

## *CHAPTER-1 POWER-SHARING*

Ques. 1 Write a short note on country Belgium.

Ans.

- Belgium is a small-country in Europe whose area is smaller than that of Indian state Haryana.
- Belgium share its international boundaries with 4 countries i.e. France, Germany, Luxembourg, Netherlands.
- It has the total population of a little more than 1 crore.

Ques. 2 Write short note on the country Sri Lanka.

Ans.

- Sri Lanka is an island nation, surrounded by Indian Ocean on all sides.
- It is just a few kilometers off the southern coast of Tamil Nadu.
- It has about 2 crore people as total population which is same as of Haryana.
- Sri Lanka got independence in the year 1948.

Ques. 3 Define the term ethnic.

Ans. The term ethnic refers to a social division based on shared culture. People belonging to same ethnic group have same structural design but the religion, nationality and their culture may not be same.

Ques. 4 Describe the ethnic composition of Belgium.

Ans.

- Dutch speaking people in Belgium are larger in number, i.e. 59% of the total population and mainly live Flemish region.
- 40% people of total population are French speaking and they mainly live in the Walloon region.
- 1% people are German speaking.
- In the Capital city of Brussels 80% are French-Speaking whereas 20% are German-Speaking.

Ques. 5 Why there was tension between French-Speaking and Dutch-Speaking in Belgium during 1950s and 1960s?

Ans. There was tension between French-speaking and German-speaking people in Belgium as French people who were rich as they took the benefit of the Economic reforms while the Dutch -speaking people were comparatively less rich and powerful. Because of which there was tension between them and resentment by Dutch-speakers.

Ques. 6 Describe the ethnic composition of Sri Lanka.

Ans.

- Out of total population of Sri Lanka 74% are Sinhala-speaker, known as Sinhalese and follow the religion Buddhist.
- 18% people are Tamil-speakers who follow Hindu and Islamic religion.
- There are two groups of Tamil-speaking people- Native Tamils (13%), and Indian Tamils (5%).
- Forefathers of Indian Tamils came Sri Lanka as plantation Laborers during the colonial period.
- 7% of the Christian who speak both Tamil and Sinhala.

Ques. 7 Define majoritarianism.

Ans. 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 minorities.

Ques. 8 What were the steps taken by Buddhist Sinhala leaders to establish the dominance of Sinhalese in Sri Lanka?

Ans.

- An act was passed in 1956 to recognize Sinhala as the only official language thus disregarding Tamil.
- The Government adopted preferential policies that favored Sinhala applicant for Universities, positions and Government jobs.
- Buddhist was stated/declared as the state religion.

Ques. 9 What were the consequences/effects of majoritarianism practiced in Sri Lanka?

Or

Why did the relation between the Sinhala and Tamil communities get strained overtime?

Ans.

- ⊙ There was the feeling of Alienation between/among Sri Lankan Tamils.
- ⊙ They felt that all the Buddhist Sinhala leaders were not sensitive to their language and cultures.
- ⊙ They felt that Sri Lankan constitution and the Government policies denied them from political equality and they discriminated in getting jobs opportunities and education.
- ⊙ As a result of this the relation between the Sinhala and Tamils communities strained overtime.

Ques. 10 What were the demands of Tamils? To get their demands fulfilled what was done by them.

Ans. The demands of Tamils were-

- ⊙ They demanded to make Tamil as a official language of Sri Lanka.
- ⊙ They also demanded regional autonomy of the regions they live upon, which was the Northern-Southern region of Sri Lanka.
- ⊙ They demanded equality of opportunities in securing jobs and education.
- ⊙ To fulfill their demands Tamil made political parties and do struggles and agitation.

Ques. 11 What do you know about Civil War? What were the consequences/effects of Civil War on Sri Lanka.

Ans.

Civil War: - A intense conflict between two opposing groups which look like a war is known as Civil War.

Consequences of Civil War on Sri Lanka were:-

- ⊙ Thousands of people were killed of both the communities.(Sinhala and Tamils)
- ⊙ The majority of people became homeless and had to live in refugee camps.
- ⊙ Most of the people lost their livelihoods.
- ⊙ It led a terrible impact on culture, societies and economy of Sri Lanka.

Ques.12 Why did the Belgium Leaders amend the Constitution four times during 1970 to 1993?

Ans. The Belgium leaders amend the constitution four times so that the people of both communities could live together with peace and harmony.

Ques. 13 Describe the main elements of Belgium model of Governance.

Ans. Belgium Constitution was very much different from the other country's of the World and the constitution was innovative.

⇒ The main features are: -

- ⊙ The French-speaking and the Dutch-speaking minister shall be equal in the Central Government.
- ⊙ No, single community/group can take unilateral decisions by its own.
- ⊙ In the capital city of Brussels, the number of French and Dutch speaking ministers shall be equal. This was so because Dutch being in the majority accepted the equal representation in the Central Government so in the capital city Brussels the French-speaking who were in majority also accepted the equal representation in the government.
- ⊙ There were two state governments in Belgium. There state government were/are not subordinate to the Central Government. Both state and central government have their own jurisdiction.
- ⊙ The Belgium also has a community government which contains leaders from all linguistic groups i.e. Dutch-speaking, French-speaking, German-speaking. This government took over the issues related to education, language and cultural.

Ques.14 What lessons are drawn from the episode of Belgium and Sri Lanka?

Ans.

- ⊙ In Belgium, the leaders have realized that the unity of the country is possible only by respecting the feelings and interests of different communities and regions.
- ⊙ Such a realization resulted in mutually acceptable arrangements for sharing power.

- ☉ Sri Lanka shows us a contrasting example. It shows us that if a majority community wants to force its dominance over others and refuses to share power, it can determine the unity of the country.

Ques.15 Why power sharing is desirable/necessary?

Ans.

- ☉ Power sharing is desirable because it reduces the chances of conflict between two social groups within the nation.
- ☉ It ensures the political stability within the country.
- ☉ Power sharing is the spirit of democracy.
- ☉ It accommodates diversity.
- ☉ It promotes peoples participation in the government.

Ques.16 What are the different forms of Power Sharing in modern democracies? Give example of these.

Ans.

- ❖ Power is shared among different organs of government.
  - ☉ For e.g. There is power sharing between three organs of the government. They are as follows: -
    - Legislative
    - Executive
    - Judiciary
- ❖ Power can be shared among governments at different levels.
  - ☉ For e.g. The govt. in India is divided among the three tiers of the government. They are as follows: -
    - Central Government
    - State Government
    - Panchayati Raj
- ❖ Power can also be shared among different social groups such as religious and linguistic.
  - ☉ For e.g. Community government of Belgium.
- ❖ Power is also shared among different political parties, social groups and pressure groups.
  - ☉ Nowadays, BJP is the ruling party at the Central Government level.

Ques.17 Define prudential

Ans. Based on prudence or on careful calculations of gains and losses. Prudential discussions are usually contrasted with decisions based purely on moral considerations.

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