INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VIII	Department: SOCIAL SCIENCE	Subject: Political Science
Chapter:4 (Part II) Worksheet No:7	Topic: The Role of the Judiciary in Our Society	Year :2026-27

A) Answer the following Questions: -

Q 1	**What kind of justice does the Preamble to the Constitution of India promise to its citizens?** • The Preamble promises social justice to all Indian citizens. • It also promises economic and political justice to all citizens
Q 2	**How does the judicial system enable people to seek justice?** • The judicial system enables individuals to complain when they have a grievance and present their point of view. • It ensures that justice is provided within the framework of the law and the Constitution.
Q 3	**Why were some laws enacted during British Rule repealed after independence?** • Many colonial-era laws were discriminatory and contrary to the fundamental principles of a democratic polity. • Laws such as the Criminal Tribes Act, 1871 and the Vernacular Press Act, 1878 were repealed because they were inconsistent with the values and principles of justice.
Q 4	**State the provisions of Articles 142 and 144 of the Constitution.** • Article 142: The Supreme Court can pass any order necessary to do complete justice. • Article 144: All civil and judicial authorities must act in aid of the Supreme Court.
Q 5	**The Supreme Court occupies a special position in India's judicial system. Justify this statement with reference to its status, constitutional role and establishment.** • The Supreme Court is the highest court of law in India and came into existence on 26 January 1950. • It is the final interpreter of the Constitution of India and is established under Article 124.
Q 6	**Differentiate between substantive justice and procedural justice.** • Substantive justice focuses on the final result or outcome and checks whether the decision is fair, just, and reasonable. • Procedural justice ensures that every person gets a full opportunity to be heard before the

	court takes a decision. • Under procedural justice, a person is presumed innocent until proved guilty.
Q 7	**Suppose a legal dispute arises between the Government of India and the Government of a State. The dispute requires a decision regarding their respective legal rights. Which jurisdiction of the Supreme Court would apply? Explain.** • The matter would come under the Original Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. • Under Article 131, the Supreme Court has exclusive original jurisdiction over disputes between the Centre and a State. • This jurisdiction also covers certain inter-State disputes, such as river-water disputes
Q 8	**What is meant by 'Special Leave Petition' or 'Special Leave to Appeal'? Also state its significance?** • The Supreme Court can exercise its extraordinary discretionary jurisdiction to grant 'Special Leave Petition' or 'Special Leave to Appeal' against a judgment, decree, or order of a court or tribunal. • This power may be exercised when a question of law of general public importance arises or to ensure substantive justice between the parties. • Under Article 141, the law declared by the Supreme Court is binding on all courts in India**.**
Q 9	**How did unjust laws affect people during the Jim Crow and apartheid periods?** • Jim Crow laws in parts of the United States restricted African Americans and other people of colour from using public facilities reserved for white people. • During apartheid in South Africa, people were divided by law on the basis of race and coloured people faced severe restrictions. • These laws denied people access to public facilities and the opportunity to live with dignity.
Q 10	**What is the importance of the subordinate judiciary? Who appoints the District Judges?** • The subordinate judiciary is important because its courts come in close contact with the people. • It includes District Courts, Sessions Courts, Revenue Courts, and Small Causes Courts. • The Governor of a State, in consultation with the concerned High Court, appoints the District Judges under Article 233.
Q 11	**Name the three major laws that were replaced by new laws in India. State the main aim of these changes.** • The Indian Penal Code, 1860 was replaced by the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita**,** 2023. • The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 was replaced by the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023. • The Indian Evidence Act, 1872 was replaced by the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023. • These new laws aim to make the justice system faster, modern, transparent and effective, including better use of digital evidence and protection for victims
Q 12	**What is Arbitration? Explain its main features and the law governing arbitration in India.** • Arbitration is a method of dispute resolution in which the parties agree to refer their dispute to an independent arbitrator or panel of arbitrators. • The arbitrator may be a retired judge, lawyer, or expert and must act fairly and impartially, giving both parties an opportunity to present their cases. • The decision of the arbitrator or panel is final and legally binding on the parties. • In India, arbitration is conducted under the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.
Q 13	**What is mediation? Explain its main features and the law governing mediation in India.** • Mediation is a common form of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in which a

	neutral person is appointed as a mediator. • The mediator helps the disputing parties to arrive at a mutual settlement. • A mediator cannot make a decision or impose a view on the parties. • Mediation in India is governed by the Mediation Act, 2023
Q 14	**What are Gram Nyayalayas? Explain their objectives and functioning.** • Gram Nyayalayas are established under the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008. • They aim to decentralize the judicial system and reduce the burden on regular courts. • They function as mobile, village-level courts, making justice more accessible at the local level. • They deal with disputes through a simplified procedure without technicalities.
Q 15	**A person wants to become a Judge of the Supreme Court of India. Explain the eligibility requirements, appointment process and retirement age for the post.** • The person must be a citizen of India. • The person must fulfil one of the following qualifications: o Be a Judge of a High Court for five years; or o Be an Advocate of a High Court for 10 years; or o Be a distinguished jurist, in the opinion of the President of India. • Every Supreme Court Judge is appointed by the President of India, as provided under Article 124. • A Supreme Court Judge retires at the age of 65 years.
Q16	**A citizen's Fundamental Right has been violated. Explain how the writ jurisdiction of the Constitutional Courts can help the citizen seek justice?** • Writ jurisdiction enables Constitutional Courts to enforce the Fundamental Rights guaranteed under Part III of the Constitution. • The citizen can directly approach the Supreme Court under Article 32 by filing a writ petition. • If the violation concerns the territorial limits of a State, the citizen can approach the High Court. • Fundamental Rights include rights such as Equality, Liberty, Right to Life, Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Religion.
Q17	**Explain the appointment, qualifications and retirement age of High Court Judges in India.** • A High Court consists of a Chief Justice and other Judges, and the number of Judges varies from State to State. • High Court Judges are appointed by the President of India in consultation with the Chief Justice of India, the Governor of the State, and the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. • A High Court Judge must be a citizen of India and must have held a judicial office in India or been an advocate of a High Court or more than one High Court for 10 years. • High Court Judges retire at the age of 62 years.
Q18	**Imagine that the executive takes an action beyond the powers given to it by the Constitution. Why is an independent judiciary important in such a situation?** • An independent judiciary can examine whether the executive has overstepped its constitutional role. • The judiciary functions independently from the executive. • It ensures that the actions of the executive remain within the framework of the Constitution. • This helps protect the principles of fairness and justice in a democracy.

B) Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

	The first reported case of a PIL was a complaint made by a lawyer called Mrs. Kapila Hingorani. She had read in the newspaper that there were prisoners who were undergoing a trial, and who had been in jail for a period longer than what their punishment would have been if they were found guilty. She filed a writ petition to secure the release of all such under-trial prisoners in Bihar. The Supreme Court immediately ordered the release of such prisoners, and also issued guidelines to release almost 40,000 under-trial prisoners throughout India. **Q1. The Supreme Court receives a petition concerning under-trial prisoners who have spent an excessive period in jail. What could be the significance of the Court's intervention in such a case?** **Answer:** The Court could order the **release of eligible under-trial prisoners**. Its intervention could provide relief to prisoners who had remained in jail longer than their possible punishment. The Court could issue **guidelines** for dealing with similar cases. Such directions could benefit a **large number of under-trial prisoners across India**. **Q2. What did Mrs. Kapila Hingorani learn from a newspaper report?** **Answer:** She learned that some under-trial prisoners were in jail for an unusually long period. Some had been imprisoned for longer than the punishment they might have received if found guilty. **Q3. A newspaper brings to light a situation in which the rights of a large group of people may be affected. Using the concept of PIL, explain why such an issue can be brought before the judiciary.** **Answer:** PIL can be used to raise matters involving public concern. It can address issues affecting the rights of people. The case demonstrates how judicial intervention can address a concern affecting a large section of people. **Q4. What was the response of the Supreme Court to the petition filed by Mrs. Kapila Hingorani?** **Answer:** • The Supreme Court immediately ordered the release of such under-trial prisoners. • It also issued guidelines for their release. • These guidelines extended to almost 40,000 under-trial prisoners throughout India.