



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: X	Department: Social Science	Sub: CIVICS
Chapter-1 Question Bank:1	Topic: POWER SHARING	Year: 2023-24

1	Define the term 'Ethnic'. Ans: Ethnic means a social division based on shared culture and common descent. People belonging to an ethnic group need not have the same religion or nationality.
2	Why is the ethnic composition of Belgium very complex? Ans: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Belgium is a small country in Europe, having a population of a little over one crore.• 59 per cent of the country's total population lives in the Flemish region and speak Dutch language.• Another 40 per cent people lives in Wallonia region and speaks French. Remaining one per cent of the Belgians speak German.• Whereas in the capital city Brussels, 80 per cent of the population is French-speaking and 20 per cent is Dutch-speaking.
3	What led to the tensions between the Dutch speaking and the French speaking communities in Belgium during 1950s and 1960s? Ans: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The primary cause which led to the tension between the Dutch-speaking people and the French-speaking people was the economic inequality.• The minority French speaking community was relatively rich and powerful. This was resented by the Dutch speaking community who got the benefit of economic development and education much later.• The conflict between the two communities was more acute in the capital city Brussels. Brussels presented a special problem: the Dutch speaking people constituted a majority in the country, but minority in the capital.
4	Explain the Ethnic composition of Sri Lanka Ans: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sri Lanka has a diverse population. The major social groups are the Sinhala -speakers (74%) and the Tamil-speakers (18%).• Among the Tamils there are two sub-groups: The 'Sri Lankan Tamils' and the 'Indian Tamils'.• The Tamil natives of the country are called the 'Sri Lankan Tamils' (13 %) who are mostly concentrated in the North and East of the island and the Tamils, whose forefathers came from India as plantation workers during colonial period are called the 'Indian Tamils' (5%).• Most of the Sinhala-speaking people are Buddhists, while most of the Tamils are Hindus or Muslims.• There are about 7 per cent Christians, who are both Tamil and Sinhala.

5	<p>What is called ‘Majoritarianism’? Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A belief that the majority community should be able to rule a country in whichever way it wants, by disregarding the wishes and needs of the minority is called as ‘Majoritarianism’.
6	<p>Explain the measures adopted by the Sri Lankan government to establish Sinhala supremacy. Analyze how Majoritarianism has increased the feeling of alienation among the Sri Lankan Tamils?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>“The Sri Lankan Tamils launched parties and struggles.” Explain</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Explain any three major demands of the Sri Lankan Tamils towards the government of Sri Lanka Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sri Lanka emerged as an independent country in 1948. The democratically elected government adopted a series of measures to establish Sinhala supremacy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In 1956, an Act was passed by the government to recognize Sinhala as the only official language, thus disregarding Tamil. ○ The government followed preferential policies favouring Sinhala applicants for university positions and government jobs. ○ The Constitution provided for State protection and fostering of Buddhism. • The Sri Lankan Tamils felt that none of the major political parties led by the Buddhist Sinhala leaders were sensitive to their language and culture and the government policies denied them equal political rights which led to increased feeling of alienation among them. • The Sri Lankan Tamils launched parties and struggles for the recognition of Tamil as the official language, for regional autonomy and equality of opportunity in securing education and jobs. • Therefore, the measures adopted by the government to establish Sinhala supremacy led to distrust between the two communities which turned into conflict and into a Civil War.
7	<p>Why did the Civil war broke out in Sri Lanka? What were the results of the war? Ans:</p> <p>The distrust between Tamils and the Sinhalese over the Majoritarianism issue resulted in a widespread conflict which soon turned into a civil war. The results of the civil war were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thousands of people of both the communities were killed. • Many families were forced to leave the country and many lost their livelihood • Sri Lanka, in general suffered from an economic crisis
8	<p>“Between 1970 to 1993, Belgium amended their Constitution four times”. Explain</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>“The arrangements worked out by the Belgians is very innovative”. Justify Ans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 1970 and 1993, Belgium amended their Constitution four times so as to work out an arrangement that would enable everyone to live together within the same country. • Constitution prescribes that the number of the Dutch and the French speaking ministers shall be equal in the Central govt. and some special laws require the support of members from each group. • Many powers of the Central govt. have been given to State governments and they are no more subordinate to the Central govt.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brussels has a separate govt. in which both the communities have equal representation. • A third kind of government called the 'Community government' has been elected by people belonging to one language community and this government has the power regarding Cultural, Educational and Language related issues.
9	<p>“Power sharing is good for a Democracy” Give suitable arguments.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Why do is Power sharing desirable?</p> <p>Ans:</p> <p>Two set of reasons have been listed out which support Power sharing. They are:</p> <p>PRUDENTIAL REASON</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power sharing helps to reduce the possibility of conflicts between different social groups. • Social conflicts can turn into violence and thereby political instability, so power sharing is a good way to ensure political stability. • Imposing the will of majority over minority can affect the unity of the country, so power sharing is very important for the promotion of National unity. <p>MORAL REASON</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a very deeper reason of Power sharing and keeps the spirit of Democracy • It implies maximum popular participation so that people would be consulted on how they are to be governed. • Power sharing is desirable to produce a responsible and legitimate government. <p>While Prudential reasons stress that Power sharing will bring better outcomes, Moral reasons emphasize the very act of Power sharing as valuable.</p>
10	<p>Differentiate between Horizontal and Vertical forms of Power sharing in modern democracies</p> <p>Ans:</p> <p>HORIZONTAL DISTRIBUTION OF POWER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power shared among different Organs of government such as the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary • There is a concept of separation of powers • It specifies the concept of Checks and Balances in order to check the exercises of unlimited powers of the Organs • It ensures the concept of the expansion of Democracy <p>VERTICAL DISTRIBUTION OF POWER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power shared among governments at different levels like the Union, the State and the Local level • Constitution clearly lays down the powers of different Levels of government • No such concept of Checks and Balance because powers are clearly given by the Constitution from the higher level to lower level • It promotes the concept of deepening of Democracy
11	<p>“In modern democracies Power sharing arrangements can take various forms”. Which are they?</p> <p>Ans:</p> <p>The different forms of Power-sharing in modern democracies are:</p> <p>Power shared among different Organs of the government (Horizontal Division of Power)</p> <p>It is the sharing of power among the different Organs of government, such as the Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary. In this type of power-sharing arrangement, different Organs of government, placed at the same level, exercise different powers. Such a separation ensures that none of the Organs can exercise unlimited power, thereby putting a check on each other.</p>

Although judges are appointed by the Executive, they can check the functioning of the Executive. This arrangement is called as system of **Checks and Balances**.

Power shared among governments at different Levels (Vertical Division of Power)

It is a system of Power sharing among governments at different levels. For example, a General government for the entire country and governments at Provincial or Regional levels. In India, we refer it as the Central Government, the State Governments, Municipality, Gram Panchayat etc. The Constitution lays down the powers of different levels of government. Such division of powers involving higher and lower levels of government is called as Vertical division of power.

Power shared among different Social Groups

Power can also be shared among different groups which differ socially like different Religious and Linguistic groups. 'Community Government' in Belgium is a good example of this type of Power sharing. The system of reserved constituencies in India is another example. Such an arrangement is used to give minority communities a fair share in power, who otherwise would feel alienated from the government.

Power shared among Political Parties, Pressure Groups, and Movements

In democracies such a division takes the form of competition among different parties, which in turn ensures that power does not remain in one hand and is shared among different Political parties representing different ideologies and social groups. In a democracy there are groups such as those of traders, businessmen, farmers etc. who also have a share in the governmental power, either through participation in governmental committees or bringing influence on the decision-making process.