailing of his property and criminal cases pending against him.
3. **Organizational meeting for political parties:** The election commission passed an order making it necessary for political parties to hold their organizational elections and file their income tax returns. The parties have started doing so but sometimes it becomes a mere formality. Besides these many suggestions are often made to reform political parties.
4. **Regulation of party’s internal affairs:** A law should be made to regulate the internal affairs of political parties. It should be mandatory for political parties to give a minimum number of tickets, about one third, to women candidates.
5. **State funding:** There should be state funding elections. The government should give parties money to support their election expenses to avoid corruption.

Q4: What is a political party?

Ans: A political party is a political association or a voluntary group of people who come together to contest elections and hold power in the government. They agree on some policies and programmes.

Q5: What are the merits and demerits of Political Parties?

Ans: Merits and demerits of political parties are as under:

Merits:

1. **Promote Unity in Diversity:** Political parties aggregate and unite like-minded people belonging to diverse backgrounds to form a wide coalition of people giving unity in diversity.

2. Impart Political Education: Political parties educate the people politically by popularizing the manifesto through campaigning and also by quizzing the government inside the Parliament.

3. Check the Government: Opposition political parties check the government from becoming corrupt and dictatorial through different means.

4. Mediate between Pressure Groups: Political parties mediate between different pressure groups which represent various interests. They strike a compromise between demands of the different groups so as to satisfy the maximum number of them.

5. Promote National Politics: Political parties alone make it possible for the enormous electorate function effectively.

Demerits:

1. Over-centralization: Political party leader and bosses become so powerful and dominant that they start acting like dictators in the party, shifting the democratic participation of its members. This leads to the over-centralization and personalities.

2. Corruption and Malpractices: Since political parties are obsessed with coming to power, it increases corruption as the parties will use all possible means to capture votes.

3. Encourages Casteism and Communalism: Many political parties encourage casteism and communalism etc. They keep the factors of castes, religion, alive as they act like their vote bank.

4. Create Factionalism: Sometimes political parties divide people on artificial lines and even the nation into hostile and antagonistic camps. Thus they create factionalism.

5. Absence of Individual Independence: The party discipline leaves no room for individual independence.

Additional Questions

Q1: List out important national parties with their aim?

Ans: According to the classification of Election Commission in 2006. There were six political recognized parties in the country like:

1. Indian National Congress: Its main aim is secularism and welfare of weaker sections and minorities.

2. Bharatiya Janata Party: Its main aim is cultural nationalism and uniform civil code.

3. Bahujan Samaj Party: Its main aim sees to represent and secure power for the Bahujan Samaj which includes the dalits and adivasis, OBC's and religious minorities.

4. Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M): Its main aim is to support socialism, secularism and democracy. It opposes imperialism and communalism.

5. Communist Party of India (CPI): Its main aim is to oppose to forces of secessionism and communalism. It accepts Parliamentary Democracy.

6. Nationalist Congress Party (NCP): Its main aim is democracy, Gandhian secularism, equality, social justice and federalism.

Q5: Enumerate the difference between a national party and a regional party?

Ans:-National Parties:-

National parties have influence all over the country.

National parties deal with national problems.

The activities of national parties give priority to the national problems over the regional problem.

Regional Parties:-

The influence of regional parties is limited to particular regions or state. Regional parties are concerned with the problems and demands of a particular region only. The activities, of regional parties are restricted to the region of the state in which they function.

Chapter:- 7

Outcomes of democracy

Q1: How does a democracy produce an accountable, responsive and legitimate government?

Ans: A democracy can produce an accountable, responsive and legitimate government through the following ways:

- i) Ruling party is responsible for its decisions or actions and describes them with so asked by people under democracy. It is its accountability.
- ii) Democracy is responsible to the people of the country. It cares about the opinions, requirements and expectations of the citizens.
- iii) Democracy is a legitimate government as after every four or five years people are given the right to elect their government. Hence, the majority party or groups of political parties form government.

Q2: What are the conditions under which democracies accommodate social diversities?

Ans: The conditions under which the democracies accommodate social diversities are as under:

- i) Power sharing at grassroots levels.
- ii) Allowing equal participation in political processes.
- iii) Majority is not acquired in terms of perception i.e., recognition, ethnicity, language, etc. whereas in concept all reasonable and duly thought over.
- iv) Rule by majority should not become rule by majority community in terms of religion or race or linguistic group. Every citizen should have a chance of being a part of majority in one case or another.

Q3: Give arguments to support of oppose the following assertions:

- a) Industrialized countries can afford democracy but the poor need dictatorship to become rich.
- b) Democracy can't reduce inequality of income between different citizens.
- c) Government in poor countries should spend less on poverty reduction, food, clothing, health, education and spend more on industries and infrastructure.

d) In democracy all citizens have one vote, which means that there is absence of any domination and conflict.

Ans

- a) **Opposition:** Although it is true that rates of economic growth in poor countries under dictatorship are a little bit greater than poor countries but poor countries under democracy so far are living with dignity and respect to live poor under democracy than dictatorship.
- b) **Support:** The statement is wrong that state democracy cannot lessen inequality of incomes between different citizens. Democracy gives political equality i.e., right to vote and other rights but rich people enjoy a highly disproportionate share of wealth as well as incomes. They dominate the politics of the country. Rich people are becoming richer and the poor get it difficult to fulfil their basic requirements.
- c) **Opposition:** These are all basic needs to see each citizen has access to them. Thus, priority to expenses on eradication of poverty, food, clothing, health and education is to be provided over industries and infrastructure. The latter are for citizens and citizens are not for them. Healthy and educated people naturally will seek out such means of survival when they are brought up to their prime.
- d) **Support:** I agree to this statement while it is difficult to arrive at that level of conscience in each individual. The British has infected virus of domination and subordination within the veins of people in third world countries including India. Everyone here escapes from fundamental duties but each one is tempted to have fundamental rights. People here are habitual to live on that earned by other and call it skilled administration. That's why cycle of people here are bound to live rebirth as proper to taste the fruit of domination they practiced on those presently, called elites.

Q4: Identify the challenges to democracy in the following descriptions. Also suggest policy/institutional mechanism to deepen democracy in the given situations:

- a) *Following a High Court directive a temple in Orissa that had separate entry door for Dalit's and non-Dalit's allowed entry for all from the same door.*
- b) *A large number of farmers are committing suicide in different states of India.*
- c) *Following allegation of killing of three civilians in Gandwara in a fake encounter by Jammu and Kashmir Police, an enquiry has been ordered.*

Ans:

- a) **Democracy increases the dignity of an individual.**
Suggestion: It is elimination according to social hierarchy. Antiuntouchability laws should be followed strictly even prior to intervention of judiciary or law courts.
- b) **There is a challenge of the Poverty.**
Suggestion: Farmers associations, sectional pressure groups and local MLA's and MP's should put pressure on the government to run agricultural insurance and credit policy in an efficient way.
- c) **This is a challenge to expansion of democracy.**
 Government should amend the laws conferring right to encounter operations with law enforcing agency.