



ST. MARY'S CO-ED SCHOOL, HARDA

ACADAMIC YEAR (2020-21)

CLASS – X

(DEMOCRATIC POLITICS- II)

CHAPTER -1 (POWER SHARING)

INTRODCTION TO THE CHAPTER

- ❖ When the power does not vest in one organ but shared among other organs it is known as Power sharing.
- ❖ The power in Democracy is shared between the Legislature, Executive and the Judiciary.
- ❖ Belgium is a small federal state in Western Europe having complex ethnic composition.
- ❖ Sri Lanka has 2 sub groups: Sinhala and Tamil speaker community.
- ❖ The Sinhala community of the Sri Lanka dominated the minority Tamil people and practised Majoritarian Policy.
- ❖ This indeed led to many conflicts and Civil War.
- ❖ In Belgium, the leaders took a different path of Power Sharing.
- ❖ Community of Government had the power regarding the cultural, Educational and language related issues.

NCERT BASED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Q.1. What are the different forms of power sharing in modern democracies ? Give an example of each of these.

Ans. In a democracy, power is shared among the different organs of the government such as the legislature, executive and the judiciary. This is called the horizontal distribution of power because it allows different organs of the government placed at the same level to exercise different powers. Under this kind of power sharing arrangement, one can exercise unlimited powers. Each organ has its own powers, and it can also check the powers of other. So this results in a balance of power among the various institutions.

(ii) Power sharing among governments at different levels : Under this, people choose separate governments at separate levels, for example, a general local government for the entire country and local governments at the provincial, sub-national or regional levels. Such a general government for the entire country is usually called a Federal government.

(iii) Power sharing among different social groups : In a democracy, especially, in a multi-ethnic society, power is also shared among social groups such as the religious and linguistic groups. 'Community government' in Belgium is a good example of this arrangement.

(iv) Power sharing among political parties, pressure groups and movements : In a democracy, power is also shared among different political parties, pressure groups and movements. Democracy provides the citizens a choice to choose their rulers. This choice is provided by the various political parties, who contest elections to win them. Such competition ensures that power does not remain in one hand.

Q.2. State one prudential reason and one moral reason for power sharing with an example from the Indian context.

Ans. (i) (a) India is a multicultural society.

(b) India is a democratic country.

IMPORTANT QUESTIONS FROM CHAPTER.

Q.3 Name any two Countries with which Belgium has borders?

Ans. Belgium has borders with France and Luxembourg.

Q.4 What is the significance of the word "Ethnic"?

Ans. The word "Ethnic" signifies social divisions based on shared cultural tradition.

Q.5 Which minority community is relatively rich and powerful in Belgium?

Ans. The French minority community is relatively rich and powerful in Belgium.

Q.6 What were the Majoritarian measures taken in Sri Lanka to establish Sinhala supremacy?

Ans. (i) In 1956, an act was passed which recognised Sinhala as the only official language, thus disregarding Tamil language.

(ii) Preferences were given to the Sinhala Community for University applications and government jobs.

(iii) State shall promote Buddhism according to the new constitution.

(iv) Tamil Community felt that none of the major political parties led by the Buddhist Sinhala leaders were sensitive to their language and culture.

Q.7 Power Sharing is the very spirit of democracy. Justify this statement.

Ans. (i) It helps to reduce the conflicts among the social groups.

(ii) It's a good way to ensure the stability of the political power.

(iii) The groups have the right to be consulted on how they are governed. Thus, a legitimate government is the one, where citizens have equal participation.

8. The Community Government signifies:

- (a) The powers of government regarding community development.
- (b) The powers of the government regarding law making for the community.
- (c) **The powers of the government regarding cultural, educational and language related issues.**
- (d) The government enjoys privileges to safeguard the interest of a particular community.

9. System of 'checks and balances' means:

- (a) Horizontal distribution of powers.
- (b) Separation of powers.
- (c) **Put a check on the exercise of unlimited powers of the organs of government by maintaining a balance of power among various institutions.**
- (d) Federal division of powers.

10. A belief that the majority community should be able to rule a country in whichever way it wants is

- (a) Community Government
- (b) Federal Government
- (c) **Majoritarian**
- (d) Prudential

11. Power sharing is :

- (a) **the very spirit of democracy.**
- (b) separation of powers at different levels.
- (c) system of checks and balances.
- (d) a type of balancing powers.

12. Vertical division of power is :

- (a) a system in which each organ of government checks the others.
- (b) a type of distribution in which power is shared among different organs of government.
- (c) **a type of distribution of power which involves the higher and lower levels of government.**
- (d) a type of government elected by people.

13. Coalition government is the government:

- (a) based on prudential and moral reasons.
- (b) government of majority community.
- (c) government elected by the people.
- (d) **an alliance government formed by two or more parties, if no single party gets majority in the election.**

14. The word 'ethnic' signifies :

- (a) different religions.
- (b) **social division on shared culture.**
- (c) a violent conflict between opposite groups.
- (d) a careful calculation of gains and losses.

15. Which are the important features of prudential reason ?

- (i) Emphasises intrinsic worth of power sharing.
- (ii) Based on careful calculation of gains or losses.
- (iii) Based on moral consideration.
- (iv) Stresses on beneficial consequences.

- (a) (ii) and (iii)
- (b) (i) and (iv)
- (c) **(ii) and (iv)**
- (d) (i) and (iii)

16. Which statement justifies ethnic complexity of Sri Lanka ?

- (a) Sinhalese – 80%, Tamils – 20%
- (b) Sinhalese – 60%, Tamils – 40%
- (c) **Sinhalese – 74%, Tamils – 18%**
- (d) Sinhalese – 76%, Tamils – 18%

17. Consider the statements on Ethnic composition :

- (a) **The Ethnic composition of Belgium is very complex because of diverse language speaking people like Dutch speaking, French speaking and German speaking.**
- (b) French speaking community was in minority and more powerful.
- (c) Dutch speaking community was in majority and less powerful.
- (d) There was conflict between the French and the Dutch communities.

18. Prudential reasons of power sharing stresses on:

- (a) The stability of political order.
- (b) To reduce the possibility of conflict between social group.
- (c) A fair chance/share to minority.
- (d) **All the above.**

19. The majority of population in Brussels, the capital city of Belgium speaks :

- (a) **French**
- (b) Dutch
- (c) German
- (d) Roman

20. The proportion of Tamils in Sri Lanka's total population is about:

- (a) 8 per cent
- (b) **18 per cent**
- (c) 28 per cent
- (d) 38 per cent

21. In India, power sharing mechanism does not directly involve:

- (a) Judiciary
- (b) Legislature
- (c) Executive
- (d) **Industry**

22. Power sharing does not:

- (a) accommodate diversities.
- (b) speed up the decision making process.
- (c) **increases conflict among different communities.**
- (d) All the above.

23. Coalition Government implies :

- (a) power sharing among different organs of the government.
- (b) power sharing by different communities.
- (c) **power sharing by two or more political parties.**
- (d) power sharing within the government at different levels.

24. The religion of state in Sri Lanka is :

- (a) **Buddhism**
- (b) Christianity
- (c) Hinduism
- (d) Islam.

25. A strategy under which all the major segments of the society are provided with a permanent share of power in the governance of the country is known as:

- (a) secularism
- (b) power sharing
- (c) **majoritarianism**
- (d) minoritism.

26. The majority of population in Belgium lives in:

- (a) Wallonia region and speaks French
- (b) Wallonia region and speaks Dutch
- (c) **Flemish region and speaks Dutch**
- (d) Flemish region and speaks French

27. Belgium successfully solved its problem by :

- (a) rejecting policy of majoritarianism.
- (b) developing power sharing mechanism.
- (c) respecting the interest of different communities.
- (d) **All the above.**

28. The power of different levels of government shows:

- (a) separation of powers.
- (b) community Government.
- (c) coalition Government.
- (d) **federal division of power.**

29. Consider the following two statements on power sharing and select the answer using codes given below:

A. Power sharing is good for democracy.

B. It helps to reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups.

Which of the statements are true and false ?

- (a) A is true but B is false
- (b) **Both A and B are true**
- (c) Both A and B are false
- (d) A is false but B is true.

30. Match the following :

- A. Ethnic Composition (i) A violent conflict between opposite groups within a country.
- B. Majoritarianism (ii) Based on prudence, i.e., a careful calculation of gains or losses.
- C. Civil War (iii) A social divisions based on shared culture.
- D. Prudential reason (iv) A belief that majority community should be able to rule a country.
- E. Vertical division (v) Power is shared among of power different organs of the government.
- F. Horizontal (vi) Power is involved at division of the higher and lower power levels of government.

- (a) A – (iv), B – (iii), C – (ii), D – (i), E – (v), F – (vi)
- (b) **A – (iii), B – (iv), C – (i), D – (ii), E – (vi), F – (v)**
- (c) A – (i), B – (ii), C – (iii), D – (iv), E – (v), F – (vi)
- (d) A – (ii), B – (iv), C – (iv), D – (v), E – (vi), F – (i)

HOMEWORK (SELF ASSESMENT QUESTIONS)

1. Describe any three demands of the Sri Lankan Tamils? How did they struggle for their demands?
2. Differentiate between horizontal and vertical divisions of Powers.
3. Describe the three elements of Belgian model of accommodation.
4. Describe the tension that existed between the Dutch and the French speaking people in Belgium.

