



CLASS: 10TH

SUBJECT: CIVICS

SESSION 2022 - 2023

TERM 2ND

Popular Struggle and Movement (Ch: 5)

Introduction: In this chapter we will discuss why power sharing is important in a democracy and how different tiers of government and various social groups share power. We will also see how those who exercise power are constrained by the influence and pressure exerted on them.

Q1. In what ways do pressure groups and movements exert influence on politics?

Ans. The pressure groups and movements exert influence on politics in the following ways:

- i. They try to gain public support and sympathy for their goals and activities by carrying out informative campaigns, organizing meetings, filing petitions etc. Most of these groups try to influence the media in order to get more attention to these issues.
- ii. They often organize protest activities like strikes or disrupting government programmes. Workers', organizations, employees' associations and most of the movement groups often resort to these tactics in order to force the government to take note of their demands.
- iii. Business groups often employ professional lobbyists or sponsor expensive advertisements. Some persons from pressure groups or movement groups participate in official bodies and committees that offer advice and suggestions to the government.
- iv. While interest groups and movements do not directly engage in party politics, they seek to exert influence on political parties. Most of the movement groups take a political stance without being a party. They have a political ideology and political position on major issues.

Q2 Describe the forms of relationship between pressure groups and political parties.

Ans. The relationship between political parties and pressure groups can take different forms which are listed as under:

- i. In some instances, the pressure groups are either formed or led by the leaders of political parties. For example, most trade unions and students' organizations in India are either established by or affiliated to one or the other major political party.
- ii. Sometimes political parties grow out of movements. For example, the 1931 uprising in J&K gave rise to many Muslim Conference which in 1938 transformed into Secular National Conference.
- iii. Many a times, the issues raised by the pressure movement groups are taken up by the political parties, leading to a change in the policies of the parties.

Q3 Explain how the activities of pressure groups are useful in the functioning of a democratic government.

Ans. Pressure groups help in deepening democracy as they provide an opportunity for marginalized people to express their opinions. Putting pressure on the rulers is not an unhealthy activity in a democracy as long as everyone gets this opportunity. Governments can also come under pressure from a small group of rich and powerful people. Pressure groups perform a useful role in countering the undue influence and reminding the government of the needs and concerns of ordinary citizens. As a result, the government comes to know what different sections of the population want. This leads to a fair balance of power and accommodation of conflicting interests.

Q4: What is a Pressure Group? Give a few examples.

Ans. A pressure group is organized association that aims to influence the policies or actions of the government. These organizations are formed when people with common occupation, interest, aspirations or opinions come together in order to achieve a common objective. Examples of pressure groups are Narmada BachaoAndolan, Movement for Right to Information, Anti-Liquor Movement, Women's Movement, FEDCOR, BAMCEF etc.

Q5:- What is the difference between a pressure group and political party?

Ans. Pressure groups differ from political parties as these groups seek to promote their interest rather than to win or exercise government power. On the other hand, the political parties contest elections because their aim is to achieve political power. Further, pressure groups typically have a narrow issue focus. They are usually concerned with a specific cause or the interest of a particular group. They seldom have the broader programme that is generally associated with the political parties.

Q6:- Organisations that undertake activities to promote the interests of specific social sections such as workers, employees, teachers and lawyers are called interest groups.

Q7:- Which among the following is the special feature that distinguishes a pressure group from a political party?

Ans. (c)

Q8:- Match list I with list II.

Ans. (b)

Q9:- Match list I with list II.

Ans. (a)

Q10. Consider the following statements about pressure groups and parties.

Ans. (b)

Political Parties (Ch: 6)

Introduction: In this chapter, we will study about the role of political parties in the rise of democracies in the formation of constitutional designs in an electoral politics and in the making and working of government. We will begin by asking two common questions: why do we need political parties? How many parties are good for democracy?

Q1:- State the various functions of political parties perform in a democracy.

Ans. The main functions of the political party are as under:

- i. **Parties contest elections:-**In democracies, elections are fought mainly among the candidates put up by the political parties. Parties select their candidates in different ways. In India, top party leaders choose candidates for contesting elections.
- ii. **Parties form policies and programmes:-** Parties put forward different policies and programmes and the voters choose from them. Each of us may have different opinions and views about the policies whether they are suitable for the society or not. But no government can handle such a large variety of views. In such a situation, a political party plays a very important role by reducing a vast multitude of opinions into a few basic positions which it supports.
- iii. **Parties play a role in making laws** for the country. Formally, the laws are debated and passed in the legislature. The members of the ruling party follow the direction of the party leaders, irrespective of their own personal opinions.

- iv. **Parties form and run the government:-**Policy decisions whether big or small are taken by the political executive that come from the political parties. Parties recruit leaders, train them and make them ministers, to run the government the way they want them to run it.
- v. **Parties play a role of opposition:-** The parties that lose in the elections plays the role of opposition of the party in power by criticizing the government for its failures or wrong policies.
- vi. **Parties shape public opinion:-** Parties have lakhs of members and activists spread all over the country. Many of the pressure groups are the extensions of the political parties among the different sections of the society. They raise and highlight issues prevalent in the society. Parties sometimes also launch movements for the resolution of problems faced by the people.
- vii. **Parties provide access to government machinery and welfare schemes:-**For an ordinary citizen, it is easier to approach a loyal party leader than a government officer. That is why they feel close to parties even when they don't fully trust them. Parties have to be responsible for people's needs and demands. Otherwise people can reject them in the next elections

Q2:- What are the various challenges faced by political parties?

Ans. The various challenges faced by political parties listed as under:-

1. Lack of democracy: All over the world, there is a tendency in political parties towards the concentration of power in one or few leaders at the top. Parties do not keep memberships registers, do not hold organizational meetings and do not conduct internal elections regularly. Ordinary members of the party do not get sufficient information about what happens inside the party.

2.No transparency: Most political parties do not practice open and transparent procedures for their functioning. As a result, the leaders are in a position of unfair advantage to favor people close to them or even their family members. In many parties, the top positions are always controlled by the members of one family. This is unfair to other members of that party. This is also bad for democracy because people who don't have adequate experience or popular support come occupy positions of power.

3. Money and muscle power: Since parties focus on only winning elections, they tend to use shortcuts to win elections. They tend to nominate those candidates who have or can raise funds for the party. Rich people and companies that give funds to the parties tend to have influences on the policies and decision making of the party. In some cases, parties support criminals who can win elections. Democrats all over the world are worried about the increasing role of rich people and big companies in democratic politics.

4. No meaningful choices to the voters: In order to offer meaningful choice to the voters, parties must be significantly different. In recent years, there has been a decline in the different policies that have no opinion available to them. Sometimes people cannot even elect very different leaders either because the same set of leaders keep shifting from one party to another.

Q3:- Suggest some reforms to strengthen parties so that they perform their functioning well?

Ans. Some reforms which could strengthen the political parties are as under:-

1. A law should be made to regulate the internal affairs of the political parties. It should be made compulsory for the political parties to maintain a register of its members, to follow its own constitution, to have an independent authority, to act as a judge in case of party dispute, to hold open elections to the highest posts.
2. It should be made mandatory for the political to give a minimum number of tickets, about one third, to women candidates. Similarly, there should be a quota for women in the decision making bodies of the party.
3. There should be funding of elections. The state should fund election campaigns, thereby eliminating lobbying groups and unfair competition. This support could be given in kind i.e. petrol, paper, telephone etc. or it could be given in cash on the basis of the voters secured by the party in the last election.
4. Ordinary citizens, pressure groups, movement and media can play an important role by pressurizing political parties to bring in reforms. This can be done through petitions, publicity and agitations. If political parties feel that they would lose public support by not taking up reforms they would become more serious about reforms.

Q4:- What is a political party?

Ans:- A political party can be described as a group of individuals who assemble to contest for election to hold power in the government.

Q5:- What are the characteristics of a political party?

The characteristic of a political party are:-

1. Political parties contest elections and share power.
2. They agree on some policies and programmes for the society to promote collective good.
3. If a political party is unable to win a majority, it makes an alliance with other parties to form a Coalition government.

4. Political parties try to persuade people that their policies are better than others.

The above characteristics show that political parties are necessary for a democracy.

Q6: A group of people who come together to contest elections and hold power in the government is called a political party

Q7:- Match List I with List II

Ans: - (C)

Q8:- Who among the following is the founder of Bahujan Samaj Party?

Ans: - (A)

Q9:- What is the guiding philosophy of the Bharatiya Janata Party

Ans: - (C)

Q10:- Consider the following statements on parties.

Ans:- (A)

Extra Question

Q1. What are the different types of political parties?

OR

Describe the various party systems existing in various countries.

Ans. The following are the three types of political parties:-

- i) **One Party System or Single Party System:-** Single Party System means when only one political party is allowed to exist in the state or the country. Generally, such a system is found in socialist states, where ruling communist parties direct and control all the institutions and other aspects of the society. Under such a system, no other political party is allowed to exist or to contest for political power. There is complete dictatorship and no criticism is allowed. Such a party system is subject to strict ideological discipline in accordance with the tenets of Marxism and Leninism. The most glaring example of one-party rule is in China.
- ii) **Two party system or BI-Party System:-** Bi-party system means when a state has only two major political parties. Under such a system, there are two well organized political parties. There may be other parties, but only two of those get most of the votes and other parties are not in a position in any way. After the elections, one party gets an absolute majority and the other party sits in the opposition. In England, there are two major political parties-Labour Party and Conservative

Party. Similarly, in the USA there is Bi-political party system and there are two major political parties- Republican Party and Democratic Party.

- iii) **Multi-Party System:-**A multiparty system is characterized by competition between more than two political parties, thereby reducing the chance of single-party government and increasing the likelihood of coalitions because under such a system, no political party is big enough to dominate the political scene and capture a majority of seats in the legislature by itself i.e. no political party is able to get absolute majority in the legislature to form a government. Under such a system, a political party is able to get an absolute majority in the legislature to form the government. Under such a system, a political party has to form a coalition with other political parties to form the government. Canada, Australia, India and France etc. the examples of nations that have used a multi-party system effectively in their democracies.

Outcomes of Democracy

Lesson No. 7

Introduction: In this chapter, we will look at the expected and actual outcome of democracy in various respects: Quality of government, economic well-being, inequality, social differences and conflicts and finally freedom and dignity.

Q1. How does democracy produce an accountable, responsive and legitimate government?

Ans. Every effort is made by the democratic government to show transparency by making it accountable, responsive and legitimate.

- i) Firstly, some norms and procedures are followed while making the decisions. The citizens have the right to know them before they are followed. This ensures that the working of the government is transparent.
- ii) Secondly, the opposition parties can also question and criticize the government policies. They keep a check on the ruling party and make sure that the government formed is accountable and responsive to the needs of the people.
- iii) Thirdly, a democratic government tries to show itself a legitimate government. It is a government of the people. Everybody votes in the elections and chooses their representations. The winning political party forms the government. This is in contrast with non-democratic governments where people have no choice in the

political parties. They have to accept the rule of a person or a party. This makes democracy better as it gives people the option to choose their own rulers.

Q2. What are the conditions under which democracies accommodate social diversities?

Ans. Every society is diverse in terms of the religions followed, languages spoken and the culture of the people. Democracy accommodates all the social diversity by guaranteeing dignity and freedom to all the citizens.

People make different complaints against democracy which is a welcome thing in a democracy.

In the case of women, they were denied equal rights, justice, dignity and freedom. But democracy has ensured all these to women.

Special provisions have been made for their uplift so that they can live with dignity and honor and lead a free life, like the scheduled castes, the scheduled tribes and the backward classes.

The conflicts among various caste groups are minimized by giving all of them adequate representation in the government.

Q3. Give arguments to support or oppose the following assertions:

1. Industrial countries can afford democracy but the poor need dictatorship to become rich.

Ans: It is not necessary that poor countries need dictatorship to become rich. The economic development of a country does not depend only on the democratic set-up of the government. Economic development depends on several other factors like the population, size, literacy rate, urbanization, cooperation from citizens and other countries, availability of resources etc. If we compare democracy and dictatorship regimes between 1950 and 2000, we find countries under dictatorship to be more economically advanced. But if we compare only in poor countries, virtually no difference.

This leads us to the conclusion that any set-up of the government, democratic or non-democratic, is not a guarantee for the economic development of a country.

2. Democracy cannot reduce inequality of income between different citizens.

Ans: Democracy aims to provide a fair share to every citizen in the natural resources of the country. It aims for almost equitable distribution of products and income. So, it becomes responsible for us to expect that countries under democracy will have very low income inequalities.

However, in reality we find growing income inequalities in democracies. There is a wide gap between the rich and the poor.

3. Governments in poorer countries should spend less on poverty reduction, health, education and spend more on industries and infrastructure.

Ans: Industry and infrastructure are vital inputs for the economic development of a nation. But they are not the only inputs needed for the economic development of a country. Human resource is the most important resource for any country. The human resource decides the use of any other material resources of a country. A population with high literacy and wide knowledge and skill is an asset for the country. On the other hand, a population with low literacy rate and widespread unawareness is a burden for the country.

Thus, it is wrong to say that governments in poorer countries need to spend less on education and health of its people.

4. In democracies all citizens have one vote which means that there is absence of any domination and conflict.

Ans: Since, every citizen has one vote, political parties cannot avoid any social group the political parties have to formulate policies which will benefit all the groups but all of these do not mean that conflicts are totally absent in a democracy. They can happen if the demands of the one social group are against the demands of the other social group. Democracy only avoids the possibility of such conflicts by giving everyone equal rights and freedom in the society

Q4. Identify the challenges to democracy in the following descriptions.

A)The religious discrimination is a great challenge to our democracy and hence all efforts should be made socially and legally to remove this disparity.

B). A large number of farmers are committing suicide in different states of India.

Ans. A large amount of farmers are committing suicide in different states of India- is also a great challenge to the smooth running of democracy. Various steps are suggested to improve the lot of the farmers in our country.

- a. Banking facilities should be provided so that they do not fall a prey to the greedy money-lenders.
- b. In case of any drought or too much rain, if their crops fail, their loans should be waived off.
- c. Better seeds and irrigation facilities should be provided.
- d. Some small state industries should be established to provide them some added income.

C) Following allegation of killing of three civilians in Gandwara in a fake encounter by J&K police, an enquiry has been ordered.

Ans. Fake killing of the civilians by the police or the army personnel is also a great challenge to successfully working of the democracy, whether it in Gandwara in J&K or some other area such incidents should be checked at the earliest and after enquiry those found guilty should be severely so that no injustice is done to any citizen.

Q5. In context of democracy, which of the following ideas is correct- democracies have successfully eliminated.

- a) Incorrect.
- b) Incorrect.
- c) Incorrect.
- d) Correct.

Q6: In context of accessing democracy which among the following is odd one out.

Democracies need to ensure -

D: Equal treatment before law.

Q7 :Studies on political and social inequalities in democracy show that.

B : Inequalities exist in democracy.

Extra Question

Q1. How do we assess democracy outcomes?

OR

State the factors on the basis of which one can evaluate the outcomes of democracy?

OR

Why is democracy considered as the best form of government?

Ans. The outcomes of democracy can be evaluated in the following ways:

- i) If we are to assess the real meaning of democracy, then we must understand then we must understand that democracy is not only a form of government but a way of life that allows an individual to avail the opportunity and develop to the fullest. Democratic government is a legitimate government as it is based on the contest of the people. It allows people to participate in the political process, it is the government of the people. Thus it is legitimate.
- ii) Democratic form of government is based on the “Rule of Law” as it has a proper set of procedures. Government functions on the basis of the “Rule of Law” and not according to its own choice.
- iii) It is an accountable government which allows proper deliberation in the decision making process and compels the government to make policies which aim at the welfare of the people.
- iv) Democracies enhance the dignity of individuals by guaranteeing them rights and by ensuring their participation in the political process.
- v) It is a government which provides an independent body to hold elections. It guarantees freedom of Speech and Expression to the people.
- vi) The outcomes of democracy can also be assessed by ensuring how alert and vigilant people are. The fact that people are complaining shows the system.

Lesson No. 8

Challenges to democracy.

Introduction: In this chapter, we will address the fundamental questions of democratic politics: What are the challenges that democracy faces in a country and elsewhere? What can be done to reform democratic politics, how can our democracy become more democratic in its practice and outcomes.

Q1. Discuss the economic inequality, poverty and unemployment in India?

And: These have been a significant increase in the growth rate of the economy since the reforms of the 1990's. But despite planned development, the system has not been able to give employment to everybody. It is generally called jobless growth where the increased growth rate has not meant an increase in the jobs with the people.

Also, it is now established that there has been no major decline in poverty in the country. According to the latest data available from the Planning Commission, 2001, 26% of the population still lives below the poverty line due to many factors.

The rural people are dependent on agriculture for their livelihood and many agriculture areas are affected by either drought or floods. This results in loss of income for them which adds to their poverty.

Also, there is no financial assistance given to the employed by the government.

All these factors contribute to the poverty and unemployment in the country and increase the economic inequality. The gap between the rich and the poor gets widened.

Q2. Discuss the illiteracy in India.

Ans. Education is a vital component for a nation's development. An illiterate person has to depend on others for small jobs and may get cheated with the amount of wages due to him. An illiterate person cannot make use of the advanced tools and knowledge and thus, cannot progress sufficiently. Illiteracy also leads to wrong selection of the candidate at the time of elections as the illiterate voter is unaware of the programme of the political parties.

Q3. Discuss the regional imbalance in India?

Ans. India is the world's second largest populous country and seventh largest in terms of the area. In Spite of dedicated attempts to reduce the regional disparity, there are certain regional imbalances in the country. Regional imbalance means that some areas are backward. The Eastern and the Southern regions in India have remained comparatively less development than the Western and the Northern Regions. There is also the difference in the outcome level in urban and rural areas.

The regional imbalance can be attributed partly due to the British policies. Their policy of export promotion led to the development of the coastal areas leaving the interstate areas relatively less developed. The difference in the availability of the natural resources and lack of infrastructure facilities like roads, water and communications also contributed to the regional imbalance and communications also contributed to the regional imbalance.

Q4. Discuss casteism in India.

Ans. The term 'caste' means race, breed or kind. Casteism believes that every caste is a separate social community. People from different castes form different communities and they have different interests. Under the caste system, work is divided on the basis of the caste of the person. The high-paying and respectable jobs are given to the higher caste groups and low-paying are given to the low caste groups.

Casteism has led to caste policies in the country. Political parties appeal to special caste groups. They promise that the interests of the caste groups would be taken care of and their demands would be fulfilled. Also some candidates are chosen because of their caste to ensure votes from that caste.

Q5. What is the role of citizens in a democracy?

Ans. Citizens have a very important role in a democracy as they exercise their rights and freedoms and benefit from the democratic set-up of the country.

Citizens need to be active and participatory in nature. They have to be aware of the rights and duties and should be willing to perform their duties. They need to be well-informed about the affairs and issues facing the country.

A country should also have consideration for other people's needs and interests. Acts and laws of the parliament are not sufficient to sustain democracy in the country. For a vibrant healthy and strong democracy, citizens have to be concerned and interested in the public affairs of the country and should be willing to perform their duties also.