

# TEACHER'S HANDBOOK

 **STELLAR LEARNING**

# Political Science

9

**On  
Board!**

**BOOKS**

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# Contents

1. What is Democracy? Why Democracy?	5
2. Constitutional Design	12
3. Electoral Politics	19
4. Working of Institutions	27
5. Democratic Rights	35



# What is Democracy? Why Democracy?

## Milestone

### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. In which period did China face one of the worst famines?

- (a) 1931–1935                      (b) 1958–1961  
(c) 2000–2003                      (d) 2007–2010

**Ans.** (b) 1958–1961

2. From 1930 to 2000, which party always won elections in Mexico?

- (a) Revolutionary Party  
(b) Mexican Revolutionary Party  
(c) Institutional Revolutionary Party  
(d) Institutional Party

**Ans.** (c) Institutional Revolutionary Party

3. What is the meaning of 'one person, one vote' in democracy?

- (a) One person is to be voted by all.  
(b) One person has one vote and each vote has one value.  
(c) A person can vote only once in his life.  
(d) Both (a) and (c).

**Ans.** (b) One person has one vote and each vote has one value.

### Very Short Answer Type Questions

4. Which country does not give right to vote to minorities?

**Ans.** Russia does not give right to vote to minorities.

5. Which political party has ruled Zimbabwe since independence?

**Ans.** Zimbabwe attained independence in 1980 from White minority rulers and since then it has been ruled by ZANU-PF, the party that led the freedom struggle.

6. Write any two features of democracy.

**Ans.** Two important features of democracy are: major decisions are taken by the elected leaders, and free and fair electoral competition.

7. Who issued the 'Legal Framework Order' in Pakistan?

**Ans.** General Pervez Musharraf issued the 'Legal Framework Order' in Pakistan.

### Short Answer Type Questions

8. Write a short note on the most common form of democracy and why is it necessary?

**Ans.** The most common form of democracy is that of a representative democracy. In a democracy all people do not rule. A majority takes decisions on behalf of all the people. However, the majority does not rule directly but the majority of people rule through their elected representatives. It is necessary because:

- (a) In modern democracies it is not possible for large number of people to physically sit together and take collective decision.  
(b) Even if it is possible to sit together, the common people do not have the time and desire to take part in all the decisions.

9. Differentiate between democratic and non-democratic elections.

**Ans.** In China, elections are held on a regular basis after every five years for electing the parliament. In order to contest an election, it is mandatory

for a candidate to get the approval of the Chinese Communist Party. The government is always formed by the Communist Party of China because they have a single party system and there is no choice for voters. So it is clear from the above discussion, the election process in China is non-democratic. However, the electoral process in India is democratic in real terms. In India, we have a multi-party system in which people have choice and they are free to elect their representatives freely.

**10.** Why are China and Mexico not regarded as democracies, despite conducting elections?

**Ans.** In China, elections are held on a regular basis after every five years for electing the parliament which is called 'Quanguo Renmin Daibiao Dahui' (National People's Congress). The National People's Congress appoints the President. The Parliament has nearly 3,000 members who are elected from all over the country. Some members are elected by the army. In order to contest an election, it is mandatory for a candidate to get the approval of the Chinese Communist Party. Only those who are members of the Chinese Communist Party were allowed to contest the elections held in the year 2002-03. The government is always formed by the Communist Party of China. Let us take another example, since its independence in 1930; Mexico conducts the elections to elect its President after every six years. In Mexico, there has never been a military or dictator's rule. But until the year 2000, every election were won by a party called PRI (Institutional Revolutionary Party). Though opposition parties contested elections, but never managed to win.

### Long Answer Type Questions

**11.** 'Democracy is the only peaceful solution to the problems of a socially diverse country like India'. Explain.

**Ans.** Democratic system also provides a method to deal with differences and conflicts. In any society there is possibility of having difference in opinions and interests. These differences are mostly sharp in a country like India which has a diverse society. There is also a possibility of clash among different groups in the society. There are various methods to resolve the conflicts like through brutal power in which the more powerful group dictates its terms and others are bound to accept. But that would lead to antipathy and discontent. Whereas the democratic system provides the peaceful solutions to this problem. In democratic set up, no one is a permanent winner and no one is a permanent loser. Different groups can live with together peacefully.

**12.** Explain the relationship between free and fair elections and democratic form of government.

**Ans.** From the examples of China and Mexico, it is clear that conducting elections of any kind is not sufficient. The election process must offer a choice among other political alternatives and it should be feasible for people to use their choice to remove the existing rulers according to their wish. So, it is true to say that a democracy must be based on a free and fair election where those currently in power have a fair chance of losing the elections.

## Self-Assessment

### Multiple-Choice Questions

**1.** Which among the following is the reason that China did not manage the famine effectively during 1958–1961?

- (a) Due to undemocratic government
- (b) The government was indifferent
- (c) Due to communist government
- (d) None of these

**Ans.** (a) Due to undemocratic government

**2.** In which of the following countries women do not enjoy the right to vote?

- (a) Mexico
- (b) Pakistan
- (c) Saudi Arabia
- (d) China

**Ans.** (c) Saudi Arabia

**3.** Which one of the following is the most common form of democracy in today's world?

- (a) Representative democracy
- (b) Social democracy
- (c) Direct democracy
- (d) Presidential democracy

**Ans.** (a) Representative democracy

### Assertion-Reason Type Questions

**For question numbers 4 to 7, two statements are given as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option from (a), (b), (c) and (d) as given below.**

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (c) A is true but R is false.
- (d) A is false but R is true.

**4. Assertion (A):** In Pakistan, General Pervez Musharraf led a military coup in October 1997.

**Reason (R):** He overthrew a democratically elected government and declared himself the 'Chief Executive' of the country.

**Ans.** (d) Assertion (A) is wrong because General Pervez

Musharraf led a military coup in October 1999 and overthrew the democratically elected government.

**5. Assertion (A):** The National People's Congress has the power to appoint the President of China.

**Reason (R):** It has nearly 2500 members elected from all over China.

**Ans.** (c) Reason (R) is wrong because the National People's Congress has nearly 3000 members elected from all over China.

**6. Assertion (A):** China's famine of 1958-1961 was the worst recorded famine in world history.

**Reason (R):** Nearly three crore people died in this famine.

**Ans.** (a) Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A), as we know that China's famine of 1958-1961 was the worst recorded famine in the history of world, in which nearly three crore people lost their lives.

**7. Assertion (A):** Leaders keep changing in a democracy. This leads to instability.

**Reason (R):** Many people have to be consulted in a democracy that eventually leads to delays.

**Ans.** (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A. It is true to say that as leaders keep changing in a democracy, so it leads to instability. In a democratic form of government many people are to be consulted prior to taking any decision so it leads to delays.

### Match the Following

8. Match the following items given in Column A with those in Column B. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

Column A (Countries)	Column B (Leaders/Political Parties)
A Pakistan	1 Pervez Musharraf
B Syria	2 Ba'ath Party
C China	3 Communist Party
D Zimbabwe	4 Robert Mugabe

Codes:

	A	B	C	D
(a)	1	2	3	4
(b)	2	1	4	3
(c)	4	1	3	2
(d)	1	3	2	4

**Ans.** (a)

### Find the Incorrect option

9. (a) President Mugabe was popular because he never used unfair practices in elections.  
 (b) Until 2015, in Saudi Arabia women did not have the right to vote.

(c) Democracy is based on a fundamental principle of political equality.

(d) Democracy leads to corruption for it is based on electoral competition.

**Ans.** (a)

### Correct the Following Statement and Rewrite

10. A democratic government is a better government because it is not accountable to anyone.

**Ans.** A democratic government is a better government because it is a more accountable form of government.

### Fill in the Blanks

11. In August 2002 General Pervez Musharraf issued a 'Legal Framework Order' that amended the Constitution of Pakistan.

12. Since 1980, Zimbabwe has been ruled by ZANU-PF.

13. Democracy provides a method to deal with differences and conflicts.

### Very Short Answer Type Questions

14. How did General Pervez Musharraf come to power in Pakistan?

**Ans.** General Pervez Musharraf led a military coup in October 1999 in Pakistan to overthrow a democratically elected government.

15. Write one common feature of democracies across the world.

**Ans.** There is one common feature among all democracies that the government is chosen by the people.

16. How many people lost their lives because of famine in China?

**Ans.** China was hit by the worst recorded famine in world history during 1958 to 1961 in which nearly three crore people lost their lives.

17. Name the leader who ruled Zimbabwe from 1980 to 2017.

**Ans.** Robert Mugabe ruled Zimbabwe from 1980 to 2017.

### Short Answer Type Questions

18. 'Popular approval of the rulers is necessary in a democracy, but it is not sufficient'. Explain.

**Ans.** The example of Zimbabwe shows that popular approval of the rulers is necessary in a democracy, but it is not sufficient and the popular governments can be undemocratic, popular leaders can be oppressive. In order to assess a democracy, it is significant to look at the election process. But in the same way it is essential to look before and after the elections. There should be sufficient room for political opposition. This requires that the state should ensure some basic rights of the citizen and they should be free to

think, to have opinions, to form associations, to protest and take other political actions. The above mentioned rights must be protected by an independent judiciary.

19. What options do we have in a democracy if any mistake is committed?

**Ans.** Democracy is better than other types of government because it allows us to correct its own wrong decisions. Though there is no guarantee that mistakes cannot be made in democracy but the other forms of government also cannot guarantee that. The advantage in a democracy is that wrong decisions cannot be hidden. There is always a space for public discussion and there is a scope for correction. Either the rulers have to rectify their mistakes, or the rulers can be changed. This is not possible in a non-democratic government. Democracy is not the solution to all problems but it is clearly better than any other form of government.

20. Discuss the arguments in favour of democracy.

**Ans.** Democratic form of government is based on consultation and discussion which involves many persons, discussions and meetings. When a number of people give their ideas there is possibility to point out probable mistakes in any decision. However, this process is time taking but it reduces the chances of negligent decisions. Democratic system also provides a method to deal with differences and conflicts. Different groups can live with together peacefully. Democracy enhances the dignity of citizens. Democracy is based on the principle of political equality according to which the poorest and the least educated enjoy the same status as the rich and the educated.

21. 'Democracy is a form of government in which the rulers are elected by the people.' Justify the statement.

**Ans.** The above given statement is true because, the election of a person as the representative of people depends on the wish and will of the common masses. If we talk about India, a largest democracy in the world, it's we the voter of the country which decides who will rule us. We decide whether a particular person will represent us in the Parliament and the Legislative assembly of the concerned states. The elected representatives rule us and take care of the aspirations of the common people.

### Paragraph Based Questions

22. Read the sources given below and answer the questions that follow:

#### Source A - Rule of Law and Respect for Rights

Zimbabwe attained independence from White minority rule in 1980. Since then the country

has been ruled by ZANU-PF, the party that led the freedom struggle. Its leader, Robert Mugabe, ruled the country since independence. Elections were held regularly and always won by ZANU-PF. President Mugabe was popular but also used unfair practices in elections.

(a) What strategy was adopted by Robert Mugabe to win the elections?

#### Source B - Arguments for Democracy

China's famine of 1958-1961 was the worst recorded famine in world history. Nearly three crore people died in this famine. During those days, India's economic condition was not much better than China. Yet India did not have a famine of the kind China had.

(b) Is it true that the policies of government were responsible for such condition in China?

#### Source C - Broader Meanings of Democracy

There can be various ways of taking decisions in a democratic manner, as long as the basic principle of consultation on an equal basis is accepted. The most common form of democracy in today's world is rule through people's elected representatives.

(c) Define the term Representative Democracy.

**Ans.** (a) Zimbabwe attained its independence in the year 1980 and since then the country has been ruled by ZANU-PF. Its leader, Robert Mugabe, ruled the country since independence. ZANU-PF regularly won elections, because President Mugabe used unfair practices to win the elections.

(b) Yes, it is true that policies of Chinese government were responsible for such conditions in China.

(c) This is the most common type of democracy. In this, the majority does not rule directly but the majority of People rule through their elected representative.

### Case Based Questions

23. Democracy is a form of government in which the rulers are elected by the people. Leaders keep changing in a democracy, which leads to instability. It is all about political competition and power play with no scope for morality. So many people have to be consulted in a democracy that it leads to delays. Elected leaders do not know the best interest of the people. It leads to bad decisions. Democracy leads to corruption for it is based on electoral competition. Ordinary people don't know what is good for them; they should not decide anything. Democracy is not a magical solution for all the problems. It has not ended poverty in our country and in other parts of the world. Democracy as a form of government only ensures that people take their own decisions. This



does not guarantee that their decisions will be good. People can make mistakes. Involving the people in these decisions does lead to delays in decision making. It is also true that democracy leads to frequent changes in leadership. Sometimes this can set back big decisions and affect the government's efficiency.

**23.1** Why is democracy called an unstable form of a government?

- (a) due to political competition
- (b) due to lack of morality
- (c) due to changing leaders
- (d) due to leaders' bad decisions

**Ans.** (c) due to changing leaders

**23.2** Democracy is most likely to lead to .....

- (a) social imbalance.                      (b) corruption.
- (c) re-elections.                              (d) moral instability.

**Ans.** (b) corruption.

**23.3** Complete the given statement: Democracy has been unable to .....

- (a) affect government's efficiency.
- (b) increase employment.
- (c) make people independent.
- (d) end poverty.

**Ans.** (d) end poverty.

**23.4** What lies at the core of democracy? Choose the most appropriate option?

- (a) people's rule
- (b) electoral competition
- (c) eradication of poverty
- (d) independent leadership

**Ans.** (b) electoral competition

**24.** In Pakistan, General Pervez Musharraf led a military coup in October 1999. He overthrew a democratically elected government and declared himself the 'Chief Executive' of the country. Later he changed his designation to President and in 2002 held a referendum in the country that granted him a five-year extension. Pakistani media, human rights organisations and democracy activists said that the referendum was based on malpractices and fraud. In August 2002, he issued a 'Legal Framework Order' that amended the Constitution of Pakistan. According to this Order, the President can dismiss the national and provincial assemblies. The work of the civilian cabinet is supervised by a National Security Council which is dominated by military officers. After passing this law, elections were held to the national and provincial assemblies. So, Pakistan has had elections, elected representatives have

some powers. But the final power rested with military officers and General Musharraf himself.

**24.1** How was the Constitution of Pakistan amended?

- (a) dominating the military officers
- (b) dismissing the national and provincial assemblies
- (c) by holding a referendum in the country
- (d) by issuing a 'Legal Framework Order'

**Ans.** (d) by issuing a 'Legal Framework Order'

**24.2** The National Security Council was dominated by the .....

- (a) President.
- (b) Constitution.
- (c) military officers.
- (d) General.

**Ans.** (c) military officers.

**24.3** What did the referendum grant the General?

- (a) A five-year extension
- (b) A control over media and publications
- (c) A complete control over military
- (d) The right to contest elections

**Ans.** (a) A five-year extension

**24.4** When was the constitution amending Legal Framework Order issued?

- (a) October 1999                              (b) October 2004
- (c) August 2002                              (d) July 2005

**Ans.** (c) August 2002

### Long Answer Type Questions

**25.** Describe the steps taken by PRI to win election in Mexico.

**Ans.** In Mexico, there has never been a military or dictator's rule. But until the year 2000, every election were won by a party called PRI (Institutional Revolutionary Party). Though opposition parties contested elections, but never managed to win. In order to win elections, the PRI used dirty tricks. All government officials were forced to attend its party meetings. Teachers of government schools used to force parents to cast their votes in favour of the PRI. Media was used only to criticise the opposition political parties. On some occasions the polling booths were shifted from one place to another in the last minute to refrain people from casting their votes. Huge sums of money were also used by the PRI in the campaign for its candidates.

**26.** 'Democracy enhances the dignity of citizens'. Explain.

**Ans.** Even if democracy does not bring about better decisions, it is still better than other government

set ups. Democracy enhances the dignity of citizens. Democracy is based on the principle of political equality according to which the poorest and the least educated enjoy the same status as the rich and the educated. People are not under any ruler but they are the rulers themselves. Even if they commit any mistake, they are responsible for their conduct. Democracy is better than other types of government because it allows us to correct its own wrong decisions. Though there is no guarantee that mistakes cannot be made in democracy but the other forms of government also cannot guarantee that. The advantage in a democracy is that wrong decisions cannot be hidden. There is always a space for public discussion and there is a scope for correction.

27. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

In Pakistan, General Pervez Musharraf led a military coup in October 1999. He overthrew a democratically elected government and declared himself the 'Chief Executive' of the country. Later he changed his designation to President and in 2002 held a referendum in the country that granted him a five year extension. Pakistani media, human rights organisations and democracy activists said that the referendum was based on malpractices and fraud. In August 2002 he issued a 'Legal Framework Order' that amended the Constitution of Pakistan. According to this Order, the President can dismiss the national and provincial assemblies. The work of the civilian cabinet is supervised by a National Security Council which is dominated by military officers. After passing this law, elections were held to the national and provincial assemblies. So Pakistan has had elections, elected representatives have some powers. But the final power rested with military officers and General Musharraf himself. Clearly, there are many reasons why Pakistan under General Musharraf should not be called a democracy. But let us focus on one of these. Can we say that the rulers are elected by the people in Pakistan? Not quite. People may have elected their representatives to the national and provincial assemblies but those elected representatives were not really the rulers. They cannot take the final decisions. The power to take final decision rested with army officials and with General Musharraf, and none of them were elected by the people. This happens in many dictatorships and monarchies. They formally have an elected parliament and government but the real power is with those who are not elected.

- (a) What steps were taken by General Pervez Musharraf to consolidate his power and position after a military coup?
- (b) Why Pakistan under General Musharraf should not be called a democracy?
- (c) What is the common feature of dictatorships and monarchies across the world?

- Ans.** (a) General Pervez Musharraf led a military coup in October 1999 and overthrew a democratically elected government. Later he declared himself the 'Chief Executive' of Pakistan after that he changed his designation to President. A referendum was held in the year 2002 in Pakistan that granted him a five year extension.
- (b) Though elections were held in Pakistan and elected representatives had some powers, but the final power rested with military officers and General Musharraf himself. People may have elected their representatives to the national and provincial assemblies but the elected representatives were not really the rulers. They had no authority to take the final decisions.
- (c) The common feature of dictatorships and monarchies across the world is that they formally have an elected parliament and government but the real power is with those who are not elected.

## ————— Let's Compete —————

### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Which one of the following is the Chinese Parliament?
- (a) National People's Congress
  - (b) House of Commons
  - (c) House of Representatives
  - (d) National Assembly

- Ans.** (a) National People's Congress

2. What is the meaning of 'democracy'?
- (a) Rule of a monarch
  - (b) Rule of a dictator
  - (c) Rule of people's representatives
  - (d) Rule of military

- Ans.** (c) Rule of people's representatives

3. In which of the following countries, Presidential form of democracy is practised?

- (a) UK
- (b) USA
- (c) China
- (d) None of these

- Ans.** (b) USA

4. Which among the following political parties always forms government in Mexico?

- (a) CPC
- (b) PRI
- (c) INC
- (d) None of these

**Ans.** (b) PRI

5. In which year General Pervez Musharraf lead a military coup?

- (a) 1997
- (b) 2001
- (c) 1999
- (d) 1995

**Ans.** (c) 1999

6. In Fiji, the electoral system does not give equal voting rights to

- (a) Indians.
- (b) Estonians.
- (c) an Indian-Fijian.
- (d) none of these.

**Ans.** (c) an Indian-Fijian.

7. Which among the following statements is incorrect regarding democracy?

- (a) Few people are given right to vote.
- (b) Democratic governments are supposed to frame rules according to the provisions of the constitution.
- (c) Democracy is a form of government in which rulers are elected by the people.
- (d) Free and fair elections are conducted.

**Ans.** (a) Few people are given right to vote.

8. Why is it said that the government in China is not democratic?

- (a) Members are free to contest the elections.
- (b) Elections are scheduled after 5 years.
- (c) Elections are scheduled under Communist Party's approval.
- (d) All of these.

**Ans.** (c) Elections are scheduled under Communist Party's approval.

9. The election process offers an opportunity to the people to change the current rulers. This feature is associated with which of the following countries?

- (a) Myanmar-dictatorship
- (b) China-communist
- (c) Saudi Arabia
- (d) India

**Ans.** (d) India

10. Which of the following countries has framed its citizenship rules in such a way that people belonging to the Russian minority find it difficult to get the right to vote?

- (a) Estonia
- (b) UK
- (c) Mexico
- (d) All of these

**Ans.** (a) Estonia

## Value-based Questions

(Optional)

1. 'Democracy is all about political competition and power play. There is no scope for morality'. Justify this statement.

**Ans.** Democracy is the most popular form of government as it allows people from all sections of the society to participate and further grants various political and civil rights. However, there are various drawbacks associated with it. Democratic government has been questioned on various fronts like instability, which leads to frequent change in the policies. It is about competition for power amongst political parties for which they resort to various methods to retain the power. Such competition leads to polarisation of society and disunity among various castes and classes. Political parties also use muscle and money power in order to gain and retain power. Several people are consulted in a democracy so this result in delay in decision making. Elected leaders are not aware of the best interest of the people which sometimes leads to bad decisions. Democracy leads to corruption as it is based on electoral competition. Ordinary people are not aware of what is good for them; they should not decide anything.

2. 'Elections in China do not represent people's verdict'. Explain.

**Ans.** In China, elections are held on a regular basis after every five years for electing the parliament which is called 'Quanguo Renmin Daibiao Dahui' (National People's Congress). The National People's Congress appoints the President. The Parliament has nearly 3,000 members who are elected from all over the country. Some members are elected by the army. In order to contest an election, it is mandatory for a candidate to get the approval of the Chinese Communist Party. Only those who are members of the Chinese Communist Party were allowed to contest the elections held in the year 2002-03. The government is always formed by the Communist Party of China.

# 2

## Constitutional Design

### Milestone

#### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Which one of the following in a constitution is an introductory statement which states the reasons and guiding values?

- (a) Article (b) Preface  
(c) Preamble (d) Introduction

**Ans.** (c) Preamble

2. Mahatma Gandhi and his vision were often bitterly criticised by which leader?

- (a) Dr Rajendra Prasad (b) Dr B R Ambedkar  
(c) Somnath Lahiri (d) Abul Kalam Azad

**Ans.** (b) Dr B R Ambedkar

3. Which of the following sentences is correct?

- (a) All countries that are democratic necessarily have constitutions.  
(b) All countries that have constitutions are necessarily democratic.  
(c) Both (a) and (b)  
(d) None of these

**Ans.** (a) All countries that are democratic necessarily have constitutions.

#### Very Short Answer Type Questions

4. When was the new national flag of the Republic of South Africa hoisted for the first time?

**Ans.** The new national flag of the Republic of South Africa hoisted for the first time on 26 April 1994.

5. What did the white minority in South Africa want to protect through the new Constitution?

**Ans.** The white minority was interested in protecting its privileges and property.

6. Under whose leadership was the first attempt made by Indians to draft a constitution?

**Ans.** Under the leadership of Motilal Nehru, the first attempt was made by Indians to draft a constitution in the year 1928.

7. For how many days did the Constituent Assembly meet in order to draft a constitution?

**Ans.** The Constituent Assembly met for around 2 years, 11 months and 18 days.

8. On which date did the Constitution of India come into force?

**Ans.** The Constitution of India came into force on January 26, 1950.

#### Short Answer Type Questions

9. Write a short note on 'Constituent Assembly Debates'.

**Ans.** The Constituent Assembly worked in an organised, open and consensual manner. Initially some basic principles were determined and agreed upon. After that a Drafting Committee which was chaired by Dr B R Ambedkar prepared a draft constitution for discussion. Several rounds of thorough discussion were held on the Draft Constitution. Every document presented and every word spoken in the Assembly was recorded which is preserved till date. These are called 'Constituent Assembly Debates'. These debates present the rationale behind the provisions of the Constitution which is helpful in interpreting the meaning of the Constitution.

10. Discuss the major events that led to the formation of a democratic government in South Africa.

**Ans.** With the increase in protests and struggles against apartheid, the 'whites' realised that it is no longer feasible for them to rule the blacks through suppression, so the white regime modified its policies and various discriminatory laws were repealed. The ban imposed on political parties and restrictions on the media ended. Nelson Mandela

walked out of the jail as a free man after 28 years of imprisonment. On 26th April 1994, the new national flag of South Africa was unfurled which marked the emergence of a new democracy in the world. After the birth of democratic South Africa, black leaders made an appeal to the natives to forgive the whites for the atrocities committed by them in the past. Both the black natives and whites sat together to frame a common constitution.

11. Describe the apprehensions among the people of South Africa before the making of their constitution.

**Ans.** The natives of South Africa are black in colour so they were called 'blacks' and they constituted about three-fourth of the total population. In addition to these two groups, there were people of mixed races who were called 'coloured' and people who migrated from India. According to white rulers all non-whites were inferior to them. Also the non-whites did not have the right to vote. The apartheid system was predominantly repressive for the blacks. They were not allowed to live in white areas and they could work in white areas only if they had a permit. Trains, schools and colleges, libraries, buses, taxis, hotels, hospitals, cinema halls, theatres, beaches, swimming pools, public toilets, were all separate for the whites and blacks. This was called segregation.

### Long Answer Type Questions

12. Who was Nelson Mandela and why was he imprisoned? How were the blacks discriminated in South Africa?

**Ans.** Nelson Mandela was a South African freedom fighter who fought against the policy of apartheid. He was imprisoned for treason. Blacks were not allowed to live in white areas and they could work in white areas only if they had a permit. Trains, schools and colleges, libraries, buses, taxis, hotels, hospitals, cinema halls, theatres, beaches, swimming pools, public toilets, were all separate for the whites and blacks. This was called segregation. They were not allowed even to visit the churches for offering prayers where the whites worshipped. Blacks were also prohibited from constituting any kind of associations or protest against the dreadful treatment.

13. Explain in detail the major factors which contributed in the making of our constitution.

**Ans.** Like South Africa, the Constitution of India was also framed under very complicated circumstances. It was not an easy task to make the constitution for a huge and diverse country

like India. The country came into existence through a partition on the basis of religion which was a shocking experience for the people of both India and Pakistan. Around ten lakh people lost their lives because of violence during the partition. The British left it to the discretion of the rulers of the princely states whether to merge with India or with Pakistan or remain independent. The merger of princely states was a complicated and vague task.

## Self-Assessment

### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Apartheid is a discrimination based on which of the following?

- (a) Religion (b) Race  
(c) Sex (d) None of these

**Ans.** (b) Race

2. The heart of Constitution of South Africa lies in which one of the following?

- (a) Black majority rule  
(b) Provisions of human rights  
(c) Secularism  
(d) Preamble

**Ans.** (d) Preamble

3. How many members of the Constituent Assembly wrote the Constitution of India?

- (a) 279 (b) 299  
(c) 287 (d) 329

**Ans.** (b) 299

### Assertion-Reason Type Questions

**For question numbers 4 to 7, two statements are given as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option from (a), (b), (c) and (d) as given below.**

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.  
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.  
(c) A is true but R is false.  
(d) A is false but R is true.

4. **Assertion (A):** Since 1950, the blacks, coloured and Indians fought against the apartheid system.

**Reason (R):** The African National Congress (ANC) was the umbrella organisation that led the struggle against the policies of segregation.

**Ans.** (a) Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A) because, the African National Congress was the umbrella organisation under which the blacks, coloured and Indians fought against the apartheid system.



5. **Assertion (A):** Nelson Mandela and seven other leaders were sentenced to life imprisonment in 1968.

**Reason (R):** He spent the next 28 years in South Africa's most dreaded prison, Robben Island.

**Ans.** (d) Assertion (A) is wrong because, Nelson Mandela and seven other leaders were sentenced to life imprisonment in 1964 for daring to oppose the apartheid regime in his country.

6. **Assertion (A):** The apartheid government came to an end, paving way for the formation of a multi-racial government.

**Reason (R):** At the midnight of 26 April 1996, the new national flag of the Republic of South Africa was unfurled marking the newly born democracy in the world.

**Ans.** (c) Reason (R) is wrong because, at the midnight of 26 April 1994, the new national flag of the Republic of South Africa was unfurled.

7. **Assertion (A):** The whites agreed to the principle of majority rule and that of one person one vote.

**Reason (R):** The blacks agreed that the majority would not take away the property of the white minority.

**Ans.** (a) Both Assertion and Reason are true and R is the correct explanation of A. After long negotiations both parties agreed to a compromise. The whites agreed to the principle of majority rule and that of one person one vote. They also agreed to accept some basic rights for the poor and the workers. The blacks agreed that majority rule would not be absolute. They agreed that the majority would not take away the property of the white minority.

### Study the Picture and Answer the Question



8. Which one of the following option best signifies the given image?

- (a) The spirit of present day South Africa.
- (b) Bad condition of industrial workers in South Africa.
- (c) Condition in rural South Africa.
- (d) Armed forces of South Africa.

**Ans.** (a)

### Find the Incorrect Option

9. (a) As far back as in 1928, Motilal Nehru and eight other Congress leaders drafted a constitution for India.

(b) In 1931, the resolution at the Karachi session of the Indian National Congress dwelt on how independent India's constitution should look like.

(c) Elections were held in 1937 to Provincial Legislatures and Ministries all over British India.

(d) At least twenty five lakh people were killed on both sides of the border in partition related violence.

**Ans.** (d)

### Correct the Following Statement and Rewrite

10. Indian constitution adopted many institutional details and procedures from colonial laws like the Government of India Act, 1909.

**Ans.** Indian constitution adopted many institutional details and procedures from colonial laws like the Government of India Act, 1935.

### Fill in the Blanks

11. The **Preamble** of the Constitution reads like a poem on democracy.

12. Elections to the Constituent Assembly were held in **July 1946**.

13. South Africans call themselves a '**rainbow nation**'.

### Very Short Answer Type Questions

14. In which session of the INC, did the Congress plan on how independent India's Constitution should look like?

**Ans.** In 1931, the resolution at the Karachi session of the Indian National Congress dwelt on how independent India's constitution should look like.

15. Why is India called a 'Republic'?

**Ans.** India is called a 'Republic' because the head of the state is an elected person and not a hereditary position.

16. Who was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Indian Constitution?

**Ans.** Dr B R Ambedkar was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Indian Constitution.

17. Why was Nelson Mandela sentenced to life imprisonment?

**Ans.** Nelson Mandela was sentenced to life imprisonment on the charge of treason.

### Short Answer Type Questions

18. Write a short note on the landmark years in the making of the Indian Constitution.

**Ans.** In 1928, Motilal Nehru along with eight other Congress leaders drafted a constitution for India. In 1931, the resolution at the Karachi session of the INC dwelt on the nature of India's constitution. The acquaintance with political institutions of the colonial rule also proved helpful in developing conformity over the institutional design. In 1937 elections to Provincial Legislatures and Ministries though the governments formed were not fully democratic but the experience gained in the working of the legislative institutions proved useful for the country. This is the reason why the constitution of India adopted many procedures from colonial laws like the Government of India Act 1935.

19. What do mean by Constitutional Amendments and what is their importance?

**Ans.** Constitution needs to be amended regularly according to change in circumstances in order to keep it updated. Those who drafted the Indian Constitution felt that it has to be in accordance with people's aspirations. According to them, Constitution is not a static and unalterable law. So, they provided for the provisions to include changes from time to time, which are called constitutional amendments.

20. 'The apartheid system was particularly oppressive for the blacks.' Justify the statement.

**Ans.** The above given statement is true because, the blacks were not allowed to reside in whites' areas. They were allowed to work in white areas only if they had a permit. There were separate trains, buses, taxis, hotels, hospitals, schools and colleges, libraries, cinema halls, theatres, beaches, swimming pools, public toilets for the whites and blacks. This was called segregation. They were prohibited from even visiting the churches where the whites worshipped. Blacks were not allowed to protest against the terrible treatment.

### Paragraph Based Questions

21. Read the sources given below and answer the questions that follow:

#### Source A – Towards a New Constitution

The white regime changed its policies. Discriminatory laws were repealed. Ban on

political parties and restrictions on the media were lifted. After 28 years of imprisonment, Nelson Mandela walked out of the jail as a free man. Finally, at the midnight of 26 April 1994, the new national flag of the Republic of South Africa was unfurled marking the newly born democracy in the world.

(a) On which date the new national flag of the Republic of South Africa was unfurled?

#### Source B – Towards a New Constitution

At least ten lakh people were killed on both sides of the border in partition related violence. There was another problem. The British had left it to the rulers of the princely states to decide whether they wanted to merge with India or with Pakistan or remain independent. The merger of these princely states was a difficult and uncertain task. When the constitution was being written, the future of the country did not look as secure as it does today.

(b) Write a brief note on the problems faced by India after independence.

#### Source C – The Path to Constitution

Many of our leaders were inspired by the ideals of French Revolution, the practice of parliamentary democracy in Britain and the Bill of Rights in the US. The socialist revolution in Russia had inspired many Indians to think of shaping a system based on social and economic equality. Yet they were not simply imitating what others had done. At each step they were questioning whether these things suited our country.

(c) Which concepts inspired the makers of Indian Constitution?

**Ans.** (a) At the midnight of 26 April 1994, the new national flag of the Republic of South Africa was unfurled which marked the birth of a new democracy in the world.

(b) Around ten lakh people lost their lives on both sides of the border in partition related violence. Another major problem was that the British had left it to the rulers of the princely states to decide whether they wanted to merge with India or with Pakistan or remain independent. The merger of these princely states was a difficult and uncertain task.

(c) The makers of the Indian Constitution were inspired by the ideals of French Revolution, the practice of parliamentary democracy in Britain and the Bill of Rights in the US, the socialist revolution in Russia inspired our leaders in shaping the system based on social and economic equality.

## Case Based Questions

22. Apartheid was the name of a system of racial discrimination unique to South Africa. The white Europeans imposed this system on South Africa. During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the trading companies from Europe occupied it with arms and force, in the way they occupied India. But unlike India, a large number of 'whites' had settled in South Africa and became the local rulers. The system of apartheid divided the people and labelled them on the basis of their skin colour. The native people of South Africa are black in colour. They made up about three-fourth of the population and were called 'blacks'. Besides these two groups, there were people of mixed races who were called 'coloured' and people who migrated from India. The white rulers treated all non-whites as inferiors. The non-whites did not have voting rights. The apartheid system was particularly oppressive for the blacks. They were forbidden from living in white areas. They could work in white areas only if they had a permit. Trains, buses, taxis, hotels, hospitals, schools and colleges, libraries, cinema halls, theatres, beaches, swimming pools, public toilets, were all separate for the whites and blacks. This was called segregation. They could not even visit the churches where the whites worshipped. Blacks could not form associations or protest against the terrible treatment.

22.1 Apartheid was a term coined by the .....

- (a) Europeans.
- (b) Africans.
- (c) Indians.
- (d) Britishers.

**Ans.** (b) Africans.

22.2 The Indian migrants were known as .....

- (a) blacks.
- (b) non-whites.
- (c) wheatish.
- (d) coloured.

**Ans.** (d) coloured.

22.3 Apartheid was a form of ..... system.

- (a) racial discriminatory
- (b) racial superiority
- (c) local discriminatory
- (d) white supremacy

**Ans.** (a) racial discriminatory

22.4 Which of the following restrictions was not a part of the apartheid system?

- (a) restrictions on access to all public places
- (b) restrictions on residential rights in white areas

- (c) restrictions on forming associations and conducting protests
- (d) all of the above

**Ans.** (d) all of the above

23. As protests and struggles against apartheid had increased, the government realised that they could no longer keep the blacks under their rule through repression. The white regime changed its policies. Discriminatory laws were repealed. Ban on political parties and restrictions on the media were lifted. After 28 years of imprisonment, Nelson Mandela walked out of the jail as a free man. Finally, at the midnight of 26 April 1994, the new national flag of the Republic of South Africa was unfurled marking the newly born democracy in the world. The apartheid government came to an end, paving way for the formation of a multi-racial government.

23.1 Why did the white regime change its policies?

- (a) protests and struggles against apartheid had increased
- (b) the government realised that they could no longer oppress the blacks
- (c) the government was losing wars against the society
- (d) only (a) and (b)

**Ans.** (d) only (a) and (b)

23.2 What were the changes made to the policies of the white regime?

- (a) discriminatory laws were repealed
- (b) ban on political parties was lifted
- (c) restrictions on the media were removed
- (d) all of these

**Ans.** (d) all of these

23.3 When did Africa gain its independence?

- (a) 14 August 1947
- (b) 26 April 1994
- (c) 26 January 1996
- (d) 14 July 1789

**Ans.** (b) 26 April 1994

23.4 The multi-racial government replaced the ..... government.

- (a) British
- (b) Apartheid
- (c) European
- (d) conservative

**Ans.** (b) Apartheid

## Long Answer Type Questions

24. Discuss how the system of apartheid divided people in South Africa. Which type of tactics did the white racist government of South Africa use in order to continue their rule?

**Ans.** Apartheid was the system of racial discrimination which was unique to South Africa imposed by



the white Europeans on South Africa. During the 17th and 18th centuries, the European trading companies occupied it by using force, like they occupied India. But there was dissimilarity between India and South Africa, a large number of white people settled in South Africa and became the local rulers. The apartheid system divided the people and categorised them on the basis of skin colour. The natives of South Africa are black in colour so they were called 'blacks' and they constituted about three-fourth of the total population. In addition to these two groups, there were people of mixed races who were called 'coloured' and people who migrated from India. According to white rulers all non-whites were inferior to them. Also the non-whites did not have the right to vote. The apartheid system was predominantly repressive for the blacks. They were not allowed to live in white areas and they could work in white areas only if they had a permit. Trains, schools and colleges, libraries, buses, taxis, hotels, hospitals, cinema halls, theatres, beaches, swimming pools, public toilets, were all separate for the whites and blacks. This was called segregation. They not allowed even to visit the churches for offering prayers where the whites worshipped. Blacks were also prohibited from constituting any kind of associations or protest against the dreadful treatment.

**25.** What do you understand by 'Preamble'? Discuss its importance.

**Ans.** Values that inspired and guided the independence struggle turned out to form the foundation for India's democracy, which are enshrined in the Preamble of the Indian Constitution. These values guide all the articles of the Indian Constitution. The Constitution begins with a brief declaration of its basic values. This is called the Preamble to the constitution. Inspired from the American model, most countries in the modern world chose to begin their constitutions with a preamble. The Preamble is like a poem on democracy and it contains the philosophy on which the whole Constitution is based. It provides a measure to scan and evaluate any law and action of government, to find out whether it is good or bad. Preamble is the soul of the Constitution of India.

**26.** Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

The drafting of the document called the constitution was done by an assembly of elected representatives called the Constituent Assembly. Elections to the Constituent Assembly were held in July 1946. Its first meeting was held in December

1946. Soon after, the country was divided into India and Pakistan. The Constituent Assembly was also divided into the Constituent Assembly of India and that of Pakistan. The Constituent Assembly that wrote the Indian constitution had 299 members. The Assembly adopted the Constitution on 26 November 1949 but it came into effect on 26 January 1950. To mark this day we celebrate January 26 as Republic Day every year. A Drafting Committee chaired by Dr B R Ambedkar prepared a draft constitution for discussion. Several rounds of thorough discussion took place on the Draft Constitution, clause by clause. More than two thousand amendments were considered. The members deliberated for 114 days spread over three years. Every document presented and every word spoken in the Constituent Assembly has been recorded and preserved. These are called 'Constituent Assembly Debates'.

- (a) In which year the elections to the Constituent Assembly were held and when was its first meeting held?
- (b) When and why is Republic Day celebrated in India?
- (c) Write a brief note on 'Constituent Assembly Debates'.

- Ans.**
- (a) Elections to the Constituent Assembly were held in July 1946. Its first meeting was held in December 1946.
  - (b) The Constituent Assembly adopted the Constitution on 26 November 1949 but it came into effect on 26 January 1950. To mark this day we celebrate January 26 as Republic Day every year.
  - (c) A Drafting Committee chaired by Dr B R Ambedkar prepared a draft constitution for discussion. Several rounds of thorough discussion took place on the draft constitution, clause by clause. More than two thousand amendments were considered. The members deliberated for 114 days spread over three years. Every document presented and every word spoken in the Constituent Assembly has been recorded and preserved. These are called 'Constituent Assembly Debates'.

## ————— Let's Compete —————

### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Which one of the following leaders played an important role in the post-independence integration of India?

- (a) J L Nehru
- (b) Mahatma Gandhi
- (c) Dr B R Ambedkar
- (d) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

**Ans.** (d) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

2. Under whose leadership was a Constitution drafted in the year 1928?

- (a) Moti Lal Nehru
- (b) K M Munshi
- (c) Rajendra Prasad
- (d) None of these

**Ans.** (a) Moti Lal Nehru

3. Who among the following leaders was not a member of the Constituent Assembly?

- (a) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (b) Rajendra Prasad
- (c) Mahatma Gandhi
- (d) Dr B R Ambedkar

**Ans.** (c) Mahatma Gandhi

4. Who among the following was the founder of Andhra Mahila Sabha?

- (a) G Durgabai Deshmukh
- (b) Sarojini Naidu
- (c) Indira Gandhi
- (d) None of these

**Ans.** (a) G Durgabai Deshmukh

5. Who among the following is the author of 'Young India'?

- (a) Baldev Singh
- (b) H C Mookherjee
- (c) Mahatma Gandhi
- (d) Jaipal Singh

**Ans.** (c) Mahatma Gandhi

6. A state which does not have any official religion, is called a

- (a) Socialist state
- (b) Republican state
- (c) Sovereign state
- (d) Secular state

**Ans.** (d) Secular state

7. A nation in which the Head of the State is an elected person is known as a

- (a) Republic
- (b) Sovereign
- (c) Democratic
- (d) None of these

**Ans.** (a) Republic

8. In which year were elections held to provincial legislatures and ministries all over British India?

- (a) 1942
- (b) 1939
- (c) 1937
- (d) 1931

**Ans.** (c) 1937

9. On which date was Nelson Mandela released after 28 years of imprisonment?

- (a) 26th May 1994
- (b) 26th April 1994
- (c) 26th April 1996
- (d) 26th April 1993

**Ans.** (b) 26th April 1994

10. Who among the following was the first captain of the Indian hockey team and was also a member of the Constituent Assembly?

- (a) Jaipal Singh
- (b) Baldev Singh
- (c) Shyama Prasad Mukherjee
- (d) Somnath Lahiri

**Ans.** (a) Jaipal Singh

## Value-based Questions (Optional)

1. India is a 'Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic'. Explain.

**Ans.** India is a 'Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic'. These important ideals mentioned in the Preamble of the Indian Constitution are as follows: Sovereign means that people have supreme right to make decisions on internal as well as external matters. Socialist means that wealth is generated socially and should be shared equally by society. It is the responsibility of the government to regulate the ownership of land and industry to reduce socio-economic inequalities. Secular means that the citizens are free to follow any religion. But there is no official religion. Democratic means a form of government where people enjoy equal political rights, elect their rulers and hold them accountable. Republic means that the head of the state is an elected person and not a hereditary position.

2. 'The working of the Constituent Assembly has given sanctity to the Constitution'. Justify.

**Ans.** The Constitution not only reflects the views of its members alone but it also expresses the consensus during that time. In India, questions have been raised by several groups related to some provisions of the Constitution but no social group or political party has ever questioned the legality of the Constitution. Another reason for accepting the Constitution is that the members of the Constituent Assembly represented the people of India. Though the Constituent Assembly was dominated by the Indian National Congress but the Congress included a variety of political groups and opinions within it. There were many members in the Assembly who differed in opinion with the Congress. The Assembly also represented members from different language groups, castes, classes, religions and occupations. The Assembly worked in an organised, open and consensual manner. Initially some basic principles were determined and agreed upon. After that a Drafting Committee which was chaired by Dr B R Ambedkar prepared a draft constitution for discussion. Several rounds of thorough discussion were held on the Draft Constitution.

# 3

## Electoral Politics

### Milestone

#### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Name the Chief of the Haryana Sangharsh Samiti.  
(a) Chaudhary Charan Singh  
(b) Chaudhary Devi Lal  
(c) Ajit Singh  
(d) None of these

**Ans.** (b) Chaudhary Devi Lal

2. The number of seats reserved in Lok Sabha for the Scheduled Tribes are  
(a) 50 (b) 41  
(c) 47 (d) 61

**Ans.** (c) 47

3. The term 'constituency' means  
(a) a body of voters  
(b) a place where the copy of the constitution is kept  
(c) a particular area from where voters elect a representative to the Lok Sabha/Vidhan Sabha  
(d) none of these

**Ans.** (c) a particular area from where voters elect a representative to the Lok Sabha/Vidhan Sabha

#### Very Short Answer Type Questions

4. For how long does an election campaign take place in India?

**Ans.** In India, the election campaign takes place for about two weeks during the period between the announcement of the final list of candidates and the polling date.

5. Why are the agents of all political parties present at the time of counting of votes?

**Ans.** Agents of each candidate are present inside the polling booth to ensure that the polling takes place in a fair way.

6. Who prepares the voters' list?

**Ans.** The Election Commission of India prepares the voters' list.

7. What do you understand by 'elections'?

**Ans.** Election is the mechanism through which people elect their representatives at regular intervals.

8. Why do some good people in India hesitate to join politics?

**Ans.** Some people who want to serve the country do not prefer to join politics as they do not like the idea of unhealthy political competition.

#### Short Answer Type Questions

9. Write a short note on the demerits of an electoral competition in India.

**Ans.** There are many demerits of an electoral competition like it creates a sense of disunity and 'factionalism' in the society. People often complain of 'party-politics'. Different political parties and leaders frequently make allegations against one another; they also use dirty tricks in order to win elections. Some people say that in a race to win elections the political parties are not able to formulate any long-term policies. Some people who want to serve the country do not prefer to join politics as they do not like the idea of unhealthy political competition.

10. Describe three types of elections in India for the Lok Sabha or the Legislative Assemblies.

**Ans.** The three types of elections in India for the Lok Sabha and for the Legislative Assemblies are General elections, Mid-term elections and By-elections.

- (a) General elections are held after every five years to select the Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assemblies.
- (b) Sometimes elections are held before the

normal term of five years either for electing Members of Parliament or Members of Legislative Assemblies, in case the government loses the support of Lok Sabha and Legislative Assembly respectively.

- (c) Sometimes the elections are held only for one or a few constituencies in order to fill the vacancy caused by death or resignation of any member. This is called by-election.

**11.** Discuss the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct for an election campaign as prescribed by the Election Commission of India.

**Ans.** All the political parties in India have agreed to a 'Model Code of Conduct' for election campaigns. According to which, no party or candidate can:

- (a) use any place of worship for election campaign.  
(b) use government vehicles, aircrafts and officials for elections.  
(c) once the schedule of elections is announced, Ministers shall not lay foundation stones of any projects, take any big policy decisions or make any promises of providing public facilities.

### Long Answer Type Questions

**12.** Explain the role of the Election Commission in conducting the free and fair elections in India.

**Ans.** Some of the important powers of the Election Commission of India are as follows:

- (a) EC takes all the decisions on every aspect of conduct and controls the elections from the day of announcement of election schedule to the declaration of results.  
(b) It implements the Code of Conduct strictly and if any candidate or political party violates it then the EC punishes them accordingly.  
(c) The EC issues several orders to the government in order to prevent use and misuse of governmental machinery to enhance its chances to win elections, or to transfer some government officials.  
(d) The government officials work under the control of the EC while on election duty and not the government.  
(e) The Election Commission reprimands the government and administrative machinery for their lapses. If the election officials are of the opinion that polling was not fair in some booths or even an entire constituency, they order a re-poll.

**13.** Explain the election process of the Lok Sabha in India.

**Ans.** The election process of the Lok Sabha in India is as follows:

- (a) India is divided into 543 constituencies for the purpose of Lok Sabha elections.  
(b) Voters' list is prepared in elections for those who are eligible to vote i.e., who are above 18 years of age.  
(c) All the political parties nominate their candidates who get the party symbol and financial support. The candidate then is required to fill the nomination form and deposit some amount as security. He has to make a legal declaration regarding any criminal cases against them and is also required to give the details of assets and educational qualifications.  
(d) On the day of polling, voters cast their vote.  
(e) After this, votes are counted and the candidate who secures the highest number of votes is declared elected.

## Self-Assessment

### Multiple-Choice Questions

**1.** The elections to the Lok Sabha that takes place after 5 years are known as

- (a) general elections      (b) by-elections  
(c) mid-term elections      (d) none of these

**Ans.** (a) general elections

**2.** Which one of the following is not allowed during the election campaign?

- (a) Campaigning through phone  
(b) Door to door canvassing  
(c) Advertisements on Television channels  
(d) Offering money to the voters

**Ans.** (d) Offering money to the voters

**3.** A 'reserved constituency' means

- (a) reserved for defence personnel  
(b) reserved for SCs, STs, OBCs and women  
(c) reserved for political parties belonging to the opposition  
(d) all of these

**Ans.** (b) reserved for SCs, STs, OBCs and women

### Assertion-Reason Type Questions

**For question numbers 4 to 7, two statements are given as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option from (a), (b), (c) and (d) as given below.**

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.  
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.  
(c) A is true but R is false.  
(d) A is false but R is true.

**4. Assertion (A):** Lok Dal and its partners won 86 out of 90 seats in the State Assembly.  
**Reason (R):** Lok Dal alone won 60 seats and thus had a clear majority in the Assembly.

**Ans.** (d) Assertion (A) is wrong because, Lok Dal and its partners won 76 out of 90 seats in the State Assembly and Lok Dal alone won 60 seats in the legislative assembly.

**5. Assertion (A):** Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) elections are held regularly after every five years.

**Reason (R):** After five years the term of all the elected representatives comes to an end.

**Ans.** (a) Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A), as the five year term of all the elected representatives comes to an end, the Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha elections are held after every five years.

**6. Assertion (A):** The representative elected from each constituency is called a Member of Parliament or MP.

**Reason (R):** For Lok Sabha elections, the country is divided into 546 constituencies.

**Ans.** (c) Reason (R) is wrong because, For Lok Sabha elections, the country is divided into 543 constituencies.

**7. Assertion (A):** The Congress party led by Indira Gandhi gave the slogan of Garibi Hatao (Remove poverty) in the Lok Sabha elections of 1969.

**Reason (R):** The party promised to reorient all the policies of the government to remove poverty from the country.

**Ans.** (d) Assertion (A) is wrong because, The Congress party led by Indira Gandhi gave the slogan of Garibi Hatao (Remove poverty) in the Lok Sabha elections of 1971.

### Match the Following

8. Match the following items given in Column A with those in Column B. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

Column A (Slogans)	Column B (Leaders/Political Parties)
A Garibi Hatao	1 Congress Party
B Save Democracy	2 Jayaprakash Narayan
C Land to the Tiller	3 Left Front
D Protect the Self-Respect of the Telugus	4 N T Rama Rao

Codes:

A	B	C	D
(a) 1	2	3	4
(b) 2	1	4	3
(c) 4	1	3	2
(d) 1	3	2	4

**Ans.** (a)

### Find the Incorrect Option

9. (a) The government spent about 3,500 crores in conducting Lok Sabha elections in 2014.
- (b) In 2005, our government decided to buy six nuclear submarines from France. Each submarine cost about 3,000 crores.
- (c) Delhi hosted the Commonwealth Games in 2010. The estimate for its cost is around ₹ 20,000 crores.
- (d) A complete revision of the voter list takes place every three years.

**Ans.** (d)

### Correct the Following Statement and Rewrite

10. Currently, in the Lok Sabha, 80 seats are reserved for the Scheduled Castes and 41 for the Scheduled Tribes (as on 26 January 2019).
- Ans.** Currently, in the Lok Sabha, 84 seats are reserved for the Scheduled Castes and 47 for the Scheduled Tribes (as on 26 January 2019).

### Fill in the Blanks

11. One-third of the seats are reserved in rural and urban local bodies for women candidates.
12. Political parties nominate their candidates who get the party symbol and support. Party's nomination is often called party 'ticket'.
13. People's participation in election is usually measured by voter turnout.

### Very Short Answer Type Questions

14. After how many years is the voters' list revised in India?
- Ans.** Voters' list is revised thoroughly after every five years.
15. What is the full form of 'EPIC'?
- Ans.** 'EPIC' stands for Election Photo Identity Card.
16. Who appoints the Chief Election Commissioner of India?

**Ans.** The President of India appoints the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC).

### Short Answer Type Questions

17. Why is there no criteria of educational qualification for contesting elections?
- Ans.** Educational qualifications are not relevant to all kinds of jobs. The relevant qualification for selection to the Indian cricket team is not the attainment of educational degrees in cricket, but the ability to play cricket well. Similarly the relevant qualification for being an MLA or an MP is the ability to understand people's needs,



problems and to represent their interests. In India it would mean depriving a majority of the country's citizens the right to contest elections. For example, if graduation is made compulsory for candidates then more than 90 per cent of the citizens will become ineligible to contest elections.

**18.** Discuss the conditions which make an election democratic.

**Ans.** Newspapers and television reports frequently refer to allegations about the following issues:

- Inclusion of false names and exclusion of genuine names in the voters' list.
- Misuse of government facilities and officials by the ruling party.
- Excessive use of money by wealthy candidates and political parties.
- Intimidation of voters and rigging on the polling day.

Many of the reports published in the newspapers are correct, but luckily they are not on such a scale so as to beat the purpose of elections.

**19.** How many seats are reserved of SCs and STs in the Lok Sabha and what are the reasons for taking this step?

**Ans.** The makers of our Constitution knew that in an open electoral competition there is a possibility that certain weaker sections may not get an opportunity to get elected to the Lok Sabha and the state Legislative Assemblies. If that happens, our Parliament and Assemblies would be deprived of the voice of an important part of our population. In order to deal with such a situation the makers of our Constitution came out with an idea of a special system of reserved constituencies for those belonging to the weaker sections. At present, 84 seats are reserved for the Scheduled Castes and 47 for the Scheduled Tribes in Lok Sabha (as on 1st September 2012). The number of seats reserved for SCs and STs is in proportion to their share in the total population.

**20.** 'The makers of our Constitution thought of a special system of reserved constituencies for the weaker sections.' Justify the statement.

**Ans.** The above given statement is true because the socially and economically weaker sections of the Indian society had suffered a lot in the past. So the makers of our Constitution decided to incorporate the provisions in the constitution to ensure the upliftment of the weaker sections. Some constituencies are reserved for people who belong to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In a SC reserved constituency only someone who belongs to the Scheduled Castes

is eligible to contest the election. Similarly only those belonging to the Scheduled Tribes can contest an election from a constituency reserved for ST. Currently, in the Lok Sabha, 84 seats are reserved for the Scheduled Castes and 47 for the Scheduled Tribes.

### Paragraph Based Questions

**21.** Read the sources given below and answer the questions that follow:

#### Source A – Assembly Elections in Haryana

The State had been ruled by a Congress party led government since 1982. Chaudhary Devi Lal, then an opposition leader, led a movement called 'Nyaya Yudh' (Struggle for Justice) and formed a new party, Lok Dal. His party joined other opposition parties to form a front against the Congress in the elections. In the election campaign, Devi Lal said that if his party won the elections, his government would waive the loans of farmers and small businessmen. He promised that this would be the first action of his government.

- Write a short note on the strategy adopted by Chaudhary Devi Lal to win the assembly elections in Haryana.

#### Source B – Is It Good to Have Political Competition?

Different political parties and leaders often level allegations against one another. Parties and candidates often use dirty tricks to win elections. Some people say that this pressure to win electoral fights does not allow sensible long-term policies to be formulated. Some good people who may wish to serve the country do not enter this arena. They do not like the idea of being dragged into unhealthy competition.

- Why does honest and good people do not join politics?

#### Source C – What is Our System of Elections?

Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha (Assembly) elections are held regularly after every five years. After five years the term of all the elected representatives comes to an end. The Lok Sabha or Vidhan Sabha stands 'dissolved'. Elections are held in all constituencies at the same time, either on the same day or within a few days. This is called a general election. Sometimes election is held only for one constituency to fill the vacancy caused by death or resignation of a member. This is called a by-election.

- Write a short note on the distinction between a general election and by-election.

**Ans.** (a) Chaudhary Devi Lal led a movement called 'Nyaya Yudh' (Struggle for Justice) and formed a

new party, Lok Dal. Newly formed party along with other opposition parties formed a front against the Congress in the elections. During the election campaign, Devi Lal said that if his party wins the elections, his government would waive the loans of farmers and small businessmen.

- (b) Almost all the politicians and political parties adopt various methods to win elections at any cost, like levelling allegations against each other. Due to this pressure of winning an election the politicians are not able to frame the sensible long-term policies for the growth of a country. Though there are many honest people in our country who wish to serve the nation, but they do not like the idea of being dragged into this unhealthy competition.
- (c) Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections are held regularly after every five years. Elections are conducted at the same time in all constituencies, either on the same day or within a span of few days. This is called a general election. Sometimes elections are conducted only for one constituency to fill the vacancy due to death or resignation of a member. This is called a by-election.

### Case Based Questions

22. Our constitution entitles every citizen to elect her/his representative and to be elected as a representative. The constitution makers, however, were worried that in an open electoral competition, certain weaker sections may not stand a good chance to get elected to the Lok Sabha and the state Legislative Assemblies. They may not have the required resources, education and contacts to contest and win elections against others. Those who are influential and resourceful may prevent them from winning elections. If that happens, our Parliament and Assemblies would be deprived of the voice of a significant section of our population. That would make our democracy less representative and less democratic. So, the makers of our constitution thought of a special system of reserved constituencies for the weaker sections. Some constituencies are reserved for people who belong to the Scheduled Castes [SC] and Scheduled Tribes [ST]. In a SC reserved constituency only someone who belongs to the Scheduled Castes can stand for election. Similarly only those belonging to the Scheduled Tribes can contest an election from a constituency reserved for ST. Currently, in the Lok Sabha, 84 seats are reserved for the Scheduled Castes and 47 for the Scheduled Tribes (as on 26 January 2019). This
- number is in proportion to their share in the total population. Thus, the reserved seats for SC and ST do not take away the legitimate share of any other social group.
- 22.1 What are the parameters, which can help in winning the elections?
- (a) required resources  
(b) education and influential persona  
(c) contacts and strong background  
(d) all of these
- Ans.** (d) all of these
- 22.2 What is the negative impact of having influential people contesting elections?
- (a) a significant section of the society will not be present in our Parliament and Assemblies  
(b) weaker sections will not have the courage to fight for their rights  
(c) it would make our democracy less representative and less democratic  
(d) only (a) and (c)
- Ans.** (d) only (a) and (c)
- 22.3 How many seats are reserved for the Scheduled Castes in Lok Sabha?
- (a) 84 (b) 47  
(c) 26 (d) 31
- Ans.** (a) 84
- 22.4 How is the number of reserved seats in Lok Sabha determined?
- (a) the number is in proportion to the number of seats granted to other categories  
(b) the number is in proportion to the number of eligible voters in the country  
(c) the number is in proportion to their share in the total population  
(d) the number is in proportion to their share in the government and defence services
- Ans.** (c) the number is in proportion to their share in the total population
23. We noted that in a democratic election people should have a real choice. This happens only when there are almost no restrictions on anyone to contest an election. This is what our system provides. Anyone who can be a voter can also become a candidate in elections. The only difference is that in order to be a candidate the minimum age is 25 years, while it is only 18 years for being a voter. There are some other restrictions on criminals, etc. but these apply in very extreme cases. Political parties nominate their candidates who get the party symbol and support. Party's nomination is often called party

'ticket'. Every person who wishes to contest an election has to fill a 'nomination form' and give some money as 'security deposit'. Recently, a new system of declaration has been introduced on direction from the Supreme Court. Every candidate has to make a legal declaration, giving full details of: serious criminal cases pending against the candidate; the assets and liabilities of the candidate and his or her family; and educational qualifications of the candidate. This information has to be made public. This provides an opportunity to the voters to make their decision on the basis of the information provided by the candidates.

**23.1** What do the legal declarations to be made by a candidate include?

- (a) details of serious criminal cases pending against the candidate
- (b) details of the assets and liabilities of the candidate and his or her family
- (c) details of educational qualifications of the candidate
- (d) all of these

**Ans.** (d) all of these

**23.2** What is a party 'ticket'?

- (a) a party's nomination
- (b) a party's registration for Lok Sabha
- (c) a party's registration for Rajya Sabha
- (d) a party's declaration of candidates

**Ans.** (a) a party's nomination

**23.3** Which of the following conditions does not apply to a person contesting elections?

- (a) he/she should be above 25 years of age
- (b) he/she should deposit security deposit
- (c) he/she should be an existing civil service personnel
- (d) he/she should make necessary declarations

**Ans.** (c) he/she should be an existing civil service personnel

**23.4** When can people have a real choice in democratic elections?

- (a) when there are almost no restrictions on anyone to spend on an election
- (b) when there are almost no restrictions on anyone to contest an election
- (c) when there are almost no restrictions on anyone to market his/her party
- (d) when there are almost no restrictions on anyone for buying votes

**Ans.** (b) when there are almost no restrictions on anyone to contest an election

## Long Answer Type Questions

**24.** Discuss the provisions which make the Election Commission of India an independent body.

**Ans.** In India the elections are conducted by an independent and powerful constitutional body, the Election Commission of India. It functions independently in same way as the judiciary does. The President of India appoints the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and after appointment, the Chief Election Commissioner is not answerable to the President or the government. It is practically impossible for the government to remove the CEC even if the government does not like what the Commission does. Some of the important powers of the Election Commission of India are as follows:

- EC takes all the decisions on every aspect of conduct and controls the elections from the day of announcement of election schedule to the declaration of results.
- It implements the Code of Conduct strictly and if any candidate or political party violates it then the EC punishes them accordingly.
- The EC issues several orders to the government in order to prevent use and misuse of governmental machinery to enhance its chances to win elections, or to transfer some government officials.
- The government officials work under the control of the EC while on election duty and not the government.

**25.** Explain the system of electoral constituencies in India.

**Ans.** Our country is divided into different areas which are called electoral constituencies. For Lok Sabha elections, India is divided into 543 parliamentary constituencies. The representatives who are elected from the parliamentary constituencies are called a Member of Parliament. In a democratic election every vote has equal value and in order to ensure this, our Constitution requires that each constituency should have a roughly equal population. Each state is divided into a number of Assembly constituencies. The elected representatives are called the Member of Legislative Assembly. There are several assembly constituencies in each Parliamentary constituency. The same principle applies for elections to local bodies like Panchayats and Municipal corporations. Each village or town is divided into several 'wards'. Each ward elects one member of the village or the urban local body.

**26.** Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

Our Constitution entitles every citizen to elect her/his representative and to be elected as



a representative. The Constitution makers, however, were worried that in an open electoral competition, certain weaker sections may not stand a good chance to get elected to the Lok Sabha and the state Legislative Assemblies. They may not have the required resources, education and contacts to contest and win elections against others. Those who are influential and resourceful may prevent them from winning elections. If that happens, our Parliament and Assemblies would be deprived of the voice of a significant section of our population. That would make our democracy less representative and less democratic. So, the makers of our Constitution thought of a special system of reserved constituencies for the weaker sections. Some constituencies are reserved for people who belong to the Scheduled Castes [SC] and Scheduled Tribes [ST]. In a SC reserved constituency only someone who belongs to the Scheduled Castes can stand for election. Similarly only those belonging to the Scheduled Tribes can contest an election from a constituency reserved for ST. Currently, in the Lok Sabha, 84 seats are reserved for the Scheduled Castes and 47 for the Scheduled Tribes (as on 26 January 2019). This number is in proportion to their share in the total population. Thus the reserved seats for SC and ST do not take away the legitimate share of any other social group.

- Discuss the provisions for reservation of seats in Lok Sabha for SCs and STs.
- How is the number of seats reserved for SCs and STs?
- Why were the seats reserved for weaker sections of the society in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies?

**Ans.** (a) The makers of our constitution were concerned about the condition of weaker sections of our society. In order to bring them on the equal platform in the society some seats were reserved for SCs and STs in the Lok Sabha. Currently, in the Lok Sabha, 84 seats are reserved for the Scheduled Castes and 47 for the Scheduled Tribes (as on 26 January 2019).  
 (b) The number of seats is reserved for SCs and STs in proportion to their share in the total population.  
 (c) The makers of our Constitution were worried that in an open electoral competition, the weaker sections of the society may not stand or get a chance to be elected in the Lok Sabha and the state Legislative Assemblies. They may not have the required resources, education

and contacts to contest and win elections against influential and resourceful people. If that happens, our Parliament and Assemblies would be deprived of the voice of a significant section of our population. That would make our democracy less representative and less democratic.

## ———— Let's Compete ————

### Multiple-Choice Questions

- Who among the following gave the slogan 'Garibi Hatao'?  
 (a) Rajiv Gandhi (b) Rahul Gandhi  
 (c) Jawaharlal Nehru (d) Indira Gandhi

**Ans.** (d) Indira Gandhi

- How many seats are reserved for the SCs and STs in the Lok Sabha?  
 (a) 84, 47 (b) 94, 57  
 (c) 84, 67 (d) 94, 77

**Ans.** (a) 84, 47

- How many Lok Sabha Constituencies is India divided into?  
 (a) 547 (b) 543  
 (c) 552 (d) None of these

**Ans.** (b) 543

- Which among the following political parties gave the slogan 'Save Democracy' during Lok Sabha elections in 1977?  
 (a) TDP (b) Left front  
 (c) Congress Party (d) Janata Party

**Ans.** (d) Janata Party

- Which of the following bodies conducts elections in India?  
 (a) Election Commission of India  
 (b) Supreme Court of India  
 (c) Attorney-General of India  
 (d) Comptroller General of India

**Ans.** (a) Election Commission of India

- In India, who among the following votes in large numbers during elections?  
 (a) Rich and literate (b) Poor and illiterate  
 (c) Rich and privileged (d) All of these

**Ans.** (b) Poor and illiterate

- In order to ensure more transparency in elections, the Election Commission of India introduced which of the following?  
 (a) Polling booths (b) Ballot papers  
 (c) Indelible ink (d) EVMs

**Ans.** (d) EVMs

- Which of the following is not a norm for a candidate to contest the Lok Sabha elections?

- (a) Security deposit
- (b) Information to be made public
- (c) Educational qualification
- (d) None of these

**Ans.** (c) Educational qualification

**9.** The boundaries of a constituency in India are decided on the basis of

- (a) literacy
- (b) religion
- (c) caste
- (d) population

**Ans.** (d) population

**10.** Which state of India has the largest number of Vidhan Sabha and Lok Sabha seats?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) Rajasthan

**Ans.** (b) Uttar Pradesh

## Value-based Questions

(Optional)

**1.** 'Election Commission of India is very powerful'. Justify the statement with appropriate examples.

**Ans.** In India the elections are conducted by an independent and powerful constitutional body, the Election Commission of India. It functions independently in same way as the judiciary does. The President of India appoints the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and after appointment, the Chief Election Commissioner is not answerable to the President or the government. It is practically

impossible for the government to remove the CEC even if the government does not like what the Commission does. Some of the important powers of the Election Commission of India are as follows:

- EC takes all the decisions on every aspect of conduct and controls the elections from the day of announcement of election schedule to the declaration of results.
- It implements the Code of Conduct strictly and if any candidate or political party violates it then the EC punishes them accordingly.
- The EC issues several orders to the government in order to prevent use and misuse of governmental machinery to enhance its chances to win elections, or to transfer some government officials.
- The government officials work under the control of the EC while on election duty and not the government.

**2.** What do you understand by secret ballot system? Why is it considered good for the electoral process?

**Ans.** Secret ballot system is used in the elections to the Parliament or Legislative Assemblies in which the votes polled by the voters is kept secret to the other voters. Secret ballot system helps the voters to cast their vote without being threatened. This system also ensures free and fair elections in the country.

# 4

## Working of Institutions

### Milestone

#### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. The President of India is elected by
  - (a) the Prime minister and the councils of ministers
  - (b) direct election by citizens
  - (c) indirect election by electoral college
  - (d) none of these

**Ans.** (c) indirect election by electoral college

2. Who appoints Ministers in the Union Cabinet?
  - (a) The President of India on the advice of the Prime Minister
  - (b) The President
  - (c) The Prime Minister
  - (d) None of these

**Ans.** (a) The President of India on the advice of the Prime Minister

3. 'Office Memorandum' means
  - (a) the memoirs of the leaders of the past
  - (b) an important defence document
  - (c) an order issued by the Government of India
  - (d) none of these

**Ans.** (c) an order issued by the Government of India

#### Very Short Answer Type Questions

4. Who has the power to interpret the Constitution of India?

**Ans.** The Supreme Court of India has the power to interpret the Constitution of India.

5. What is Cabinet Secretariat?

**Ans.** The Cabinet as a team is assisted by the Cabinet Secretariat. This includes many senior civil servants who coordinate the working of different ministries.

6. Which institution is empowered to make changes to an existing law in India?

**Ans.** The Parliament of India is empowered to make changes to an existing law in India.

7. What do you understand by the term 'institutions'?

**Ans.** Some arrangements are made in modern democracies and these arrangements are called institutions. A democracy works smoothly when these institutions carry out the functions assigned to them.

8. What was the Mandal Commission?

**Ans.** In 1979, the Government of India appointed the 2nd Backward Classes Commission which was headed by B P Mandal so it was widely called the Mandal Commission.

#### Short Answer Type Questions

9. 'Working with institutions is not easy'. Support your answer with appropriate reasons.

**Ans.** There are certain rules and regulations for the working of these institutions. Certain meetings, committees and routines are involved in institutions which often lead to delays and complications. Some people feel it is better that only one person take all decisions without any rules and regulations. Some delays and complications introduced by institutions are very constructive as they provide an opportunity to large number of people to be consulted in any decision. But institutions make it tough to take a good decision quickly and they also make it equally difficult to rush through a bad decision. This is the reason why democratic form of government insists on institutions.

10. Discuss the relationship between the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers.

**Ans.** In India, the most important institution is the Prime Minister who is appointed by the President

of India. The Prime Minister of India does not enjoy a fixed tenure and he remains in power so long as he remains the leader of the majority party or coalition. Council of Ministers is the official name for the body that includes all the Ministers that generally has 60 to 80 ministers. The different ranks of ministers in India are as follows:

- (a) Cabinet Ministers are usually top-level leaders who are in charge of the major ministries. The Cabinet Ministers take decisions in the name of the Council of Ministers, so Cabinet is the inner ring of the Council of Ministers which comprises about 20 ministers.
- (b) Ministers of State with independent charge are In-charge of smaller Ministries. They can participate in the Cabinet meetings only when invited.
- (c) Ministers of State are attached to and required to assist Cabinet Ministers.

**11.** What do you understand by a Coalition government? What limitations has it imposed on the powers of the Prime Minister?

**Ans.** In India the most important institution is the Prime Minister who is appointed by the President of India. The President appoints the leader of the majority party or the coalition of parties as the Prime Minister. When no single party gets a majority, the President appoints the person most likely to secure a majority support. The Prime Minister of India does not enjoy a fixed tenure and he remains in power so long as he remains the leader of the majority party or coalition. The President of India appoints other ministers on the advice of the Prime Minister, who usually belong to the party or the coalition that has the majority in the Lok Sabha.

### Long Answer Type Questions

**12.** How does the Constitution of India ensure that the judiciary is independent of the legislature and the executive?

**Ans.** In a democracy, an independent and powerful judiciary plays an important role. All the courts at different levels in a country are called the judiciary. The Indian judicial system consists of the Supreme Court of India, High Courts in the states, District Courts and the courts at local level. India has an integrated judiciary which means that the Supreme Court of India controls the judicial administration in the country. The decisions of the Supreme Court of India are binding on all other courts of the country.

**13.** Explain the necessity of the Parliament in a democracy.

**Ans.** In a democracy the elected representatives exercise the ultimate political authority on behalf of the people. In India the body of elected representatives is called Parliament and at the state level this is called Legislative Assembly. Such an assembly exists in every democratic country and it exercises the political authority in the following ways:

- (a) Parliament is the ultimate authority for framing laws in any country. The job of law making is so critical that these assemblies are called legislatures. Parliaments across the world makes new laws, modify existing laws, or eliminate existing laws and make new ones in their place.
- (b) Parliaments across the world have some control over those who run the government. In India, this control is direct and full. The people who run the government machinery can take decisions only if they enjoy support of the Parliament.
- (c) Parliaments control the money that governments have, as public money can be spent only with the sanction of the Parliament.
- (d) Parliament is the highest forum of discussion and debate on public issues and national policy.

## Self-Assessment

### Multiple-Choice Questions

**1.** The Rajya Sabha can delay a Money Bill for

- (a) 10 days.
- (b) 7 days.
- (c) 18 days.
- (d) 14 days.

**Ans.** (d) 14 days.

**2.** In which year was the Second Backward Classes Commission appointed by the government?

- (a) 1989
- (b) 1979
- (c) 1990
- (d) 1967

**Ans.** (b) 1979

**3.** Who among the following resolved the dispute regarding the reservation of SEBC?

- (a) The Supreme Court of India
- (b) The President of India
- (c) The Prime Minister of India
- (d) None of these

**Ans.** (a) The Supreme Court of India

### Assertion-Reason Type Questions

**For question numbers 4 to 7, two statements are given as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct**

option from (a), (b), (c) and (d) as given below.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (c) A is true but R is false.
- (d) A is false but R is true.

4. **Assertion (A):** The Government of India had appointed the Second Backward Classes Commission in 1979. It was headed by B P Mandal.

**Reason (R):** The Commission gave its Report in 1980 and made many recommendations. One of these was that 37 per cent of government jobs be reserved for the socially and educationally backward classes.

**Ans.** (c) Reason (R) is wrong because, one of the recommendations given by this commission was that 27 per cent of government jobs be reserved for the socially and educationally backward classes.

5. **Assertion (A):** In all democracies, an assembly of elected representatives exercises supreme political authority on behalf of the people.

**Reason (R):** In India such a national assembly of elected representatives is called Parliament.

**Ans.** (a) Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A), as we know that an assembly of elected representatives exercises supreme political authority on behalf of the people and in India such a national assembly is called Parliament.

6. **Assertion (A):** Once the Lok Sabha passes the budget of the government or any other money related law, the Rajya Sabha cannot reject it.

**Reason (R):** The Rajya Sabha can only delay it by 16 days or suggest changes in it.

**Ans.** (c) Reason (R) is wrong because, the Rajya Sabha can only delay it by 14 days or suggest changes in it.

7. **Assertion (A):** Council of Ministers is the official name for the body that includes all the Ministers.

**Reason (R):** It usually has 60 to 80 Ministers of different ranks.

**Ans.** (b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but 'R' is not the correct explanation of 'A'. Council of Ministers is the name given to the body that included all the Ministers and it comprises of 60 to 80 Ministers of different ranks.

### Match the Following

8. Match the following items given in Column A with those in Column B. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

Column A (Implemented by the government)	Column B (Year)
A Second Backward Classes Commission	1 1979
B Mandal Commission Report	2 1980
C Office Memorandum	3 1990
D National Commission of Minority Educational Institutions Bill	4 2004

Codes:

	A	B	C	D
(a)	1	2	3	4
(b)	2	1	4	3
(c)	4	1	3	2
(d)	1	3	2	4

**Ans.** (a)

### Find the Incorrect Option

- 9. (a) In its election manifesto, the Indian National Congress promised that if voted to power, it would implement the Mandal Commission report.
- (b) Parliament is the final authority for making laws in any country.
- (c) In our country, Parliament consists of two Houses. The two Houses are known as the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) and the House of the People (Lok Sabha).
- (d) Lok Sabha exercises more powers in money matters.

**Ans.** (a)

### Correct the Following Statement and Rewrite

10. Council of Ministers is the official name for the body that includes all the Ministers. It usually has 40 to 50 Ministers of different ranks.

**Ans.** Council of Ministers is the official name for the body that includes all the Ministers. It usually has 60 to 80 Ministers of different ranks.

### Fill in the Blanks

- 11. The Parliamentary democracy in most countries is often known as the **Cabinet** form of government.
- 12. **Parliament** is the final authority for making laws in any country.
- 13. The powers and the independence of the Indian judiciary allow it to act as the guardian of the **Fundamental Rights**.

### Very Short Answer Type Questions

14. Why was the Mandal Commission set up by the Government of India?

**Ans.** Mandal Commission was assigned the task to determine the criteria for identifying the socially

and educationally backward classes in India and recommend the steps needed to be taken for their advancement.

15. What do you understand by the term 'Official Memorandum'?

**Ans.** A communication issued by an appropriate authority stating the policy or decision of the government.

16. Which of the two houses of the Parliament has more powers in money matters?

**Ans.** Lok Sabha has more powers in money matters in comparison to Rajya Sabha.

17. What is the term of office of the Prime Minister of India?

**Ans.** The Prime Minister of India does not enjoy a fixed tenure and he remains in power so long as he remains the leader of the majority party or coalition.

### Short Answer Type Questions

18. Write a short note on the Integrated Judicial System in India.

**Ans.** In a democracy, an independent and powerful judiciary plays an important role. All the courts at different levels in a country are called the judiciary. The Indian judicial system consists of the Supreme Court of India, High Courts in the states, District Courts and the courts at local level. India has an integrated judiciary which means that the Supreme Court of India controls the judicial administration in the country. The decisions of the Supreme Court of India are binding on all other courts of the country.

19. Discuss the powers of the Supreme Court of India.

**Ans.**

- The Supreme Court of India is empowered to take up any dispute:
  - ◆ between citizens of the country.
  - ◆ between citizens and government.
  - ◆ between two or more State Governments.
  - ◆ between the Union Government and State Governments.
- The Supreme Court of India is the highest court of appeal in both the civil and criminal cases. It can hear appeals against the decisions of the High Courts.
- The Supreme Court of India has been vested with the power to interpret the Constitution in case of any doubt or dispute.

20. What do you understand by the terms 'Public Interest Litigation' and 'Judicial Review'?

**Ans.** The Indian judiciary acts as the guardian of the Fundamental Rights by virtue of its powers and independence. The Courts have also given several

judgements and directives in order to protect public interest and human rights. Anyone is entitled to approach the courts if public interest is hurt by the actions of government. This is called public interest litigation. The Supreme Court and the High Courts are empowered to declare invalid any law if they find such a law is against the spirit of Constitution, which means they can determine the Constitutional validity of any legislation. This is known as the judicial review.

21. 'The Constitution does not say very much about the powers of the Prime Minister.' Justify the statement.

**Ans.** Though the constitution of India does not say much about the powers of the Prime Minister, he enjoys wide ranging powers. He chairs Cabinet meetings. He coordinates the work of different Departments. His decisions are final in case disagreements arise between Departments. He exercises general supervision of different ministries. All ministers work under his leadership. The Prime Minister distributes and redistributes work to the ministers. He also has the power to dismiss ministers. When the Prime Minister quits, the entire ministry quits.

### Paragraph Based Questions

22. Read the sources given below and answer the questions that follow:

#### Source A – The President

While the Prime Minister is the head of the government, the President is the head of the State. In our political system the head of the State exercises only nominal powers. The President of India is like the Queen of Britain whose functions are to a large extent ceremonial.

(a) Why the President of India is like the Queen of Britain?

#### Source B – Powers of the Prime Minister

The Constitution does not say very much about the powers of the Prime Minister or the ministers or their relationship with each other. But as head of the government, the Prime Minister has wide ranging powers. He chairs Cabinet meetings. He coordinates the work of different Departments.

(b) Who is considered as the most powerful within the Cabinet?

#### Source C – The Presidential System

In many countries of the world, the President is both the head of the state and the head of the government. The President of the United States of America is the most well known example of this kind of President. The US President is directly elected by the people. He personally



chooses and appoints all Ministers. The law making is still done by the legislature (called the Congress in the US), but the president can veto any law.

(c) Write any two points on the special provisions related to the President of US.

- Ans.** (a) The President of India is like the Queen of Britain because they both have the nominal powers. All the major decisions are taken by the Prime Minister and his cabinet.
- (b) The Prime Minister is the most powerful within the Cabinet.
- (c) The special provisions related to the President of US are as follows:
- The President of the United States of America is both the head of the state and the head of the government.
  - He is directly elected by the people.

### Case Based Questions

**23.** Working with institutions is not easy. Institutions involve rules and regulations. This can bind the hands of leaders. Institutions involve meetings, committees and routines. This often leads to delays and complications. Therefore, dealing with institutions can be frustrating. One might feel that it is much better to have one person take all decisions without any rules, procedures and meetings. But that is not the spirit of democracy. Some of the delays and complications introduced by institutions are very useful. They provide an opportunity for a wider set of people to be consulted in any decision. Institutions make it difficult to have a good decision taken very quickly. But they also make it equally difficult to rush through a bad decision. That is why democratic governments insist on institutions.

**23.1** Why do democratic governments vouch for institutions?

- (a) they give a hierarchy to the government
- (b) they help avoid rushing through bad decisions
- (c) they help in making only favourable decisions
- (d) they remove the delays and complications in decision making

**Ans.** (b) they help avoid rushing through bad decisions

**23.2** What is the spirit of democracy?

- (a) the decisions are not made by one person
- (b) the decisions are fast paced
- (c) the decisions are in the favour of the majority
- (d) the decisions always benefit minorities

**Ans.** (a) the decisions are not made by one person

**23.3** Why is it not easy to work with institutions?

- (a) they often pose complications
- (b) they do not listen to the leader's perspective
- (c) there are routines to follow
- (d) they expedite the process

**Ans.** (c) there are routines to follow

**23.4** Some of the ..... introduced by the institutions are very useful.

- (a) Delays
- (b) Complications
- (c) Ideas
- (d) only (a) and (b)

**Ans.** (d) only (a) and (b)

**24.** In all democracies, an assembly of elected representatives exercises supreme political authority on behalf of the people. In India such a national assembly of elected representatives is called Parliament. At the state level this is called Legislature or Legislative Assembly. The name may vary in different countries, but such an assembly exists in every democracy. It exercises political authority on behalf of the people in many ways. First, Parliament is the final authority for making laws in any country. This task of law making or legislation is so crucial that these assemblies are called legislatures. Parliaments all over the world can make new laws, change existing laws, or abolish existing laws and make new ones in their place. Second, Parliaments all over the world exercise some control over those who run the government. In some countries like India, this control is direct and full. Those who run the government can take decisions only so long as they enjoy support of Parliament. Third, Parliaments control all the money that governments have. In most countries the public money can be spent only when Parliament sanctions it. Fourth, Parliament is the highest forum of discussion and debate on public issues and national policy in any country. Parliament can seek information about any matter.

**24.1** What can a Parliament do in a country like India?

- (a) exercise complete control over the voters and their choice
- (b) exercise some control over the resident and non-resident citizens
- (c) exercise complete control over those who run the government
- (d) exercise some control over those who run the government

**Ans.** (c) exercise complete control over those who run the government

**24.2** Democracies allow ..... to exercise supreme political authority on behalf of the people.

- (a) common people
- (b) the NRI citizens of a country
- (c) elected representatives
- (d) all of these

**Ans.** (c) elected representatives

**24.3** The government's money control is completely in the hands of the .....

- (a) elected representative.
- (b) Parliament.
- (c) voters.
- (d) chief justice.

**Ans.** (b) Parliament.

**24.4** Which of the following powers the Parliament doesn't possess?

- (a) provide authorisation to contesting candidates and their supporters
- (b) highest forum of discussion and debate on public issues and national policy
- (c) final authority for making laws in any country
- (d) direct and full control over those who run the government

**Ans.** (a) provide authorisation to contesting candidates and their supporters

### Long Answer Type Questions

**25.** Explain the process through which a government order is passed with an appropriate example.

**Ans.** The Government of India issued an Order on 13th August 1990 which was called an Office Memorandum bearing a number O. M. No. 36012/31/90-Est (SCT), dated 13.8.1990. This Order was signed by the Joint Secretary, an officer in the Department of Personnel and Training in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. The government issues hundreds of orders on daily basis related to different matters. However, this order was very different from others as it was a source of controversy for several years. Through this Order a major policy decision was taken according to which 27 per cent of the vacancies in civil posts and services under the Government of India were reserved for the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC). Till then the benefit of job reservation was available only to SCs and STs. But through this Order a new category called SEBC was introduced. This Order stated that people who belonged to backward classes were eligible for this quota of 27 per cent jobs and others were not entitled to compete for these jobs.

**26.** Describe the different types of ministers in the Council of Ministers in India.

**Ans.** The different ranks of ministers in India are as follows:

- (a) Cabinet Ministers are usually top-level leaders who are in charge of the major ministries. The Cabinet Ministers take decisions in the name of the Council of Ministers, so Cabinet is the inner ring of the Council of Ministers which comprises about 20 ministers.
- (b) Ministers of State with independent charge are In-charge of smaller Ministries. They can participate in the Cabinet meetings only when invited.
- (c) Ministers of State are attached to and required to assist Cabinet Ministers.

**27.** Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

In our country, Parliament consists of two Houses. The two Houses are known as the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) and the House of the People (Lok Sabha). The President of India is a part of Parliament, although she is not a member of either House. That is why all laws made in the Houses come into force only after they receive the assent of the President. It might appear that the Rajya Sabha is more powerful, for sometimes it is called the 'Upper Chamber' and the Lok Sabha the 'Lower Chamber'. But this does not mean that Rajya Sabha is more powerful than Lok Sabha. This is just an old style of speaking and not the language used in our Constitution. Our Constitution does give the Rajya Sabha some special powers over the states. But on most matters, the Lok Sabha exercises supreme power. Any ordinary law needs to be passed by both the Houses. But if there is a difference between the two Houses, the final decision is taken in a joint session in which members of both the Houses sit together. Because of the larger number of members, the view of the Lok Sabha is likely to prevail in such a meeting. Lok Sabha exercises more powers in money matters. Once the Lok Sabha passes the budget of the government or any other money related law, the Rajya Sabha cannot reject it. The Rajya Sabha can only delay it by 14 days or suggest changes in it. The Lok Sabha may or may not accept these changes.

- (a) Write a short note on the composition of Parliament in India.
- (b) Compare the powers enjoyed by the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha.
- (c) Briefly write about special powers enjoyed by the Lok Sabha in money matters.



- Ans.** (a) Parliament of India consist of two Houses. The two Houses are known as the Council of States (Rajya Sabha or the Upper House) and the House of the People (Lok Sabha or the Lower House). The President of India is a part of Parliament, although she is not a member of either House.
- (b) Some people think that the Rajya Sabha is more powerful as it is called the 'Upper Chamber' and the Lok Sabha the 'Lower Chamber'. But this does not mean that Rajya Sabha is more powerful. Our Constitution does give the Rajya Sabha some special powers over the states. But on most matters, the Lok Sabha exercises supreme power. Any ordinary law needs to be passed by both the Houses. But if there is a difference between the two Houses, the final decision is taken in a joint session in which members of both the Houses sit together. Because of the larger number of members, the view of the Lok Sabha is likely to prevail in such a meeting.
- (c) Lok Sabha exercises more powers in money matters. Once the Lok Sabha passes the budget of the government or any other money related law, the Rajya Sabha cannot reject it. The Rajya Sabha can only delay it by 14 days or suggest changes in it. The Lok Sabha may or may not accept these changes.

## ————— Let's Compete —————

### Multiple-Choice Questions

- Identify the Prime Minister of India who implemented the recommendations of the Mandal Commission.
  - Atal Bihari Vajpayee
  - Dr I K Gujral
  - V P Singh
  - Rajiv Gandhi

**Ans.** (c) V P Singh
- Who among the following is responsible for implementing any decisions taken by the government?
  - Supreme Court of India
  - Civil Servants
  - Governors
  - Lok Sabha

**Ans.** (b) Civil Servants
- Besides, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, who among the following is a part of the Parliament of India?
  - Prime Minister of India
  - Chief Ministers of all the states
  - The President of India
  - None of these

**Ans.** (c) The President of India
- Which of the following is also known as the 'Upper Chamber'?
  - Rajya Sabha
  - Lok Sabha
  - Legislative Assembly
  - Cabinet

**Ans.** (a) Rajya Sabha
- Who among the following holds the most important and powerful position in the government of India?
  - Attorney General of India
  - The Vice President of India
  - The Prime Minister of India
  - The President of India

**Ans.** (c) The Prime Minister of India
- The Chief Justice of India is appointed by
  - all the judges of the Supreme Court
  - the judges of all the High Courts
  - the Home Minister
  - the President

**Ans.** (d) the President
- Which of the following has the power to interpret the Constitution of India?
  - The Supreme Court of India
  - The President of India
  - The Lok Sabha
  - None of these

**Ans.** (a) The Supreme Court of India
- Any person can be appointed as Minister in the Council of Ministers, provided he gets elected to one of the Houses of the Parliament within the duration of
  - 30 days
  - 6 months
  - 3 months
  - 45 days

**Ans.** (b) 6 months
- Who among the following is not a part of the Council of Ministers?
  - Cabinet ministers
  - Ministers of State with independent charge
  - The President
  - The Prime Minister

**Ans.** (c) The President
- In a democratic country, the political and other institutions are necessary for
  - defence
  - governance
  - economy
  - all of these

**Ans.** (b) governance

## ————— Value-based Questions ————— (Optional)

- 'Our Constitution does give the Rajya Sabha some special powers over the states, but it is the Lok Sabha which exercises supreme power'. Explain the statement.

- Ans.** (a) Any ordinary law is required to be passed by both the Houses of Parliament. But in case there is a difference between the two Houses, the final decision is taken in a joint session of both the Houses. Due to numerical strength, the view of the Lok Sabha prevails in a joint session.
- (b) Lok Sabha exercises more powers in money or financial matters. Once the budget is passed in the Lok Sabha or any other money related legislation, the Rajya Sabha cannot reject it. The Rajya Sabha can only delay it by 14 days or make some recommendations. The Lok Sabha may or may not accept these changes.
- (c) The Lok Sabha controls the Council of Ministers. If the majority of the Lok Sabha members say they have 'no confidence' in the Council of Ministers, all ministers including the Prime Minister, have to quit. The Rajya Sabha does not enjoy such a power.
2. 'The centre of power in India revolves around the Prime Minister'. Justify the statement with appropriate examples.

**Ans.** As a head of the government, the Prime Minister of India has wide powers. He chairs the Cabinet meetings, coordinates the work of different Departments. His decision is final in case of any disagreement arise between the Departments. All ministers work under his leadership. The Prime Minister allots different portfolios to the ministers and also has the power to dismiss ministers. If the Prime Minister quits then entire ministry quits. They sail and swim together. The powers of the Prime Minister have increased so much that the parliamentary democracies are sometimes referred to as the Prime Ministerial form of government. The Prime Minister controls the Cabinet and Parliament through the party. In India we have observed a tendency towards the concentration of powers in the hands of the Prime Minister. J L Nehru exercised enormous authority because of his charismatic personality. Similarly, Indira Gandhi was also a very powerful leader. The extent of power enjoyed by the Prime Minister depends on the personality of the person.

# 5

## Democratic Rights

### Milestone

#### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. The term 'writ' means
  - (a) written laws.
  - (b) a formal document containing an order of the court to the government.
  - (c) a right provided by the Constitution.
  - (d) none of these.

**Ans.** (c) a right provided by the Constitution.

2. The term '*begar*' means
  - (a) encouraging workers to work at normal wages.
  - (b) practice of forcing workers to work without any wages.
  - (c) a person who is begging.
  - (d) none of these.

**Ans.** (b) practice of forcing workers to work without any wages.

3. What is the position of the Indian Constitution, regarding 'practice of untouchability'?
  - (a) Its practice in any form is punishable by law.
  - (b) Since it is an age-old custom, it should be respected.
  - (c) It stands abolished.
  - (d) Both (a) and (c).

**Ans.** (d) Both (a) and (c).

#### Very Short Answer Type Questions

4. Which right ensures to every citizen of India the right to live anywhere within the territory of India?

**Ans.** Right to Freedom under Article 19 of the Indian Constitution ensures every citizen of India to live anywhere within the territory of India.

5. Moving freely throughout the territory of India, is an implication of which fundamental right provided by our Constitution?

**Ans.** Right to Freedom under Article 19 of the Indian Constitution ensures moving freely throughout the territory of India.

6. Name the President during whose tenure the massacre took place in Kosovo.

**Ans.** During the tenure of Milosevic the massacre took place in Kosovo.

7. Which group was in majority and minority in Yugoslavia?

**Ans.** Serbs were in majority and ethnic Albanians were in minority.

8. What is 'Amnesty International'?

**Ans.** An international organisation of volunteers who campaign for human rights. This organisation brings out independent reports on the violation of human rights all over the world.

#### Short Answer Type Questions

9. Write a short note on the Fundamental Rights.

**Ans.** There are certain rights which are basic to our life so they are given a special status and called the Fundamental Rights. The Preamble to our Constitution talks about securing for all its citizens Equality, Liberty and Justice and the provisions of Fundamental Rights put this promise into effect. So they are one of the basic features of India's Constitution. Our Constitution provides a set of six fundamental rights to the citizens of India namely, Right to Freedom, Right against exploitation, Right to freedom of religion, Cultural and Educational rights.

10. Discuss any four features of the Right to Equality as a Fundamental Right provided under the Constitution of India.

**Ans.** The Constitution of India states that the government shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws

which means that the laws applicable in the same manner to all, regardless of status. According to this principle no person is above the law which means there is no distinction between a political leader, government official and an ordinary citizen. According to the provisions of the Constitution of India the government shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth. All citizens enjoy equality of opportunity in matters related to the employment or appointment to any position in the government. The Constitution of India also prohibits the practice of untouchability in any form.

**11.** Describe the features of a Secular State.

**Ans.** The concept of secularism is based on the idea that the government is concerned only with relations among its citizens, and not with the relation between human beings and God. A secular state is one that does not establish any one religion as official religion. The state has to be neutral and impartial in dealing with all religions. Every citizen enjoys the right to profess, practice and propagate the religion of his or her choice and also every religious group or sect is free to manage its religious affairs. However, a right to propagate one's religion does not mean that a person is authorised to compel another person to convert into his religion by using force, fraud, inducement. But a person is free to change religion according to his or her own will. Freedom to practice religion does not mean that a person is free to do whatever he or she wants to do on the name of religion.

### Long Answer Type Questions

**12.** Explain the Cultural and Educational Rights under the Indian Constitution.

**Ans.** According to the Constitution of India the language, culture and religion of minorities needs special protection because under the impact of the language, religion and culture of the majority they may get neglected or undermined. Due to this reason our Constitution specifies the cultural and educational rights of the minorities:

- (i). Any section of citizens with a distinct language or culture has a right to conserve it.
- (ii) Admission to any educational institution maintained by the government or receiving government aid cannot be denied to any citizen on the ground of religion or language.
- (iii) All minorities have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.

**13.** Explain the reasons for calling some rights as Fundamental Rights.

**Ans.** Rights are required for the existence of a democracy. In a democratic form of government every citizen enjoys the right to vote and the right to be elected to government. In democratic elections, it is essential that citizens have the right to express their opinion, form political parties and participate in political activities.

Rights are also helpful in protecting the minorities from the oppression of majority and also ensure that the majority cannot do anything according to their wish and will. Rights also act as guarantees which can be used when things go wrong.

Things go wrong when some citizens wish to seize the rights of fellow citizens and it happens when those in majority try to dominate those in minority. It is the responsibility of the government to protect the citizens' rights in such a situation. But occasionally the elected government may not protect or even attack the rights of the citizens. Due to this reason some rights need to be placed above the government authority, so that the government cannot violate them. In most democracies across the world, the basic rights of the citizens are written down in the constitution.

## Self-Assessment

### Multiple-Choice Questions

**1.** Who among the following is the custodian of Fundamental Rights in India?

- (a) The Supreme Court of India
- (b) The Supreme Court and the High Courts
- (c) The President of India
- (d) The Prime Minister

**Ans.** (b) The Supreme Court and the High Courts

**2.** Who was Milosevic?

- (a) An Albanian leader
- (b) Supporter of ethnic Albanians
- (c) Elected Serb leader
- (d) None of these

**Ans.** (c) Elected Serb leader

**3.** Under the Indian Constitution, how many types of right to freedom are there under the cluster?

- (a) Six
- (b) Seven
- (c) Five
- (d) Eleven

**Ans.** (a) Six

### Assertion-Reason Type Questions

**For question numbers 4 to 7, two statements are given as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct**

option from (a), (b), (c) and (d) as given below.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (c) A is true but R is false.
- (d) A is false but R is true.

**4. Assertion (A):** About 600 people were secretly picked up by the US forces from all over the world and put in a prison in Guantanamo Bay, an area near Canada.

**Reason (R):** The American government said that they were enemies of the US and linked to the attack on New York on 11 September 2001.

**Ans.** (d) Assertion (A) is wrong because Guantanamo Bay is an area near Cuba which is controlled by American Navy. Around 600 people were put in this prison because the American government considered that they had links with the attack on New York on 11th September 2001.

**5. Assertion (A):** The fundamental rights in the Constitution are important because they are enforceable.

**Reason (R):** We have a right to seek the enforcement of the above mentioned rights.

**Ans.** (a) The Fundamental Rights provided by the Constitution of India are enforceable by the court of law which means that in case of their violation a person can directly move to the Supreme Court of India or any High Courts. This is called the Right to Constitutional Remedies.

**6. Assertion (A):** Amnesty International is an international organisation of volunteers who campaign for human rights.

**Reason (R):** This organisation brings out independent reports on the violation of human rights all over the world.

**Ans.** (a) Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A) because the primary goal of Amnesty International is to bring out independent reports on the violation of human rights across the world.

**7. Assertion (A):** The Constitution says that no person can be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.

**Reason (R):** It means that no person can be killed unless the court has ordered a death sentence.

**Ans.** (a) Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A) because a person can be

deprived of his life or personal liberty only according to the order of the court.

### Study the Picture and Answer the Question



8. Which one of the following option best signifies this image?
- (a) Power of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to issue directives to various institutions and government in case of violation of human rights.
  - (b) Power of Central Bureau of Investigation to question the government.
  - (c) Power of Central Government to question the acts of any state government for the violation of human rights.
  - (d) Power of government to question the police authorities in case of custodial deaths.

**Ans.** (a)

### Find the Incorrect Option

9. (a) Right to Constitutional Remedies is a legal right and not a fundamental right.
- (b) All minorities have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.
- (c) A person who is arrested and detained shall be produced before the nearest magistrate within a period of 24 hours of arrest.
- (d) Freedom of speech and expression is one of the essential features of any democracy.

**Ans.** (a)

### Correct the Following Statement and Rewrite

10. In 2009, P Sainath wrote a series of news reports in *The Hindu* describing untouchability and caste discrimination that was still being practiced against Dalits or persons belonging to Scheduled Castes.

**Ans.** In 1999, P. Sainath wrote a series of news reports in *The Hindu* describing untouchability and caste discrimination that was still being practiced against Dalits or persons belonging to Scheduled Castes.



### Fill in the Blanks

11. The prison in Guantanamo Bay is controlled by **American Navy**.
12. The massacre of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo took place in the year **1999**.
13. An arrested or detained person should be produced before the nearest magistrate within a period of **24 hours**.

### Very Short Answer Type Questions

14. What is the nature of government in Saudi Arabia?  
**Ans.** Saudi Arabia is ruled by a hereditary king and the people play no role in electing or changing the rulers.
15. What is the reason for imposing reasonable restrictions on the right to freedom?  
**Ans.** Right to freedom is not an unconstrained licence to do what one wants. The government is authorised to impose certain rational restrictions on our freedoms in the interest of the society.
16. What was the nature of government in Yugoslavia which massacred minorities?  
**Ans.** Large-scale massacre was carried out by the army, working under the directions of a leader elected democratically.
17. Why do the citizens of Saudi Arabia have no religious rights?  
**Ans.** There is no freedom of religion in Saudi Arabia, it is mandatory for every citizen to be a Muslim. However, the Non-Muslim residents are not allowed to follow their religion in public.

### Short Answer Type Questions

18. Discuss the provisions of Fundamental Right against Exploitation.  
**Ans.** The Constitution makers wrote down certain provisions in order to prevent exploitation of the weaker sections of the society. Our Constitution mentions three definite evils and declares these illegal.
  - (a) Firstly, the Constitution of India prohibits 'traffic in human beings' which means selling and buying of human beings, usually women, for immoral purposes.
  - (b) Secondly, the Constitution of India prohibits forced labour in any form. Forced labour is a practice where the worker is forced to deliver service to the 'master' free of charge or at a nominal remuneration.
  - (c) Finally, the Constitution of India prohibits child labour. A child below the age of fourteen cannot be employed by anyone to work in any factory or mine or in any other hazardous work, such as railways and ports.

19. Briefly describe the types of freedoms provided under the 'Right to Freedom'.

**Ans.** The term freedom means absence of constraints in any form. Practically, it means absence of interference in our personal affairs by others. Others are not authorised to dictate us what we should do. So, the Constitution of India guarantees certain rights to all its citizens:

- (i) Freedom of speech and expression
- (ii) Assembly in a peaceful manner
- (iii) Form associations and unions
- (iv) Move freely throughout the territory of India
- (v) Right to reside in any part of India, and
- (vi) Practice any profession, or to carry on any occupation, trade or business.

20. Mention the Constitutional provisions for the protection of women and children in India.

- Ans.** Some of the important Constitutional provisions for the protection of women and children in India are as follows:
- Right to equality provides for no discrimination on the basis of sex, so it provides for equal opportunity to the women.
  - Right against exploitation provides for prevention of human trafficking, particularly women for an immoral purpose. This right also prohibits ban on child labour particularly in some specific industries where children below fourteen years of age cannot be employed.
  - The 73rd and 74th Amendments Acts provided for participation of women in the local self government institutions by reserving one-third seats for them.
  - Right to education provides for free and compulsory education for children up to the age of fourteen years.
21. 'Rights are necessary for the very sustenance of a democracy.' Justify the statement.

**Ans.** It is true to say that, Rights are necessary for the very sustenance of a democracy, because without enjoying the basic rights it is not possible for the human beings to survive in this material world. Another important aspect for a real democracy is that, if there is a right then a remedy should be there in case of their violation. The rights should be enforceable by the court of law so that no one dares to curtail other person's right. For example, right to vote in the elections to elect their representatives is the basic right for a successful democracy. In case an eligible voter is not allowed to cast his/her vote then he is entitled to take a legal action against the person who did not allowed him to cast the vote.

## Paragraph Based Questions

22. Read the sources given below and answer the questions that follow:

### Source A – Ethnic Massacre in Kosovo

Just consider this story from Kosovo. This was a province of Yugoslavia before its split. In this province the population was overwhelmingly ethnic Albanian. But in the entire country, Serbs were in majority. A narrow minded Serb nationalist Milosevic (pronounced Miloshevich) had won the election. His government was very hostile to the Kosovo Albanians. He wanted the Serbs to dominate the country. Many Serb leaders thought that Ethnic minorities like Albanians should either leave the country or accept the dominance of the Serbs.

- (a) What was the attitude of Serbs towards the Kosovo Albanians?

### Source B – Prison in Guantanamo Bay

About 600 people were secretly picked up by the US forces from all over the world and put in a prison in Guantanamo Bay, an area near Cuba controlled by American Navy. Anas's father, Jamil El-Banna, was among them. The American government said that they were enemies of the US and linked to the attack on New York on 11 September 2001. In most cases the governments of their countries were not asked or even informed about their imprisonment.

- (b) Why did the American forces secretly picked up hundreds of people from across the world?

### Source C – Why do we Need Rights in a Democracy?

Rights also perform a very special role in a democracy. Rights protect minorities from the oppression of majority. They ensure that the majority cannot do whatever they like. Rights are guarantees which can be used when things go wrong. Things may go wrong when some citizens may wish to take away the rights of others. This usually happens when those in majority want to dominate those in minority.

- (c) Why are rights considered necessary for a democracy?

- Ans.** (a) A narrow minded Serb nationalist Milosevic won the election and his government was very hostile to the Kosovo Albanians. He advocated that Serbs should dominate the nation. Many Serb leaders were of the view that Ethnic minorities like Albanians should either leave the country or accept the dominance of the Serbs.

- (b) The US forces picked around 600 people secretly from all over the world and imprisoned them in a prison in Guantanamo Bay. According to the American government they were enemies of the US and they were linked to the attack on New York on 11 September 2001.
- (c) Rights are necessary for a successful democracy as it helps in protecting the minorities from the oppression of majority. Rights further ensure that the majority is not allowed to do whatever they wish.

## Case Based Questions

23. Rights are claims of a person over other fellow beings, over the society and over the government. All of us want to live happily, without fear and without being subjected to degraded treatment. For this we expect others to behave in such a way that does not harm us or hurt us. Equally, our actions should not also harm or hurt others. So a right is possible when you make a claim that is equally possible for others. You cannot have a right that harms or hurts others. You cannot have a right to play a game in such a way that it breaks the neighbour's window. The Serbs in Yugoslavia could not have claimed the whole country for themselves. The claims we make should be reasonable. They should be such that can be made available to others in an equal measure. Thus, a right comes with an obligation to respect other rights. Just because we claim something it does not become our right. It has to be recognised by the society we live in. Rights acquire meaning only in society. Every society makes certain rules to regulate our conduct. They tell us what is right and what is wrong. What is recognised by the society as rightful becomes the basis of rights. That is why the notion of rights changes from time to time and society to society. Two hundred years ago anyone who said that women should have right to vote would have sounded strange. Today not granting them vote in Saudi Arabia appears strange.

23.1 Rights cannot be .....

- (a) unfavourable. (b) unreasonable.  
(c) unreliable. (d) unjust.

**Ans.** (b) unreasonable.

23.2 Complete the statement: There is difference between ..... and ..... a right.

- (a) claiming; having  
(b) demanding; accessing  
(c) having; using  
(d) receiving; practising

**Ans.** (a) claiming; having

**23.3** What can be concluded after reading the given passage?

- (a) rights should not be exploited
- (b) rights should be practised
- (c) rights change with time
- (d) rights vary on the basis of institutions

**Ans.** (c) rights change with time

**23.4** Why are rules made in a society?

- (a) to understand the rights
- (b) to practice the rights
- (c) to distribute rights
- (d) to regulate conduct

**Ans.** (d) to regulate conduct

**24.** About 600 people were secretly picked up by the US forces from all over the world and put in a prison in Guantanamo Bay, an area near Cuba controlled by American Navy. Anas's father, Jamil El-Banna, was among them. The American government said that they were enemies of the US and linked to the attack on New York on 11 September 2001. In most cases, the governments of their countries were not asked or even informed about their imprisonment. Like other prisoners, El-Banna's family got to know that he was in that prison only through the media. Families of prisoners, media or even UN representatives were not allowed to meet them. The US army arrested them, interrogated them and decided whether to keep them there or not. There was no trial before any magistrate in the US. Nor could these prisoners approach courts in their own country. Amnesty International, an international human rights organisation, collected information on the condition of the prisoners in Guantanamo Bay and reported that the prisoners were being tortured in ways that violated the US laws. They were being denied the treatment that even prisoners of war must get as per international treaties. Many prisoners had tried protesting against these conditions by going on a hunger strike. Prisoners were not released even after they were officially declared not guilty. An independent inquiry by the UN supported these findings. The UN Secretary General said the prison in Guantanamo Bay should be closed down. The US government refused to accept these pleas.

**24.1** What does the passage talk about?

- (a) American Navy
- (b) Prison in Guantanamo Bay
- (c) UN Secretary General
- (d) Jamil El-Banna

**Ans.** (b) Prison in Guantanamo Bay

**24.2** Which organisation/body reported that the prisoners were being tortured in ways that violated the US laws?

- (a) Amnesty International
- (b) UN Secretary General
- (c) US government
- (d) UN representatives

**Ans.** (a) Amnesty International

**24.3** The prison in Guantanamo Bay was controlled by .....

- (a) Cuba.
- (b) American Navy.
- (c) Jamil El-Banna.
- (d) UN Secretary General.

**Ans.** (b) American Navy.

**24.4** How did the prisoners protest against the ill treatment?

- (a) by making contact with an international human rights organisation
- (b) by shouting out slogans
- (c) by refusing to work inside the prison
- (d) by going on a hunger strike

**Ans.** (d) by going on a hunger strike

### Long Answer Type Questions

**25.** 'The new interpretations of fundamental rights has led to an expansion of the fundamental rights'. Explain the statement with appropriate examples.

**Ans.** The scope of rights has expanded a lot with the passage of time. Fundamental Rights are the source of all rights which are given by our Constitution. The courts have pronounced some judgements to expand the scope of rights. Some specific rights like right to freedom of press, right to information, and right to education are derived from the Fundamental Rights. For example, now school education has become a fundamental right for Indian citizens. It is the responsibility of the governments to provide free and compulsory education to all children up to the age of fourteen years. The Right to Information Act was passed by the Parliament in the year 2005 in order to give the right to information to the citizens. This Act was also framed under the Fundamental Right to freedom of thought and expression. According to the provisions of this act, we have a right to seek information from government. According to one of the recent judgements of the Supreme Court of India, the meaning of right of life was expanded to include the right to food. Apart from the Fundamental Rights, the Constitution also provides many more rights. For example, the right



to property is a constitutional right. Right to vote in elections is an important constitutional right.

26. Explain the restrictions that can be imposed on the freedoms granted by the Constitution of India.

**Ans.** The term freedom means absence of constraints in any form. Practically, it means absence of interference in our personal affairs by others. Your right to freedom should not cause public nuisance or disorder. A person is free to do everything which does not cause any harm to others. Right to freedom is not an unconstrained licence to do what one wants. The government is authorised to impose certain rational restrictions on our freedoms in the interest of the society. Freedom of speech and expression is an essential feature of any democracy as it helps in the development of our ideas and personality. People should have the freedom to publicise their views through a pamphlet, magazine or newspaper. However, no one should be allowed to use this freedom to instigate violence against others neither no one should use this freedom to incite people to rebel against government further no one should be allowed to use it to defame others by making false statements which may cause damage to a person's reputation.

Citizens should have the freedom to hold meetings, processions, rallies and demonstrations against the policies of the government. The people who participate in these activities should not carry any kind weapons with them.

27. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

The Constitution says that the government shall not deny to any person in India equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws. It means that the laws apply in the same manner to all, regardless of a person's status. This is called the rule of law. Rule of law is the foundation of any democracy. It means that no person is above the law. There cannot be any distinction between a political leader, government official and an ordinary citizen. Every citizen, from the Prime Minister to a small farmer in a remote village, is subjected to the same laws. No person can legally claim any special treatment or privilege just because he or she happens to be an important person. For example, a few years ago a former Prime Minister of the country faced a court case on charges of cheating. The court finally declared that he was not guilty. But as long as the case continued, he had to go to the court, give evidence and file papers, just like any other citizen.

- (a) What do you understand by the term rule of law?  
(b) 'Rule of law is the foundation of any democracy'. Justify the statement.  
(c) Do you think that the constitutional rights are different for Prime Minister of India?

**Ans.** (a) According to the Constitution of India, the government shall not deny to any person in India equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws. It means that the laws are applicable in the same manner to all, regardless of their status. This is called the rule of law.  
(b) It is true to say that 'Rule of law is the foundation of any democracy', because it means that no one is above the law. No one is allowed to make any kind of distinction between a political leader, government official and an ordinary citizen. Every citizen, from the Prime Minister to a labourer working in a factory or agricultural field, is subjected to the same laws. No person can legally claim any special treatment or privilege just because he or she happens to be an important person.  
(c) No, there are no different constitutional rights for Prime Minister of India.

## Let's Compete

### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Which of the following parts of Fundamental Rights have the provision of 'non-discrimination'?
- (a) Right to Equality  
(b) Right against Exploitation  
(c) Right to Freedom  
(d) None of these

**Ans.** (a) Right to Equality

2. Which among the following is not a part of the right against exploitation?
- (a) Child labour (b) *Begar*  
(c) Human trafficking (d) Dowry

**Ans.** (d) Dowry

3. The law in India, prohibits employing children in which of these industries?
- (a) *Beedi* making (b) Firecrackers  
(c) Printing and dyeing (d) All of these

**Ans.** (d) All of these

4. Which among the following is not a Fundamental Right?
- (a) Right to Equality (b) Right to Vote  
(c) Right to Religion (d) Right to Education

**Ans.** (b) Right to Vote

5. Which of the following issues 'writs' in case of violation of Fundamental Rights?

- (a) Chief Justice of India
- (b) The Supreme Court of India
- (c) The Parliament
- (d) The President of India

**Ans.** (b) The Supreme Court of India

6. Where is Guantanamo Bay prison located?

- (a) In China
- (b) Near Iraq
- (c) Near Cuba
- (d) In Syria

**Ans.** (c) Near Cuba

7. Which among the following bodies reported the torture of prisoners in Guantanamo Bay prison?

- (a) Amnesty International
- (b) International Court of Justice
- (c) The Supreme Court of USA
- (d) All of these

**Ans.** (a) Amnesty International

8. Which Fundamental Right in the Indian Constitution is called the 'heart and soul' of our Constitution?

- (a) Right to Religion
- (b) Right to Freedom
- (c) Right to Constitutional Remedies
- (d) None of these

**Ans.** (c) Right to Constitutional Remedies

9. The Cultural and Educational Rights in the Indian Constitution safeguard the interests of

- (a) men
- (b) women
- (c) children
- (d) minorities

**Ans.** (d) minorities

10. In which year was the National Human Rights Commission set up by the law?

- (a) 1999
- (b) 1993
- (c) 1997
- (d) 1989

**Ans.** (b) 1993

## Value-based Questions

(Optional)

1. 'Right to Freedom is a cluster of different freedoms'. Justify the statement.

**Ans.** The term freedom means absence of constraints in any form. Practically, it means absence of interference in our personal affairs by others. Others are not authorised to dictate us what we should do. So, the Constitution of India guarantees certain rights to all its citizens:

- (i) Freedom of speech and expression
- (ii) Assembly in a peaceful manner
- (iii) Form associations and unions
- (iv) Move freely throughout the territory of India
- (v) Right to reside in any part of India, and
- (vi) Practice any profession, or to carry on any occupation, trade or business.

2. 'The right to Constitutional remedy is the heart and soul of the Indian Constitution'. Explain.

**Ans.** The Fundamental Rights in the Constitution of India can be secured through the Right to Constitutional Remedies which is itself is a Fundamental Right. This right makes other rights effective. There is a possibility that sometimes our rights may be violated by the fellow citizens, private bodies or by the government. In case of violation of any of our rights the citizens can seek remedy through courts. In case of violation of a Fundamental Right, the citizens can directly approach the Supreme Court or the High Court of a state. Due to this reason, Dr B R Ambedkar called the Right to Constitutional Remedies, 'the heart and soul' of our Constitution.