



PRATAP INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

EXTRA QUESTIONS SST

CLASS IX

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CH- TH FRENCH REVOLUTION

- Explain the “Reign of Terror” in brief. [CBSE 2015]

Answer:

The following points explain the Reign of Terror:

- (a) The period from 1793 to 1794 is called the Reign of Terror because Robespierre followed a policy of severe control and punishment. Ex-nobles, clergy, members of other political parties and even the members of his own party, who did not agree with his methods, were arrested, imprisoned and guillotined.
- (b) Laws were issued by Robespierre’s government laws were issued by placing a maximum ceiling of wages and prices. Meat and bread were rationed.
- (c) Peasants were forced to transport their grain to the cities and sell it at prices fixed by the government. The use of more expensive white flour was forbidden; all citizens were required to eat the equality bread.
- (d) Equality was also sought to be practised through forms of speech and address. Instead of the traditional Sir and Madam, French men and women were addressed as citizen.
- (e) Churches were shut down and their buildings converted into barracks or offices. Finally, Robespierre was convicted by a court in July 1794, arrested and the next day, sent to the guillotine.

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- ▶ **Write a short note on Napoleon Bonaparte.**

Answer:

- (a) Napoleon came to power as a result of unstable directory that ruled France. Due to weak directory Napoleon got an opportunity to rise to political power. In 1804, he crowned himself as the Emperor of France.**
- (b) He set out to conquer the neighbouring countries defeating the dynasties and putting his own relatives/members of his family.**
- (c) He was seen as a moderniser of Europe. He brought out many laws such as protection of private property and a uniform system of weights and measures provided by the decimal system.**
- (d) He was also seen by many as a liberator who will bring freedom to the people.**
- (e) Very soon his army came to be viewed everywhere as an invading force. He carried out military campaigns and invasion of Russia and Spain. He soon became a threat for the kings in Europe who decided to come together and defeat him. Finally, he was defeated at Waterloo in 1815.**

Q.What was the impact of French Revolution on France?

Answer:

- (a) French Revolution marked the end of absolute monarchy and paved the way for the republican government.**
- (b) It also helped to uphold the theory of popular sovereignty and laid the foundations of democratic principles, i.e., to say that the government should be based on the consent of the governed.**
- (c) The slogans of equality, liberty and fraternity became the watchwords of freedom loving people all over the world.**
- (d) Feudalism and serfdom were abolished and the power of clergy curbed.**
- (e) People were given the right to vote during the Jacobins.**
- (f) New reforms were introduced in education of girls during Jacobins time.**
- (g) Napoleon also reformed legal system by reorganising it and brought a progressive legal system. He also introduced economic reforms like fair tax system, increased trade and development of French luxury industries fashions, films, perfumes, etc. (any five points)**

Q. How did the women suffer in France during the Old Regime?

Answer:

During the Old Regime, most women worked to earn a living. They worked as seamstresses or laundresses or domestic servants in the houses of rich people. Many sold fruits, flowers and vegetables at the market to earn money.

- (b) Most of them were not educated or trained to do any job. Only the daughters of rich people could study.**

(c) Working women had to take care of their families too. They had to fetch water, queue up for bread, cook and look after the children.

Therefore, it can be said that women suffered a lot during the Old Regime

Q. Who were the Jacobins? Write about it in three points. [CBSE 2013]

Answer:

Jacobins were the most radical and ruthless of the political groups formed in the wake of the French Revolution. They were the members of a democratic club established in 1789. Jacobins were led by Maximilian Robespierre. Angered by the short supplies and high prices of foodgrains Jacobins stormed the Palace of the Tuileries.

The king's guards were killed and the king was held hostage for several hours. The assembly later, voted to imprison the royal family. Elections were held in which every man of 21 years and above got the right to vote. The Convention was known as newly elected assembly, which abolished monarchy and declared France a republic.

CH- SOCIALISM IN EUROPE AND RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

- ▶ What were the social, economic and political conditions in Russia before 1905?

Solution:

The following were the social, economic, and political conditions in Russia before 1905.

- (a) **Social Conditions:** The majority religion was Russian Orthodox Christianity which had grown out of the Greek Orthodox Church. But the empire also included Catholics, Protestants, Muslims and Buddhists. The non-Russian nationalities were not treated equal to that of Russian nationalities. They were not given the freedom to follow their culture and language. Workers were divided into group on the basis of skill and training. Peasants formed their group called commune or mir.
- ▶ **(b) Economic conditions:** The majority of Russians were agriculturists. Grain was the main item of export from Russia. Industries were few. Prominent industrial areas were St Petersburg and Moscow. Much of the production was done by the craftsmen. There were large factories alongside the craft workshops. With the expansion of the Russian rail network, foreign investment in factories grew. There were huge coal, iron and steel production. There were equal numbers of factory workers and craftsmen. The workers were exploited by capitalists who made their life miserable.
- ▶ **(c) Political Conditions:** Russia was a monarchy. (Tsar Nicholas II ruled Russia and its empire that extended to current-day Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, parts of Poland, Ukraine and Belarus. It stretched to the Pacific and comprised today's Central Asian states, as well as Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan). The Tsars believed in the divine rights of kings. They were not responsible to the Parliament. All political parties were illegal in Russia.

What were the main changes brought about by the Bolsheviks immediately after the October Revolution?

Solution:

Many changes were brought about by the Bolsheviks after the October Revolution. They were:

- Industries and banks were nationalised. This meant that the government now had their ownership and management. The land was declared social property and peasants were allowed to seize the land of the nobility. In cities, Bolsheviks enforced the partition of large houses according to family requirements.
- The use of the old titles of the aristocracy was banned. New uniforms for the army and officials were designed.
- The Bolshevik Party was renamed as the Russian Communist Party (Bolshevik).
- Despite opposition by their political allies, the Bolsheviks made peace with Germany and withdrew from the First World War.
- In the later years, the Bolsheviks became the only party to participate in the elections to the All Russian Congress of Soviets. It became the Parliament of Russia.

Who was Karl Marx?

Answer:

Karl Marx was a philosopher who favoured socialism. He believed that to free themselves from capitalist exploitation, workers had to construct a radically socialist society, where all the properties were socially controlled.

► Distinguish between the ideas of liberals and the radicals.

Answer:

Liberals	Radicals
(i) They argued for a representative, elected parliamentary government, but did not believe in universal adult franchise.	They also argued for a representative elected parliamentary government, but believed in universal adult franchise.
(ii) They felt men of property should have the right to vote.	They felt all citizens should have the right to vote
(iii) They were in favour of giving privileges to the rich or the men of property.	They opposed the privileges of the rich or the men of property.

Q. Explain any three reasons which led to civil war between the Bolsheviks and the Russian army of non-Bolsheviks.

Or

What conditions led to the Russian Civil War in 1918 – 1920? Give any four points.

Answer:

- Impact of Land Redistribution Policy on Soldiers: When the Bolsheviks ordered land redistribution, the Russian army began to break up. Soldiers, mostly peasants, wished to go home for the redistribution and deserted.
- Opposition from Greens and Whites: Non-Bolshevik socialists, liberals and supporters of autocracy condemned the Bolshevik uprising. Their leaders moved to south Russia and organized troops to fight the Bolsheviks (the reds).’ During 1918 and 1919, the greens (Socialist Revolutionaries) and whites (pro-Tsarists) controlled most of the Russian empire.
- Outside Forces: The Greens and Whites were backed by French, American, British and Japanese troops. All these forces were worried at the growth of socialism in Russia.
- Use of Force: In many parts, Bolshevik colonists brutally massacred local nationalists in the name of defending socialism. In this situation, many were confused about what the Bolshevik government represented.

Q.Mention any four features of the Russian society of the 20th century.

Answer:

- The vast majority of Russia’s people were agriculturists. About 85 per cent of the Russian empire’s population earned their living from agriculture.
- Workers were a divided social group. Some had strong links with the villages from which they came. Others had settled in cities permanently.

CH- NAZISM AND THE RISE OF HITLER

- ▶ Discuss why Nazism became popular in Germany by 1930.

Solution:

In 1919 Adolph Hitler took over the German Workers' Party and called it the Nazi Party, giving birth to Nazism in Germany.

During the Great Economic Depression Nazism became very popular. The Nazi Propaganda which was very unique helped in making Nazism very popular. In his powerful speeches, Hitler promised to build a strong nation, restore the dignity of the Germans and provide employment for all. Numerous public meetings were held by the Nazi Party to instil unity among the people.

The red banners, the Nazi salute, and the rounds of applause attracted the people and Nazism became very popular. The Meetings projected Hitler as a saviour of Germany. The German people who were shattered after the First World War believed him.

- ▶ Explain why Nazi propaganda was effective in creating a hatred for Jews.

Solution:

Films were made to create hatred for the Jews. The film, 'The Eternal Jew', showed the Jews with flowing beards and dressed in kaftans. The Jews were referred to as vermin, rats, and pests. Nazi propaganda compared the Jews to rodents.

Orthodox Jews were stereotyped as killers of Christ and money lenders. Stereotypes about Jews were even popularised through maths classes. Children were taught to hate the Jews. The Nazi propaganda against the Jews was so effective that people felt anger and hatred surge inside them when they saw someone who looked like a Jew.

Q.Trace any three main features of the foreign policy of Hitler.

Answer:

- On 30th January 1933, Hitler became the Chancellor of Germany and established dictatorship.
- Right from the beginning, he followed a policy of aggression and war towards other countries.
- He pulled out of the League of Nations in 1933, reoccupied Rhineland in 1936 and integrated Austria and Germany in 1938 under the slogan 'One people, One empire, One leader'.

Q. The Peace Treaty at Versailles with the Allies was a harsh and humiliating peace. Explain the statement with any three examples.

Answer:

- In the First World War, Germany was defeated. The peace Treaty at Versailles with the Allies was a harsh and humiliating peace.
- Germany lost its overseas colonies and also much of its territories in Europe.
- Germany lost 75% of its iron and 26% of its coal to France and other countries.
- The Allied Powers demilitarised Germany to weaken its power. Germany was forced to pay compensation amounting to £ 6 billion.
- The Allied forces occupied the resources rich Rhineland till the 1920s. (Any three)

Q.Describe the effect of Great Economic depression on Germany ?

Answer:

The effect of Great Economic depression on Germany were :

- The German economy was the worst hit by the Great Economic depression. By 1932, industrial production was reduced to 40% of the 1929 level. Workers lost their jobs or were paid reduced wages.
- The number of unemployed touched an unprecedented 6 million. Men could be seen on streets with placards saying 'Willing to do any work' As jobs disappeared, youth took to criminal activities

- There were deep anxieties and fears in people. The middle classes, especially salaried employees and pensioners, saw their savings diminish when the currency lost its value.
- The large mass of peasantry was badly affected by a sharp fall in agricultural prices.

Q.Explain the impact of the First World War on European society and polity.

Answer:

The First World War left a deep imprint on European society and polity. It had a devastating impact on the entire continent.

(a) In society, soldiers were ranked higher than civilians. Trench life of the soldiers was glorified by the media. The media glorified trench life.

(b) Politicians and publicists laid great stress on the need for men to be aggressive and masculine.

(c) Aggressive war propaganda and national honour occupied centre stage in the public sphere.

(d) Popular support grew for conservative dictatorships that had recently come into being.

(e) Democracy as a young and fragile idea could not survive the instabilities of interwar Europe.

Q.Trace the events that led to the birth of the Weimar Republic.

Answer:

In the 20th century Germany was a powerful Empire. During the First World War Germany took up the cause of Austria against the Allies. Many countries joined the war hoping to gain something, without realizing the fact that the war would prolong and drain Europe of its resources. Though Germany made initial gains by occupying France and Belgium, the Allies became stronger when the US joined them in 1917 and defeated Germany and the Central Powers.

The defeat of Germany resulted in the abdication of the German Emperor. This gave an opportunity for the parliamentary parties to bring in a change, in German politics. A democratic constitution with a federal structure was formed by the National Assembly, which met at Weimar and the Weimar

Republic came into existence.

CH- INDIA SIZE AND LOCATION

- ▶ How does India occupy an important strategic position in South Asia ?

Answer:

India occupies an important strategic position in South Asia in the following ways :

(a) The Indian landmass has a central location between the East and the West Asia.

(b) The trans Indian Ocean routes, which connect the countries of Europe in the West and the countries of East Asia, provide a strategic central location to India.

(c) The Deccan Peninsula protrudes into the Indian Ocean has helped India to establish close contact with West Asia, Africa and Europe from the western coast and with Southeast and East Asia from the eastern coast.

- ▶ What is latitude? What is the latitudinal extent of India?

Answer:

The position of a place, measured in degrees north or south of the Equator. It is mostly calculated because of angular distance of a place north-south of the equator,

The main land of India extends between latitudes $8^{\circ}4'$ N and $37^{\circ}6'$ N.

The latitudinal extension shows that India is located in the Northern Hemisphere.

What was the contribution of land routes to India in ancient times? Explain.

Answer:

The contribution of land routes to India in ancient times are given below :

- (a) The large land boundaries of India have helped to develop links with her neighbouring countries.
- (b) It contributed in the exchange of ideas and commodities since ancient times.
- (c) The ideas of the Upanishads, the Ramayana, the Geeta, etc. have become known to the world.
- (d) The Indian numerals as well as the decimal system long back crossed the border. The Arabs took these ideas to the West.
- (e) The spices, muslin and other merchandise were taken away from India to different countries through these land routes.
- (f) On the other hand, the influence of Greek sculpture, and the architectural styles of dome and minarets from West Asia can be seen in different parts of our country. (Any five points)

Write a note on the location and size of India.

Answer:

Location: India is a vast country. Lying entirely in the Northern hemisphere, the main land extends between latitudes $8^{\circ}4'N$ and $37^{\circ}6'N$ and longitudes $68^{\circ}7'E$ and $97^{\circ}25'E$. The Tropic of Cancer ($23^{\circ}30'N$) divides the country into almost two equal parts. To the southeast of India's main land lie the Andaman and Nicobar islands in the Bay of Bengal and to the southwest lie the Lakshadweep islands in the Arabian Sea.

Size: The land mass of India has an area of 3.28 million square km. India's total area accounts for about 2.4 per cent of the total geographical area of the world.

India is the seventh largest country of the world. India has a land boundary of about 15,200 km and the total length of the coastline of the mainland, including Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep, is 7,516.6 km. It has an east-west extent of 2,933 km from Arunachal Pradesh to Kachchh in Gujarat and a north-south extent of 3,214 km from Kashmir to Kanniyakumari.

CH- PHYSICAL FEATURES OF INDIA

- ▶ How the Himalayas have been divided on the basis of regions from west to east?

Answer:

- ▶ Punjab Himalayas: These divisions have been demarcated by river valleys. The part of Himalayas lying between Indus and Satluj has been traditionally known as Punjab Himalaya, but it is also known regionally as Kashmir and Himachal Himalaya from west to east respectively.
- ▶ Kumaon Himalayas: The part of the Himalayas lying between Satluj and Kali rivers is known as Kumaon Himalayas.
- ▶ Nepal Himalayas: The Kali and Teesta rivers demarcate the Nepal Himalayas.
- ▶ Assam Himalayas: the part lying between Teesta and Dihang rivers is known as Assam Himalayas.

- ▶ Describe the “Theory of Plate Tectonics”.

Answer:

Earth scientists have attempted to explain the formation of physical features with the help of some theories based on certain evidences. One such Plausible theory is the ‘Theory of Plate Tectonics’. According to this theory, the crust (upper part) of the earth has been formed out of seven major and some minor plates. The movement of the plates results in the building up of stresses within the plates and the continental rocks above, leading to folding, faulting and volcanic activity

Q.How do different physiographic regions of India complement each other?

Answer:

A detailed account of the different physiographic units highlights the unique features of each region :

- (a) Each region complements the other and makes the country richer in its natural resources.
- (b) The mountains are the major source of water and forest wealth.
- (c) The Northern Plains are the granaries of the country. They provided the base for early civilizations.
- (d) The plateau is a storehouse of minerals, which has played a crucial role in the industrialization of the country.
- (e) The coastal region and island groups provide sites for fishing and port activities. Thus, the diverse physical features of the land have immense future possibilities of development.

Q. What is the significance of Himalayas?

Answer:

The significance of Himalayas is as follows :

- (a) The Himalayas stand like a mighty mountain wall in the north of India. They ' separate the Indian subcontinent from the rest of Asia.
- (b) They have vast snowfields and glaciers which are the source of numerous perennial rivers. These rivers provide water for irrigation, navigation and generation of hydel power.
- (c) The Himalayas act as a climatic barrier. They protect the Northern Plains from freezing cold winds. They also stop and deflect the rain-bearing winds.
- (d) The forests in the Himalayas provide a suitable habitat for wildlife. They also have many wildlife sanctuaries.
- (e) The Himalayas also have many beautiful hill stations like Shimla, Mussoorie, Nainital and Darjeeling, which attract tourists.

CH- CLIMATE

- ▶ State three dominant characteristics of the Indian monsoon.

Answer:

The Indian monsoon is characterised by the following three dominant features :

- ▶ Seasonal reversal of direction in wind system : The monsoon winds blow from land to sea in winter and from sea to land in summer.
- ▶ Seasonal heavy rainfall and drought are common features of the Indian monsoon.
- ▶ In spite of local variations in climatic conditions, it unites the whole country in a single climatic thread of monsoon
- ▶ What do you know about rainfall distribution in India?

Answer:

Rainfall distribution is unequal in our country. Parts of western coast and northeastern India receive over about 400 cm of rainfall annually. However, it is less than 60 cm in western Rajasthan and adjoining parts of Gujarat, Haryana and Punjab. Rainfall is equally low in the interior of the Deccan plateau, and east of the Sahyadris.

The coastal areas of India do not register any significant change in temperature even during the winter and summer. Why?

Answer:

The coastal areas of India do not register any significant seasonal changes in temperature due to the following reasons :

(a) The influence of surrounding sea keep them with equable temperature conditions such as the mean monthly temperature of Thiruvananthapuram and Mumbai fluctuates very slightly.

(b) As we know the sea waters are reservoirs of the warmth and they get heated and cooled down slowly due to conventional processes of heating and cooling and, hence, they remain warmer in winter and cooler in summer, keeping the coastal areas equable in temperature.

(c) The warm ocean currents, too, keep the coastal areas with almost equable temperature throughout the year.

Q. "India's climate has characteristics of tropical as well as sub-tropical climates" Discuss.

Answer:

The Tropic of Cancer passes through the middle of the country from the Rann of Kutch in the west to Mizoram in the east. Almost half of the country, lying south of the Tropic of Cancer, belongs to the tropical area. The remaining area, north, of the Tropic, lies in the sub-tropics. Therefore, India's climate has characteristics of tropical as well as subtropical climates.

► Distinguish between southwest monsoon and northeast monsoon.
Answer:

Southwest Monsoon	Northeast Monsoon
(i) The summer period is marked by the southwest monsoons.	(i) The winter period is marked by northeast monsoon.
(ii) The southwest monsoon blow in a southwest direction to the mainland of India from June to September.	(ii) The northwest monsoon blow in a north easterly direction across India from mid-November to February
(iii) It blows in India into two branches namely the Arabian Sea branch and Bay of Bengal branch.	(iii) It does not possess any branches.
(iv) The southwest monsoon are warm winds.	(iv) These are cold winds.

CH- NATURAL VEGETATION AND WILDLIFE

► Distinguish between the moist and dry deciduous forests.

Answer:

Moist Deciduous Forests	Dry Deciduous Forests
1. These are found in areas receiving annual rainfall between 100 cm and 200 cm.	1. These forests are found in areas receiving annual rainfall between 70 cm and 100 cm.
2. Trees found in these forests are teak, sal, shisham, sandalwood, khair and bamboos.	2. There are open stretches in which, teak, sal, peepal, neem, etc. grow.
3. These forests are generally found in Jharkhand, West Odisha, Chhattisgarh and on the eastern slopes of the Western Ghats.	3. These forests are found in the rainer parts of the peninsular plateau and the plains of U.R, and Bihar.

Why is conservation of wildlife very essential? Explain.

Answer:

The government has taken many special efforts to preserve endangered species of birds and animals. Periodic census is undertaken to find out the latest position and trends in this regard. The Project Tiger has been a great success. We have many tiger reserves in various parts of the country. Likewise, the Project Rhino is being implemented in Assam. The Indian Bustard of Rajasthan and Malwa Plateau are yet another endangered species. Even the number of lions had been dwindling for long.

Conservation of wildlife is essential in order to protect the endangered species of birds and animals and also to maintain the ecological balance. The Government of India has so far set-up eighteen biosphere reserves.

What are the different steps taken by the government to protect flora and fauna?

Answer:

The different steps taken by the government to protect flora and fauna are :

- Eighteen biosphere reserves have been set up in the country to protect flora fauna.
- The Sunderbans in the West Bengal, Nanda Devi in Uttarakhand, the Gulf of Mannar in Tamil Nadu and the Nilgiris have been included in the world network of biosphere reserves.
- Financial and technical assistance is provided to many botanical gardens by the government since 1992.
- Project Tiger, Project Rhino, Project Great Indian Bustard and many other eco-developmental projects have been introduced by the government.
- 103 National Parks, 535 Wildlife Sanctuaries and Zoological Gardens are set up to take care of natural heritage.

Describe how rainfall and relief influence the vegetation of an area.

Answer:

Factors like rainfall and relief influence the natural vegetation of an area.

Rainfall: In India, almost the entire rainfall is brought in by the advancing southwest monsoon (June to September) and retreating northeast monsoons. Areas of heavy rainfall have more dense vegetation as compared to areas of less rainfall.

Areas with more than 200 cm of annual rainfall have tropical evergreen rainforests. Tropical moist deciduous forests are found in areas with 100 to 200 cm of rainfall. Tropical dry deciduous forests are found in areas receiving rainfall between 100 cm and 70 cm. In regions with less than 70 cm of rainfall, the natural vegetation consists of thorny trees and bushes.

Relief: The type of vegetation found in an area depends upon the relief or landform of the area. The fertile level lands of plains are generally devoted to agriculture. Much of the natural vegetation is cleared or altered in such areas. Grasslands and woodlands develop in areas with undulating and rough terrains. Mountainous areas have succession of vegetation types according to the altitude of the area.

Q. Give a brief description of Tropical Evergreen Forests.

Answer:

Tropical Evergreen Forests are found in areas receiving heavy rainfall of over 200 cm, well-distributed throughout the year. They are also known as rainforests.

The warm, wet climate throughout the year supports luxuriant vegetation of all kinds including trees, shrubs and creepers.

The trees grow very tall, reaching a height of 60 metres or even above. As the trees grow very close to each other, they form a thick canopy. The different types of vegetation form a multilayered structure. The climate supports a large number of broad-leaved trees of different species. Ebony, mahogany, rosewood, rubber, cinchona, etc. are commercially important trees.

CH- WHY IS DEMOCRACY? WHY?

- ▶ How does democracy improve the quality of decision making?

Answer:

Democracy is based on consultation and discussion. A democratic decision always involves many persons, discussions and meetings. When a number of people put their heads together, they are able to point out possible mistakes in any decision. This takes time. But there is a big advantage in taking time over important decisions. This reduces the chances of rash or irresponsible decisions. Thus, democracy improves the quality of decision-making.

- ▶ Question 4.

How does democracy enhances the dignity of citizens?

Answer:

Even if democracy does not bring about better decisions and accountable government, it is still better than other forms of government. Democracy enhances the dignity of citizens. Democracy is based on the principle of political equality, on recognising that the poorest and the least educated has the same status as the rich and the educated. People are not subjects of a ruler, they are the rulers themselves. Even when they make mistakes, they are responsible for their conduct.

What are the various aspects of democracy?

Answer:

We may refer to three aspects of democracy—political, social and economic.

- **Political Aspect:** Political democracy requires “government by consent and political equality.” Democracy, as a form of government, implies that elections must be held with reasonable frequency. Moreover, there should be more than one political party competing for political power.
- **Social Aspect:** A democratic society is one in which an atmosphere of equality prevails. There should be no discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste or sex. Every one should have equal access to shops, restaurants, hotels and places of public entertainment. Our Constitution guarantees equality to every person before law.
- **Economic Aspect:** Political democracy will be a reality only when it is supported by economic democracy. The most stable democracies of the world are those which have extensive welfare schemes for the poor people.

Q. What are the merits of a democratic government?

Answer:

The merits of a democratic government are :

- A democratic government is a better government because it is a more accountable form of government.
- Democracy improves the quality of decision-making.
- Democracy provides a method to deal with differences and conflicts.
- Democracy enhances the dignity of citizens.
- It is better than other forms of government because it allows us to correct its own mistakes.

CH- CONSTITUTIONAL DESIGN

Q. Why was the making of the Indian Constitution not an easy affair?

Answer:

Like South Africa, India's Constitution was also drawn up under very difficult circumstances.

- ▶ The making of the constitution for a huge and diverse country like India was not an easy affair. At that time the people of India were emerging from the status of subjects to that of citizens. The country was born through a partition on the basis of religious differences.
- ▶ This was a traumatic experience for the people of India and Pakistan. At least ten lakh people were killed on both sides of the border in partition related violence.
- ▶ 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.
- ▶ The makers of the Constitution had anxieties about the present and the future of the country.

What is a Constitution?

Solution:

Unlike a monarchy, in a democracy the rulers are not free to do what they like. Certain basic rules have to be followed by the citizens and the government. These rules put together are called the Constitution. As the supreme law of the country, the constitution determines the rights of citizens, the powers of the government and how the government should function.

Q. Write a short note on the first Constituent assembly.

Solution:

Elections to the first Constituent Assembly were held in July 1946. The elected members drafted the document called the Constitution. The Constituent Assembly held its first meeting in November 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 Indian Constituent assembly had 299 members. The Assembly adopted the Constitution on 26 November 1949. The constitution only came into effect on January 26, 1950. So Republic Day is celebrated on the 26th of January , every year.

Q. Explain the importance of institutional design of the Constitution of India. [CBSE 2016]

Answer:

The importance of the institutional design of the Constitution of India as follows:

- Constitution is mainly about embodying its values into institutional arrangements.
- It is a long and detailed document. Therefore, it needs to be amended quite regularly to keep it updated.
- The constitution describes the constitutional arrangements in a very legal language.
- Constitution lays down a procedure for choosing persons to govern the country. It defines who will and how much power one will have to take which decisions.
- It also puts limits to what the government can do by providing some rights to the citizens that cannot

CH- ELECTORAL POLITICS

- ▶ What unfair practices are generally used in elections by our contesting candidates?

Answer:

Unfair practices are quite common in elections. A lot of unfair practices are used during this time. Some of these are given below:

- ▶ Inclusion of false names and exclusion of genuine names in the voters' list;
 - ▶ Misuse of government facilities and government officials by the ruling party;
 - ▶ Excessive use of money by rich candidates and big parties;
 - ▶ Intimidation of voters and rigging on the polling day.
- ▶ In which way does the Election Commission enjoy the same kind of independence as the judiciary?
Answer:
The Election Commission enjoys the same kind of independence that the judiciary enjoys.
 - ▶ The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) is appointed by the President of India.
 - ▶ But, once appointed, he is not answerable to the President or the government.
 - ▶ Even if the ruling party or the government does not like what the Commission does, it is virtually impossible for it to remove the Chief Election Commissioner.

What are the challenges to free and fair elections in India?

Answer:

The elections in India are basically free and fair. But, a few candidates may win purely based on money power and unfair means. These challenges exist not just in India but also in many established democracies. These deeper issues are a matter of concern for those who believe in democracy. The challenges to free and fair elections in India are as follows.

- Candidates and parties with a lot of money may not be sure of their victory but they do enjoy a big and unfair advantage over smaller parties and independents.
- In some parts of the country, candidates with criminal connection have been able to push others out of the electoral race and to secure a 'ticket' from major parties.
- Some families tend to dominate political parties; tickets are distributed to relatives from these families.
- Very often elections offer little choice to ordinary citizens, for both the major parties are quite similar to each other both in policies and practice.
- Smaller parties and independent candidates suffer a huge disadvantage compared to bigger parties.

Q.How can you say that the outcome of elections is a final test of free and fair elections? Explain

Answer:

One final test of the free and fair of election has in the outcome itself. If elections are not free or fair, the outcome always favours the powerful. In such a situation, the ruling parties do not lose elections. Usually, the losing party does not accept the outcome of a rigged election.

The outcome of India's elections speaks for itself:

- The ruling parties routinely lose elections in India both at the national and state level. In fact, in every two out of the three elections held in the last fifteen years, the ruling party lost.

- Candidates who are known to have spent a lot of money on 'buying votes' and those with known criminal connections often lose elections.
- Barring very few disputed elections, the electoral outcomes are usually accepted as 'people's verdict' by the defeated party.

Q. Write a brief note on the Election Commission.

Solution:

The Election Commission is independent and very powerful . It enjoys the same kind of independence that the judiciary enjoys. The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) is appointed by the President of India. He heads the Election Commission. After his election the C E C is not answerable to the President or the government. It is impossible for the government to remove the CEC, even if it is dissatisfied with him. The powers of the Election Commission of India are as follows:

- EC takes decisions on every aspect of conduct and control of elections from the announcement of elections to the declaration of results.
- It implements the Code of Conduct and punishes any candidate or party that violates it
- During the election period, the EC can order the government to follow some guidelines, to prevent use and misuse of governmental power to enhance its chances to win elections, or to transfer some government officials
- When on election duty, government officers work under the control of the EC and not the government.

Q.

CH- WORKING OF INSTITUTIONS

Q. Who appoints the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers?

Answer:

The Prime Minister is appointed by the President. But, he cannot appoint anyone he/ she likes. He/she appoints the leader of the majority party or the coalition of the parties that commands a majority in the Lok Sabha, as Prime Minister. In case, no single party or alliance gets a majority, the President appoints the person most likely to secure a majority support.

After the appointment of the Prime Minister, the President appoints other Ministers on the advice of the Prime Minister. The Ministers are usually from the party or the coalition that has the majority in the Lok Sabha. The Prime Minister is free to choose Ministers, as long as they are members of Parliament.

Q. What was Mandal Commission? Why was it appointed? What were the major recommendations of this Commission?

Answer:

- ▶ The Government of India had appointed the Second Backward Classes Commission in 1979. It was headed by B.R Mandal. Hence, it was popularly called as the Mandal Commission.
- ▶ It was asked to determine the criteria to identify the socially and economically backward classes in India and recommend steps to be taken for their advancement.
- ▶ The commission gave its report in 1980 and made many recommendations. One of these was that 27 per cent of government jobs be reserved for the socially and economically backward classes.

What are the powers and functions of the President of India?

Answer:

The powers and functions of the President of India are given below :

- All governmental activities take place in the name of the President. All laws and major policy decisions of the government are issued in his/her name.
- All major appointments are made in the name of the President. These include the appointment of the Chief Justice of India, the Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts of the states, the Governors of the states, the Election Commissioners, ambassadors to other countries, etc.
- All international treaties and agreements are made in the name of the President.
- The President is the supreme commander of the defence forces of India.
- A bill passed by the Parliament becomes a law only after the President gives assent to it. If the President wants, He/she can delay this for sometime and send the bill back to the Parliament for reconsideration. But, if the Parliament passes the bill again, he/she must sign it.

Q. What are the functions of the Supreme Court?

Answer:

The functions of the Supreme Court are :

- It can take up any dispute between the citizens of the country. :
- It can take up any dispute between the citizens and government.
- It can take up any dispute between two or more state governments.
- It can take up any dispute between the governments at the Union and state level,
- It can determine the Constitutional validity of any legislation or action of the executive in the country, when it is challenged before them. This is known as the judicial review.

CH- THE STORY OF VILLAGE PALAMPUR

- ▶ Mention the main features of the Green Revolution.

Answer:

The main features of Green Revolution are :

- ▶ Increase in the production of wheat and rice.
- ▶ Use of chemical fertilizers.
- ▶ Use of insecticides and pesticides.
- ▶ Use of High Yielding Varieties (HYVs) of seeds.
- ▶ Mechanisation of agriculture. (Any three)
- ▶ What are the essential four requirements for production?

Answer:

The essential four requirements for production of goods and services are :

- Land, and other natural resources like water, forests, minerals.
- Labour, i.e., people who will do the work. Each worker is providing the labour necessary for production.?
- The third requirement is physical capital, i.e., variety of inputs required at every stage during production.
- The fourth requirement is knowledge and enterprise to be able to put together land, labour and physical capital and produce an output.

- What was the major disadvantage associated with HYV seeds? Explain.

Answer:

The biggest disadvantage associated with HYV seeds is the requirement of plenty of water and chemical fertilisers and pesticides to produce best results. Higher yields are possible only from combination of HYV seeds, irrigation, chemical fertilisers, pesticides, etc. Chemical fertilisers and pesticides degrade our environment by killing necessary bacteria in soil. Poor farmers can not afford HYV seeds due to increased requirement of fertilisers and machinery. New machinery replaced manual labour leading to unemployment and rural-urban migration.

- What do you mean by physical capital? What are the items that come under physical capital?

Answer:

Physical capital includes the variety of inputs required at every stage during production. The following items come under the category of physical capital:

(a) Tools, machines, buildings: Tools and machines range from very simple tools such as a farmer's plough to sophisticated machines such as generators, turbines, computers, etc. Tools, machines, building can be used in production over many years.

CH- PEOPLE AS RESOURCE

Q. Explain the ways of investment of Human Resources that can give high returns in future.

Answer:

Three ways of investment in development of Human Resource are:

- ▶ Through Education.
- ▶ Through Medical Care.
- ▶ New technology.
- ▶ Providing training to use new technology. ,
- ▶ They can discover new methods of increasing production.
- ▶ Acquired knowledge is well-invested in new fields like IT.

Explain any three consequences of unemployment.

Answer:

- **Poverty:** The basic cause of poverty is unemployment. People do not have enough money to support their family. Inability of educated people, who are willing to work to find gainful employment implies a great social waste.
- **Increase in Dependent Population:** Unemployment tends to increase the economic overload. The dependence of the unemployed on the working population increases.
- **Poor Quality of Life:** The quality of life of an individual as well as of the society is adversely affected. When a family has to live on a bare subsistence level, there is a general decline in its health status and rising withdrawal from the school system.

What are the objectives of the 10th Five Year Plan with reference to education?

Answer:

- The 10th Five Year Plan endeavoured to increase the enrolment in higher education of the 18 to 23 year age group from the present 6 per cent to 9 per cent, by the end of the plan period,
- The strategy focuses on increasing access quality, adoption of states-specific curriculum modification, vocationalisation and networking on the use of information technology.
- The plan also focuses on distant education, convergence of formal, non-formal, distant and IT education institutions.

What is unemployment? What kind of unemployment found in India? Explain any two of them.

Answer:

It is a situation under which worker is ready to work at the prevailing wages but he/she is unable to find any useful work.

- Disguised unemployment
- Seasonal unemployment
- Structural unemployment
- Technical unemployment

Disguised Unemployment:

- It is a type of unemployment under which people appear to be employed, but actually they are not.
- It is mostly found in agriculture.
- It is mainly found in rural areas.

Seasonal Unemployment:

- It is a type of unemployment under which workers are employed only for a particular season.
- It is mostly found in agro based industries.
- It is found both in rural as well as urban areas.

CH- POVERTY AS CHALLENGE

- ▶ What are the major features of poverty? Explain.

Answer:

- ▶ It also is a situation in which parents are not able to send their children to school or a situation where sick people cannot afford treatment.
- ▶ Poverty also means lack of clean water and sanitation facilities.
- ▶ It also means lack of regular job at a minimum decent level. Above all it means living with a sense of helplessness.
- ▶ Poor people are in a situation in which they are ill-treated at almost every place, in farms, factories, government offices, hospitals, railway stations etc.
- ▶ Poverty when looked through other social indicators like illiteracy level, lack of general resistance due to malnutrition, lack of access to healthcare, lack of job opportunities, lack of access to safe drinking water, sanitation etc.

Discuss the major reasons for poverty in India. [CBSE 2015]

Answer:

- **British Rule:** Britishers ruled India more than 100 years. Prior to the British rule, traditional industries, for instance, textiles, flourished in India. During the British rule, the government adopted policies to discourage such industries. This left millions of weavers poor. Even after fifty years of independent India, we can find a major section of the people engaged handicraft industries as , downtrodden.
- **Lack of industrialisation:** India is very backward from the industrial point of view. Hardly 3 per cent of the total working population is engaged in the large- scale industry.
- **Over dependence on agriculture** Even after more than 60 years of independence more than 60 per cent of our total population still depends on agriculture for its livelihood. Due to shortage of inputs, our agriculture is backward.
- **Inflationary pressure:** Upward trend in prices adversely affects the poor sections of the society.
- **Unemployment:** Due to lack of job opportunities, more than 90 lakhs of our total working force is unemployed.

q.Suggest any four ways to reduce poverty in India. [CBSE 2015]

Answer:

- There is need to invest in agriculture and industrial sector. The investment in both these sectors will lead to higher economic growth. The higher economic growth rate is expected to provide to more economic opportunities.
- Increasing stress on universal free elementary education will help in the formation of human capital.
- There is need to check high birth rate. The high birth rate leads to a mismatch between resources and population.



Thank you

Class- IX

SOCIAL SCIENCE

BY- SHIPRA CHUGH