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TNPSC MATERIAL

SOCIAL STUDIES - CIVICS



SAMACHEER KALVI

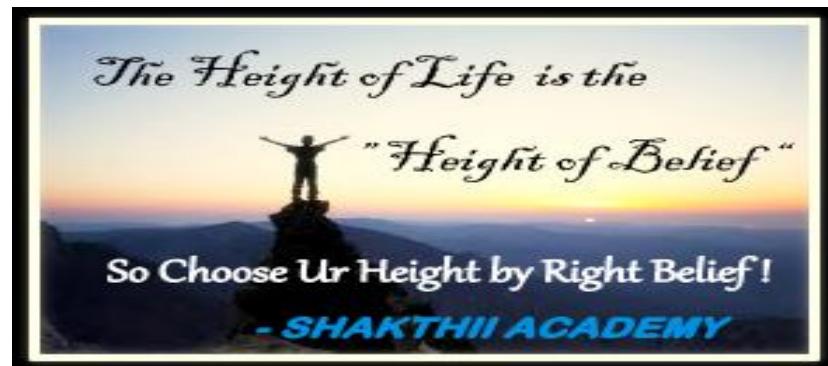


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SAMACHEER KALVI SOCIAL STUDIES - CIVICS



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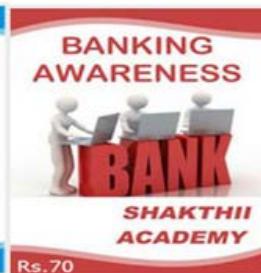
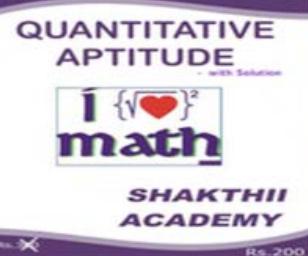
STANDARD - SIX

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Between 10 AM to 7 PM

CIVICS

1. FAMILY AND SOCIETY

Family:

Define Family: A group of relatives living in one house and sharing the food cooked under the same roof is called family.

We live in a family. Who are the members living in our family?

We live with our mother, father, brothers and sisters. The number of members in each family differs from family to family. Some family consists of father, mother and a child, while other families consists of father, mother, grand parents and close relatives.

Family is the basic unit of the society. Nuclear family consists of parents and children.



Joint family consists of parents, children, grand parents and close relatives. Happy family leads to healthy and good life.



When many joint families live together they form community. When many communities live together, it is called society.

Are you living with joint family or nuclear family?

Community:

A community consists of a group of people who live together for the common well being and purpose. They frame their rights and duties. In one society many communities may co-exist. Unity, duty, right, participation, security, development are the very soul of the community.

Our relatives, neighbours, classmates and playmates co-exist in a community.

Society:

When various groups (communities) depend on each other and live together it is called a society. An individual cannot live in isolation. He has to depend others for food, shelter, education, etc.



Our society enlarges from street, ward, town, taluk, district, state and country. The workers, manufacturers and employees throughout the country form part of the society.

In our house, our parents prepare our food and fulfil our needs. In several ways we mingle with our neighbours. We help each other and because of this, love and friendship develops.

Brothers and sisters from our neighbour's house visit, talk and play with us. We also visit their house, talk

and play with them. Our parents also do the same. They mingle with our neighbours.

Society and community are interdependent and interlinked.

We need to learn living together and share the work. We need to understand the feelings of others. We need to voice our opinion for the rights of people. People should come forward to participate and work together joyfully. Just as we thrive to fulfil our needs we should also participate and work for the public welfare.

Family is the foundation for the joyful life. Community helps to give security, rights, duties and properties and society paves the way for a joyful life.



Living in one house and sharing meals cooked under the same roof is called family.

Analyse the following and differentiate- Production, work and service to promote ones well being. (Educational institutions, books, equipments, travel, shirt, sugar,dhal, computer, jewellery, provisions, medicines, chairs, tea, coffee, thread, fruits, vegetables, milk, meat and police)

S.No.	Production	Work	Service

Evaluation:

I. Choose the correct answer:

1. Which information is correct for the development of the society?
 - a) Society → family → individual → community
 - b) Individual → family → community → society
 - c) Family → society → individual → community

2. The occupation which unites the society.
 - a) agriculture
 - b) carpentry
 - c) business

II. Fill in the blanks:

1. People _____ on each other.
2. Living in one house and sharing meals cooked under the same roof is called _____
3. We need to _____ each others feelings.

III. Match the following:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1. The number of members | - | to lead a peaceful life |
| 2. We need to raise our voice | - | each other |
| 3. Society helps | - | differ from family to family |
| 4. We depend on | - | for the rights of people |

IV. Answer the following:

1. What is meant by 'living together'?
2. What is meant by the term 'community'?
3. What is meant by the term 'society'?

Formative Assessment

1. Write down your family members name and stick your family members photograph.
2. How does our family give protection for us.
3. List the producers, labourers, and social workers in your area.
4. Differentiate between the nuclear family and joint family.

2. SOCIETY AND SCHOOL

The Society works for the peaceful existence of communities. The society try to fulfill the aspirations and aims of the individuals by laying down certain guidelines, such as economic progress, improving the opportunities and facilities, provisions for healthy life, security, hygiene and nutritious food, drinking water and fair distribution.

Education is an investment which paves way for the social and economic development of society. Therefore in the early days schools were conducted in Temples and other places of worship. Now schools are functioning in building constructed for this purpose. After the arrival of European, the responsibility of provision of Education has slowly shifted largely from the society to Government. To achieve this the government is implementing free and compulsory education for all.

The progress and the bright future of the society totally depends on the basic education facilitated to young children.

The school is one of the social institutions. It paves the way for development of education in the society. Children are the future citizens. The school teaches discipline, responsibility and self control to children. All the activities of the school thrive for the fulfilment of the expectation of the society.



Fill in the blanks from the options given below:

[owner, society, teacher, faith, apply , participates, interlinked, land, donations, requirements]

1. The society was the first to _____ for schools.
2. The society provides the necessary _____ to establish schools.
3. Schools are established to fulfill the necessary _____ in the society.
4. The society sends its children to schools because they have _____ in the school.

5. The society is the _____ of the school.
6. The society gives _____ to schools.
7. The society actively _____ in all the school functions.
8. Schools thrive well because they are _____ with the society.
9. It is the responsibility of the _____ to link the society and the school.
10. If the school develops the _____ also develops.

Match the following :

Student Community	Duties
1. Students need	- wear clean uniforms
2. Lessons taught in school	- practice clean habits
3. Bathe daily	- should be followed by students
4. In school and outside	- should be maintained
5. Teachers' instructions	- do not fight but be friendly
6. Do not waste water	- should be respected
7. School cleanliness	- be safe and united
8. Among students	- will be praised
9. Parents and elders	- revised by the students everyday
10. Outside the school	- be punctual in school
11. Midday meals	- use when required
12. Behave well	- wash hands and do not waste food

The school is the stepping stone for the progress of the society. Therefore the society provides all the necessities to the school immediately. The society is the first beneficiary of the school service. The society is waiting to provide the school with the

necessary requirements inorder to secure the bright future of its children.

The parents with the help of the school instills in the students human values like discipline, self-control, equality, co-operation, community living, helping tendency and unity.

Teachers are considered as God in society.

The family, community and society should help the student to strictly adhere the moral values imparted by the school. Teachers and parents should help to create an environment conducive for children. The good values acquired by the students in school should be followed and developed further. School should serve as a miniature society. The quality of primary education is the joint responsibility of parents and teachers. The students will ultimately be affected if they fail to do their duty.

At school, the students should learn discipline. The students should follow rules and regulations of the school such as being punctual, having regular attendance, self-discipline, being attentive in class and showing interest in studies, being friendly with the students, not wasting drinking water, being on time and maintaining silence during prayer assembly.

When the students involve themselves in the activities of the society, it is called student community, adolescent community or youth community. Students should learn the code of conduct to be adopted in the society. There should be no variation between what they learn and what they practice. Students in their growing stage should learn good manners, citizenship and leadership. The school should inculcate leadership qualities among students.

Mangoes that we get from a branch of the same tree will not have the same size, weight and appearance even though it has the same fragrance, taste, colour and quality. Similarly even though two people look alike having the same colour and physical appearance they have different feelings and views naturally.

Differences are essential. To differ is not a sin. Those who differ in opinion are not enemies. They are our friends even when they have different views. Today we may deny certain things and tomorrow we may accept them. This is quite human. Differences add enchantment and spice to our lives.

Various shapes and curves go together to complete a picture. various colours give beauty to the portrait. When these colours and shapes come together they give beauty to the scenery. The variety among people help to unite the society. It is our greatness to find meaning among these differences. We need to understand the character in different people in order to live together.

We cannot avoid these differences in the society. This is the law of nature. Teachers should help students to recognize the reason for these differences and help them to live a harmonious life. Differences should be understood with their background to appreciate their naturality.

"There are many fruit flakes in a Jack fruit yet it is considered as a

single fruit. Likewise many flowers are used to make a garland"

Though there are various differences like caste, creed, language, religion and surroundings in our country yet we are Indians. We should create an awareness among the students that though there are differences we belong to one country. There are also strengthening forces which unite us such as the national flag, the national emblem, our constitution and culture.

The values imparted to the students by the teachers should be carefully carried out with the help of the parents, community and society. The effect of the school should be reflected in the family.

The family life is continued in school. Students should be trained to follow the goals and aspirations of the society. Students should get themselves accustomed for a successful social life.

Evaluation

I. Fill in the blanks :

1. School is a _____ institution.
2. _____ paves way for the development of the society.
3. The _____ unites the society and the school.
4. Differences are _____.
5. _____ are given equal importance to God.

II. Match the following:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1. Society | - | helps the society to grow |
| 2. Do not waste drinking water | - | student - society |
| 3. Students who join together | - | should praise the students |
| 4. Parents and elders | - | good quality of the students |
| 5. School | - | owner of the school |

III. Answer the following:

1. By whom schools are established?
2. What does the development of the society depend on?
3. Why is it necessary to have differences?
4. What are the moral values to be instilled in the students?
5. List the principles, the student should follow in school.
6. List the aims of the society.

IV. Answer the following in details:

1. Difference is the 'law of nature'. - Explain.

Formative Assessment

1. Write down the names of education institution in your area.
2. Who contributes more for the progress of the children. School / Society? – Discuss.
3. Write and enact a skit (drama) based on the concept “Unity in Diversity”.
4. Get information about the societies contribution towards the development of your school.
5. Give your suggestions to the development of your school.

CIVICS

1. VILLAGES AND CITIES

India is a country consisting of a large number of villages. About 70 percent of Indian population live in rural areas. Occupations like agriculture and textile activities are the primary activities of the rural population. These people engaged themselves in these noble occupations which provide food and cloth for all. But the living conditions of the people are not improving. Ghandhiji mentioned that "Villages are the backbone of India".

These days people prefer to migrate from villages to towns and cities. Those who migrate from the villages find it difficult to live in cities in initial stages.

Cities with large population are called Corporations. Some of them are Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Trichy, Salem and Tirunelveli. Corporations have broad four-way roads, flyovers, skyscrapers, parks, private and public offices, industries, educational and technological institutions. Residential apartments are increasing in the suburban areas.

Villages are located more or less twenty five kms. away from the cities. These are called as suburban areas. The main occupation of the people living in these areas are agriculture, weaving, handicrafts, brick kiln and rice mills. They even engage themselves in fishing. Nowadays we find many differences between cities and suburban areas.

The basic requirements like food, clothing, shelter, education, medical facilities, transport facilities, employment opportunities and social security should be provided.

There are more employment opportunities available in cities. People working in Government offices and technical industries receive monthly income. Permanent employees, people who work in factories television and journalists also receive regular income. These people are able to satisfy their basic requirements easily.

But at the same time people living in villages are entirely different. Most of the people are agriculturists or farmers.

As agriculture is well developed, it provides job opportunities to agricultural labourers. In recent years the pastoral lands have been reduced in size and cattle rearing has also decreased. Most of the agricultural activities are done by machines.



This was a death blow to agriculture. Therefore, agricultural labourers started migrating to towns and cities. People who have migrated

from villages and towns are employed in construction industries and manufacturing industries.

Difference between the life in villages and cities

Village life	City life
1. Fresh air and ventilated residential areas	Polluted environment and crowded residential areas
2. Dependent on each other	Independent life
3. Hereditary occupations	Changes according to time
4 Simple and natural food	Fast food and expensive food varieties
5. Less transport facilities	Different modes of transport
6. Less medical facilities	Expensive modern medical facilities
7. Availability of Primary, Middle and High School Education. Less opportunities for higher education	Higher educational facilities are available in all fields

Municipal Corporations of Tamilnadu:

Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Thiruchirapalli, Salem, Tirunelveli, Erode, Tirupur, Vellore, Tuticorin.

Dindigul, Tanjavur

Do you agree with the differences mentioned above? Form small groups and discuss. Prepare a list regarding the life in villages and cities.



The various government welfare schemes help to reduce the gap between villages and cities.



- To increase employment opportunities the government has introduced “Velai Uruthiyalippu Thittam”.
- Medical insurance for the poor.
- Transport facilities in villages
- Each and every panchayat is provided with infrastructure.
- Fair price shops supply goods of good quality to the consumer at reasonable price. By adopting these methods, the government has made efforts to control migration of people from villages to cities.



The Government has introduced the scheme “**Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)**” to enable all children in the age group of 6 to 14 years to attend school upto 8th standard. In order to help these students to continue their Secondary Education, the Government has also implemented the “**Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)**”. It imparts education to the children of the economically backward industrial Labourers. As a result of these programmes, the number of dropouts from schools has been reduced.



Evaluation

I. Fill in the blanks

1. The main occupation of the people in the village is _____.
2. Transport facilities are available in _____.
3. Agricultural workers migrate from villages to _____.

II. Answer the following

1. What are the basic requirements of man?
2. Give reasons for the migration of agricultural workers to cities.
3. How can corporations be identified?
4. List the infrastructure facilities found in cities.
5. Enumerate five differences between village life and city life.

III. Think and answer

1. List the reasons for the differences between villages and cities.
2. Give suggestions to remove the differences found in villages and cities.

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

1. List the employment opportunities of rural and urban areas.
2. Give your suggestions to improve the conditions of villages.
3. Give your suggestions to reduce the difficulties prevailed in towns.
4. Enact a drama to highlight the insufficiency of medical and transport facilities in villages.
5. Imagine and draw a picture of a village or town which you like.



CIVICS

2. REPUBLIC

In the previous lesson, we have learnt about the steps taken by the Government to minimize the differences found in villages and towns. In this lesson, we will learn 'What is meant by Government?'

In the olden days, our country was ruled by kings and chieftains. Tamil Nadu was ruled by the Cheras, Cholas, Pandiyas, Kalabhras, Pallavas, Nayaks, and Marathas.

Coming of Europeans

The Europeans like the English, Portuguese, French and Dutch came to India for trade. In India there were frequent wars among the rulers. Taking advantage of this situation the English subdued the Indians and ruled over the country for more than two hundred years. During this period the Zamindari system emerged. Most of the land was under the control of the Zamindars.



Freedom for India

The Indians were eager to free themselves from the British rule. They did not want the British to rule over them. They wanted the Indians to rule the country. At the same time they decided to remove the inequality in the society. The Indians joined together and revolted against the British rule. As a result of this India got independence on 15th August 1947.

In independent India, there was a discussion regarding the type of government to be formed. They were in favour of a democratic government. According to their desire, after independence a democratic government was established.

Democracy - Definition

It is a system of modern Government in which people rule themselves through their elected representatives. Indian adults above 18 years become eligible to vote. These people have enacted a constitution for them through their representatives. Now people are governed by constitutional law. Therefore India is called Republic.



Our Government

Only elected representatives of the Parliament and the Assembly can make decisions, frame laws and implement various plans.

Our representatives are elected through elections. Those who have completed the stipulated years of age are eligible to contest in the elections. There is no discrimination in caste, creed, religion, language, gender and economic status to contest in the election.

The Constitution assures Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. The Supreme Court is the guardian of our Constitution. People can approach the court with their grievances and get justice. All are equal before law. Those who are talented and interested can become lawyers or judges.

The District Collector receives orders from the State Government and implements them through his officers.

Departmental officers below the collector provide requirements of the people like drinking water electricity, food supply and transport. The administrative officers are in various stages at Taluk, Block and Village level.

The Collector along with the subordinate officers help in implementing the development programmes.

If we find any disparities in the basic services, we have to approach the officers concerned and mention our grievances. Every Monday is observed as '**Grievance day**'. People residing in that area can approach the officers with their grievances. Apart from this once a month officer in the rank of District Collector or District Revenue officer conducts camp in remote villages. Those who do not have the facility to visit the District Collector's office can utilize this opportunity and approach the Collector directly and hand over their petitions. In the same camp all the grievances are solved by the Public Relationship Programmes. (**Makkal Thodarbu Thittam**).

Maintaining law and order is the duty of the District Collector while prevention of crimes is the duty of the Police department. The duties of the Defence force is to protect our country's border from foreign invasion. At the time of natural calamities they help the Civil Administrators.

The executive head of the Indian Government is the Prime Minister. Each state is ruled by the Ministers under the leadership of the Chief Minister. Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Assembly representatives are elected according to the Indian Constitution.

India became Republic on 26th January 1950.

When we play cricket or football, we frame rules and regulations. In the same way, we have rules and regulations for our Government. This is known as "Constitution of our Nation"

There are more employment opportunities available in cities. People working in Government offices and technical industries receive monthly income.

Activity

1. Visit the camp organized by the Collector for 'Public Relationship Programme' and 'Grievance day'. Form small groups with the assistance of the teacher. Observe how the officers find solution to the problems and discuss in class.
2. Visit a police station, court near your village / city with your teacher. Observe how they function. Discuss with the officials there and gather information. Explain and discuss in classroom.

Evaluation

I. Fill in the blanks

1. The type of Government followed in our country is _____ .
2. Law and order is maintained by _____ .
3. Officer from the rank of Village Administrative Officer to the _____ participate in camps in remote villages once a month.

II. Answer the following

1. Who ruled our country during the ancient period?
2. Where and when do they observe 'Grievance day'? How do they find solutions?
3. Who are representatives? How are they elected?.

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

1. Conduct a mock general election in the classroom.
2. Conduct student grievance redressal day once in a month and record its events.
3. Form the rules and regulations of your class room with help of your teacher.
4. Which of the following departments do you like to serve?
 - i. Administration
 - ii. Judiciary
 - iii. Politics
 - iv. Police
 - v. Military
5. Write down the names of the persons who occupy the following positions.
 - i. President
 - ii. Vice President
 - iii. Prime Minister
 - iv. Chief Justice of Supreme Court
 - v. Governor
 - vi. Chief Minister
 - vii. Chief Justice of High Court
 - viii. District Collector
 - ix. MP
 - x. MLA



CIVICS

1. LOCAL SELF - GOVERNMENT

Our Country, India consists of a large landmass. It is densely populated. The people live in villages, towns and cities. India is a vast country with a large population therefore the Central and the State Government alone cannot provide the necessary requirements and solve the problems.

The Local Self-Government is formed in India to serve every nook and corner of the country. In this lesson we will learn about Local Self-Government.

Activity

What is the name of your village? How did your village get its name? What is its meaning and reason for it? Find out from your grandparents and elders of the village.

The speciality of Tamil Nadu is the fascinating and meaningful names of villages. Some of the names of places are mentioned in History.

- 'Gangaikondacholapuram'
- 'Malaiyadikuruchi'
- 'Cheranmadevi'
- 'Sandropalayam'
- 'Eapothumvendran'
- 'Nallan pillai petral'
- 'Paal varthu vendran'
- 'Thiruchitrambalam'
- 'Malaiyandipattanam'

'Pan pozhil' – These are some of the names of the villages in Tamil Nadu. Find out how these places got their names with the help of your teacher. Form small groups and collect information.

You would have seen a Panchayat Union Office in your village. The names of the Panchayat President, Vice President and the Ward members are written on the same board.

In the same way the Panchayat union, Town Panchayat, District Panchayat, Municipality and Corporation also have members

This system is called as '**Local Administration**'. '**Lord Ripon**' introduced Local Self-Government in India. Local Self-Government was in existence even before independence.

Village Panchayat:

The local body of the village is known as Village Panchayat. Its President, Ward Members and Councillor are elected by people directly through election. The vice President is elected by ward members among themselves. They remain in office for five years.

The functions of the Village Panchayat:

- Laying village roads
- Drinking water supply
- Laying drainage system

- Maintaining street lights
- Construction of small bridges
- Sanctioning the construction of houses
- Maintaining village libraries
- Construction of group houses
- Maintaining and establishing recreation centres and playgrounds.

To whom would you complain to solve the following problems :

Street lights that are not in working condition, damaged roads, non-availability of drinking water, block in the drainage.

To solve the above mentioned problems we need funds. Who will provide these funds? We, the people give it in the form of house tax, professional tax, property tax etc. and with that tax the above mentioned works are done.

Revenue :

- House tax, professional tax, tax from shops.
- Fee for drinking water connection and water tax.
- A share of the land revenue.
- One part of the share from the land registration fee, are utilized for the development of villages.

Since this is not sufficient, the Central and State Governments provide financial assistance in the form of funds, subsidiaries and grants through the District Rural Development Authority.

Village Council:

There is a Village Council in every village. Those who reside within the limits of the Panchayat are its members. The village development programmes and annual budget plans can be implemented only after the beneficiaries of the programmes get approval from the Village Council.



Activity

Have you ever seen the Village Council in progress? Witness with your parents. Collect information regarding the functioning of the Village Council.

The Village Council meets four times a year:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| January 26 th | - Republic day |
| May 1 st | - Labour day |
| August 15 th | - Independence day |
| October 2 nd | - Mahatma Gandhi's birthday |

These four days are public holidays. It is convenient to conduct the Village Council on these days. The Village Councils can be conducted on other days apart from these specified days. Special councils are conducted to get permission in times of emergency or special programmes.

Know about tax from one of the members working in the Panchayat.

Panchayat Union:

The Panchayat Union consists of several village panchayats.

Through elections they elect the panchayat union members in the ratio of 1:5,000. Among them one will be selected as the Panchayat Union Chairperson.

Functions of the Panchayat Union:

- Maintenance of the Panchayat Union roads
- Providing drinking water
- Establishment of primary health centres
- Maintenance of primary school buildings
- Monitoring maternity homes
- Establishing village markets
- Distributing agricultural implements and fertilizers
- Developing and extending social forests.
- Establishing veterinary dispensaries.

Activity:

With the help of your teacher interview the Chairman of the Panchayat Union. Note down their duties and future plans. Discuss with your teachers in classroom.

The Panchayat Unions are supervised by the District Rural Development Agencies which are under the control of the district administration. All the plans are implemented with the help of the District Collector, Programme Officer and the Block Development Officers.

District Panchayat:

Each district is provided with a District Panchayat. The members of the District Panchayat are elected by the people through elections in the ratio of 1:50,000. These members elect one member among them as the District Panchayat President. They remain in office for five years.

Functions of the District Panchayat:

The important functions of the District Panchayat involve giving suggestions to the Government regarding the development work and the improvement of roads and transport carried out by the Village Panchayats and the Panchayat Unions within the district. It also supervises the various development work carried out in the district.

Activity:

Form small groups and collect the names of the Panchayat Unions and Municipalities. List them.

Rural Local Bodies
Village Panchayat
Panchayat Union
District Panchayat



Urban Local Bodies
Town Panchayat
Municipality
Corporation

Let us learn:**District Planning Committee:**

The District Panchayat President also acts as the President of the District Planning Committee. The important functions of the committee is to draft a Development Plan for the whole district. The Draft plan is submitted to the State Planning Commission. The elected representatives of the local bodies elect the members of the District Planning Committee. The members of the Legislative Assembly and also the members of the Parliament of India belonging to each district are included as members of this committee.

Town Panchayat:

Villages which have a population of more than 10,000 are upgraded into Town Panchayats. Through elections they directly elect the President and representatives. The Executive Officer supervises the administration of the Town Panchayats.

Municipality:

An area which has a population of more than one lakh is termed as a Municipality. The people directly elect their Chairperson and the Ward representatives through elections. They hold office for a period of five years. The administrative officer is the Municipal Commissioner.

Corporation:

A city which has a large population, big infrastructure and important government offices is called as a Corporation. The chairperson of the Corporation is called the '**Mayor**'. The Mayor holds office for a period of five years. The Administrative officer of the Corporation is the Commissioner.

**Corporation of Chennai**

Evaluation

I. Choose the correct answer

1. Local self government was introduced by _____.
 a. Lord Ripon
 b. Gandhiji
 c. Indira Gandhi

2. Panchayat Union Chairperson is elected by _____.
 a. Ward members
 b. People
 c. Union President

II. Fill in the blanks

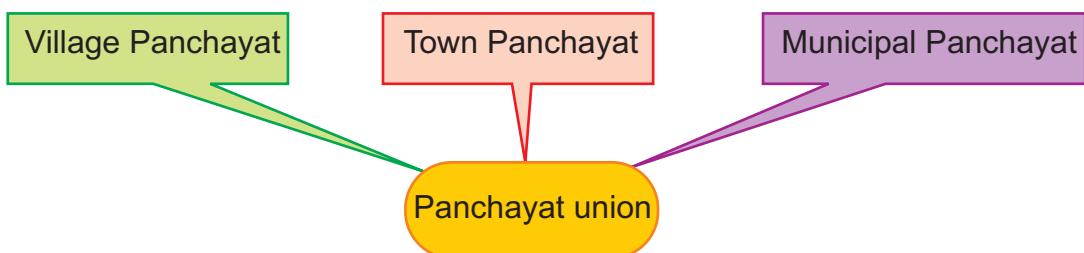
1. The term of office for the Mayor is _____.
2. Every district has a _____ panchayat.

III. Answer the following

1. Why is Local self-government necessary?
2. What are the duties of the Village Council? How many times in a year and when does the Village Council meet?
3. List out the important functions the village Panchayat.
4. How does the Village Council get its revenue?
5. How is the Panchayat Union formed?

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

1. Frame questions to interview the Panchayat union chairman.
2. Write a drama highlighting the activities that take place during an election.
3. Prepare a model application to be presented when you meet the Panchayat union chairman for redressal of the local grievances.
4. What are the committees needed to be formed to have effective administration of a school?
5. Prepare a mind map of your Panchayat union.



2. DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RESOURCES AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Representatives are elected by the citizens of our Country. This is called Democracy. The Government governed by the people is called as Democratic Republic.

Citizens enjoy equal rights in a Republic. Those who complete the age of eighteen are eligible to vote.

The citizens in our country enjoy equal opportunities. Women who constitute half of the Indian population have been denied these opportunities and have been left behind. This can weaken the democratic set up of our country. If equal opportunities are given to women, their participation will surely help to strengthen the democracy.

Disparities in the society emerge through various means. These disparities that have emerged are by birth, high class and low class, untouchability, rich and poor, employer and employee, master and servant, educated and uneducated, landlord and peasant.

The people have missed out many opportunities to lead a better life due to the prevailing disparities in the society. By providing them with the opportunities which they had missed, they have been enabled to lead a complete life. Thus these disparities can be eradicated and equality can be

established in the society. Thereby 'social justice' prevails.

By nature we find a division in gender – male and female. For many years people have blindly believed that men are superior and women are inferior. This blind belief is a hindrance for the development of human resource in the society.

Because of the characteristic features of women we cannot say that women are inferior in knowledge to men. In general men are physically strong and women are mentally strong. Physical and mental strength differs from person to person. This difference is not due to gender. It is due to the hereditary practices. Men get the opportunity to be educated, receive salary for their work and right to property. Due to this misconception that prevailed in the society, men have been given the opportunity to rule and obtain high government posts.

Women were made to stay at home because of child birth, take care of the children as well as the family. From the earlier days the misconception was that men were suitable to run errands and do physical labour.

Women always depend on male companions like father, husband, brother and son to lead life.

Many concepts have been evolved and have been handed down from generation to generation. The same concept prevails in the minds of the students in the society.

We know the ability and capability of women through their work from early times.

- Managing the house and cooking
- Rearing and maintaining cattle
- Weaving mats, basket making and making thatched roofs out of dry coconut leaves
- Medical or health workers, sanitary workers, prevention of diseases, home remedies
- Maternity, child care, helping children to grow
- House gardening, vegetables, fruits, flowers, roots, production and sale of milk
- Economic budget, maintaining relationships with relatives
- Agricultural labour, gathering and storing grains

Through the ages they have been engaged in intellectual, patient, technological excellence and working long hours. Because of the educational development women have engaged themselves as teachers, nurses, typists, stenographers and

police. Mostly women are doctors, engineers, lecturers, advocates, judges, press reporters and work in the field of cinema. Some are government employees, car drivers, bus drivers, lorry drivers, pilots and travel by space rockets. They also do research work. Some are bank managers, collectors and police commissioners.



In these ways women engage themselves in various occupations. Is it right to say that only these occupations can be done by women? Many women become modern women as envisioned by the great poet Subramania Bharathiyan.

*“Mādhar thammai izhivu cheiyum
Madamai iakkō luthuvōm;
Vaia vāzhvu thanni lentha
Vaigaie lumna makkulae
Thatha rendra nilaimai mari
Anga lōdu pengalum
Sarini garsa māna māga
Vazhva mintha nāttilae!”*

These are the famous lines sung by the famous **national poet Subramania Bharathiyar**. These lines depict that in all fields women are not in anyway inferior to men.

A noble woman- Dr. Muthulakshmi

A multifaceted personality, Dr.Muthulakshmi was one of the outstanding Indian women of her time.

She was born on 30th July 1886 in the princely state of Pudukkottai. She was an outstanding student. A crop which is about to yield bumper harvest can be identified at the seedling stage. Likewise her versatile talents were visible even when she was a child.

According to her community she was not allowed to attend school. So she was tutored at home and passed her



Dr. Muthulakshmi

examination from home. She was the first woman to study in the men's college in Pudukkottai. She had a multifaceted personality. By nature she was just and compassionate. She was interested in human welfare and was a woman of exemplary character.

She was the first Indian woman to obtain a medical degree from Madras Medical College in 1912. She was nominated to the Madras legislative as a member of the Legislative Council and became the first woman member during the British rule. She was elected as the Deputy Chairperson of the Legislative Council. She fought for the rights of women. Like men, women should also be given the right to property and to vote.

She was the first woman President of the All India Women's Association and the first woman to be elected as Alder-man of the Madras (now Chennai) Corporation. She respected the Indian freedom fighters. Therefore she was familiar with the poet Subramania Bharathiyar.

She was concerned with the plight of women as they were suppressed for many generations.

She wanted to wipe the tears of the women. She fought for the betterment of women, right to women's education, equal rights for women, emancipation of women and protection of the girl child.

She took an interest in cancer studies and pursued it at the Royal Cancer Hospital in London for the benefit of the women cancer patients. She was instrumental in starting the Cancer Institute in Adyar, Chennai. The Institute stands as a testimony of her fame and name.

With the help of the government aid for the orphan children, widows and destitute women she established a home at Tambaram.

The social evil of child marriage prevailed throughout the country. She rose in revolt against child marriage and the government passed a Bill.

In earlier days it was a custom to dedicate girls to the deity to be of service in the temple under the 'Devadasi' system. Thousands of women's lives were destroyed throughout the country because of this.

In those days it was believed that to become a devadasi, is a way of offering oneself to the service of God. But this was a social sin inflicted on women folk. Dr. Muthulakshmi fought against this social evil and took measures to eradicate this by suitable enactments. Many conservative rationalists and religious fanatics opposed the amendment of the bill.

Dr. Muthulakshmi with the help and guidance of E.V.R. Periyar, leader of the Self- Respect movement strived to eradicate the devadasi system. A bill was passed in the Legislature.

In those days E.V.R. Periyar, Tamil Thendral, Thiru.Vi.Ka and Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyan supported the bill. They explained about its importance and got the support of the public. This shows the social life of the people.

Dr. Muthulakshmi has worked for various social causes. She started orphanages. She opened free dispensaries for the slum dwellers. She got help from the institutions and helped the downtrodden. In 1930 she founded the Avvai Home at Adyar for the benefit of destitute women.

She introduced a free education scheme for girls up to class eight.

Dr. Muthulakshmi was a pioneering social reformer. She was awarded the **Padma Bhushan** in 1956 for her meritorious service. She dedicated her life for the upliftment of women.

In order to highlight Dr. Muthulakshmi's name and fame, the Tamilnadu Government has implemented a welfare scheme namely Dr. Muthulakshmi Maternity Stipendary Scheme. Under the scheme, the mothers are provided with financial assistance to get a nutritious diet for three prenatal care months and three postnatal care months.

Evaluation

I. Choose the correct answer

1. In a Republic, citizens
 - a. have equal investments
 - b. own equal property
 - c. have equal rights

2. The first Indian woman doctor
 - a. Muthulakshmi Ammaiyan
 - b. Vijayalakshmi Pandit
 - c. Kalpana Chawla

3. Occupations in which women are not involved
 - a. cricket
 - b. pilot
 - c. none of the above

4. Avvai home
 - a. home for the destitutes and widows
 - b. orphanage for girls
 - c. home for the unemployed women.

II. Fill in the blanks

1. _____ creates an equal society.
2. Age at which men and women can vote is _____ .
3. “Madhar thammai izhivu seyyum
Madamai eykko luthuvom” these lines were sung by _____ .

III. Match the following

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. To eradicate the inequality in the society | – beliefs passed through the generation. |
| 2. Men alone are suitable for all positions | – it proclaims the fame of Dr.Muthulakshmi. |
| 3. Women depend on male companions | – wrong attitude. |
| 4. To stop the custom of child marriage | – social justice. |
| 5. Cancer Institute at Adyar | – prohibition act. |

IV. Answer the following

1. What is the hindrance for human resource development ?
2. Mention eight services where women require mental and physical abilities.
3. Mention the scheme introduced in Tamil Nadu for the welfare of the mother and child.
4. Mention the first achievement of Dr. Muthulakshmi in India.
5. Name the award awarded by the Central Government to Dr. Muthulakshmi.
6. How does the society deny women, their rights?

SHAKTHII ACADEMY

SOCIAL STUDIES -CIVICS

STANDARD - SEVEN

COURSES OFFERED

- **BANK CLERK/PO/SO**
- **INSURANCE**
- **TANCET-MBA**
- **GRE, GMAT**
- **IELTS , TOEFL**
- **RRB, SSC**
- **TNPSC Group II, Group II- A, Group IV, VAO**

CIVICS

1. OUR NATION

Our Nation, India has the greatest civilization of the world with a rich cultural heritage. Since its independence, our nation has achieved all round praiseworthy Socio-economic progress. It has become self sufficient in agricultural production and reached the tenth position in industrial development in the world. It is the sixth nation to have explored outer space.

India is described as an "Epitome of the world"-a perfect example of the world, as it has varied geographical features, climate, flora and fauna, heterogeneous cultures, customs, various languages and faiths. Yet it has achieved unity in diversity.

India is the seventh largest country in the world with an area of 32,87,263 sq. kms. and it is the second most populous country in the world, next only to China.

Location

India is bounded by the Himalayan ranges in the north, the Indian Ocean in the south, the Bay of Bengal in the east and the Arabian Sea in the west. It has a land frontier of about 15,200 kms. The length of its coastline is 7516.6 kms.

India is entirely situated in the Northern hemisphere. From south to north, the mainland extends between latitudes 8°4' and 37°6'

North latitudes . From west to east, it extends between 68°7' and 97°25' East longitudes. It measures about 3214 Kms. from north to south and about 2,933 Kms. from east to west.

Population and Literacy Rate

The population density of India was 382 Sq.Kms in 2011. The population density is the number of people living per square kilometer.

According to 2011 census, the literacy rate has increased to 74.04 %. The male and the female literacy rates are 82.14 % and 65.46% respectively.

Population

The population of India is 1210.2 millions as per 2011 census, in which male population is 623.7 million and the female population is 586.5 million.

The Polity or the Political Administration

India is the largest democracy in the world. India is a **Sovereign Socialistic Secular Democratic Republic** with a Parliamentary form of Government.

The Republic is governed in terms of the **Constitution**, which came into force on **26th January 1950**. Indian Constitution is the lengthiest written Constitution in the world.

The Indian Union comprises of twenty eight States and seven Union Territories.

The twenty eight States

Andhra Pradesh	Haryana	Maharashtra	Rajasthan
Arunachal Pradesh	Himachal Pradesh	Manipur	Sikkim
Assam (Assam)	Jammu and Kashmir	Meghalaya	TamilNadu
Bihar	Jharkhand	Mizoram	Tripura
Chhattisgarh	Karnataka	Nagaland	Uttarakhand
Goa	Kerala	Odisha (Orissa)	UttarPradesh
Gujarat	Madhya Pradesh	Punjab	West Bengal

The seven Union Territories

- Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- Chandigarh
- Dadra and Nagar Haveli
- Daman and Diu
- National Capital territory of Delhi
- Lakshadweep
- Puducherry (Pondicherry)



The Parliament

The Union Executive

The Union Executive consists of the President, the Vice-President, the Prime Minister, the Council of Ministers and the Attorney-General of India.



Shri. Pranab Mukherjee

The President is the head of the Indian union. He is the first citizen of India. He acts as the symbol of unity, integrity and solidarity of the nation. He is elected indirectly. A person who is the citizen of India and not less than 35 years of age can contest the Presidential elections. Almost all the higher authorities in the country especially at the centre are appointed by the President. The Vice-President acts as the President when the President's post is vacant or when the President is unable to discharge his duties. In a Parliamentary form of government,

the President is only the nominal head of the nation, while the Prime Minister is the real head of the government. The leader of the majority party, who has the confidence of the Lok Sabha is appointed as the Prime Minister by the President. The Council of Ministers are appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister.

The Union Legislature

The Union Legislature is called the Parliament. It consists of the President and the two Houses namely the **Lok Sabha** (House of the People) and the **Rajya Sabha** (Council of States).

Lok Sabha is also called as the Lower House of the Parliament. It consists of members who are mostly directly elected by the people on the basis of Universal Adult Suffrage. For election purpose the States and



Dr. Manmohan Singh

the Union Territories are divided into constituencies. The candidate who secures the maximum votes represents his/her constituency in the Lok Sabha. At present, there are

545 members in the Lok Sabha which includes two nominated members from the Anglo-Indian community.

Rajya Sabha is also called as the Upper House of the Parliament. The members of Rajya Sabha are elected indirectly.

At present, there are 250 members in the Rajya Sabha, out of which 238 members are elected indirectly and 12 members who are distinguished in the field of Art, Literature, Science and Social Service are nominated by the President.

THE STATE GOVERNMENT

The State Executive

The State Executive consists of the Governor, the Chief Minister, the Council of Ministers and the Advocate-General. The Governor is appointed by the President for a term of 5 years. He is the Constitutional head of the State. An Indian citizen above the age of 35 is eligible to be appointed as the Governor. The leader of the majority party, who enjoys the confidence of the State Assembly is appointed as the Chief Minister by the Governor. The other Ministers are appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Chief Minister. The real powers are vested in the hands of the Chief Minister and the Council of Ministers.

The State Legislature

The State Legislature is not uniform in all the States.

Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh have a bi-cameral Legislature and all the other states of India have a uni-cameral Legislature. A bi-cameral Legislature consists of two Houses—Legislative Council (Upper House) and Legislative Assembly (Lower House). A uni-cameral Legislature consists of only one House namely the Legislative Assembly (Lower House).

The Judiciary

The Judiciary is an independent organ. The Supreme Court of India is the Highest Court in our country. It is the guardian of our Constitution.



Supreme Court

It is at New Delhi. At present there are 31 Judges in the Supreme Court including the Chief Justice of India.

The High Court is the highest court in the state. There are 21 High Courts in India, out of which 3 of them are common to two or more states.

National Symbols

All the independent Nations of the world have their own unique identifications, which are popularly called the National Symbols.

The National Flag, the National Emblem, the National Anthem, the National Song, the National Animal, the National Bird, the National Flower and the National Tree are the National symbols.

They give us a feeling of oneness and inspire us to pay homage to our patriots.

The National Flag

Our National Flag is a horizontal tricolor of deep saffron (kesari) at the top, white in the middle and dark green at the bottom in equal proportion. Its ratio of the length to its breadth is 3:2. Saffron colour at the top denotes courage and sacrifice. It also reminds us about



the sacrifice made by the freedom fighters. The White colour in the middle denotes truth and Navy Blue Chakra in the middle induces us to move forward along the path of dharma, to bring peace and prosperity to the Nation. The design of chakra is taken from the lower part of the capital of the Saranath pillar of Asoka. The Chakra's diameter is proportionate to the width of the white band and it has 24 spokes. The Green colour band at the bottom signifies prosperity, greenery of our fertile land and faith. We must respect our national flag.

The rules concerning the Flag

The Constituent Assembly approved the National Flag on July 22nd 1947, three weeks before the Indian Independence. It was hoisted on 15th August 1947 for the first time.

The National Flag should be raised and lowered carefully.

No other Flag should be placed higher than it nor should any flag be placed to its right.

It should be raised to the top of the mast.

We must lower it before sunset.

The Flag is flown at half mast either to mourn the death of our National leader or when the Head of a friendly Nation passes away.

We must stand in attention when the flag is hoisted.

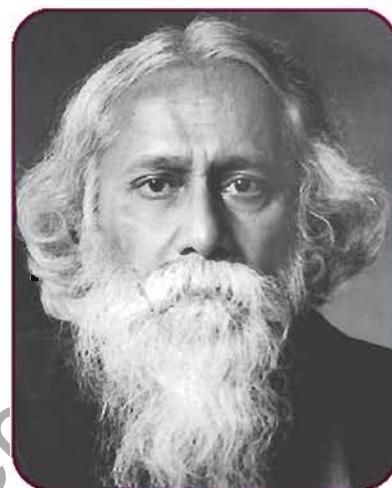
The National Anthem

All Nations have a patriotic song known as the National Anthem. We should stand in attention as a mark of respect, when the National Anthem is sung or its tune is played on a band. The National Anthem is sung at all National, State and other important functions.

The Indian National Anthem was composed by the great poet **Rabindranath Tagore**. The original song in Bengali has got five stanzas. Only the first stanza has been selected as our National Anthem.

The Constituent Assembly

adopted the National Anthem on 24th January 1950. It was first sung on 27th December 1911, at the Calcutta session of the Indian National Congress. The time duration for singing or playing our National Anthem is approximately 52 Seconds.



Rabindranath Tagore

The National Anthem reflects the glory and the greatness of our mother land. It gives the message of tolerance, unity, integrity and patriotism.

English version of the Anthem

Thou art the ruler of the minds of all people,
 Thou dispenser of India's destiny.
 Thy name rouses the hearts of the Punjab, Sind,
 Gujarat and Maratha, of Dravid, Orissa and Bengal.
 It echoes in the hills of the Vindhya and Himalayas,
 mingles in the music of the Yamuna and Ganges
 and is chanted by the waves of the Indian Sea.
 They pray for Thy blessings and sing Thy praise
 The saving of all people waits in Thy hand,
 Thou dispenser of India's destiny.
 Victory, Victory, Victory to Thee.

The National Emblem

The National Emblem is taken from the Saranath Pillar of Asoka. It was adopted by the Government of India on 26th January 1950. Our National Emblem consists of four lions sitting back to back on a circular pedestal. Only three lions are visible, the fourth being hidden



National Emblem

from view. The lions represent power and majesty. The base has a horse on the left, a wheel in the centre and a bull on the right. The horse signifies energy and speed. The bull denotes hard work and steadfastness. The Chakra signifies dharma and righteousness. The words “Satyameva Jayate” in Devanagari Script, which means “Truth alone Triumphs”, is inscribed below the abacus.

The National Song

The Song-“Vande Mataram” was composed in Sanskrit by Bankimchandra Chatterjee. It was a source of inspiration to the people

who fought for our freedom. This song was published in his book “Anand Matt” in 1882. It was first sung during the 1896 session of the Indian National Congress. Interestingly the first person to sing the song in the Calcutta session was Rabindranath Tagore.

The National Animal

Indian Government initially adopted the lion as our National animal. Later tiger was adopted as the National animal. The combination of grace, strength, ability and enormous power of the tiger has earned its place of pride as the National animal of India.



National Animal

National Bird

The peacock is our National bird. Its beautiful, rich feathers indicate the natural beauty of our country. Indian Literature speaks high of the peacock.



National Bird

The National Flower

Lotus is our National flower. It is noted for its majesty, grandeur, beauty and fragrance. It denotes unity. It occupies a unique position in ancient Indian mythology.

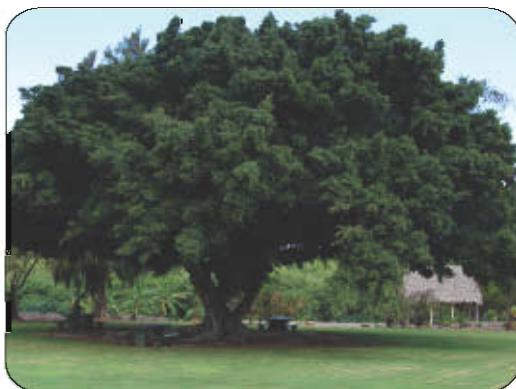


National Flower

National Fruit :	Mango
National game :	Hockey
National River :	Ganga
The National calendar is based on the Saka Era.	

The National Tree

Banyan tree is our National tree. It is a huge tree having the widest reaching roots of all known trees.



National Tree

The strong political structure and the national symbols of our land, instill the feeling and thought that all are Indians. They help in the growth of national integration.

EXERCISE

I) Choose the correct answer.

1. India is the _____ largest country in the world.
a) Second b) Fifth c) Seventh
2. The Constitution of India came into force on _____.
a) 26th January 1950 b) 15th August 1947 c) 30th January 1930
3. The Supreme Court of India is at _____.
a) Mumbai b. Kolkatta c) New Delhi
4. The National Song Vande Mataram was composed by _____.
a) Bankim Chandra Chatterjee b) Rabindranath Tagore
c) Jawaharlal Nehru

5. Our National tree is the _____.

- a) Neem tree
- b) Banyan tree
- c) Apple tree

II) Fill in the blanks.

1. The Republic of India is governed in terms of the _____.
2. The head of the Indian Union is the _____.
3. The Lok Sabha is also called as _____.
4. "Satyameva Jayate" is inscribed in our National _____.
5. The National Bird of India is _____.

III) Match the following.

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1. The President | - | Rabindranath Tagore |
| 2. The Chief Minister | - | First Citizen of India |
| 3. Supreme Court | - | Appointed by the Governor |
| 4. National Symbol | - | Guardian of our Constitution |
| 5. National Anthem | - | Unique identification |

IV) Answer the following questions briefly.

1. Write about the location of India.
2. What are the qualifications needed for a person to be elected as the President of India?
3. Name some of our National Symbols.
4. What is the message given by our National Anthem?
5. What is our National flower noted for?

V) Answer the following questions in detail.

1. Write in detail about the Lok Sabha
2. Mention the significance of our Tricolour flag.
3. Describe the National Emblem of India.

Formative Assessment

- I. Imagine yourself to be a poet. Write a patriotic song. Sing it in class individually or as a group.
- II. Imagine you are a minister. Give a speech in your class on the services you will render to your countrymen.
- III. Collect pictures:**
Collect pictures on the national symbols of our neighbouring countries and prepare a booklet.
- IV. Prepare a chart:**
Prepare a chart on the Flags of various countries. Write a note on their significant feature.
- V. Group Activity:**
Prepare a collage on: "Our nation – it's rich heritage".
- VI. Things to do:**
 1. Find out more about the flags that were used by the Indian National Congress before the National flag of India was accepted by the Constituent Assembly on 22nd July 1947.
Nivedhita flag, Madam Gama flag, Calcutta flag and Home Rule flag
 2. Discuss in the class why river Ganga has been chosen as our national river.

2. INDIAN CONSTITUTION

August 15, 1947 is a great day in the long and eventful history of our motherland, for it was on that day, the two hundred year old British rule over India was terminated and political authority was transferred to the representatives of the Indian people.

In the process of Constitutional development of India, the **Cabinet Mission of 1946** had recommended for setting up of a Constituent Assembly to draft a new constitution for India.

The Constituent Assembly had its first session on December - 9, 1946. **Dr. Sachidananda Sinha**, the then President of the Constituent Assembly presided over the first meeting. After Dr. Sinha, **Dr. Rajendra Prasad** became the President of the Constituent Assembly. After Independence he also became the first President of the Indian Republic.

The work of drafting the Constitution was given to the **Drafting Committee** by the Constituent Assembly. The Drafting Committee was constituted on 29th August 1947 under the Chairmanship of **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**. He was a brilliant Constitutional expert and the chief architect of Indian Constitution. The Drafting Committee studied the Constitution of more than 60 countries such as U.K, USA, Ireland, erstwhile U.S.S.R, France, Switzerland, etc.

and adopted some of its meritorious features. The final session of the Constituent Assembly was held on 24th January 1950, The Constitution was inaugurated on 26th January 1950. Hence we celebrate the Republic day on 26th January of every year.

The Legal experts of the Drafting Committee

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar (Chairman)
 N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar
 Alladi Krishnaswamy Ayyar
 Dr. K.M. Munshi
 Syed Mohammad Sadullah
 B.L. Mitter
 N. Madhava Rao
 T.T. Krishnamachari
 D.P. Khaitan

The Constitution

The Constitution comprises of the basic principles of the political system by which the people of the Nation are to be governed.



Dr. Rajendra Prasad

Making of the Constitution

The Constituent Assembly took 2 years 11 months and 18 days to accomplish the task of making the Constitution. It held 11 plenary sessions. Discussions were held for 114 days.



Dr. B.R Ambedkar

26th January

On 26th January 1950 the "Purna Swaraj" day was celebrated, following the resolution of the Lahore session of Indian National Congress in 1929. So, the date 26th January was chosen to implement the Constitution in 1950.

The Indian Constitution contains XXII Parts, 449 Articles and 12 Schedules.

Some of the Salient Features of the Indian Constitution are

- 1) Preamble
- 2) The Popular Sovereignty
- 3) Secularism
- 4) Parliamentary Democratic Government.

- 5) Fundamental Rights and Duties.
- 6) Directive Principles of State Policy.
- 7) Universal Adult Franchise etc.

The Preamble

The Preamble is a preface or an introduction to the Constitution. The Preamble says that the Constitution derives its authority from the people of India. It declares India as a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic. According to the Preamble, Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity are the objectives of the Constitution.

The Popular Sovereignty

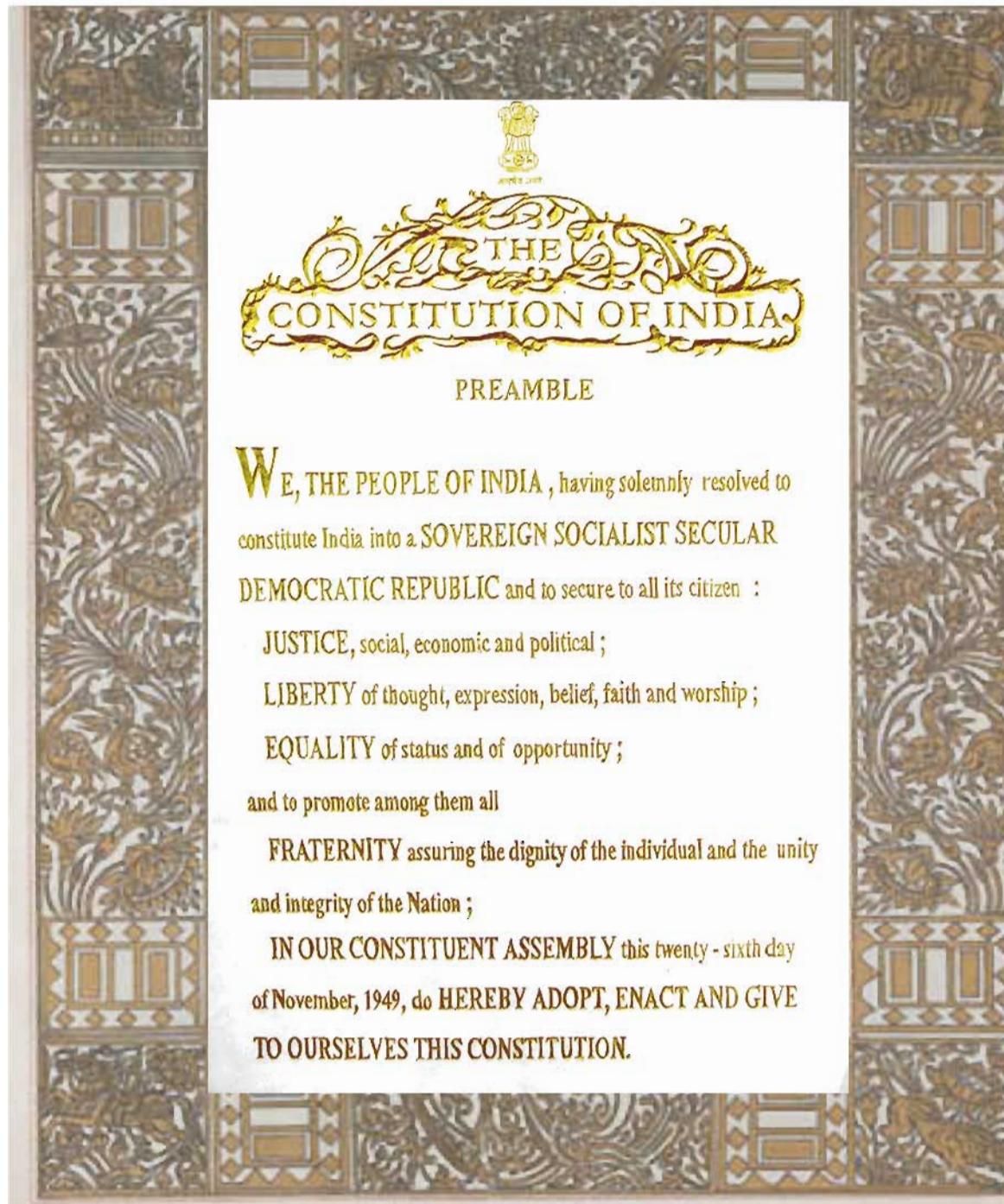
The Constitution gives complete authority to the people of India. The Popular sovereignty or complete authority of the people is reaffirmed in several places in the Constitution, particularly in the chapter "Election". The Central and State Governments derive their authority from the people. The people elect their representatives to the Parliament and the State Legislature at regular intervals. Those who hold the executive powers of the government are responsible to the Legislature. They are ultimately responsible to the people through the Legislature. Hence, people are sovereign. This is the principle of popular sovereignty.

Secularism

Secularism is one of the important national goals. In a Secular state, the people are not discriminated on the basis of religion. All citizens enjoy freedom of

worship and possess equal civil and political rights, irrespective of their religious beliefs. The State does not have a religion of its own.

All religions in our country have the same status and support from the State.



Parliamentary form of Government

The Constitution of India provides a Parliamentary form of Government. In a Parliamentary system, the Executive is collectively responsible to the Legislature. The Parliamentary form of Government is also known as Responsible Government or Cabinet Government.

Fundamental Rights

Fundamental Rights are Natural Rights. These are essential rights which help in realizing true democracy and ensure equality of all citizens. These Rights are guaranteed and protected by the Constitution. These Rights are also essential for the all-round development of the individual. If the rights are violated, the person can approach the Supreme Court or the High Court to claim his/her rights.

The Fundamental Rights are classified into six groups.

1) Right to equality

All are equal before Law.

2) Right to Freedom

Freedom of speech and expression, Right to life, personal liberty etc.,

3) Right against exploitation

It prohibits all forms of forced Labour, child labour and trafficking in human beings.

4) Right to freedom of Religion

It guarantees the citizens freedom to follow any religion.

5) Cultural and educational Rights

It gives rights to all citizens to preserve their language, script and Culture. It gives rights to minorities to establish Educational Institutions.

6) Right to Constitutional Remedies

This enables the citizen to approach the Supreme Court directly when there is violation of Fundamental Rights.

Directive Principles of State Policy

Directive Principles of State Policy is in the form of directions or instruction given to the State by the Constitution while formulating policies or making any law. It is the duty of the State to apply these directions while making any law. It aims at the establishment of a welfare state in our country. The Directive Principles may be grouped into the following categories such as (1) Socialist Principles, (2) Gandhian Principles, (3) International Principles and (4) Miscellaneous Principles.

1) Socialist Principles reflect the ideology of socialism such as adequate means of livelihood for all citizens, equal pay for work for men and women, to minimize inequalities in income, etc.

2) Gandhian Principles are based on Gandhian ideology, such as, organisation of Village Panchayats, promotion of cottage industries, promotion of Educational and Economic Status of Scheduled Caste, Scheduled

Tribes and other weaker sections of the society, etc.

3) International Principles
promote International Peace and security.

4) Miscellaneous Principles
such as, equal justice and free legal aid, to make uniform civil code for the citizens throughout the country, etc.

Universal Adult Franchise

The Constitution of India has introduced Universal Adult Franchise. All the citizens above the age of 18 years irrespective of their caste, colour, religion, sex, literacy, wealth, etc are entitled to participate in elections.

Fundamental Duties

The Indian Constitution contains certain duties to be performed by all the citizens of India. These duties are called as Fundamental Duties.

The Fundamental Duties

1. To abide by the Constitution and its ideals, to respect the National flag, the National Anthem etc.,

2. To cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom.

3. To uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India.

4. To defend the country and render national services when called upon to do so.

5. To promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood.

6. To value and preserve the rich heritage of our culture.

7. To protect and improve the natural resources such as forests, lakes, rivers, wildlife etc.

8. To develop the scientific temper, humanism and spirit of inquiry.

9. To safeguard the public property and to avoid violence.

10. To strive towards excellence in all spheres.

11. To provide opportunities for the education of his/her child or ward between the age of six and fourteen.

The meticulously prepared Indian Constitution serves as an instrument of social change. It aims at making everyone equal and empowers every citizen to rise up to his/her optimum level.

EXERCISE

I) Choose the best answer.

1. The first session of the Constituent Assembly was presided over by
 a) Dr. Rajendra Prasad b) Dr. S.P. Sinha c) Dr.B.R.Ambedkar
2. Our Constitution came into existence on _____.
 a) 26th March 1950 b) 26th January 1950 c) 15th August 1947

3. The Preamble declares India as a _____ country.
 a) Democratic b) Autocratic c) Monarchic
4. The people of India are given complete authority by the Indian _____.
 a) Parliament b) Government c) Constitution
5. In a Parliamentary system, the Executive is collectively responsible to the _____.
 a) People b) Judiciary c) Legislature

II) Fill in the blanks.

1. The first President of India was _____.
2. The chief architect of the Indian Constitution was _____.
3. An introduction to our Constitution is found in the _____.
4. A Secular State does not have a _____ of its own.
5. Directive Principles aim at the establishment of the _____ state.

III) Match the following.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Constituent Assembly | - | 26th January 1950 |
| 2. Drafting Committee | - | Chairman of Drafting Committee |
| 3. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar | - | Prohibition of forced labour |
| 4. Republic Day | - | 9th December 1946 |
| 5. Right against exploitation | - | 29th August 1947 |

IV) Answer the following questions briefly.

1. Write a note on Dr. B. R. Ambedkar
2. What does the Preamble declare our country to be?
3. Why do we say India is a Secular State?
4. What is meant by the Right to Constitutional Remedies?
5. What does Universal Adult Franchise mean?

V) Answer the following questions in detail.

1. What does Popular Sovereignty mean?
2. Write in detail on the Fundamental Rights guaranteed to a citizen.
3. What are Fundamental duties? Mention any five of them.

Formative Assessment

I. Prepare a Scrapbook:

Collect pictures of the leaders, who were involved in framing the Indian Constitution and paste it in your scrap book. Write a short note on their contributions.

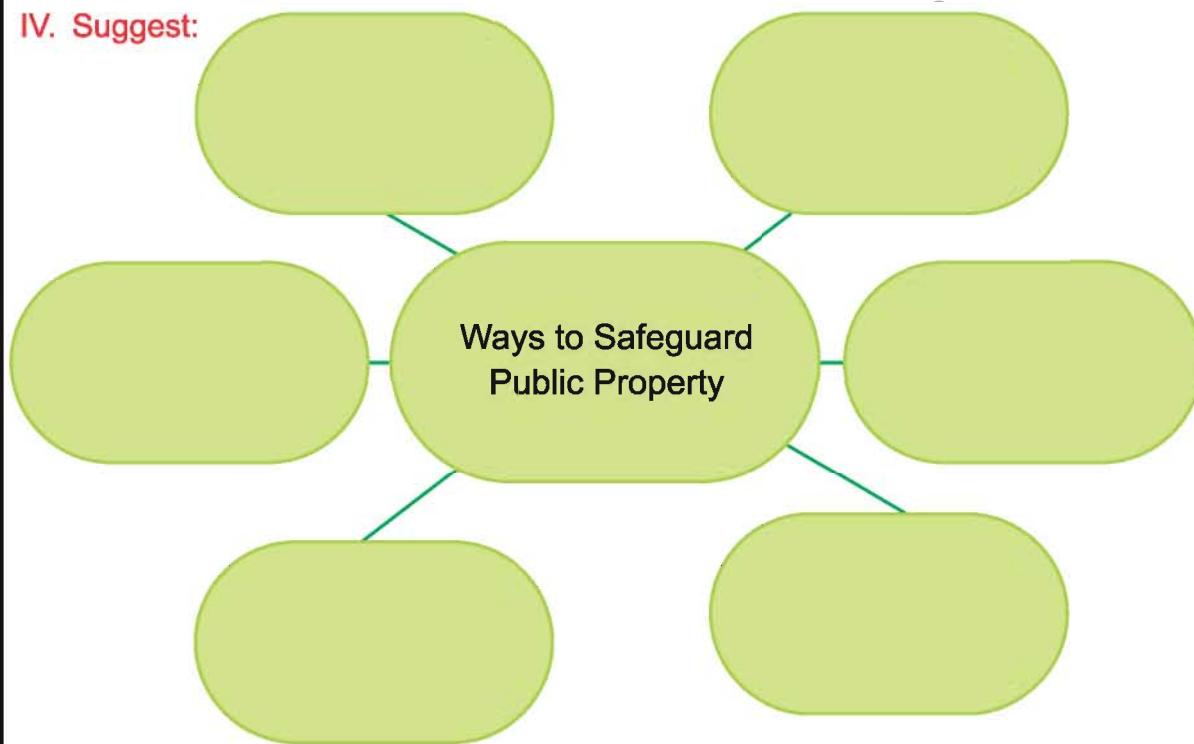
II. Discuss:

'Are all Citizens enjoying the fundamental Rights guaranteed to them.'

III. Prepare Slogans:

Write some slogans opposing continuation of child labour.

IV. Suggest:



V. Collect information about Dr. B.R. Ambedkar - the chief architect of the Indian constitution and write an essay.

VI. Things to do:

1. Discuss how the Fundamental Rights are denied to the citizens in their day-to-day life and how they can be ensured.
2. Prepare and enact a skit emphasizing the need to perform the Fundamental Duties.

CIVICS**1. POLITICAL PARTIES**

The present age is an Age of Democracy. According to Abraham Lincoln, "Democracy is the government of the people, for the people and by the people". In a democracy, a citizen is both the ruler and the ruled. Citizens should always be conscious of their rights and duties. They should be aware of what is happening in the country. Political awareness is created by the Political parties. They help in forming public opinion. Hence the political parties are essential for the success of democracy.

Political parties are the most visible institutions in a democracy. They serve as a link between the people and the government and provide a forum for the discussion of various issues.

Meaning

A political party is a group of people who come together to contest elections and hold powers in the government. They agree on some policies and programmes to uplift the society. A political party has three components-a **leader**, **active members** and the **followers**.

Characteristics of a Political Party

1. A political party agrees on important matters of public policy.
2. It aims to take part in the struggle for power.
3. It implements its policies and programmes by constitutional

(democratic) means.

4. It should have some degree of permanence.
5. It must have definite aims and objectives.

FUNCTIONS OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES

Basically political parties fill political offices and exercise their powers. They perform the following functions:

1. Parties contest elections.
2. Parties put forward their policies and programmes before the voters.
3. Parties play a decisive role in making laws.
4. The party which wins majority seats becomes the ruling party and runs the government.
5. Those parties that lose the majority in the elections form the opposition. They voice their different views and criticize the government for its failures and wrong policies.
6. Parties shape public opinion. They raise and highlight issues.

Structure and Working of a Political Party

A political party has a hierarchical structure. At the top, there is a periodically elected **President**. He is assisted by **Secretaries** and a **Treasurer**. A **working committee** may be set up to meet from time to time for holding

discussions and taking decisions. Conferences may be convened once in six months or a year to discuss their deliberations and working of their party. These conferences show their strength and solidarity to create a great impact on the public.

Types of Party System

There are three types of party system in the world namely.

1. Single Party System in which one ruling party exists and no opposition is permitted. The former communist country USSR(United Soviet Socialist Republic) is an example for the single party system.

2. Bi-Party System or Two Party System in which two major parties exist. Example, United States of America (U.S.A) and United Kingdom (U.K)

3. Multi-Party System in which there are more than two political parties. Example-India, Sri Lanka, France and Italy.

Multi-Party System In India

The vastness of India and its diversified character has given rise to a large number of political parties. India has the largest number of political parties in the world. In India, there are a large number of State and National Parties.

The emergence of a large number of State parties is due to various reasons like regional issues, caste and communal divisions, cultural diversity, language etc.,

Regional parties have now gained importance and play a significant role at national level whenever there is a need for forming a coalition Government.

State Party

A party is recognised as a State party by the Election Commission of India based on certain percentage of votes secured or certain number of seats won in the Assembly or Lok Sabha Elections.

National Party

A party which is recognised as a State party in at least four states is recognised as a National party.

Every party in the country has to register with the Election Commission. While the Commission treats all parties equally it offers some special facilities to State and National parties. These parties are given a unique symbol. Only the official candidates of the party can use that election symbol.

Thus the political parties help the representatives of the government to work successfully and they form the backbone of democracy.

EXERCISE**I) Choose the correct answer.**

1. A Political party creates _____ awareness.
a) social b) economic c) political
2. Bi-party system exists in _____.
a) India b) U.S.A c) France
3. A Party which is recognised as a State Party in _____ States is a National Party.
a) Four b) Eight c) Seven
4. _____ form the backbone of democracy.
a) Election b) Political parties c) Votes

II) Fill in the blanks.

1. In a democracy, the citizen is both the ruler and the _____.
2. Political parties help in forming _____ opinion.
3. Political Parties serve as a link between the _____ and the government.
4. The country having the largest number of political parties in the world is _____.
5. Large and established parties have unique _____.

III) Answer the following questions briefly.

1. Give Abraham Lincoln's definition for democracy.
2. What is a Political party?
3. What are the components of a Political party?
4. Mention a few characteristics of a Political party?
5. When is a Political party recognized as a National Party?

IV) Answer in detail.

1. Give an account of the functions of Political parties in a Democratic country.
2. What are the three types of party system in the world? Explain with examples.

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

1. Group discussion:

Discuss which Party System- Single party System, Bi-Party System, Multi-Party System is the best.

2. Find out more:

Find about the party systems followed / Political Parties functioning in our neighbouring countries.

Country	Party system	Names of Political parties

3. Debate :

Conduct a debate in class on the advantages and disadvantages of Multi-Party system.

4. Group Activity:

Prepare a booklet on the major political parties or political parties functioning in your state – their symbols - aims and objectives – pictures of the leaders etc.

5. Essay Writing:

“Political parties form the backbone of democracy”

6. Things to do.

Collect details on the Regional parties in your state- its leaders, party symbol, aims and election manifesto and prepare a booklet.

CIVICS**1. UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION**

The Second World War which began in 1939 lasted until 1945. This proved to be more destructive than First World War as more than fifty million people had lost their lives. The League of Nations, a World Organisation, formed after First World war, to maintain peace and security failed to prevent the Second World War.

The USA, the USSR and the UK realized the immediate and urgent need for a world forum to establish an everlasting peace in the world. This realization led to the formation of the United Nations Organisation.

Preliminary Plans

The concrete plan for a new world organization began under the support of the US State Department in 1939. Franklin D. Roosevelt, the former President of USA first coined the term United Nations to describe the Allied countries which stood for peace. The term was first officially used on January 1st 1942, when 26 countries signed the Atlantic Charter in Washington DC.

Atlantic Charter

It is a set of principles formulated for maintaining peace and security. It was signed on 14th August 1941 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt of the USA and Prime Minister Winston Churchill of UK on the ship, HMS Prince of Wales in the Atlantic Ocean. So, it came to be called the Atlantic Charter.

UN Charter

After a series of conferences held at various places, the UNO was created. The UN Conference began in San Francisco on 25th April 1945 to draft the Charter of UNO. UN charter contains the aims, objectives, rules and regulations for the working of the UNO. It was signed on 26th June 1945 by the representatives of 50 countries. Poland signed the Charter later. The UNO came into existence on 24th October 1945. Hence the UNO Day is celebrated on 24th October every year.

CONFERENCES PRIOR TO UNOs FORMATION

- 30th Oct 1943 -Moscow
- 1st Dec 1943 -Teheran
- 21st Sep 1943 -Dumbarton Oaks
- 7th Oct 1943 - Dumbarton Oaks
- 11th Feb 1945 -Yalta

MEMBERSHIP

Peace loving nations that accept the UN charter are the members of UNO. At present 192 countries are members of the UNO. The headquarters of the UNO is situated in Manhattan, New York.

The Emblem, Flag and Languages of UNO

The emblem is a map of the World as seen from the North Pole with five concentric circles. It is surrounded by a wreath of olive

branches which symbolizes peace.

The World map depicts the United Nations area of concern in achieving its main purpose namely peace and security.



UNO Emblem

UNO's functions

peace-keeping,
conflict-prevention,
Refugees protection,
Counter terrorism, disarmament
and Non-Proliferation.
Promoting Democracy
Sustainable development
maintaining climate friendly energy
future
Promoting international health,
Childcare
Reducing Measles Mortality
Eradicating Polio.
Prevention of Malaria Deaths
Expanding Food production etc.

The UN Flag consists of the UN emblem in white on a medium light blue back ground. The official languages of the UN are English, French, Spanish, Russian, Chinese and Arabic.

Objectives of UNO

The objectives of the UNO are

To solve the disputes among the member countries through peaceful means.

To maintain international peace

and security.

To develop friendly relations among nations.

To co-operate in solving International Economic, Social, Cultural or Humanitarian Problems.

To promote social progress, better living standards and human rights.

UNO Millennium Development Goals

The UNO formulated the following goals for the present millennium.

1. To eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.
2. To achieve universal primary education.
3. To promote gender equality and empower women.
4. To reduce child mortality
5. To improve maternal health.
6. To fight against HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.
7. To ensure environment sustainability.
8. To develop a global partnership for development.

Organs of UNO

The six principle organs are the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the International Court of Justice, the Trusteeship Council and the Secretariat.

The General Assembly

The General Assembly is the main deliberative organ of the United Nations. It is called the "Parliament of Mankind".

Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit of India was elected as the President of the General Assembly in 1953.

The decision process

The decision on important issues, such as peace and security, admission of new members and budgetary matters, require a 2/3 majority. Decision on other questions is by simple majority.

It is composed of representatives of all member countries, each of which has one vote. Each member state can send five members to the General Assembly. The General Assembly holds its session once a year. The session is generally held in the month of September. A special session of the Assembly can also be called for at the request of the Security Council.

The main functions of the General Assembly are as follows:

1. To elect the President and 21 Vice-Presidents and the non-permanent members of the Security Council and the members of other organs of the UN.
2. To approve the UN budget.
3. With the recommendation of the Security Council, it appoints the Secretary-General and Judges of the International Court of Justice.

The Security Council

The Security Council is the second important organ of the UNO. It acts as the executive branch of the UNO. The Security Council is composed of fifteen members - five

permanent members and ten Non Permanent members. The permanent members are Russian Federation, France, USA, UK and China. The non-permanent members are elected by the General Assembly for a term of 2 years. The Security Council meets every month and members take turn at holding presidency of the security council for one month, following the English alphabetical order of the member states. The Council needs a 2/3 majority to take decision. The permanent members have the **veto power**. (Power to say **No** to a decision.)

Main functions of the Security Council

1. To maintain international peace and security.
2. To find peaceful ways to settle disputes of member states.
3. To recommend the admission of new members and
4. To participate in the election of the Secretary-General.

The Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council co-ordinates the economic and social work of the UNO and its specialized agencies. It has 54 members elected by the General Assembly for a three year term. Every three years, 1/3 of its members are set aside and new members are elected in their place. It meets throughout the year as and when needed. At its session in July, the major Economic, Social and Humanitarian issues such as social development, the status of women, crime prevention,

and sustainable development etc are discussed.

The Trusteeship Council

The Trusteeship Council was established to provide international supervision for 11 Trust Territories administered by 7 member states to ensure that adequate steps were taken to prepare the territories for self-government or independence. By 1994 all the Trust Territories had attained self-government or independence, either as separate states or by joining neighbouring independent countries. On the completion of its work, the Trusteeship Council has amended its rules and procedures to allow it to meet as and when the occasion may arise.

The International Court of Justice

The International Court of Justice is also known as the **World Court**. It is the main judicial organ of the UNO. Its 15 judges are elected by the General Assembly and the Security Council. The International Court solves the disputes between the countries concerned.

The Court also gives advisory opinion to the United Nations and its specialized agencies. It is situated in the city of Hague in Holland.

The Secretariat

The Secretariat carries out the administrative work of the United Nations as directed by the General Assembly, the Security Council and the other Organs. It is headed by the Secretary General, who provides

overall administrative guidance. The present Secretary - General Ban ki-moon of South Korea was elected in 2007.

The Secretariat consists of departments and offices with a total staff of about 7500. The staff are chosen on the basis of their high standard of efficiency, competence and integrity.

The UNO also carries on its work through thirty specialised agencies which help in achieving its various goals.

Some of the Specialized Agencies are:

FAO-Food and Agricultural Organisation

ILO-International Labour Organisation

IMF-International Monetary Fund.

UNICEF-United Nations Children's Fund

UNESCO-UN Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation

WHO-World Health Organisation

WTO- World Trade Organisation.

Achievements of the UNO

The UNO has succeeded in maintaining international peace and security and has averted globalwars through peaceful negotiations. It has also helped in solving many of the social, cultural, economic and humanitarian problems among the member countries.

Major achievements of the UNO

1946-made Russia withdraw its troops from Iran and Britain and France to withdraw their troops from Syria and Lebanon.

1947-freed Indonesia from the Dutch.

1956-intervened in the Suez Canal crisis and finally internationalized the canal.

1962 and 1973-diffused the Cuban missile crisis and the Middle East Crisis.

1988-the Iran-Iraq war was ended

1989-sponsored negotiations for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

1990-restored sovereignty to Kuwait and ended civil wars in Cambodia, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mozambique

Its specialized agency WHO (World Health Organisation) has successfully eradicated small pox and is working towards the elimination of polio, malaria and tuberculosis. The UNHCR (The United Nations High Commission for Refugees) has taken a lot of effort to resettle refugees.

The UNO and its specialized agencies work for a safer world for the future generation.

EXERCISE

I) Choose the correct answer.

1. The Headquarters of the UNO is at _____.
 a) Washington b) Hague c) New York
2. The _____ is called the Parliament of Mankind.
 a) Trusteeship Council b) General Assembly
 c) Economic and Social Council
3. One of the official languages of the UNO is _____.
 a) Hindi b) German c) French
4. There are _____ permanent members in the Security Council.
 a) 4 b) 5 c) 10
5. The programme launched by the _____ has successfully eradicated small pox.
 a) WHO b) ILO c) UNESCO

II) Fill in the blanks.

1. The term United Nations was coined by _____.
2. The UN Charter was signed by _____ countries on 26th June 1945.
3. The executive branch of the UNO is _____.
4. All the Trust Territories have attained self-government by the year _____.
5. The International Court of Justice is located at _____ in Holland.

III) Match the following.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1.UN Conference | - Resettles Refugees |
| 2.U N O | - San Francisco |
| 3.Ban Ki-moon | - New York |
| 4.U N Headquarters | - 24th October 1945 |
| 5.UNHCR | - UN Secretary-General. |

IV) Answer the following questions briefly.

1. Describe the emblem of the UNO.
2. Which are the official languages of the UNO?
3. Mention some specialized Agencies of UNO.
4. Who are the permanent members of the Security Council?
5. What is the role of the International Court of Justice?

V) Answer in detail.

1. Write a note on the millennium development goals of the UNO.
2. What are the Principle organs of the UNO? Explain the General Assembly and the functions of the Security Council.
3. Mention the major achievements of the U.N.O

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

1. Prepare Charts:

Prepare charts on the various organs and functions of the UNO.

2. Group Discussion:

Discuss how the UNO helps to bring about Socio – economic and cultural development among its members.

3. Quiz competition:

Conduct a quiz competition on the UNO and its achievements.

4. Find more:

List out at least ten specialized agencies of the UNO and its headquarters.

5. Prepare an album:

Collect pictures on the Security generals of the UNO and prepare an album.

6. Things to do:

Collect information on how the UNO helps women and children in India.

2. LEGISLATIONS AND WELFARE SCHEMES FOR CHILDREN AND WOMEN

India is a welfare state committed to ensure the well-being of all its citizens especially for children and women. No country can make progress until women are educated because a mother is the teacher of the child. The children are the future pillars of our nation. So, much importance is given to the development of children and women in India.

Legislations for Children

Article 39(f) and **45** of the Directive Principles of our Constitution directs the State to enact laws for the protection and development of children.

Article 24 is a Fundamental Right. It deals with the Right against Exploitation and Prohibition of Child Labour.

Article 39(f) provides facilities for the children to develop in a healthy manner; provides for proper care for children and youth; and provides protection against exploitation.

Article 45 provides for free and compulsory education for all children up to the age of 14 years.

No child below the age of 14 years shall be allowed to work in any factory or mine or engage in any hazardous employment.

The Ministry of Women and Children

The Ministry's vision is ensuring overall survival,

development and protection of women and children of the country to enable them to lead productive and wholesome lives as citizens.

Right to Education

A hundred years ago, Gopala Krishna Gokhale a great leader of the freedom struggle demanded the right to education for Indian children from the Imperial Legislative Assembly. His dream for the Right to Education came true when the Government of India introduced the **Right to Education Act (REA)** on 1st April 2010. The right to education is now a fundamental right for all children in the age group of 6 to 14 years. Thus the Government of India has paved the way for building up a strong literate and empowered youth of this country.

Acts passed by the Government

Several Acts have been passed for the welfare of the children. A few of them are:

1. The Juvenile Justice Act was passed in 1986 and amended in 2000.
2. Infant Milk Substitute, Feeding Bottles and Infant Food Act-1992.
3. Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act-2005.

Schemes and programmes for Children

Many schemes and programmes have been implemented for the upliftment and benefit of children.

1) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme-(1975) has the following objectives.

a) To improve the health of children (under the age of 6 years), pregnant women and feeding mothers.

b) To reduce the rate of mortality, malnutrition and school drop-outs.

2) Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for the Children of Working Mothers-(2006) provides services to children (of the age group 0-6 years) of working mothers by opening creches.

3) An integrated Programme for Street children provides facilities like shelter, nutrition, healthcare education and leisure facilities. It protects them from abuse and exploitation.

4) Child Line Services aims at helping children during times of difficulties and emergency. They also concentrate on childcare and protection.

5) Integrated Child Protection Scheme provides institutional as well as non-institutional support for children.

6) Scheme for Welfare of Working children in need of Care and Protection-(2005) aims to provide non-formal education and

vocational training to working children in order to continue their education.

Observance of Children's Day

Children's Day is celebrated on 14th November of every year. It gives the Government and Social organisations yet another opportunity to focus on the children so as to review the steps taken for their improvement and to work out ways for their enhancement in various fields.

Government's Recognition Of Outstanding Children

Our Government gives due recognition to children with exceptional abilities and outstanding achievements in various fields like academics, arts, culture and sports.

The National Child Award for Exceptional Achievements was instituted in 1996 to honour such children. Children between the age group of 4 and 15 years are honoured with meritorious awards on Republic Day every year.

Inspite of all the legislations passed by the Government, it is very essential to create awareness among children about the dangers around them. They should be educated to approach the concerned authorities or the proper channels to report their problems and to get guidance and counselling.

The parents, the schools and the public should take the moral responsibility to co-operate with the

Government and Welfare Agencies to protect the children from various abuses and exploitation.

Women Empowerment and Legislations

The position of women from time immemorial is of a varied nature. Sometimes women hold a position of honour and high esteem while at other times they have to face untold miseries and hardships. To improve their status in society the Government of India has assured several rights to women and has enacted a number of legislations.

Rights and Legislations for Women

Article 23 of the Constitution are of great significance to the emancipation of women.

Articles 23 prohibits trade of woman like commodities.

Forced labour is made as an offence.

Human Trafficking is made illegal.

Women are assured the Right against exploitation.

Law allows the daughter along with the sons to claim the property of their families. Child Marriage Restraint Amendment Act of 1978 has increased the age of marriage of girls from 15 to 18 years and for boys from 18 to 21 years.

The Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961 bans the custom of giving and receiving dowry. The Dowry

Prohibition Amendment Act of 1986 provides drastic punishments for those ill-treating women in connection with dowry.

In addition to the Constitutional Provisions, the State Government and Union Territories have enacted a number of legislations to protect women against social injustice and exploitation. For example- The Tamil Nadu Legislature has passed the Prohibition of Eve Teasing Law in 1997. It was amended in 2002 as the Prevention of Harassment of Women Act.

Amendments have been made in the Constitution from time to time for the benefit of the citizens. The 73rd and 74th Amendment Acts have provided 33% reservations of seats for women in the Panchayatraj and Urban Local bodies.

Economic Empowerment Schemes

Many schemes and programmes have been formulated to protect, educate and uplift women in India. Some of them are:

1. Support to Training and Employment Programme(STEP)

This programme was started in the year 1996 to provide employment for women in handloom, handicrafts, khadi and village industries.

2. Swayamsidha

The scheme was for the socio-economic development and empowerment of women through Self Help Groups, etc.

3. Short Stay Home-(1996)

These homes help to rehabilitate girls and women facing social, economic and emotional problems.

4. Family Counselling Centres

These centres give counselling to the victims facing social atrocities and family mal-adjustment.

5. Condensed Courses of Education of Women

Girls in the age group of 15 years and above who fail to complete their schooling due to various reasons are given education and training in relevant skills. These courses create job opportunities for them and facilitates their empowerment.

6. Awareness Generation Programmes for Rural and Poor women

Women face many problems as they are unaware of their rights and privileges. This program creates awareness among women on issues like status and rights and helps them to solve their problems.

The Legislation passed by the Government and the efforts taken by many social welfare institutions has definitely enhanced the status of children and women in India. We can boldly say that the position of women and children has improved a lot and will rise higher in the years to come.

EXERCISE

I) Choose the correct answers.

1. The _____ are the future pillars of our nation
 a) Elderly person's b) Middle aged persons c) Children
2. The _____ in the Constitution provides facilities for the children to develop in a healthy manner
 a) Article 39(f) b) Article 45 c) Article 25
3. The Government of India introduced the Right to Education on
 a) 15th August 1947 b) 26th January 1950 c) 1st April 2010
4. The 72nd and 73rd Amendment Acts have provided 33 % reservations of seats for _____ in the local bodies
 a) teachers b) women c) graduates
5. _____ deals with the socio-economic development and empowerment of women through self-help groups.
 a) Short Stay Home b) Swayamsidha
 c) Family Counselling Centres

II) Fill in the blanks.

1. The Juvenile Injustice Act was amended in the year _____ .
2. The Child Line Services aims at helping _____ during times of difficulties and emergency.
3. The Child Marriage Restraint Act of 1978 has increased the age of marriage of girls from 15yrs to _____ years.
4. TamilNadu Legislature passed the Prohibition of Eve-Teasing Law in _____ .
5. The Family Counselling Centres were started to give _____ for the victims facing social problems.

III) Match the following.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Article 45 | - to reduce rate of mortality |
| 2. ICDS Scheme | - 1961 |
| 3. Children's Day | - rehabilitation of girls |
| 4. Dowry Prohibition Act | - 14th November |
| 5. Short Stay Home | - free and compulsory education |

IV) Answer the following briefly.

1. What does Article 24 deal with?
2. Name a few Acts passed for the welfare of children.
3. Which group of children are given due recognition by our Government on the Republic day?
4. How do Article 23 help women?
5. What does Dowry Prohibition Act ban?

V) Answer in detail.

1. What are the schemes and programmes undertaken for the upliftment and benefit of children?
2. Give a detailed account of the economic empowerment schemes for women.

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

1. Debate:

How far is Article 24 of the constitution successful in dealing with the prohibition of child labour. Conduct a debate in class.

2. Prepare a Poster:

Prepare a poster to highlights the important provisions of the Right to Education Act.

3. Discuss:

What are the measures taken by the Government to prevent dropouts?
Discuss with the help of your teachers.

4. Find out:

Know more about the contributions made by the Non – Governmental Organisations to promote the welfare of the women and children in your locality.

5. Skit:

Act out a skit on the given topic.
“The children are the future pillars of our nation”.

SHAKTHII ACADEMY

SOCIAL STUDIES - CIVICS

STANDARD - EIGHT



1. NATIONAL INTEGRATION

INDIA – A MUSEUM OF RACES

India also known as Bharat is a big country. It is the land of many religions. The Aryans settled in India during the early days. The Persians, the Greeks, the Kushans, the Huns, the Arabs, the Mongols, the Mughals and the Europeans came to India and established themselves together and evolved a new set of races. Hence our country appears to be an Ethnological Museum (Museum for Human races).

Cultural Unity

The Indian Culture is praised as the best in the world. Culture is a product of corporate civic society. Culture may also be defined as the activities of man individually and in society. It is expressed through language, literature, religion, philosophy, customs, etc. India has achieved cultural unity by fusion of many cultures. This has made Indian society as a multicultural society.

Languages

People speak different languages. When India became independent it was divided into various states based on the languages spoken by a large number of people in a particular region. In India almost about 845 languages are spoken now. Out of these, 22 are constitutionally

recognized languages. Hindi in Devanagiri script has been chosen as the official Language. English has been declared as an official link language.

Literature

India is a treasure house of literature. The Vedas, Mahabharata, the Ramayana, the Bhagavad-Gita, the Bible, the Quran and the Thirukkural are familiar literary works among Indians.

In Tamil, we have the Eight Anthologies [Ettuthogai], The Ten Idylls [Pathupattu], Eighteen Didactics [Pathinenkezh kanakku (18)], Aimperum Kappiyangal [the Five Great Epics], The Periyapuranam, Nalavenba, Kalingathuparani, Thevaram and Naalayira Divya Prabandam. These works describe historical events and also enrich the language.

The Sanskrit works of Valmiki like the Ramayana and Kalidas's Megadooth and Shankunthala are great literary works. The Indians enjoy their literature, irrespective of caste, religion and language. In a way the Indian literature also helps to achieve National Integration.

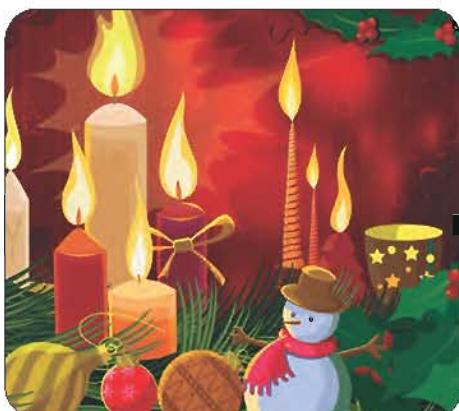
Festivals

India is famous for religious festivals. Hindu festivals like Deepavali, Rama Navami, Krishna Jayanthi, Durga Pooja (Navarathiri)

and Makara Sankaranthi (Pongal) are celebrated all over India. Muslims celebrate Milad-un-Nabi, Bakrid and Ramzan. Christians celebrate Easter and Christmas. The Sikhs celebrate Guru Nanak Jayanthi. Buddha Poornima and Mahavir Jayanthi are celebrated by



Deepavali



Christmas



Ramzan

the Buddhists and Jains. All Indians celebrate New Year's Day.

These festivals develop common brotherhood, friendship and religious tolerance.

Customs, Habits and Heritage

People of the world admire India's rich heritage, customs and culture. The Indian heritage advocates hospitality, charity, brotherhood, love, dharma, tolerance, peace, spiritual feelings and respect for elders. All these good qualities help Indians live in unity and harmony.

Food and Dress

In the South people prefer to eat rice whereas wheat and pulses are preferred by the people in the North of India. The climatic condition of India differs from place to place, so people wear clothes made of wool, cotton, artificial fibre, leather and silk. Inspite of many invasions the Indian culture remains the same, without any drastic change.

Art and Architecture

India is famous for its architectural beauty, paintings and sculptures. The paintings at Ajanta and Ellora are world famous. The Gandhara art and sculpture speaks of the excellence of India in this field.

The temples at Kasi, Badrinath, Kedarnath, Haridwar and Puri, the famous Muslim Dargas, the Christian churches, the Sanchi

Stupa. Jain temple at Mount Abu, Sravana Belagola are the best examples of Indian architecture.

In South India, Meenakshi temple at Madurai, the Brihadeeswara temple at Tanjore, Cave temples at Mamallapuram, the Kailasanathar temples and Vaikunta Perumal temple at Kanchipuram, the Arunachaleswara temple at Thiruvannamalai, the Golden Temple at Vellore the temple at



Brihadeeswara Temple



Santhome Church

and the temple at Chidambaram, the Cathedral at Santhome are excellent examples of Indian art and architecture.

Music and Dance

The Carnatic style and Hindustani style of music originated in India.

Bharathanatyam, Kuchipudi, Kathak, Manipuri and Odissi are some of the famous dances of India. Indian music and dance play an important role in fostering unity and integrity in India.

UNITY IN DIVERSITY

The people of India follow different customs and each region has its own food habits, clothes, caste, religion and language. They all have different environments yet they are all called Indians.

Factors promoting National Integration

In spite of many diversities we are called Indians. Every one feels that he/she is an Indian first. It promotes our National Integration. There are other factors, which promote our National Integration. They are:

India's geographical features and its defence, Cultural heritage and cultural unity, Religious tolerance, Our National symbols, National Flag and National Anthem, the principles of Democracy, Sovereignty, Secularism and Socialism promote National Integration. The Observance of National Integration Day on 19th November every year strengthens the idea of National Integration.

Factors affecting National Integration

India is famous for its Unity in Diversity. Still various factors affects the National Integration. They are 1. Communalism, 2. Linguism, 3. Casteism, 4. Economic disparity 5. Regional imbalances.

Communalism

Communalism means placing one's own community above others, sometimes even above the Nation. Communalism refers to selfish aggressive attitude of one community towards another. This feeling sometimes lead to communal riots. So, we should develop the spirit of religious tolerance and the feeling of oneness.

Linguism

In 1956 India was divided into many states on linguistic basis. In general, people of India have great love for their mother tongue. Sometimes they develop narrow-minded approach towards other languages and hate them. Therefore we must show our respect to other languages which will help to unite the people.

Casteism

Casteism means placing ones own caste above others, sometimes even above the Nation. Social structure of India is based upon caste system. Caste creates social gradation and social grouping, which leads to social distinction, discrimination and disintegration. All men are born equal. Casteism is

against this principle. People of higher castes hesitate to mix or to make social contacts with the people of lower castes. This hinders the smooth functioning of a democracy and the growth of National Integration.

Economic Disparity

Economic disparity means uneven distribution of wealth among the people in the society. It depends on several factors such as over population, illiteracy, lack of natural resources etc. Economic disparities exist between the rich and poor. This gap affects our Unity and Integration.

Regional Imbalances

Regional imbalance means socio-economic disparity among the people in different regions. There are several geographical landforms in India. It creates a cultural diversity in the minds of the people. One region develops very fast because of natural and cultural resources. But another region does not develop, due to the lack of the natural and cultural resources. So poverty, unemployment problem, low standard of living, low level of per capita income cause Regional Imbalances. These Regional imbalances disturb our National Integration.

In order to achieve National Integration, people should develop the spirit of tolerance and the feeling of oneness. Language and religion should not be a hurdle on the path of development. Instead they should

be used as a tool to achieve greatness. People should remember the past glory of India and

try to establish a unique Nation which will be an eye-opener to the rest of the world.

EXERCISE

I) Choose the correct answer.

1. The number of official languages in India is _____.
a) 15 b) 18 c) 22
2. The National Language of India is _____.
a) English b) Tamil c) Hindi
3. In India, the states are divided on the basis of _____.
a) language b) literature c) heritage
4. The National Integration Day is observed on _____.
a) 14th November b) 19th November c) 1st November

II) Fill in the blanks.

1. India is also known as _____.
2. Cave Temples are at _____.
3. Social structure of India is based upon _____ system
4. The Buddhists celebrate _____.

III) Match the following.

- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| 1. Kalidasa | The Holy Book |
| 2. The Bible | Jain Temple |
| 3. Mount Abu | Amirtsar |
| 4. Golden Temple | Megadootham |

IV) Answer the following questions briefly.

1. Define culture.
2. Mention some of the festivals of the Hindus.
3. Name some temples in South India.
4. Point out the factors affecting national integration.

V) Answer the following questions in detail.

1. India is a land of “Unity in Diversity” – Explain
2. Explain the factors that lead to National Integration.

Formative Assessment

1. Mark the states and capitals on a political map of India.
2. Find out the main language spoken in each of the states of India.
3. Prepare a project on the influence of Mughal and British rule in India on her culture under the following heads:

a. Language	b. Religion
c. Clothes	d. Festivals
e. Food	f. Dance and Music
g. Art and Architecture	h. Customs
i. Literature	j. Education

2. SOCIO – ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Since independence our country has faced a number of social problems. The most important problems are illiteracy, child labour and injustice to women which require immediate attention.

Illiteracy

Illiteracy means the inability to read and write. Illiteracy leads to ignorance. The level of literacy rate and education among the people in a country determines the development of the Nation. One of the important social problems prevailing in India is illiteracy. So India is taking serious steps to reduce the illiteracy rate.

The low level of literacy rate hinders the economic development of a country. Besides this, the society also suffers in terms of socio-economic and political problems. Similarly an illiterate person because of his/her ignorance loses an opportunity to know about the various welfare schemes provided by the Government. Moreover, illiteracy leads to the problem of child labour, female infanticide and growth of population. Thus illiteracy is a hurdle on the road to the progress and prosperity of a nation.

Measures to eradicate illiteracy

Right to education is one of the important Fundamental Rights guaranteed by our Constitution. University Education Commission of 1948-1949 stressed the use of

mother tongue as the medium of instruction so as to raise the level of literacy. The Educational Policy of 1968 introduced uniform pattern of [10+2+3] education all over the country. National Education Policy of 1986 (NEP) emphasizes on compulsory primary education. Non-formal education was introduced to reduce the dropout rate. National Educational Policy of 1992 introduced the "Black Board Operation" to provide basic facilities in schools. In 1991 Professor Dave's Education Commission introduced M.L.L. [Minimum Level of Learning] to improve primary education. National Literacy Mission gave importance to Adult Education. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA-2002) is an effort towards Universalization of Elementary Education (UEE) by community participation.

Measures undertaken by Tamil Nadu Government to eradicate illiteracy

Based on the above policies, the Tamilnadu Government has framed the following measures to eradicate illiteracy.

- Admitting all the children in the schools at the school going age.
- As per SSA all children should complete elementary education by 2010.
- Reducing all gender and social gap of primary stage by 2007.
- Establishing a school in an area where the population is 300 and above.

Literacy Rate (%) in India (1951 – 2011)

Census Year	Persons %	Male %	Female%	Male-Female Literacy gap
1951	18.33	27.16	8.86	18.30
1961	28.30	40.40	15.35	25.05
1971	34.45	45.96	21.97	23.98
1981	43.57	56.38	29.76	26.62
1991	52.21	64.13	39.29	24.84
2001	65.38	78.85	54.16	21.70
2011	74.04	82.14	65.46	16.68

The Government of Tamilnadu has introduced a novel plan called "Education For All" to provide education for all children.

As per 2011 census, literacy percentage in Tamilnadu is 80.33% Male 86.81% and Female 73.86%.

U.N.O declared 1990 as the International Literacy Year and every year September 8th is celebrated as World Literacy Day.

Child Labour

Labourers below the age of 14 are called child labourers. India has the largest number of child labourers in the world. Child labourers in India are 12.66 million which constitutes 1.23 percent of the total population (2001) of our country.

Causes for the Child Labour in India

In India child labour is a social problem, because majority of the children in our country do not get proper food, clothing, shelter and education. At an early age they take up petty jobs in shops, hotels and factories. Child labour is the result of poverty, malnutrition and illiteracy.

Measures to eradicate the problem of Child Labour

The Employment of Children Act of 1949 raised the minimum age for employment to 14 years and later on it was raised to 17. The Plantation Labour Act of 1951 prohibits the employment of children under 12 years in plantation.

The Child Labour Act of 1986 bans the employment of a child who has not completed 14 years of age in factories and mines. National Child Labour Policy was formulated in the year 1987 to eradicate child labour. Setting up of special schools for child workers with the provision of vocational training.

Mrs. Indira Gandhi, our former Prime Minister was responsible for the abolition of bonded labour in 1976.

Injustice against women

Though women population constitutes nearly half of the total population, women are not treated equally on par with men in our society.

Social evils against women are

Male chauvinism, Practice of Sati, Widowhood, Female infanticide, Dowry system, Denial of education etc.

Measures taken to improve the Status of Women

The Practice of Sati was abolished by the Act of 1829. A law on Widow Remarriage was enacted in 1856. Child marriage was banned by the passing of Sarada Act in 1930 due to the efforts of Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy.

The Hindu succession Act of 1956, provides daughters equal Rights in the share of the family property. The demand for dowry was declared punishable by The Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961. The Equal Remuneration Act of 1976; Equal wages for Equal work, along with men. STEP (Support of Training and Employment Scheme) enable women to earn. Government of Tamilnadu has introduced "Cradle Baby Scheme" in 1992. It protects the female child from female infanticide. Tamil Nadu Government has also introduced All Women Police Station all over the state to safeguard the rights of women.

Economic Problems

Even after independence, India faces a lot of economic problems. Some of the economic problems are poverty, unemployment, price rise and population explosion.

Poverty

Poverty has been defined in a number of ways. The World Bank

(1990) has defined poverty as, "the inability to attain a minimal standard of living".

Poverty is a social problem in which a section of the society is unable to fulfil their basic needs of life, food, clothing and shelter. The Indian society is divided into two categories, rich and poor. One third of our population lives below poverty line.

Poverty affects the health of the people. It reduces the efficiency of the people. It leads to low production and weakens the economic growth of the nation. It results in poverty which exists both in rural and urban areas.

Causes for poverty

Rapid increase of population, low income of the people, the price rice, Unemployment and illiteracy are the main causes of poverty in India.

Measures to eradicate poverty

"Poverty Alleviation Programme" has been initiated by the Government.

Through Five Year Plans

The First Five Year plan (1951-'56) was agriculture oriented, to solve the food problems. The Fourth Five Year Plan [1969–74] aimed at raising the standard of living and reduce the price level. The Fifth Five Year Plan [1974-'79] highlighted poverty alleviation.

The Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-'90) tried to remove poverty and to attain self-sufficiency in food production. The Tenth Five Year

Plan was introduced to double the per capita income of the people.

Other schemes of the Government

Jawahar Rozgar Yojna employment schemes were introduced to eradicate poverty. The 20 Point Programme was introduced by former Prime Minister of India, Mrs. Indira Gandhi in 1975 to remove rural poverty and to uplift the downtrodden by providing economic and social justice.

Unemployment

Unemployment is a situation where the able bodied persons willing to work, but fail to find a job that earns their living. Unemployment is one of the most disturbing problems in India.

Causes for unemployment

The employment opportunities from agriculture and its allied activities are very limited. The advancement of science and technology reduces the use of man power. The rapid growth of population results in unemployment.

The Government of India has undertaken various measures to solve the problems of unemployment.

National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) in 1980 generated more jobs to the people. The Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEG) which was introduced in 1983 guaranteed employment atleast to one member of every landless

family for 100 days in a year. Training for Rural Youth Employment Programme (TRYEP) of 1979 provides self employment. The Jawahar Rozgar Yojna was (JRY) introduced in 1989. It provides financial assistance to rural areas through village panchayats.

Price Rise

The gap between the production and demand of the essential goods decides the price level. If there is less production and greater demand there will be an increase in the price of all commodities.

Causes for the price rise

- Rapid growth of population.
- Low productivity in agriculture.
- Monsoon failures and poor harvest which led to food shortage.
- Smuggling, hoarding and black marketing are the other causes.

Steps taken to control price rise

Public Distribution System [PDS] was strengthened and this enables people to procure essential commodities at reasonable prices. Government takes strict action against smuggling, hoarding and black marketing. Fair price shops and co-operative stores are opened to get essential things at lower price.

Population Explosion

An unprecedented growth of population is known as Population Explosion.

The greatest problem of India is the population explosion. It is one of

the burning social problems. India ranks second in the world population. India occupies only 2.4% of the world area where it supports 16.84% of the world population.

As per census of 2011, the population of our country was 121,02,20,000 persons.

Causes for the growth of population

- High birth rate and low death rate.
- Low death rate is due to the advancement of medical science and technology.
- Epidemic diseases are eradicated.
- The infant mortality rate has declined.
- The belief of the poor in having more children would increase the income of the family.

Desire to have a male child.

Effects of the population explosion

It affects the economic development of our country.

It leads to the problem of

poverty, price rise unemployment and several other social problems.

It leads to environmental pollution and unhygienic conditions.

11th July is observed as World Population Day

Measures undertaken to control population growth

- Family planning.
- Increase in female literacy rate and education.
- Legal steps – to check early marriages and polygamy.
- Incentives to adopt two-children small family norms.
- Registration of marriages along with birth and death.

The people of India though had a glorious past, knowingly or unknowingly have been facing several socio-economic problems. It kept a section of the people in utter darkness. After independence due to the earnest efforts of the government, various steps have been taken to uplift the people from socio-economic backwardness. All these problems can be eradicated only by providing proper education to all the people.

EXERCISE

I) Choose the correct answer.

1. National Education Policy was introduced in _____.
a) 1968 b) 1986 c) 1996
2. The First Five Year Plan was _____ oriented
a) Industry b) Technology c) Agriculture

3. World Literacy Day is celebrated on _____.
 - a) 8th September b) 2nd October c) 15th July
4. _____ was abolished by the Act of 1829.
 - a) Infanticide b) Child Marriage c) Sati

II) Fill in the blanks.

1. University Education Commission stressed the use of _____ as the medium of instruction.
2. _____ declared the year 1990 as the International Literacy Year.
3. The child labour act of 1986 bans the employment of a child in _____ and _____.
4. Widow Remarriage Act was enacted in _____.

III) Match the following.

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Sarada Act | - 1992 |
| 2. Equal Remuneration act | - 1976 |
| 3. Black Board Operation | - Mrs. Indira Gandhi |
| 4. 20 Points Programme | - 1930 |

IV) Answer the following questions briefly.

1. What is illiteracy?
2. Mention some of the measures taken by the Government to improve the status of the women.
3. Define poverty.
4. What are the measures undertaken by our Government to solve the problem of unemployment?

V) Answer the following in detail.

1. Explain the social problems that our country has been facing since Independence.
2. What are the causes for population explosion? Explain the steps taken by the Government to overcome it.

Formative Assessment

1. Visit a nearby village, prepare a questionnaire and collect information about social, economic, educational and health conditions of the people. Discuss in the classroom.
2. What measures would you suggest for the abolition of “Child Labourers” ?
3. Collect the Information about the marginalized groups with the help of newspapers and magazines and paste it in your scrapbook.
4. Visit any construction site and conduct interview with men / women working there about,
 - i. Their working hours.
 - ii. About the wage.
 - iii. Do they get their wage daily / weekly / monthly?
 - iv. Whether they have paid equal pay for equal work? And submit your report about “Inequality of wages” between men and women labourers. Discuss in the classroom.
5. Population Explosion – Boon or Curse - Debate

1. HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE U.N.O

Rights are those conditions of social life, without which man cannot be at his best. Human Rights are the Rights inherent to all Human beings. According to Bosanquet, "a right is a claim recognized by a society and enforced by the state". Human Rights are the basic Rights which shape the all-round development of every individual. The Social and Economic Rights of man are known as Human Rights. After Second World War the UNO has taken several measures to protect Human Rights.

Every year 24th October is observed as the U.N.O. Day.

The U.N. declaration on Human Rights: 1948

The United Nations Organization was established on 24th October 1945. One of its main objectives was to protect and respect Human Rights. A Commission on Human Rights was established to frame Human Rights. It drafted the International Bill on Human Rights. It was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 10th December 1948. It is known as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

10th December is observed as Human Rights Day.

UNO emphasized the equality of all the human beings without any discrimination. In this

declaration, there are 30 Articles. They are classified into,

- i) Civil and Political Rights.
- ii) Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

I) The Civil and Political Rights

The Civil and Political Rights are closely related to modern democracy.

The Rights are

- i) The Right to life, liberty and security of a person.
- ii) Freedom from slavery and torture.
- iii) Equality before law.
- iv) The right to own property.
- v) The right to political participation.
- vi) The right to marriage.
- vii) All children are entitled to social protection.
- viii) Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and attention.

II) The Socio-Economic and Cultural Rights

They are,

- i) Right to work
- ii) Right to have equal pay for equal work
- iii) Right to form and join trade unions
- iv) Right to have an adequate standard of living
- v) Right to education

- vi) Right to participate freely in cultural life.

Protection of Human Rights

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is applicable to all countries. The U.N.O. adopted two covenants on 16th December 1966 to protect Human Rights; They are,

- i)The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. (ICESCR)
- ii) The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)

These are legally binding upon the States. All member states of the U.N.O. have to promote and respect Human Rights.

The world conference on Human Rights—held at Vienna in 1993 adopted the Vienna declaration and programme of action. It stated that the “promotion and protection of all Human Rights is a legitimate concern of the international community”. In 1993, the Government of India passed an Act. According to it, the National Human Rights Commission was set up in 1993 at New Delhi. In the states, State Human Rights Commissions were also formed to protect and promote the Human Rights of the people.

National Human Rights Commission

On 12th October, 1993 the National Human Rights Commission was constituted. It consists of a Chair person and four members.

- i)The Chairperson is usually a

person who retired as the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

- ii) One member who retired as judge of the Supreme Court.
- iii) One member who retired as Chief Justice of a High Court.
- iv) Two members, who have knowledge and practical experience in matters relating to Human Rights are appointed by the President.

Composition

The headquarters of this Commission is located at New Delhi. The Chairman and other persons are appointed by the President. The Chairperson or any other member of the Commission shall only be removed from his office by the order of the President. The Chair Person shall hold office for a period of 5 years or 70 years of age, whichever is earlier. Other members also hold the office for 5 years. However, they are eligible for re-appointment for another term of 5 years.

Functions of the Commission

The important objective of the Commission is to protect the Human Rights. Its functions are:-

To undertake and promote research in the field of Human Rights.

To spread Human Rights literacy among the various sections of the society through media and seminars.

To inquire suo-moto or on a petition presented to it by a victim or any person on his behalf.

The National Human Rights Commission has given priority to

Review legislations that are against the principles of Human Rights

Eliminating custodial violence and rapes

Redressal of Human Rights grievances of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes women and children.

Powers

The Commission enjoys all the powers of civil court under the code of civil procedure. The Commission shall submit an annual report to the concerned Government. The Government in turn shall lay before each house of parliament along with a memorandum of action taken or going to be taken on the recommendation of the Commission. Thus the National Human Rights Commission protects the Rights of the people.

Who is the present Chairperson and Secretary General of the National Human Rights Commission?

STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

On 17th April 1997, the State Human Rights Commission was constituted.

The State Human Rights Commission consists of

a) A Chairperson who is a retired chief justice of High Court.

b) One member who is a retired Judge of High Court.

c) One member who is a retired District Judge in that state.

d) Two members to be appointed from amongst persons having knowledge of or practical experience in matters relating to Human Rights.

The Chief Executive Officer of the State Human Rights Commission is the Secretary. In Tamil Nadu, it is located at Chennai. The Commission may inquire into the violation of Human Rights which are guaranteed in Part-III of the Constitution of India. The Governor appoints the Chairperson and other members of SHRC on the recommendation of a Committee consisting of the Chief Minister, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Minister in charge of the Home department in the state, and the leader of the opposition in the legislative assembly.

Who is the chairperson of State Human Rights Commission in Tamilnadu?

Any member of the SHRC can be removed from office on the ground of proved misbehaviour by the Governor. The term of office of each member is 5 years or 70 years whichever is earlier.

Functions of SHRC

The SHRC shall submit an annual report to the state Government. It consists of the work done as well as recommendations for the protection of Human Rights. The State Government shall submit the

report before each house of the State Legislature for further action.

Human Rights Courts at District level

Violation of Human Rights has led to the establishment of Human Rights Courts at the district level. A public prosecutor or an advocate having an experience of at least 7 years is appointed as Judge in the district court. These courts enquire into Human Rights violation cases and provide relief to them.

WOMEN RIGHTS

After independence, the Government of India passed many legislations to remove any injustice against women and raise their status. The following are the social legislations passed for the welfare of women in India.

The Hindu Widow Remarriage Act of 1856 legalised Widow Remarriage.

The Hindu Marriage Act of 1955 states that the marriageable age for women is 21 years.

The Hindu Succession Act of 1956 ensures the right to women to inherit their parental property.

The Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961 provides drastic punishments for those who ill-treat the bride in the name of dowry.

Indecent Representation Act (Tamil Nadu government) of 1999 prohibits the indecent representation of women in magazines, news papers etc.

The Eve Teasing Law in 1997 gave relief to women.

Thus the Government has passed several laws to uplift women.

Labour Legislation for women

The Government of India has passed several laws to protect the women workers. The Factory Act of 1948, the plantation Labour Act of 1951, the Mines Act of 1952 were passed to protect and regulate the wages of women without any discrimination. The Maternity benefit Act of 1961 assures maternity leave to pregnant women with regular pay.

Every year 8th March is celebrated as International Women's Day.

Other Provisions

In 1995, women from all over the world gathered at Beijing, the capital of China with the message "Women's Rights are Human Rights and Human Rights are Women's Rights".

The U.N.O. declared the year 1978 as International year of women.

Women's Associations

Women's Associations like Democratic Women's Association, Pennurimai Iyakkam in India and Tamil Nadu in particular are working for championing the cause of women. In addition to that, several Non-Government Voluntary Organizations like the Lions Club, Rotary Club and Inner Wheel Club are also working for the development of women.

CHILD RIGHTS

Our Constitution has laid down the following principles to protect the rights of children against exploitation: They are;

- i) Article 39 (f) provides facilities for children to develop in a healthy manner.
- ii) Article 45 provides that the state shall endeavour to provide free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of 14 years.
- iii) Article 24 is for prohibition of Child labour.
- iv) The Juvenile Injustice Act passed in 1986 tries to protect children deprived of adequate care and to reform the children.

The UNO had declared the year 1979 as the International Year of Children.

Inspite of these legislations, child labour still remains a burning problem. Appeals are made through the media like Doordarshan, Radio, Newspapers and Magazines to put an end to child labour. Government is also appealing to the parents to send their children to school and not to work.

For a better and a prosperous world, the unalienable Rights of the people should be protected at all costs with the support of the people and the government.

EXERCISE

I) Choose the correct answer.

1. Human Rights Day is observed on _____
a) 10th December b) 14th December c) 20th December
2. The National Human Rights Commission was constituted in _____.
a) 1990 b) 1993 c) 1978
3. The term of office of each member of the Human Rights Commission is _____.
a) 6 years b) 10 years c) 5 years
4. In 1995 women from all over the world gathered at _____.
a) Beijing b) New York c) Delhi

II) Fill in the blanks.

1. The headquarters of National Human Rights Commission is at _____.

2. Any member of the State Human Rights Commission shall be removed from office on grounds of incapacity by _____.
3. International women's day is celebrated on _____.

III) Match the following.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| 1. National Human Rights Commission | 1997 |
| 2. State Human Rights Commission | 1945 |
| 3. U.N.O. | 1955 |
| 4. Protection of Civil Rights Act | 1993 |

IV) Answer the following questions briefly.

1. What are Human Rights?
2. What steps have been undertaken to avoid violation of Human Rights?
3. Mention some Civil and Political Rights.
4. Mention some acts passed to remove the injustice done to women.

V) Answer in detail.

1. Explain the powers and functions of the National Human Rights Commission.
2. Explain the powers and functions of the State Human Rights Commission.

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

1. Collect pictures from newspapers and magazines, which show the violation of various fundamental rights. Paste them in your scrapbook and write a note on the right being violated.
2. Prepare posters to spread awareness on Women's Rights and Child Labour.
3. Find out more about the role of UNICEF in India.

1. ROAD SAFETY RULES AND REGULATIONS

Road safety – Rules and Regulations

India has the second largest road network in the world with over 3 million kms of roads of which 60% are paved. These roads make a vital contribution to the India's economy. On the whole, the facilities for the road users are not upto the mark, leading to a high toll of death. Recently, there is a growing concern over the road crash problem.

Importance of Road Safety

Knowledge about road rules and road safety methods are important for all. Accidents occur almost everywhere at home, on the road, in schools or in play grounds. Most of the accidents may be prevented. Accidents have a large impact on the life, health and financial aspects of the person involved. Accidents could even completely paralyse ones normal routine life.

For traffic assistance, call 103 through telephone.

The factors due to which accidents occur are classified as a) Personal Factors

Age, fatigue, attitude physical defect, less knowledge about driving and disorder come under this category.

b) Environmental Factors

Weather, tools, machinery, driver and engine fault of the vehicles come under this category.

Road Rules in India

The rules of the road regulations was brought into effect from July 1, 1989. They serve as a basic guidelines for every Indian driver. He or she has to follow them while on the roads. They deal with basic facts such as overtaking, traffic signals, towing, speed limits and the necessary vehicle documents to be carried while driving.

Important Road safety Rules

Drivers shall drive their vehicles on the left side of the road.

Overtaking should be avoided as far as possible.

Caution at road Junctions

The driver of a motor vehicle shall slow down when approaching a road intersection, pedestrian crossing or a road corner.

Fire service vehicles and Ambulances must be given free



passage. These two vehicles need not wait at traffic signals.

Taking "U" Turn

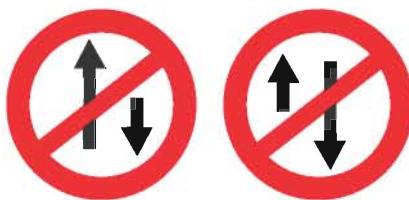
No driver shall take a "U" turn where "U" turn is especially prohibited on a busy road. The "U" turn facility can be availed only if allowed.

Signals to be given by drivers appropriately

- When he is about to slow down.
- When he is about to turn to the right or left.
- When he is about to stop.

Direction indicator should be used while taking a "U" turn or while turning to the left or right side of the road.

One -Way traffic



Drivers shall not drive motor vehicles on road declared as "one way". Drive on Channelised road (lane Traffic)

a) Where roads are marked as lanes for movement, the driver of a motor vehicle shall drive within the lane and change of the lane only after giving proper signals.

b) Where any road is marked by a yellow line dividing road, vehicles preceding in the same direction trying to overtake each other shall not cross the yellow line.

Silence Zones

Driver of vehicles shall not use the



a) Sound of the horn needlessly or continuously or more than necessary to ensure safety.

b) Drivers should avoid sound of the horn in silence Zones.

c) Drivers should not drive vehicles which have mechanical defect and create undue noise when in motion.

Keep Distance

The driver of a motor vehicle, while moving behind another vehicle, shall keep at a sufficient distance from that other vehicle to avoid collision.

Documents to be possessed

A person driving a vehicle, shall always carry with him/her driving license, certificate of registration, certification of taxation and certification of insurance of the vehicles and in case of transport vehicle, the permit and fitness certification also.

On demand by any officer of the motor vehicle department of the Government shall produce the documents for inspection.

Road safety cell

Road safety cell was set up by the Ministry of Surface Transport in September 1986. The Ministry has the right to formulate policies for road safety to minimise road accidents. The Ministry also

prepares national road safety policies.

Signals-Road signals

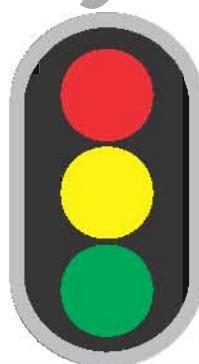
Road signals are the vital and integral part of the traffic system for the safety of the road users. As per IRC the safety (Indian Road Congress) Road signals are for indications on the road. The road signals are categorised into three types. They are:-

- 1) Mandatory signs or Regulatory signs.
- 2) Cautionary signs or warning or precautionary signs.
- 3) Informatory signs.

Traffic signals

A traffic light, traffic signal or a stop light is a signalling device positioned at a road intersection to indicate when it is safe to cross through. The traffic signals pass on its information using a universal colour code.

Red	- stop and wait
Orange	- Get ready (Listen)
Green	- Go



Hand signals

Hand signals or manual regulation signs are the gestures

used to regulate traffic on the road using the hand movements. They are categorised as;

- 1) Hand signals by traffic policemen
- 2) Hand signals by drivers.





Road safety is emerging as a major social concern in the country. The statistics are mind boggling with an average mortality rate of 1.1 lakh persons per year dying in road accidents.

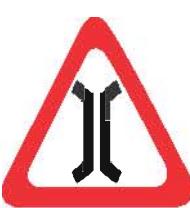
Causes for Road Accidents

1. Traffic Violations

Speed is the ultimate mantra of modern living. Everyone is moving fast to reach their desired destination. It is the major cause for accidents.

2. Absence of ample space for pedestrians.

The roads are so narrow for vehicles and pedestrians move side by side. In such case, pedestrians are at high risk of



getting hit for they are not visible to drivers coming from behind.

3. Heavy vehicle traffic

In big cities, volume of vehicle traffic is high. Apart from normal vehicles, heavy vehicles are also run on the road. Separate routes and separate timings are allotted for the movement of heavy vehicles in cities. Even then accidents became inevitable.

4. Drunken driving

Under the influence of alcohol, drivers lose the ability to take any quick decisions and it results in so many accidents.

Important Road safety tips are as follows

- 1) Don't use the mobile while driving.
- 2) Use seat belt while driving.
- 3) Don't drink and drive.
- 4) Always adhere to speed limit.
- 5) Pedestrians should walk cautiously.
- 6) Walk on the foot path.
- 7) Pedestrians should cross the road only at the Zebra crossing.
- 8) Always wear helmets.
- 9) Obey the traffic signals.
- 10) Obey the traffic symbols.
- 11) Give way to the overtaking vehicles.
- 12) Person below 18 years should not be permitted to drive vehicles.



13) Parking of vehicles should be done only in the allotted places.

14) Encroachment on foot-path should be prevented.

Road safety week

Every year in the first week of January, (Road safety week) is celebrated throughout the state (Tamilnadu), so as to create awareness among school and college students, drivers and all other road users. During the year 2008-2009, Rs. 55 lakhs was provided for road safety awareness

building programme with the focus on "Carefully drive" "Reach Alive". Apart from this, workshop for drivers involved in road accidents are also conducted as a measure to sensitize them and to create greater awareness regarding road safety aspects.

India registers the highest number of road accidents in the world. Annually 1.1 lakhs people die in road accidents in India .

Government of Tamilnadu
State Transport Authority
Road accident Data from 2005 to 2009

Year	Fatal	Serious Injury		Minor Injury		Non-Injury		Total
2005	8844	NA	NPK	NA	NPI	NA	NPI	
		9760	5214	7815	34669	54152	5151	53878
2006	10055	11009	4630	6833	36262	5708	4198	55145
2007	11034	12036	4498	6873	39494	64226	4114	59140
2008	11813	12784	4426	6696	39193	63555	4977	60409
2009	12727	13746	4448	6721	39676	36783	3943	60794

NA – Number of Accidents

NPK - Number of Person killed

NPI- Number of Persons Injured

Source: DGP-Chennai

For emergency call 108 for ambulance service

Road safety is the life line of a country. Government should sensitize the people about the road safety rules. Periodical seminars

should be conducted for the drivers and the road users. Students particularly from school level should know traffic rules and regulations

thoroughly. If, people follow the rules and regulations strictly, several thousands of precious lives will be

saved. Every citizen of India should take the following pledge to save their life.

I pledge to abide by the Rules of the Road.

EXERCISE

I) Choose the correct answer.

1. The rules of road regulations came into effect from _____.
a) 1989 b) 1990 c) 1998
2. Pedestrians can cross the road _____.
a) anywhere b) near the signals c) at Zebra crossing
3. Every year, first week of _____ is celebrated as Road safety week.
a) December b) January c) March
4. For emergency, call _____ for ambulance service
a) 108 b) 100 c) 106

II) Fill in the blanks.

1. Drivers should drive their vehicles on the _____ side of the road.
2. Road safety cell was set up in _____.
3. In Traffic Light _____ colour indicates stop.
4. Road signals are classified into _____ types

III) Match the following.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 1. Orange | - Footpath |
| 2. Pedestrians | - Telephone |
| 3. Information sign | - Traffic police |
| 4. Hand Signal | - get ready |

IV) Answer the following questions briefly.

1. Mention the importance of road safety?
2. Draw and explain the traffic lights?
3. Write a few road safety tips.
4. Name the documents that a person driving a vehicle should possess.

V) Answer in detail.

1. Explain the importance of road safety rules.
2. Describe the causes for road accidents.

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

1. Discussion:

Road safety ensures protection of life - Discuss.

2. Oratorical competition:

Topic suggested: "Students' participation in Road safety".

3. Group Discussion:

"Rules to follow on road" - discuss in group.

4. Prepare a wall poster:

Make ready a wall poster to highlight the importance of road safety.

5. Essay writing:

"Haste makes Waste" - write an essay.

SHAKTHII ACADEMY

SOCIAL STUDIES - CIVICS

STANDARD - NINE

COURSES OFFERED

- **BANK CLERK/PO/SO**
- **INSURANCE**
- **TANCET-MBA**
- **GRE, GMAT**
- **IELTS , TOEFL**
- **RRB, SSC**
- **TNPSC Group II, Group II- A, Group IV, VAO**

CIVICS

How are we governed ?

The founding fathers of the Indian constitution, by giving due recognition to the vastness and plural character of our nation, have provided a federal arrangement for her governance; yet they avoided the term 'federal', instead termed the central organization as Union of states. As in any federal system, we, the Indians have two sets of constitutionally constituted government, i.e, Union Government and the state government, and two sets of legislature, ie, Union Parliament and the state legislature. However there is only one set of judicial courts under the authority of the Supreme Court. Powers and responsibilities of these two sets of governing institution are clearly defined in the constitution, through three lists of power, (1) Union list (2)state list and (3)concurrent list. To understand the system of governance in India, one should know the systems of governance both at union level and at state level

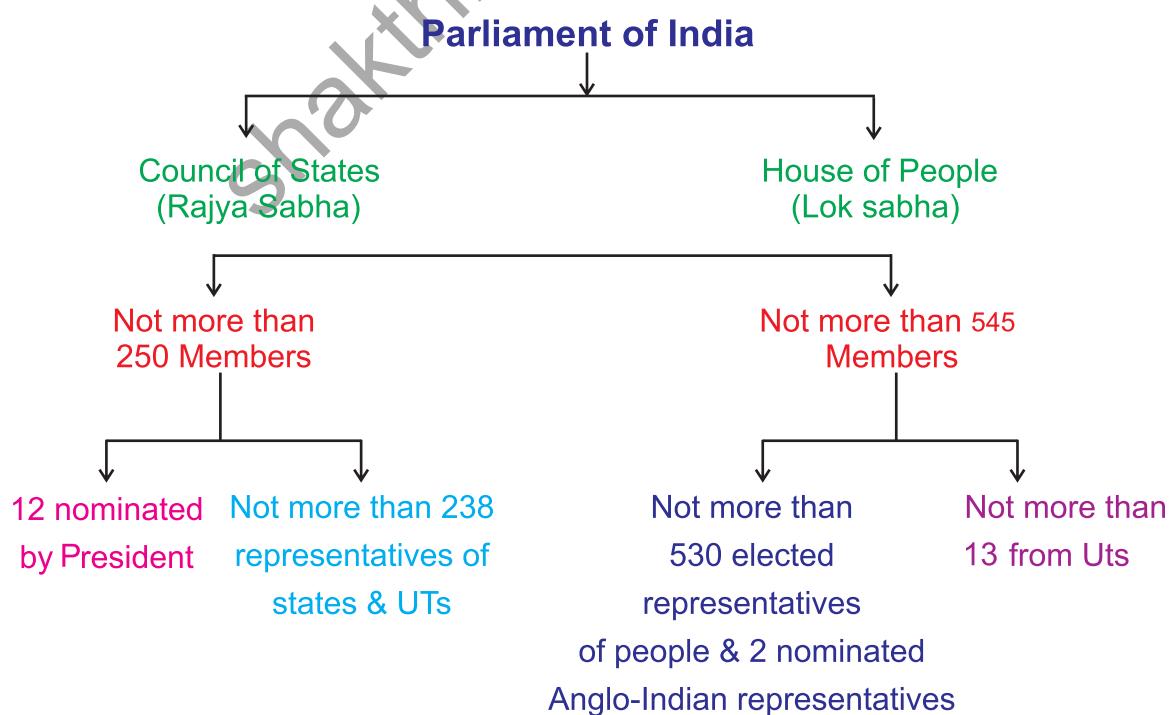
1. THE UNION GOVERNMENT



The Constitution of India provides for a parliamentary form of Government under an elected President. It has three wings; the legislature, the executive and the judiciary.

Union Legislature

The Parliament represents the union Legislature which consists of two Houses, the Upper House called Council of States or **Rajya Sabha** and the lower House called House of People or **Lok Sabha**.



LOK SABHA

The Lok Sabha is the popular house of the Indian parliament and contains elected representatives of the people. The Lok Sabha as of today has **543 elected members**. Out of these, **530 members** are elected from different states and **13 members** from the Union Territories. The President generally nominates two members belonging to the **Anglo-Indian** community. At present, the Lok Sabha consists of **545 members**.



Lok Sabha

Do you Know?

1. The Present elected members of the Lok Sabha are 543 in number and two Anglo-Indian members are nominated by the President of India.
2. For Lok Sabha, Candidate can contest the election from any part of India.

QUALIFICATION

- ⇒ A person seeking election to the Lok Sabha must possess the following qualifications.
- ⇒ He / She must be a **citizen of India**.
- ⇒ He / She must not be **less than 25 years** of age.
- ⇒ He / she must not **hold any office of profit** under the Union or State Government.

⇒ He / she must be **mentally sound** and **financially solvent**.

THE TERM OF THE HOUSE

Normally the Lok Sabha enjoys a term of **five years** from the date of its first session. The term of the House can be dissolved by the President on certain occasions, on the recommendation of the Prime Minister or when the President is convinced of the uncertainty of any group enjoying necessary majority in the House. The emergency provisions of the Constitution enable the President to prorogue or dissolve the Lok Sabha either on the advise of the Prime Minister or on being convinced that no party or no alliance of Parties enjoys necessary majority support in the House.

ELECTION

The Members of the Lok Sabha are directly elected by the people of the constituencies created on the basis of population. The **Election Commission** of India arranges, supervises and Conducts elections to the Lok Sabha. For the sake of elections to Lok Sabha the entire nation is divided into number of constituencies which are formed more or less on the basis of the population.

"Universal Adult Franchise" is followed while electing the members of the Lok Sabha. All Indian citizens **above 18 years of age** who are registered as voters will vote for their representatives. This house is directly elected, enjoys more financial powers than the other House (Rajya Sabha) (e.g.) **Money Bills** can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha. Council of Ministers are collectively and individually responsible to Lok Sabha.

The Lok Sabha is presided over by the '**Speaker**' who is elected by its members. In the absence of the Speaker the **Deputy Speaker** elected by the members of the house presides over the session.

Can You name the first woman speaker of Lok Sabha ?



Tmt. Meira Kumar

RAJYA SABHA (COUNCIL OF STATES)

The Council of States or Rajya sabha consists of **250 members** out of which **238 represent** the states and the Union Territories, elected by the method of indirect election. The **12 nominated members** shall be chosen by the President from amongst persons having 'special knowledge or practical experience in the field of literature, science, art or social service.

Do you Know?

1. The members should not exceed 250
2. Nominated membership may go up to 12.



Rajya Sabha

QUALIFICATION

A person seeking membership of the Rajya Sabha must possess the following qualifications.

- ⇒ He/she must be a citizen of India
- ⇒ He/she must not be less than 30 years of Age.
- ⇒ He/she must possess such other qualification as may be prescribed by the Parliament for that purpose from time to time.
- ⇒ He/She must not be the member of the Lok Sabha or any other legislature.
- ⇒ He/She must be a person with sound mind and financially solvent.
- ⇒ He/she must not hold any office of profit under any government.

TERM OF THE HOUSE

The Rajya Sabha is a permanent house and is not subject to dissolution. The members of the Rajya Sabha are elected for a term of six years. One third of the members of Rajya Sabha retire every two years. The Vice President of India is the Ex-officio Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha. The Deputy Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha is elected by the members of

Name the present Chairperson and Vice Chair person of Rajya Sabha.

ELECTION

The members of Rajya Sabha are elected by the elected members of the "**State Legislative Assemblies**" in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote. This process of election is called "**Indirect election**" as they are not elected by the people directly.

POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF PARLIAMENT

As the Parliament consists of two houses, Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha, it is termed as bicameral legislature. The main function of the Indian Parliament is to make the laws for good governance of the country. The laws are made for the sake of peace, security and progress of the nation as a whole. It has absolute control over the finances of the nation. It passes the Union budget and decides on the taxes to be paid by the people.

The Parliament also has the power to amend any provision of the Indian Constitution by following specified procedures. The President of India, Judges of Courts and other highest constitutional authorities can be tried on grave charges and be removed from their offices by the parliament and this provision for parliamentary trial and removal of persons is known as 'the impeachment powers'. The approval of the Parliament is required to continue with the emergency promulgated by the President.

UNION EXECUTIVE

The Union executive consists of the President, Prime Minister and his Council of Ministers. The President is the highest executive authority of the state. The executive powers of the President are entrusted to a team of ministers headed by the Prime Minister. The party or the coalition of parties, which enjoys a majority in the Lok Sabha is to select its leader, who will be appointed as the Prime Minister by the President.

PRESIDENT OF INDIA

According to the Indian Constitution, the President of India is

the Head of the Indian Republic or the State.



Shri. Pranab Mukherjee

The President is also the Constitutional head of the Union Legislature and Union Executive. He/she is also responsible for constituting of the Judiciary. According to Article 53 of the constitution the executive power of the Union shall be vested in the President which shall be exercised by him directly or through officers subordinate to him in accordance with the Constitution.

QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PRESIDENT

The Constitution lays down qualifications for a presidential candidate.

He / she should be a citizen of India.

He / she must have completed the age of 35 years.

He / she must be eligible for election as a member of the Lok Sabha.

He / she must not hold any office of profit in the union, state or Local government.

The President cannot be a member of Parliament or of a State Legislature; if she/he is a member of any legislature, her/his seat will be deemed to have been vacated on the date she/he assumes the office of President.

ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT

The President is elected by an electoral college in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote. The electoral college consists of the elected members of both houses of parliament and the elected members of the states and elected members of National Capital Territory of Delhi and Puducherry. The President of India can be relieved from his office before the expiry of his normal terms through the process of Impeachment (Art-61). He can also relinquish his office prematurely by tendering a resignation to the Vice President. The President is elected for a term of five years and can be re-elected.

ELECTORAL COLLEGE FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

- ☞ Elected members of Lok Sabha
- ☞ Elected members of Rajya Sabha
- ☞ elected members of all state legislative assemblies/Elected members of N.C.T Delhi, Puducherry.

POWERS OF THE PRESIDENT

The powers of the President can be divided into two categories

1. Power in normal times
2. Emergency powers

In normal times the president enjoys the following powers:

1. Executive Powers
2. Legislative Powers
3. Financial Powers
4. Judicial Powers

5. Military Powers

6. Diplomatic powers

EXECUTIVE POWERS

The entire administration of India is carried on in the name of the President. Laws passed by the Parliament are promulgated with his assent. The President is authorized to make a number of appointments. He/she appoints the Prime Minister and other members of Council of ministers, the Judges of Supreme and High Courts, Heads of the Election Commission, the Attorney General, Chair Person and members of UPSC, heads of armed forces etc. The President is the **Supreme Commander** of the armed forces. He represents the State in international affairs.

LEGISLATIVE POWERS

The legislative powers of the President include summoning and proroguing both Houses of Parliament and dissolving the Lok sabha, opening and addressing Combined sessions of the Parliament.

All bills passed by the Parliament become "**Laws of Acts**" only after getting assent of the President. Money Bills cannot be introduced in the Parliament without his / her approval.

The President has the powers to nominate twelve members to the Rajya sabha who are having special knowledge or practical experience in respect of such matters such as art, literature, science or social service.

JUDICIAL POWERS

The President is not answerable to any court of law for exercise of his/her power (however he/she can be subjected to impeachment by the Parliament). He/she can pardon or remit or suspend a sentence of

punishment given by the Court martial or a sentence of death passed by a Court.

FINANCIAL POWERS

The Constitution empowers the President to have control over the finances of the state. No money bill can be introduced in the Parliament without the previous sanction of the President. “Annual” Budget of the Central Government is presented before the Lok Sabha by the Union Finance Minister only with the permission of the President. The Contingency Fund of India is at the disposal of the President. He can make advances out of it to meet unforeseen expenditure before the same is approved of the Parliament.

EMERGENCY POWERS

There are three kinds of emergency powers of the president

*** National Emergency**

The President is given the power to make a proclamation of Emergency on the ground of threat to the security of India, by war, external aggression or during armed rebellion(Article 352).

*** State Emergency**

The President is empowered to make proclamation that the Government of a state cannot be carried on in accordance with the provision of the constitution (Art 356).

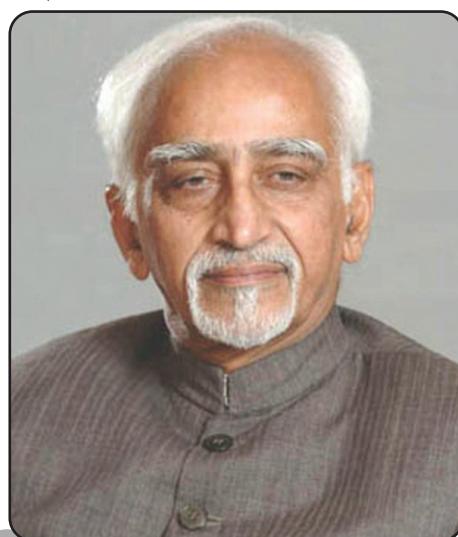
*** Financial Emergency**

The President is empowered to declare that a situation has arisen whereby “the financial stability or credit of India or of any part thereof is threatened” (Art 360).

VICE – PRESIDENT

Article 63 of the Constitution provides for a Vice-President. This office has been created to maintain the

political continuity of the State; the Vice-President exercises the executive power of the Union as and when the President is unable to do so due to sickness or when the post of President becomes vacant due to resignation, death, or removal etc.



Shri M. Hamid Ansari

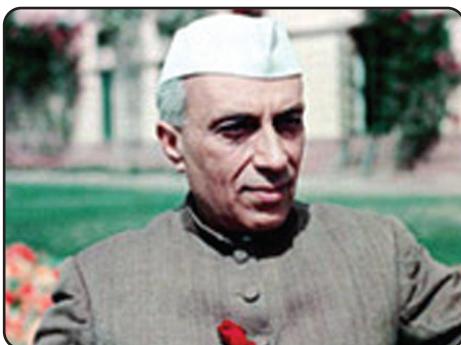
The qualifications stipulated for the post of president of India are also applicable to the post of the Vice President.

The term of office of the Vice-President is five years. His / her office may terminate earlier than the fixed term either by resignation death or by removal. He is eligible for re - election.

The Vice-President of India occupies the second highest office in the Country. No specific functions are attached to the office of the Vice-President as such. The normal function of the Vice-President is to act as the ex-officio Chair person of the Council of States. But if there occurs any vacancy in the Office of the President by reason of his / her death, resignation, removal or otherwise, the Vice President acts as the President until a new President is elected.

PRIME MINISTER

The post of Prime Minister first originated in England and is borrowed from there by the makers of our constitution. In fact the Prime Minister of India as his counter part in Britain is the *de facto* executive head of the nation. According to the constitution of India, the leader of the Majority party or Majority group in the Lok Sabha is to be appointed as the Prime Minister by the President of India.



Jawaharlal Nehru

The Prime Minister nominates members to his Council of Ministers including his/her cabinet. Thus the Prime Minister becomes and functions as the head of the Council of ministers.

The Prime Minister allocates portfolios to other ministers and monitors their functions. The Cabinet under the leadership of the Prime minister is the



Dr. Manmohan Singh

policy making body which formulates the policies and programmes of the state. He / she is the principal advisor to the President on all governmental issues.

He / she is the Chief spokesperson of the Government. Thus the prime minister becomes the political leader of the government. He/she is the Chairperson of all highest central commissions like the Planning commission the finance commission and National integration Council.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

The number of members of the council of Ministers are not specified in the constitution. The ministers are classified under three ranks (i)Cabinet Ministers (ii)Ministers of State (iii)Deputy Ministers.

1. Cabinet Ministers

They constitute a policy making body of the government known as the Cabinet. It is a collective body in which decisions are taken either by consensus or by majority. Normally the cabinet ministers are assigned important portfolios such as Finance, Home, External Affairs and Railways.

2. Ministers of State

They are also in charge of ministries or departments but they do not participate in the meetings of the cabinet unless invited to do so.

3. Deputy Ministers

They assist either the Ministers of Cabinet or State in the performance of the duties entrusted to them.

THE JUDICIARY

Our constitution provides for the establishment of an independent and integrated judiciary with “**Supreme Court**” as the highest court in the



Supreme Court

country. Our judiciary is independent of the Legislative and Executive wings of the Union and State Government. An integrated judiciary means a single judicial hierarchy for the whole country.

The judiciary plays an important role in protecting the rights and freedom of the citizens. It plays an important role in analyzing and interpreting the provisions of laws and the constitution.

Composition of the Supreme Court

At the Commencement of the Constitution in 1950 our Supreme Court consisted of 8 judges including the Chief Justice. At present, the Supreme Court consists of 26 Judges including the Chief Justice.

Appointment of Judges

The Chief Justice of India is appointed by the President of India. The other Judges are appointed by the President in consultation with the Collegium with Chief Justice as Head.

Qualifications of Supreme Court Judges

1. He / She must be a citizen of India.
2. He / She should have worked as a Judge of a High Court for at least 5 years.
3. He / She should have worked as an advocate of a High Court for atleast 10 years.

The Constitution also provides for the appointment of judges (besides the regular judges) to the Supreme Court on an ad-hoc (temporary) basis.

The Chief Justice and other judges of the Supreme Court hold the office upto the age of 65 years. The judges of the Supreme Court can resign before their term by giving their resignation in writing to the President. The Parliament also has power to remove the Judges by invoking impeachment provisions.

The Supreme Court has its permanent seat in “**New Delhi**” (Capital of India). It may also sit in any other place in India which may be decided by the Chief Justice of India with the approval of the President of India.

Powers and Functions of the Supreme Court

A. Judicial Functions

The Supreme Court is the “**Guardian of the Constitution**”. The two main judicial functions of the Supreme Court are “**Original Jurisdiction**” and “**Appellate Jurisdiction**”.

Original Jurisdiction

The cases which are brought directly in the first instance to the Supreme Court come under original jurisdiction. These may be (a) dispute between the Government of India and one or more states of (b) Dispute between two or more state(c)the cases involving fundamental rights (dispute over the enforcement) come under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. The writs issued by the Supreme Court for the enforcement of the fundamental rights are,

- (1) Habeas corpus, (2) Mandamus,
- (3) Prohibition, (4) Certiorari, (5) quo Warranto.

The Supreme court as well as the State High Courts can issue the above mentioned “5 writs” under “Right to Constitutional Remedies” to protect the Fundamental Rights guaranteed to the people (citizens) by the Constitution. That is why the Supreme Court is called the “Guardian of the Constitution”.

1) Writ of Habeas Corpus:

Safeguards people from illegal arrests.

2) Mandamus

It protects the petitioner who requires legal help to get his work done by respective public authorities.

3) Prohibition

It prohibits a subordinate court from acting beyond its jurisdiction.

4) Certiorari

It quashes an order issued by a subordinate court by overstepping its jurisdiction.

5) Quo Warranto

It prevents usurpation of a public office.

Appellate Jurisdiction

As regards the Appellate Jurisdiction, the Supreme Court hears appeals against the decisions of the High Court in “Civil, Criminal and Constitutional” cases with a certificate from the High Court that it is fit to appeal in the Supreme Court.

Administrative Functions

There is a chain of courts of different types for providing justice to the aggrieved. At present there are 21 High Courts. (some High courts look after cases from more than one state). Below the high courts there are the subordinate courts of different

categories. But all the courts in India are administered and controlled by the Supreme Court.

Recently for giving speedy and cheaper justice especially for the poor people Lok Adalats (people's courts) have been established.

Consequent to the “Legal Services Authorities Act of 1987” Lok Adalats came in to existence. These are organized at different levels for quick disposal of pending cases. One should try to settle his/her case through a Lok Adalat to save time, energy and money. Except criminal cases, all other categories of cases can be settled by these courts.

If you want to know more about these courts, the advertisements in the local news papers are of great help. Even in Tamil Nadu, these courts have settled many of the cases. Such courts are known as fast track courts.

The President can seek advice of the Supreme Court on important questions of law or fact.

Judicial Review

The power of the judiciary to declare a law as unconstitutional is known as “Judicial Review”. By “Judicial Review”, the Supreme Court can declare a law null and void when it is found against the Constitution. Thus it checks the arbitrary power of the executive and the legislature. Hence, the Supreme Court is rightly known as the “Guardian of the Constitution”.

Activity

Is integrated and independent judiciary essential in India? If so why?

Do you know?

The Supreme Court cannot interfere in the judgments declared by

the Military Tribunals. No appeal can be taken from Military Tribunals to Supreme Court.

Do you know ?

There is one High Court for Punjab, Haryana and Union Territory of Chandigarh. Similarly, there is one High Court in Chennai for Tamilnadu and the Union Territory of Puducherry. Can you give any other example?

High Court

As per the article 214 of the constitution, there shall be a High Court in each state. There may be a common High Court for two or more states or union territory, if it is sanctioned by a law of the Parliament. All other courts in the state are supervised by the High Court. The appeals from the High Courts are tried in the Supreme Court of India.

The state High Court consists of a Chief Justice and other judges. They are all appointed by the president of India. The number of judges differ from time to time as it is not fixed.

Activity

What are the different courts functioning under the jurisdiction of the high court in the state?

Appointment of the Chief Justice and other Judges

The President appoints the Chief Justice of a High Court in consultation with the Chief Justice of India, and the Governor of the concerned state. The chief justice of the high court is also consulted by the President in the appointment of other judges. Generally, a senior most judge will be appointed as the Chief Justice.

Qualification for the judges

- I) He/she must be a citizen of India.
- II) Must have at least "ten" years experience as judge of a court in any territory of India.
or
- III) Must have at least "ten" years experience as an Advocate in one or more High Courts in India.

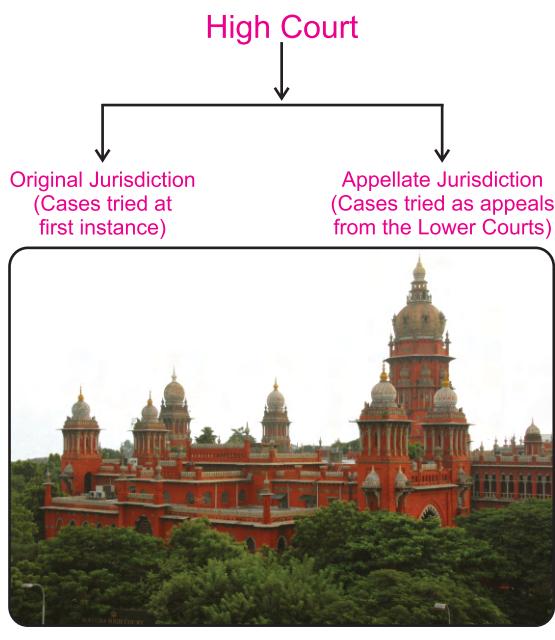
Originally the age of retirement of the judges was fixed at 60. By the 15th Amendment to the Constitution in 1963 the age of retirement of the judges was raised to 62.

Powers and functions of the High Court

The High Court has two types of jurisdictions namely Original Jurisdiction and Appellate Jurisdiction.

Original Jurisdiction

The original Jurisdiction of the High Court is restricted. Under article 226 of the Constitution, the State High Court is empowered to issue writs and orders in the enforcement of fundamental rights and also other purposes. The original



High Court

jurisdiction extends to the matter of admiralty, matrimonial (marriage and divorce), company law and contempt of court.

The High Court like Supreme Court can issue writs in the nature of Habeas Corpus, Mandamus, Prohibition, Quo Warranto and Certiorari for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights. – Article 226.

Appellate Jurisdiction

Under Appellate Jurisdiction, the High Court is empowered to try both “Civil and Criminal” cases. The High Court also hear cases involving interpretation of the Constitution or law.

In performing its judicial functions, the High Court enjoys full power and freedom to act within its jurisdiction.

Activity

Find out what are the courts below the High Court in a state? Who is a sessions judge?

Do you know?

In civil cases, a first appeal or a second appeal from lower courts are entertained by the High Court.

In criminal cases, the High Court tries the cases as an appeal against the judgement of a sessions judge or an additional sessions judge.

Administrative powers

There is a hierarchy of courts and judicial officers in the state. The High Court supervises the working of all subordinate courts. The other courts have to follow the rules and regulations framed by the high court. The High Court inspects the files of the lower courts. It can transfer the cases from one court to another. It may even call for returns from the subordinate courts.

Power of judicial review

Like the Supreme Court, the High Court also has the power of “judicial review”. If any law goes against the Constitution, the High Court can declare such law null and void (ineffective). Thus it checks the arbitrary power of the executive and the legislature.

There is a bench of Chennai High Court functioning in Madurai.

Even though all the three wings are independent organs, they cannot go beyond their limit in administration. If any one organ violates the Constitution or misuses its power, the other organ will check its power and safeguard the people from being affected by it. This is called system of “Checks and Balances”. Thus it is clearly seen that the “Executive, Legislature and Judiciary” enjoy freedom in their respective spheres of activities. Similarly the judiciary safeguards the federal arrangement by preventing both the central government and state government from encroaching in to the rights of each other.

Activity

Learn more about the importance of law and justice for mankind.

Know more things about how the various courts in the state are functioning.

Besides the law courts what are the other courts prevalent in the State?

EXERCISE**I) Choose the correct answer.**

1. The parliament of India consists of

a) one house	b) two houses
c) three houses	d) none
2. Prime Minister is appointed by

a) Lok Sabha	b) Council of Ministers
c) Rajya Sabha	d) The President
3. Lok Sabha has _____ elected members.

a) 530	b) 238	c) 545	d) 250
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4. Members of Lok Sabha are elected by

a) Indirect election	b) Direct election
c) Chair person	d) Prime minister
5. The upper house is known as

a) Rajya Sabha	b) Lok Sabha
c) Cabinet	d) Parliament
6. The head of the Indian Republic and Union is _____

a) Speaker	b) Vice President
c) President	d) Supreme Court Judge
7. Money bills cannot be introduced without the approval of _____

a) Parliament	b) Prime Minister
c) President	d) Attorney General
8. The Union Finance Minister presents the Annual Budget before _____

a) The Parliament	b) The Lok Sabha
c) Rajya Sabha	d) Prime minister
9. The Article of the constitution provides for a Vice President _____

a) Article 53	b) Article 356	c) Article 360	d) Article 63
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10. The President of India is _____

a) Mrs. Sonia Gandhi	b) Dr. Manmohan Singh
c) Shri. Pranab Mukherjee	d) Dr. Abdul Kalam
11. Supreme Court Judge is appointed by _____

a) Cabinet Minister	b) Members of the Parliament
c) Prime Minister	d) President

12. Number of Judges in Supreme Court _____
 a) 26 b) 15 c) 9 d) 12
13. Supreme Court Judges retire at the age of _____
 a) 62 b) 65 c) 58 d) 60
14. Lok Adalat was introduced in _____
 a) 1950 b) 1987 c) 1984 d) 2000
15. Head quarters of Supreme Court is in _____
 a) Chennai b) Mumbai c) Kolkata d) New Delhi

II) Answer briefly.

1. What are the qualifications to become a member of the Rajya Sabha?
2. How is the Prime Minister elected?
3. What is a bicameral legislature?
4. Explain the term the 'Lok Sabha'.
5. What is the Electoral college?
6. Who are all appointed by the President ?
7. When is the emergency power declared ?
8. How is the Vice President elected ?
9. What are the qualifications of the Supreme Court Judge ?
10. What is the original jurisdiction ?
11. What is Judicial review?
12. Write the functions of the High Court Judge.
13. Explain the power of the Appellate.

III) Answer in a paragraph.

1. What are the powers and functions of the Parliament?
2. Explain the Council of Ministers
3. Explain the power of the President
4. What are the functions of the Vice President ?
5. Explain the power and functions of the Supreme Court
6. Explain the role of the High Court Judges.

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

1. Prepare a chart with pictures to show the Prime Ministers of India from 1947 to 2013.
2. Make a list of ten powers and responsibilities of the Government under
 - a) The Union list
 - b) The state list
 - c) The concurrent list
3. Draw mind map to show the duties of the President and Prime Minister of India.
4. Collect news clipping and stick in your scrap book on the laws or Acts currently being debated upon in the legislature.
5. Prepare a class constitution outline the rights and duties of the student in your class.
6. Draw a line diagram to show the structure of the Parliament of India.

CIVICS

1. THE STATE GOVERNMENT



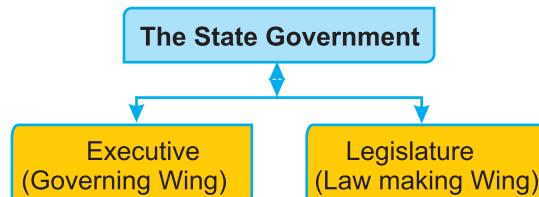
India is a union of 29 States and 7 Union Territories. Among the 7 union territories, "DELHI" is the "National Capital Territory". The States are administered by the State Governments. The Union Territories are administered by the President through Lieutenant Governors or Chief Administrators.

Delhi attained the status of National Capital Territory by the 67th amendment of the Constitution in 1991.

The powers and functions of the State Governments are clearly defined in the Constitution. They are responsible for the administration of the subjects in the "State List" of the Constitution. Like the Government at the centre, the State Government also has its own legislative and Executive wings.

Activity

Do you know the other two lists besides the "State List" mentioned in our Constitution?



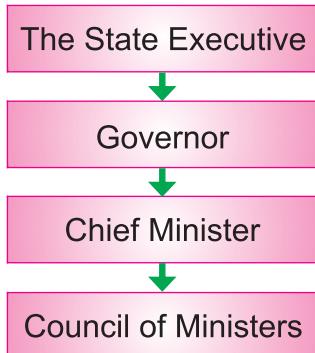
Articles 152 to 237 of our constitution clearly mention about the administration of the states. Articles 153 to 160 deal with the appointment, qualification, powers and functions of the Governor.

Activity

Do you think the separation of powers are needed or any one organ is enough for looking after all the matters?

The Executive

The State Executive in each State consists of the Governor, the Chief Minister and the Council of Ministers.



Activity

What does the State Executive consist of?

The Governor

The entire executive authority is vested in the Governor. He is the nominal and Constitutional head of the State Government. The Council of Ministers with the Chief Minister as the head, is the real executive. The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the State Legislative Assembly.

The Appointment of the Governor

The Governor is appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal. He /She can be transferred from one State to another by the President. The Governor has to take an oath of office before the Chief Justice of the High Court.

Qualification

- ⇒ He /She must be a citizen of India.
- ⇒ He /She should have completed 35 years of age.
- ⇒ He /She should not be a member of Parliament or of any state legislature.

legislature. if so He /She has to vacate the post.

- ⇒ He /She should not hold any office of profit under state or central government.
- ⇒ He /She should not belong to the same state where He /She is appointed as the Governor.



Raj Bhavan, Chennai

The term of office

The term of office of the Governor is normally "five years". But he /she holds office during the pleasure of the President. The president can remove the Governor before the expiry of his term or can extend his term for another five years. The governor can resign from his post but no impeachment proceedings against him are contemplated in the constitution.

Activity

Name the first woman Governor of Tamilnadu.

Powers and functions of the Governor

According to article 164 of the Constitution, the Governor appoints the Chief Minister and also other Ministers on the advice of the Chief Minister. He also appoints the Advocate General, Chairperson and members of State Public Service Commission, Vice-Chancellors of the universities in the state etc. the Governor has to send

periodical reports to the President regarding the functioning of the State Government. He directly rules the state when there is imposition of President's rule.

The Governor is the part of the State Legislature. He /She nominates 1/6 of the members to the Legislative Council wherever it exists. The Anglo Indian representative in the state Assembly is also nominated by the governor. All bills passed by the State Legislature become "laws" only with his/her assent. He /She can pass "Ordinances" when the Legislature is not in session.

If there is failure of constitutional machines in any state, the President issues a "Proclamation" under Art.356 of the Constitution by which the State Assembly will be dissolved. The Governor under such circumstances gets real administrative powers. This is called as "President's Rule".

Do you know ?

What are ordinances?

It is an official announcement Governor, when the legislature is not in session. But, the ordinances must be ratified by the State Legislature, within 6 weeks of reassembling State Legislature.

The permission of the Governor is necessary for introducing money bills in the States Legislature. "Demand for Grants" can be made only on the recommendation of the Governor. The "State Budget" is presented in the Legislative Assembly only with his /her permission. The Constitution empowers the Governor to spend money from the "Contingency fund of the State" to meet unforeseen expenditure.

Governor shall have power to pardon, commute or suspend the sentence of any criminal convicted under the jurisdiction for the state (high court) on advice from the state's cabinet/ chief minister. However, he/ she have no powers to increase the punishments. The Governor receives annual report of the State Public Service Commission and submits the same to the Legislature for the consideration and approval.

The chief Minister and the Council of Ministers

Chief Minister

The real executive powers of State Governments are vested in the Council of Ministers, headed by the Chief Minister. In the State, the Chief Minister runs the administration in the name of the Governor. His Position in the state is similar to that of the Prime Minister in centre.

The appointment of the Chief Minister

The Chief Minister is appointed by the Governor of the State. The leader of the majority party or majority group in the State Legislative Assembly is appointed as the Chief Minister. In case no party commands absolute majority in the Legislative Assembly or the majority fails to elect its leader, the Governor can use his power and invite the leader of the other largest party to form the ministry. He has to prove the confidence (majority support) in the Legislative Assembly within the period stipulated by the Governor.

The term of the Chief Minister is not fixed. He may remain as the Chief Minister as long as he/ she enjoys the support of the majority of the members

of the Legislative Assembly. He has to resign when he loses confidence of the majority in the assembly. It is understood that normally he completes 5 years term like other members in the Legislative Assembly.

Powers and functions of the Chief Minister

The Chief Minister is the real executive head of the State administration. He has the following powers and functions.

The primary functions of the Chief Minister are

- i) To form the ministry, (Council of Ministers) by preparing a list of ministers.
- ii) Distribute the portfolios (departments) to colleagues and get them allocated by Governor.
- iii) Ask a minister to resign if he fails in his duties.
- iv) He has the right to change the department of ministers at his will and get it notified by Governor.
- v) The Chief Minister is the head of the cabinet. He /she convenes and presides over its meetings.
- vi) He/ She is link between Governor and Council of Ministers.
- vii) He/ she can advise the Governor for the early dissolution of the State Assembly.

Council of Ministers

Like the centre, the “Council of Ministers” is the real executive. The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the State Assembly. All of them must be the members of the state legislature. Those who are not the members at the time of their appointment must secure their seats in the legislature within a period of “Six

months”. All the ministers have to work as a team under the guidance of the Chief minister. As long as the Chief Minister is in offices, the Council of Ministers also will be in power. If a no-confidence motion is passed against the Ministry in the Legislative Assembly, the State ministry led by the Chief Minister has to resign. If the Chief Minister resigns, the whole Council of Ministers have to resign. This is called “collective responsibility”.

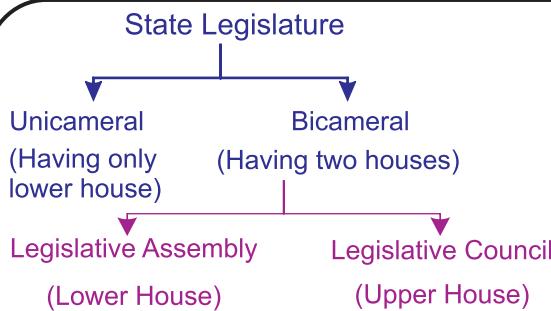
The Legislature

The Constitution provides a legislature for every state. Most of the States have only unicameral legislature i.e only Legislative assembly. Some States have bicameral legislatures. Lower House (Assembly), Upper House (Council). (example Bihar, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Jammu-Kashmir). The lower house, legislative assembly represents the people of the state. The upper house, legislative Council represents special interests like teachers, graduates and local governments.



Tamil Nadu Assembly

The constitution (61st Amendment) Act of 1988 lowered the voting age from 21 years to 18 years.



The Legislative Assembly (Lower House)

The Legislative Assembly is the real centre of power in the State. It consists of members directly elected by the people on the basis of "universal adult franchise". The strength of the assembly varies from state to state depending on the population. The maximum strength of the assembly is 500 and the minimum strength is 60. Some seats in the assembly are reserved for candidates from Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes. They are called "Reserved Constituencies". In India a person who is over 25 years of age can contest in the election to the legislative assembly.

The term of office of the legislative assembly is 5 years. It can be dissolved even before the expiry of its term.

Activity

Find out the strength of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly.

Speaker

The Legislative Assembly is presided over by the Speaker. The Assembly elects from among its members a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker. In the absence of the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker performs his functions.

Activity

Do you know who is the speaker of Tamil Nadu now?

The Legislative Council (Upper House)

The legislative council is a permanent house. But it is subject to abolition by Parliament on the recommendation of State Assemblies. 1/3 of the members retire after every two years, and these vacancies are filled up by fresh elections and nominations. It cannot be dissolved.

Its members are indirectly elected. The tenure of elected or nominated members is fixed as six years. And such members are eligible for re-election or renomination. The total number of the members in the Legislative Council of a state shall not exceed 1/3 of the total number of members of the Legislative Assembly of the state. But, it should not be less than 40.

Do you know?

Citizens of India above 30 years of age can contest in the election to legislative council.

Election to Upper House

- ⇒ 1/3 of the members are elected by local bodies.
- ⇒ 1/12 of the members are elected by Graduates of the universities in the State.
- ⇒ 1/12 of the members are elected by Graduate teachers.
- ⇒ 1/3 of the members are elected by the members of the Lower House.
- ⇒ 1/6 are nominated by the Governor who are eminent in the field of literary excellence, art, social service or Co-operation.

On November 1, 1986, the Upper House (Legislative Council) was abolished in Tamil Nadu by an Act.

The Chairman

The Chairman (chair person he/ she) is the Presiding Officer of the Upper house. The Members elect a Chairman and a Deputy Chairman from among themselves. In the absence of the chairman, the Deputy Chairman will officiate the functions of the Legislative Council.

Activity

Which house of the State Legislature is more powerful? Why?

The functions of the State Legislature

The State Legislature, being the law making body of the State makes laws on all subjects mentioned in the "State List" as per the constitution. It can make laws on concurrent subjects also.

The passing of “Bill” into “Law” has the same procedure as in the Central legislature. (5 stages including 3 readings). Then it becomes an Act after the Governor’s assent.

The legislature controls the finances of the State. "Money Bills" have to be introduced only in the Legislative Assembly (Lower House). No new tax can be levied without the sanction of the Assembly. The appropriation Bills (Demand for Grants) are also introduced only in the Legislative Assembly.

The Council of Ministers is responsible to the Legislative Assembly. The Ministers have to answer the questions put forth by the members of the Legislature. If the Assembly passes a vote of no confidence against the Ministry, they will be removed from office. Thus, the executive is accountable to the Legislature.

Activity

What do you know about “question hour” in the Legislature? Is it necessary?

The administration in the state, is run by a team of highest officials, consisting of officers from Indian Administrative Service and Indian Police Service, and the subordinate staff recruited through the state public service commission.

EXERCISE

I) Choose the correct answer.

1. India consists of _____.
a) 26 states and 6 union territories. b) 24 states and 7 union territories
c) 27 states and 5 union territories d) 29 states and 7 union territories
 2. The constitution head of the state government is _____.
a) Chief Minister b) President c) Prime Minister d) Governor
 3. The Governor is appointed by the _____.
a) Cabinet b) Ministers c) Chief Minister d) President

4. The Chief Minister and other Ministers are appointed by _____.
a) President b) Prime Minister c) Governor d) Judge
5. Ordinances are passed by _____.
a) state Legislature b) Chief Minister c) Prime Minister d) Governor

II) Answer briefly.

1. How many states and union Territories are in India?
2. Which is the National Capital territory?
3. How is Council of Ministers formed?
4. What does the term collective responsibility mean?
5. What are the duties of the state Legislature?

III) Answer in a paragraph.

1. What are the powers and functions of the governor?
2. What are the primary functions of the Chief Minister?
3. Write a note on the council of ministers. Its composition and their duties.
4. How are the members elected to the upper house of the Legislative council/

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

1. Prepare rolling chart showing the Chief Minister's scheme for School Children.
2. Prepare an album on Tamil Nadu Chief Ministers and Governors – 1950-2012
3. Assignment about the schemes announced by the Chief Minister in the legislative assembly.
4. List out the departments of State Government and Central Government and Private Sector
5. Group discussion about the facilities given to the Students.
6. Debate on the responsibilities of the leaders to the youth.
7. Speech competition on duties of a student for the school and society.
8. Make a trip to visit Legislative Assembly.
9. Arrange T.V. Program to watch assembly activities.

2. RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF CITIZENS

The founding fathers of the Indian Constitution were conscious of the need to recognize the basic rights of the people, and to protect these rights from the onslaughts of the transitory aggressions of the executive and legislative wings of the government. A Constitutional guarantee to such fundamental right becomes indispensable for keeping the democratic spirit of a state. Hence the makers of the constitution consciously included a separate chapter. The 'Fundamental Rights' under part III.

In the same way rights if not associated with responsibilities are likely to lead to indiscipline. Hence in 1976, through the 42nd amendment, a separate chapter as Part IV A was inserted in the constitution which enumerates the 'Fundamental Duties' of the citizens. The constitution Makers also wanted to constitutionally indicated to the ruler, their duties towards their people, by way of enlisting the prospective objectives of their governance. Such Constitutionally indicated objectives or directives to the governments are enshrined as "Directive Principles" in Part IV of the constitution. These three parts i.e III, IV and IV A together constitute the basis of a democratic state.

Fundamental Rights

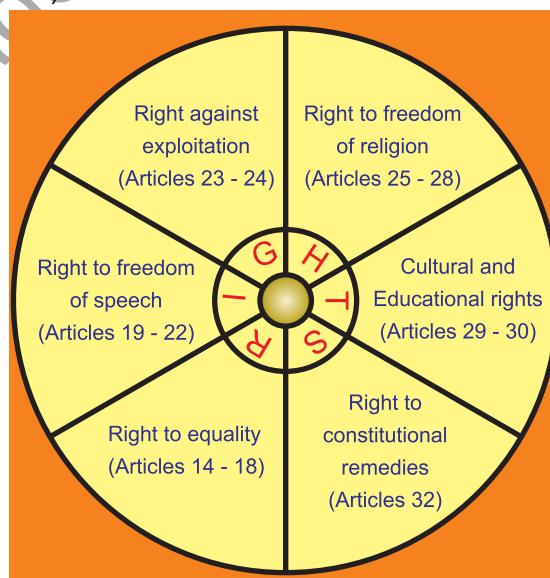
Part III of the Indian constitution (from Article 12 to Article 35) enshrines certain rights known as Fundamental Rights. These are classified under the following heads

- (i) Right to Equality (Art 14 – Art 18),
- (ii) Right to Freedom (Art 19 – Art 22),

- (iii) Right against Exploitation (Art 23 – Art 24),
- (iv) Right to freedom of religion (Art 25 – Art 28),
- (v) Cultural and Educational Rights (Art 29 – Art 30) and
- (vi) Right to Constitutional Remedies (Art 32).

Right to equality

The State should ensure that every person is equal before law and all are equally protected by law. In order to establish equality the constitution enshrines the following rights. (i) Non-discrimination among citizens (Art 15), (ii) equality of opportunity for all in matters of Public appointment (Art 16), (iii) abolition of untouchability (Art 17) and (iv) abolition of all titles except military and academic distinctions (Art 18).



Right to freedom

Article 19 of our Constitution guarantees 'Six freedoms' to all its citizens.

- (i) Freedom of speech and expression
- (ii) Freedom to assemble peacefully without arms.

- (iii) Freedom to form associations or unions.
- (iv) Freedom of movement throughout the territory of India.
- (v) Freedom to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India and
- (vi) Freedom to practice any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade or business.

Article 20 of the Constitution prohibits arbitrary imprisonment of any person. No person shall be prosecuted and punished for the same crime more than once. No one compelled to give a self-incriminating evidence.

Article 21 of the Constitution establishes the right of life and personal liberty to all people. Nobody shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.

Articles 22 of the Constitution prohibits the State from arbitrarily arresting any person. This article provides safeguards to people from arbitrary arrest. People who are arrested shall have the right to be informed about the reasons for the arrest (ii) to consult a legal practitioner (ii) to be produced before a magistrate within twenty four hours of arrest.

Right against exploitation

Article 23 of the Indian constitution prohibits traffic in human beings and forced labour system. This article prohibits slavery, traffic in women or children or crippled persons of immoral purposes like prostitution or begging.

Article 24 prohibits any child below the age of fourteen from working in dangerous and hazardous employment.

Right to freedom of religion

Indian constitution observes an attitude of neutrality and impartiality



towards all religions. Since India is a secular state, there is no official religion for the state.

Article 25 of the Constitution ensures freedom of conscience, and freedom to process, practice and propagate religion of ones choice.

Article 26 of the Constitution guarantees the right to establish and maintain institutions for religious or charitable purposes.

Article 27 of the Constitution guarantees the citizen the freedom from payment of taxes for the promotion or maintenance of any particular religion.

Article 28 of the constitution no religious instruction shall be provided in any educational institution would be maintained out of state funds.

Cultural and educational rights

Article 29 of the Constitution protects the right of minorities to safeguard their distinct language, script or culture.

Article 32 of the constitution grants the right to move the Supreme court by appropriate writ for enforcement of right conferred by the constitution. The Supreme Court or High court has the power to issue writs or orders in, the nature on 'habeas corpus', 'mandamus', 'prohibition', 'certiorari', and 'quo warranto' whichever may be appropriate.

Activity

Find out meaning of the following words – Habeas Curries ...

Right education Guaranteed under Act 21A

The Right to Education Act of 2009 guarantees free and compulsory education to children of the age of 6 – 14 years.

Fundamental Duties

Part IV A of the constitution in Art 51 A enshrines the fundamental duties for all Indian citizens. This part has been inserted by the 42nd Amendment Act 1976. An Indian citizen should

- (i) Respect the constitution, National Flag or National Anthem.
- (ii) Cherish and follow noble ideals that inspired our national struggle.
- (iii) Protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India.
- (iv) Defend the country.
- (v) Promote the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India.
- (vi) Preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture.



- (vii) Protect and improve the natural environment.
- (viii) Develop the scientific temper and spirit of enquiry.
- (ix) Safeguard public property.
- (x) Strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity.
- (xi) The parent or the guardian should provide opportunities to educate the ward.

(iii) raise the level of nutrition and improve public health (iv) secure equal distribution of wealth and means of production (v) endeavor to promote international peace and amity.

Directives shaping the policy of the states

The policies of the state shall (i) secure economic rights (ii) secure uniform civil code (iii) provide free and compulsory primary education (iv) prohibit consumption of liquor and intoxication drugs (v) develop cottage industries (vi) organize agriculture and animal husbandry on modern lines (vii) prevent slaughter of useful cattle (viii) organize village panchayats as units of self government (ix) promote educational and economic interests of weaker sections (x) protect and improve the environment (xi) protect and maintain places of historic interest. (xii) to separate judiciary from the executive.

Non Justifiable rights of citizens

(I) Right to adequate means of livelihood (ii) Right of both sexes to equal pay for equal work (iii) right against economic exploitation (iv) right of children and the young to be protected against exploitation (v) right to equal opportunity for justice and free legal aid (vi) right to work (vii) right to public assistance for old age, sick to humane conditions of work and maternity relief (ix) right to decent standard of life for workers (x) right of workers to participate in management of industries (xi) right of children to free and compulsory education.

These principles are just directives to the government which the government has to strive to follow. These principles are not enforceable by legal interventions.

Directive Principles of state policy

The Constitution of India provides certain directives to the government. These directives are known as the 'Directive Principles'. These are enshrined in Part IV of the constitution from Article 36 to Article 51.

These principles strive to create a frame work of socio-economic ideals through which a welfare state can be formed. Most of these directives aim at the establishment of the economic and social democracy pledged for in the preamble. These principles cover a wide range of state activities and lay down objectives in social, economic, legal, educational, administrative, cultural and international fields. The state is required to uphold these directives in their policies and programmes. These principles can be classified under three headings (i) Directives in the nature of ideals of the state (ii) Directives shaping the policy of the state (ii) non justifiable rights of citizens.

Directives in the nature on ideals of the state

The state shall (i) secure social, economic and political justice (ii) secure just and human conditions of work and a decent standard of living

EXERCSE**I) Choose the correct answer.**

1. The _____ amendment of the constitution enumerates the fundamental duties of the citizen.
a) 42 b) 45 c) 48 d) 52
2. The fundamental rights are classified under _____ heads.
a) Eight b) five c) six d) seven
3. India is a _____ state.
a) Secular b) Non-secular c) Hindu d) Christian
4. Article _____ of the constitution grants rights to minorities to establish educational institutions.
a) 40 b) 30 c) 50 d) 60
5. Article 19 of our constitution guarantees _____ freedoms' to all citizens.
a) Seven b) nine c) six d) five

II) Answer briefly.

- 1) Write a short note on Fundamental Rights?
- 2) What is the Freedom of Religion?
- 3) What is known as Directive principles?
- 4) Write a note on 'writ'

III) Answer in a paragraph.

- 1) Explain the Fundamental Duties as enshrined in our constitution.
- 2) Describe the Directive principles of state policy?

FORMATIVE ASSESSEMENT

1. Collect articles from the newspapers to show how the Fundamental Rights of the citizens have been violated or protected.
2. Have a discussion on the topic "Rights and duties of a citizen are two sides of the same coin".

CIVICS

1. CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL ISSUES OF TAMIL NADU

Social Inequality

Social divisions exist in every country. But India's caste system is a unique one. Here social status, responsibilities, socio religious privileges and occupational positions have been determined by birth. Such birth-based social divisions are the basis of social inequalities and social injustice. Large sections of the society, mostly doing manual work, had been termed as Sudras and Panchamas. These people were deprived of education, government jobs, right to temple entry, property and usage of public paths and water sheds; such a system resulted in exploitation of majority of people by the people of higher castes.

In Tamilnadu, the chaturvarna based caste system was not popular in the Sangam age. In the post Kalabhras age especially during the days of Pallavas, Imperial Cholas and Imperial Pandiyas, Brahmins gained ascendancy in the social order. They were able to attract the monarchs towards the Vedic yagnas and Smritis and gradually influenced the royal houses to accept and adopt the Varna system. Due to the Bakthi movement, the temple system became a major socio political economic factor. The Brahmins by invoking "Agamas" captured the priesthood in the rich temples. Already as scholars in Vedas and the Smritis they received fertile villages as endowments. Temples, formal education, high offices and property rights were denied to the hardworking tillers and artisans. All of them were categorised as Sudras and the landless labour were denigrated as

Panchamas. Thus the masses of Tamilnadu were deprived of rights, property, education, office and social status for thousands of years leading to their deplorable backward conditions in the modern times.

Untouchability is an extension of the caste system. Sudras were also subjected to untouchability. Inspite of Constitutional prohibitions on untouchability and inhuman treatments even now the scheduled communities (Dalits) continue to suffer from denial of basic rights resulting not only in inequality and deprivation but also humiliation in extreme forms.

The Brahmin monopoly in higher education and in government services and cornering of public institutions and facilities by them prompted the non-Brahmins to launch a Non Brahmin movement. By 1912, **C.Natesa Mudaliar** ran a "Dravidian Hostel" for non-Brahmin students in Madras. **Pitty Thiagaraya Chetty** and **Dr.T.M Nair** organised a socio political movement



Dr.T.M Nair



Dr.Muthulakshmi Reddy

(South Indian liberal Federation), popularly known as the Justice party to secure constitutional safeguards for the non-Brahmins that party headed the first diarchy government at Madras for 16 years (1921-37).

During that period they brought out the “Communal G.O” assigning government jobs to different communities on the basis of their strength in population. By removing the “Sanskrit Compulsory” clause they enabled non-Brahmins to enter medical colleges.

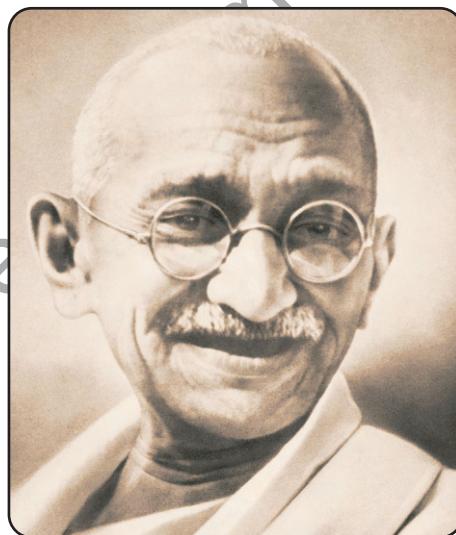
The monopolistic Brahmins exploitation of rich temples was restrained by **Hindu religious Endowment Act**. The **Devadasi system** was abolished in which **Dr.Muthulakshmi Reddy**, the first women doctor, played the key role. By invoking Panchami land act, lands were distributed to the scheduled communities. To improve the condition of landless labour, **Mirasdari system** was abolished. For the first time in India women were enfranchised in the Madras Presidency. The Justice Party administration of Madras city introduced a mid day meal scheme at

Chindadripet School to ensure uninterrupted education for poorer children. Positive industrial regulations and encouragement to industries in the form of industrial estates also go to the credit of the Justice Movement.

Caste system

Caste reforms and castless social order

A progressive liberal society requires the negation of caste system and its offshoots. There were movements which wanted to reform the caste system.



Mahatma Gandhi

The “Sanadhanists” including Mahatma Gandhi favoured only the

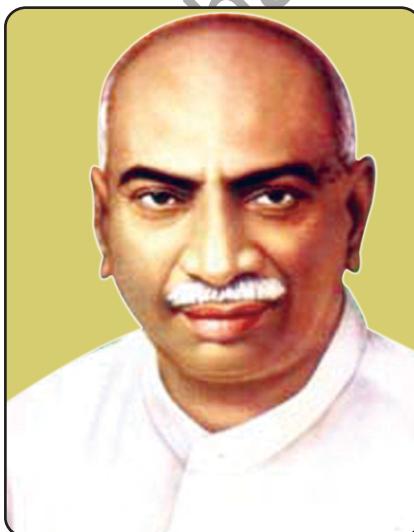


Ramalinga Adigalar

abolition of untouchability, but justified the Varna system. Dayanand Saraswati (Arya samaj) rejected caste but justified Varna system. The Siddhas and Ramalinga Vallalar and Vaikuntasamy in Tamilnadu disapproved caste system in to Mahatma Phule and Sahu Maharaj in Maharashtra, Narayana Guru in Kerala, Ayothidas Pandithar in Tamilnadu condemned both Varna and caste.

Reserving certain number of seats in the legislature of the diarchy government at Madras was the first step towards this direction, and the Communal G.O ensuring proportional representation to all social segments was another major step towards that goal. While the reformers were content with temple entry acts, the opponents of caste order strived for equal footing for all especially the depressed and deprived classes in all fields.

In the post independence Tamil Nadu, the judicial verdict against reservation for backward and depressed communities in educational institutions became a major challenge to efforts for social justice.



K. Kamarajar



C.N. Annadurai

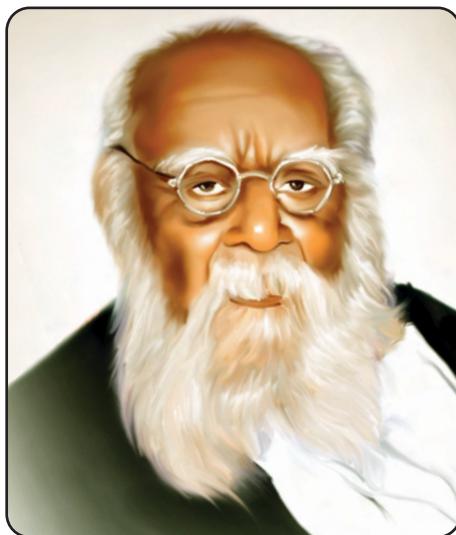
Periyar. E.V.R launched a vigorous struggle against this verdict. Kamaraj of the Congress party and C.N. Annadurai of DMK extended support to the demand of Periyar.

Ultimately Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru brought forward the first amendment to the fundamental rights enabling the states to implement social reservation policies. Now the reservation system in Tamil Nadu is improved and more elaborate with 18 percent reservation for SC, 1 percent for ST, 20 percent for MBC and 30 percent for other backward communities. Further inner reservation is provided for Arunthathiyan, backward Muslims, and adequate reservation for women in local bodies and full reservation for women in certain categories of jobs are also provided.

Thanthai Periyar

E.V.Ramasamy(EVR) was a strong crusader against caste system. He took a leading part in the Vaikkam Satyagraha (1924) which was meant for securing equal rights for Sudras and Panchamas in using the public path. His struggle against Cheremadevi Gurukulam was against caste

discriminations in educational institutions. E.V. Ramasamy opposed the Varnashrama followed in the VVS.Iyer's Cheranmadai's gurukulam. He, as a leader of the Congress party argued for proportional representation for all social divisions in political bodies and in administrative spheres.



E.V. Ramasamy

His Self respect movement was meant to liberate the Sudras and panchamas from socio cultural religious slavery and to redeem women to equal status. Its aim was to liberate the Dravidians from Brahminical order and to expose its tyranny and deceptive methods by which they controlled all spheres of Hindu life, he denounced the caste system and encouraged Inter caste marriages and Self respect Marriage. He himself conducted many marriages without any rituals. He emphasised rationalism and humanism as the basis for social change. He founded the Tamil journals Kudiarasu, Puratchi, Viduthalai and an English journal Revolt to propagate his ideas. He condemned the laws of Manu which he called the basis of the entire Hindu social fabric of caste. His struggles to secure reservation of seats

for deprived caste in educational institutions and priesthood rights to all castes have been revolutionary ones. His crusade for women rights earned for him the title "**PERIYAR**".

The constitution of India with its intensive democratic ideas does not recognise the caste system and specifically forbids discrimination against untouchables. Great thinkers and leaders of India right from the days of Buddha and Mahaveera to Mahatma Jyotiba Phule, Ramalinga Vallalar, Periyar and Dr.Ambedkar denounced the caste and urged for a progress towards casteless society. The major task of today is the bridging of social gaps, by special measures which include encouragement and protection to trans-caste marriages, removal of social disabilities and measures to overcome religious, social, cultural and economic backwardness; all these require a change in the mindset of the people. Fraternal feelings should replace caste consciousness.



Dr.B.R Ambedkar

Proper education plays an important role to uplift the under privileged and to bring about equality

among various social groups. The Grant in aid system introduced by the British government in the 19th century instituting more schools in rural areas, the midday meal scheme introduced by kamaraj government and improving the same into the Nutritious Noon Meal scheme by MGR government, abolition of tuition fees upto graduate level and special considerations for first generation learners and such measures meant to uplift the socially backward classes. The 'Equitable education' schemes are also meant to promote social equity.

Untouchability

Untouchability in India is worse than slavery and 'Apartheid'. Until the advent of the British rule and during the British rule the untouchables were treated as outcastes (i.e. beyond the Hindu fold). They were not only untouchables but also unseeables, unapproachables, and they had no right to education, to residence in general villages and towns, to use public path and watersheds, to enter temples, to own land, to do official work or to seek justice in the court of law. Their women were not even allowed to cover their upper parts of the bodies, or wear sandals use umbrellas and were not permitted to have civilised names. Even in the early 20th century Panchamas and sometimes even Sudras were not allowed to use the public transport and public restaurants. In short they were not even treated as humans. During the colonial period, especially in the second half of the 19th century and in the first half of the 20th century voices were raised against this inhuman tradition. Demands for equal opportunities in education, employment religious rights, social status, and economic opportunities

arose in different parts of India. In the 19th century due to the 'Sanar rebellion' in the southern districts and also due to the British government's intervention lower caste women including the untouchable women secured the right to wear 'blouse'. The temple entry attempts by Nadars were ruthlessly suppressed in the 19th century. The British government and Christian missionaries were sympathetic to the cause of untouchables. A considerable number embraced Christianity. The prospect of large scale conversions opened the eyes of benevolent Hindu leaders like Dayanand Saraswati, G.Subramaniya Iyer and Mahatma Gandhi who began to focus on removal of untouchability. Gandhi accepted them as Hindus and named them 'Harijans' (Children of God').

Gandhi ran a journal '**Harijan**' and brought forward Harijan upliftment programmes within the Congress. He also evinced interest in Temple entry programmes.

In Tamilnadu Ayothidasa Pandithar suggested conversions to Buddhism. However Periyar in Tamilnadu, and Dr.B.R Ambedkar at all India level were the effective contributors in bringing up the scheduled communities on par with other communities. Due to Ambedkar's efforts, untouchability, denial of public places, and humiliation were declared crimes in our Republican constitution. In 1938, the first Congress party ministry led by Rajaji introduced legislation facilitating entry of 'harijans' into Hindu temples. Madurai Vaidyanatha Aiyan and Muthuramalinga Thevar were actively involved in securing temple entry rights to scheduled communities in Madurai Meenakshi temple. The Tamilnadu

Archaka Act of 2006 enables non Brahmins including Sudras and Panchamas to enter into temple services as Archakas. Now there is no constitutional protection to caste system and untouchability. Reservations in education, political and administrative bodies have constitutional protections. Much is yet to be done to change the mindset of the people who are blindly subscribing to unhealthy and inhuman caste prejudices especially in remote villages. Formal and informal education will help to enlighten the people to overcome caste based prejudices, so that a healthy fraternal feeling can be strengthened and social integration and peace can be achieved.

Child labour

According to the Committee on Child labour (1978-79) "child labour can be broadly be defined as that segment of the child population which participates in work either paid or unpaid".



Child labour

Child labour means a working child who is between 6 and 15 years of age, not attending school during the day, and working under a employer or learning some trade as an apprentice. The term "child labour is commonly interpreted in different ways: first, as an economic practice and second, as a

social evil. There is a general opinion that India has the largest child labour force in the world.

Areas of child labour

A child may be found employed in many different kinds of activities to earn his/her livelihood. He/She may be employed forcibly or voluntarily, in an organized sector or in an unorganized sector. The commonplaces of employment may be carpet weaving, match factories, fireworks, beedi works, restaurants, auto garages, quarries, household work, rag picking, cultural traditional begging etc.,

Causes of Child Labour

There is no single factor responsible for Child labour. Poverty seems to be one of the most explicit reasons.

Child Labour is no longer legally permissible. Poverty of parents, or Parental neglect leads children to seek employment. Inadequate income of the parents does not fulfil the minimum requirement of the children which in most of the cases induce the children to enter into the jobs market, by foregoing their education.

Poverty is most often supplemented by other socio-cultural factors to expose the child to manual jobs. Due to high degree of illiteracy and ignorance of the parents, the children are deprived of getting proper counselling for building up their future career. The greedy employers lure such poor, neglected, and ignorant children to their factories, hotels and other work places by promising them food and paltry wages. The child labour becomes a convenient tool for employers to evade adequate wages to employees, and to evade all laws on

labour protection. The tendency to employ child labour for hazardous works, for low wages and without required service conditions has serious socio,economicandculturalimplications. Health hazards of the working children, the adverse impact on physical and mental development, and treating them almost like bonded labour are the serious human issues that cannot be ignored by a civilised society.

Impact of Child Labour

It is said in general terms that physical labour has an adverse tremendous impact on the growth of the child. The socio –psychological studies have portrayed the real magnitude of the problem. Labour has its impact on the physical development, psyche, general condition and morality of a child. Physical labour and consequent work pressure make the child weak at times. The use of children as a source of labour force, raises many other questions with regard to demographic and economic implications. Among other implications child labour causes adult unemployment, low productivity and inefficient utilization of manpower with economic loss to the society.

Government efforts against Child Labour

Legislation has vital role to play in combating hazardous child labour. Article 24 of the Indian constitution mentions explicitly that no child below

the age of 14 shall be employed to work in any factory or mine or engaged in any h a z a r d o u s e m p l o y m e n t .

Besides these constitutional provisions, at least 13 major legislative enactments for children have been made. Factories Act of 1948, Mines Act of 1952, Plantation Labour Act of 1951, Merchant Ship Act of 1950, Motor Transport workers Act of 1961,Employment of Children Act of 1938 were brought in different states. Free and compulsory primary education, midday meal schemes, and other incentives are meant to reduce the avenues of child labour.

NGO's Role

Here it is worth mentioning that child labour cannot be abolished by mere legislations alone, creating public awareness, and organising campaigns for compulsory primary education, improving social protective measures for poorer families, and effective social monitoring to detect child labour are to be carried out. In this NGO's can play a vital role. Most of the measures adopted by the government to eradicate child labour have not yielded the expected results due to public non-participation. The role of non-governmental organizations is expected to be of immense help. The effectiveness of the NGO is attributed to two major factors. First its workers do not belong to the government department, they are more acceptable to the people as these people had an aversion towards government officials. Secondly since the workers of the NGOs operate at the grass- root levels, they constitute the strongest source of motivating the people by their personal interest and involvement with the problems that the people face in their d a y t o d a y a c t i v i t i e s .



Conference on Child Labour

Unorganized Labour

In recent years there has been a growing awareness of the pathetic conditions of the unorganized labour. The unorganized labour has no clear-cut employer-employee relationships and have been beyond the reach of labour protection acts and social welfare measures.



unorganized labour

The unorganized sector workers include agricultural labourers, small and marginal farmers, forest workers, fisher folk, beedi rollers, garment makers, construction workers, rag pickers etc. Having no fixed employer and no labour protective arrangements these workers attempt to earn a living from whatever meagre assets and skills they possess. Unorganised women labour is another social issue, In fact women constitute the majority in unorganized labour. Now attempts are being made to improve the service conditions of the domestic help; balawadis, anganwadis are being promoted to take care of the children of unorganized women labour.

Migrant Labour

India is a vast country with high percentage of uneducated, unemployed and unskilled labour suffering from acute poverty. Regional



Migrant Labour

imbalances add to their problem. Many of them are unable to find means of livelihood within their habitat. Frequent droughts, famines and other calamities force these poorest sections to migrate. These sections of people are constantly on the move seeking avenues of manual work. Such migrants are mostly employed by contractors in road works, quarry and brick works, mining works, clearing forests and in many hazardous works. A few of them become domestic help, and some became menials in hotels and other establishments. As migrant labour, there is no protection to their person, no guarantee of a fair wage. They are forced to live in unhygienic transit slums without clean water and nutritious food. There is no guarantee for health care and no provision for care and education of their children.

Migrant labour, means, the labour who goes on moving from place to place seeking manual employment on temporary basis. They are constantly exploited by contractors. As they work in regions of different languages it becomes very difficult to become organised and to articulate on their needs and to demand and secure necessary remedies. It is a fact that the ration cards and benefits of public distribution systems are inaccessible to them. In fact, most of the migrant labour are treated almost like bonded labour.

In a globalised economic order, Tamilnadu is making remarkable progress in infrastructure expansion. Wider highways, huge buildings for industries, business and institutions are coming up fast, however the conditions of the human labour involved in the expanding economy cannot be ignored. More than half of the labour involved in these developmental activities are migrant labour. Now the government and the nongovernmental organisations are awakened to the miserable conditions of the migrant labour. Attempts are being made to ensure proper working condition, fair wage, adequate living condition, and to provide avenues of social security including education to their children. But more is yet to be done.

Transgender Evolution of the term Transgender



The term transgender (TG) was popularized in the 1970's describing people who wanted to live cross gender without sex reassignment surgery. In the 1980's the term was expanded to an umbrella term, and become popular as a means of uniting all those for whom no gender could be assigned at birth.

Government Policies towards Transgender in Tamilnadu

Tamilnadu became the first state in the country to recognize transgender as a separate gender and issue ration cards to them. The application for a new passport now has three options in gender- M, F and E(for Eunuch).

A Matrimonial website for Trans Community

Members of the transgender community in Chennai launched the world's first matrimonial website for their clan. Thirunangai.net is a matrimonial website for Tamil trans women. Trans women by birth are not physically women but by soul and heart, they consider themselves women. Later in their journey to completeness, they had gone through innumerable struggles and only those who are courageous succeed.

Transsexuals model villages in south Indian state

In a unique first of its kind move in India, the Cuddalore district administration in the southern state of Tamilnadu has proposed to establish model villages to rehabilitate members of the transgender community. Tamilnadu is the only state in India that has given a gender status to transsexuals.

The model villages planned in Cuddalore, Panruti and Chidambaram regions of Tamilnadu will help reallocate members of the transgender community and begin hassle-free implementation of several welfare schemes by the state government under the newly established welfare board of transsexuals. The district administration has identified a two acre site in Cuddalore and according to the Revenue Divisional officer (RDO), the

transsexuals would be provided with three cent house sites (about 308 square feet) and loans would be arranged for construction of houses. Once the beneficiaries move into the proposed villages all other basic requirements right from the ration cards, voter identity cards and medical care would be provided for them.

Education

The State Government has issued an order, providing for admission of transgenders into government colleges. This is probably the first instance where a third gender category was created for giving admission to transgender in government colleges and the G.O., was passed by the State Higher Education Department. In an effort to broaden employment opportunities for transgender people, the Tamilnadu government offers computer training.

Conclusion

The Preamble of the constitution and the Directive Principles envisage measures towards a just social order and fair distribution of wealth and opportunities.

Thousands of years of discriminatory orders, alien rule, ignorance and superstitions caused irrational inequalities in the Indian and Tamil society. Political freedom should lead us socio-economic freedoms too. Here freedom, means, freedom from inequalities and exploitations. The Government of India and the Government of Tamilnadu have brought forward several schemes to promote social and economic justice. The non-governmental organisations and the general public, including the enlightened students have to support and supplement these measures.

EXERCISE

I) Choose the correct answer.

- 1) The Dravidan Hostel for Non Brahmin students was run by _____.
 a) Pitty Thiyagaraya Chetty b) Dr. Ambedkar
 c) Dr.Natesa Mudaliar d) Dr. T.M. Nair
- 2) Dr. Muthu Lakshmi abolished _____.
 a) Caste system b) Mirasdari system
 c) Devadasi system d) Non – Braminial movement
- 3) Self Respect movement was led by _____.
 a) K.Kamaraj b) C.N.Annadurai c) Periyar d) Dr.T.M Nair
- 4) First amendment to the Fundamental rights for social reservation policies to the state was brought by _____.
 a) V.V. Subramaniya Iyer b) Mahatma Gandhi
 c) Dr.Muthu Lakshmi d) Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru

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CIVICS

1. INDIA AND WORLD PEACE

India was a dependent country till August 15, 1947. So it could not play any important role in the world affairs. After its Independence, it has been taking an active and independent part in the world affairs. Within a short period, India had won a great name for itself in the Modern World. India, is a country with an unbounded faith in peace. It declared her determination to pursue the path of peace and take effective measures for the promotion of international peace, security and co-operation.



world peace

Promoter of world peace

India played a great role in settling many world disputes and thereby maintained peace and security. In Korea and in Indo-China peace has been established by the great efforts of India. Similarly when Israel, England and France attacked Egypt, there was a danger of a World War. But due to timely intervention of India, the war was averted.

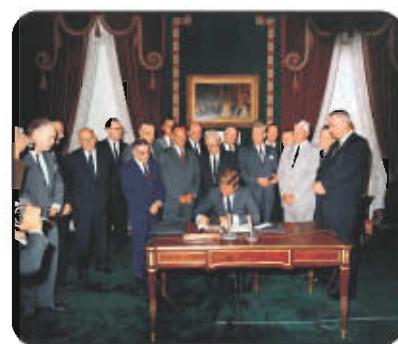
Pancha sheel

India is called by the name of 'A Great Peace Maker'. In 1955 at the Bandung conference Jawaharlal Nehru the Prime Minister of India declared the five principles of peace. It was known as 'Pancha sheel'.

1. Each country should respect the territorial integrity and sovereignty of others.
2. No country should attack any other country.
3. No one should try to interfere in the internal affairs of others.
4. All country shall strive for equality and mutual benefit.
5. Every country should try to follow the policy of peaceful coexistence.

These Pancha sheel greatly added to the international status of India.

Dis-Armament and Nuclear Weapons



Nuclear Test Ban Treaty

Economic development of the nations can be achieved only through world peace. World peace is essential not only for the economic development of India but also for all the developing countries of the world.

Some Countries of the world have invented such dangerous weapons like the Atom Bomb, Hydrogen Bomb etc. If no restrictions are imposed on them, the Modern World would be wiped out. India is very much against the production of such Nuclear weapons and began to condemn it throughout the World. India is the first nation to bring a resolution in the UN General Assembly in favour of disarmament in 1956. It took a great part in signing Nuclear Test Ban Treaty in 1963.

Policy of Non-alignment

After second world war the world was divided into two hostile blocs - the American Bloc and the Russian Bloc and both of them trying to increase their influence at the cost of the other. But India has not joined either of these two blocs. Whenever any difference arises between these blocs, India tries to remove that difference thereby contributing substantially towards the World Peace.

A Great Helper

India is basically against Colonization and wants to see all the countries of the world free from the foreign domination. It played a great role in freeing Indonesia from the domination of Holland. In the same way it has supported the Freedom movements started by Egypt, Sudan, Indo-China, Ghana, Morocco and Bangladesh.

Against Military Alliances

The modern countries of the world are busy in making military alliances and counter alliances. At present there are many pacts like NATO, SEATO, CENTO, Baghdad and Warsaw etc. But India kept away from such military

pacts and also vehemently condemned these pacts.

India – a dead enemy of oppression and Injustice

When France acted as an aggressor against Algiers, England against Cyprus and Russia against Hungary, India condemned them.

Similarly India voted in favour of China becoming the member of UNO. So that India acted against the injustice.

A Great Supporter of the UNO

India has rendered whole-hearted support to the United Nations to bring World Peace and making the policies of the UNO a great success. It tried to solve many problems by giving full support to UNO.

Ending of Apartheid

Apartheid – Policy of racial discrimination followed in South Africa.

The recognition of sovereign equality of all people living in various parts of the world is the fundamental factor in India's foreign policy.



Nelson Mandela

In South Africa the whites, did not give equal rights to the native Africans. India had raised this issue for the first time in the UN General Assembly in 1946. It was due to the constant moral support of India and the continuous struggle of Dr. Nelson Mandela, the

policy of Apartheid has been abolished in 1990.

Dr. Nelson Mandela

Leader of African National Congress. Mandela fought against all traces of racial injustice in South Africa including laws denying the Africans the Right to vote. He was imprisoned for 27 years. Later he became the President of the Republic of South Africa in 1994.

Regional Co-operation

India took the initiative to form **SAARC** to maintain peace in the regional level. (**The South Asian Association for Regional co-operation**). The member countries are Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Srilanka. SAARC'S first meeting was held at Dacca in Bangladesh on 7th December, 1985. Asan of Bangladesh was the first secretary general of SAARC. On 3rd April 2007 the SAARC annual summit which was held at New Delhi with Afghan President Hamid Karzi, Afghanistan became its 8th member

16th SAARC summit took place on 28th and 29th of April 2010 at Thimpu, the capital of Bhutan.

The SAARC countries identified mutual co-operation in the following areas, transportation, postal service, tourism, shipping, meteorology, health, agriculture, rural reconstruction and telecommunication.

Cordial Relationship with Neighbouring Countries

India and Pakistan

In spite of past conflicts both India and Pakistan are trying to come closer. The Delhi – Lahore bus service was launched on March 16th 1999 to bring

the people of the two countries closer. Negotiations for setting up Iran –Pakistan–India gas pipeline are taking place.



Wagha Border

India and China

When China became republic in 1949, India was the first country to recognize it. Both the countries have successfully attempted to restore the economic lines. China has formally declared that she will back India's claim for becoming a permanent member of United Nation's Security Council.

India and Srilanka

Srilanka is a Buddhist country. The Mauryan emperor Ashoka spread Buddhism there by sending his son and daughter. We have good trade relation with Srilanka. India always support Srilanka on just and reasonable grounds. The relationship between India and Srilanka is very smooth. It will be continued for ever.

India and Bangladesh

It is due to the effort and support of Smt. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India, Bangladesh got freedom from Pakistan in 1971. In 1972, a 25 years treaty of friendship, Co-operation and peace was signed in Dacca by India and Bangladesh.

The Farakka Barrage issue regarding the distribution of Ganga water was settled amicably. India is a very good friend of Bangladesh. Our friendship with Bangladesh will go on for ever.

Suez Canal

In 1956, Nasser, the President of Egypt nationalised Suez Canal. France, Britain and Israel opposed it and tried to capture Egypt. Due to the timely intervention of India the war was averted and peace was restored.



Suez Canal

Congo

In the South African country, Congo, civil war broke out in 1960. The task of bringing peace was given to India by UNO. India restored peace in Congo by sending peace keeping force under the Brigadier K.A.S. Raja.

Cyprus

During the civil war in Cyprus between Orthodox Christians and Turkish Muslims, UNO sent its peace keeping force under Timmaia, the Indian Commander in Chief. It is due to his hard and firm effort, peace was restored in the island.

India got its independence through Non-violence and Ahimsa under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. Even after independence India is working hard to ensure peace and stability among the countries of the world.

EXERCISE

I) Choose the correct answer.

1. India is a country with an unbounded faith in
 - a) War
 - b) Peace
 - c) Love
 - d) Enmity
2. Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru's five principles of peace are named as
 - a) Swadeshi
 - b) New Deal
 - c) Pancha sheel
 - d) Apartheid
3. Nuclear Test Ban Treaty was signed in
 - a) 1963
 - b) 1993
 - c) 1936
 - d) 1998
4. India brought a resolution in the UN General Assembly in favour of disarmament in
 - a) 1965
 - b) 1956
 - c) 1995
 - d) 1976
5. Apartheid was abolished in
 - a) 1990
 - b) 1991
 - c) 1890
 - d) 1989
6. The first Secretary General of SAARC was
 - a) Jinnah
 - b) Ashan
 - c) Kofi Annan
 - d) Gandhiji

II) Answer the following in brief.

1. Mention the important aspects of India's policy for promoting peace.
2. Why is world peace an essential one?
3. What are the five principles of the Pancha sheel?
4. Write a note on the policy of Apartheid.
5. Name the areas identified by the SAARC Countries for mutual Co-operation.
6. India has rendered whole hearted support to the UNO –Justify.

III) Answer the following in a paragraph.

1. Write a paragraph about Pancha sheel and the policy of Non-Alignment .
2. Write a short note on SAARC.

2. Democracy

Democracy is the most popular form of government in modern times. But the transition from autocracy to democracy has not been simple. Many struggles have shaped this transition. The phenomenal rise of democracy has not been overnight. Many great revolutions took place before the people got the rights to exercise their power.

Meaning of Democracy

Democracy means many things to many people. The term Democracy was first used by **Herodotus** nearly 2500 years ago. Democracy is a term derived from two the Greek words "Demos" and "Cratia".

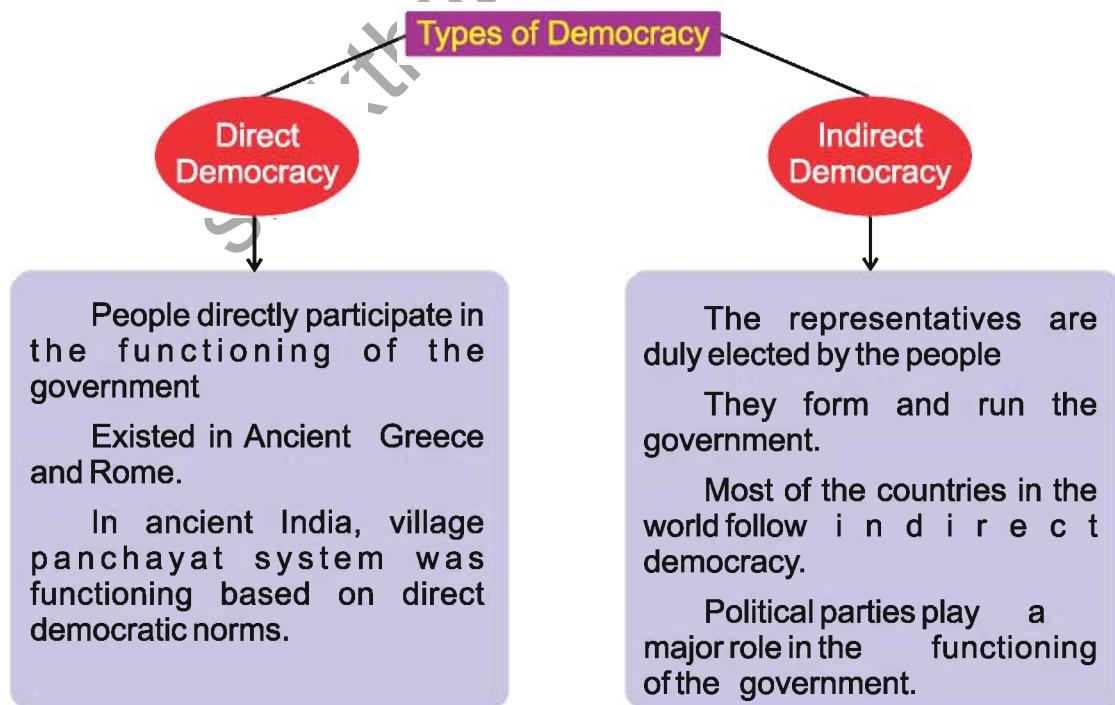
Demo - The People.

Cratia - The power or rule.

So Democracy means the power of the people. In short, democracy may be described as a system of government under which people exercise the governing power either directly or through representatives periodically elected by themselves. According to Abraham Lincoln, '**Democracy is a government of the people, by the people and for the people**'. According to Prof. Seeley '**Democracy is a government in which everyone has a share**'.

Kinds of Democracy

Democracy can be classified into two **1)Direct Democracy and 2)Indirect Democracy**.



Merits

Democracy is the most popular government in modern world. It has various merits. It provided efficient government, guaranteed the rights of the people, provided equality, educate the people, promote national character, bring peaceful change of government, believes not in battle axe, but in ballot box. In democracy there is no place for rebellion and revolutions.

Demerits

It resulted the mob government. Democracy gave important not to quality. Most of the representatives elected by the people were ignorant, incompetent and inexperience. Democracy provided costly government. No importance for individual or minorities. It leads party government and create class wars.

Importance of Democracy

People have the freedom to choose their representatives. It ensures treating people with dignity. People are guaranteed fundamental rights like the right to life and liberty by the Constitution. In a Democracy all decisions are taken based on the majority. Democratic government should enhance public welfare. Principles of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity are the foundation of Democracy.

Political Parties

Party is a pre-requisite for democratic system of government. They provide smooth functioning of government because the majority party controls the government, while the opposition party would try to check the abuse of power by the ruling party. As the ruling party has a right to govern the state, the opposition party enjoy

the right to oppose the government, unearth its lapses and criticize the policies of the ruling party. A political party is an organized association of people who come together on a common platform with the objective of winning political power.

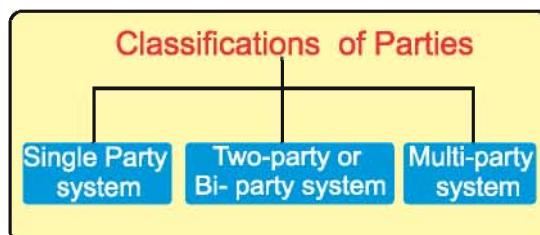
Functions of the Political Parties

The Political parties perform varied functions in a democratic polity. These functions are of immense value for stability as well as orderly functioning of the democratic system.

- Formulation of General policies.
- Contesting elections.
- Educating the masses.
- To conduct and criticize the government.
- Playing the role of an intermediary body between the government and the people.
- Integrative agency.

Classification of the Party System

The Political parties may be classified in to three kinds



Single Party System

In this system, only one party exists and it is officially recognized by the constitution and the people. It maintains and exercises political power without any opposition. It does not allow the existence of other parties within the state.

E.g.: China and Cuba.

Advantages of The Single Party Rule

- ✓ During the periods of emergency or external danger the one party rule could function more efficiently, independently and quickly to set matters right.
- ✓ Decisions could be taken quickly under the single party rule. Expenditure could also be controlled.
- ✓ It promotes greater national identity.

Disadvantages

- ✓ Deliberations could not take place at the national level in the single party system.
- ✓ Under the single party system sometimes political, fundamental rights and even ordinary freedom are denied to the people.
- ✓ If the single party government happens to be inefficient, the growth of the country and developmental activities will suffer.
- ✓ It paves way for totalitarianism and dictatorship.

Bi-Party System

In this system, there exist one ruling party and the other as the opposition. One party controls the government while the opposition effectively checks the government of its omissions and commissions.

Example:

1. **USA** (The Republican Party and the Democratic Party).
2. **England** (The Labour Party and the Conservative Party).

Advantages

Since there are only two parties it

is easy for the people to choose one of them.

The party in opposition makes the ruling party function effectively.

Disadvantages

In a Bi- Party system if both of them proved to be inefficient or bad there is no hope of electing a third party to power.

If both the parties come to an understanding with each other then people could be fooled. The mistakes of the parties as well as the corruption in the party could be hidden.

Multi-Party System

In this pattern there exist more than two political parties with contending ideologies and objectives. France and India come under this category.

Advantages

Since there are many parties each one will monitor the other and offer good plans to the people to capture the government.

New leaders who may come to power could give us fresh ideas and look at things in a different perspective to solve the problems.

Disadvantages

There is a possibility of the ruling party caring more for the welfare of the party members than the good of the common people.

There could be inability of the government on account of members deserting one party and joining the other.

On account of defection thereby, people might lose faith in the government leading to general deterioration in conduct and character.

Political Parties in India

Political parties in India are classified into two groups such as National parties and Regional parties

a) National Parties

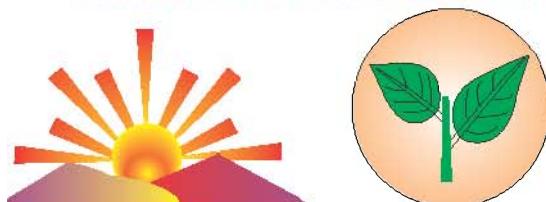
A party recognized by the Election Commission, that secures at least six percent of the total votes in Lok Sabha election in four or more states, then it is called National Party. Eg: Congress, BJP.



National Parties

Regional Parties

A party that secures at least six percent of the total votes in an election to the Legislative Assembly of a state and wins at least two seats is recognized as State or Regional party. Eg: DMK, AIADMK, DMDK, Telugu Desam



Regional Parties

Point out the National and Regional parties in our country.

Election

The success of democracy depends upon conducting periodical elections. It is only through election people judge the functioning of the ruling party and ignore corrupt politicians by not voting them. To ensure this, the democratic countries in the world follow **Universal Adult Franchise**. In India, all the citizens above the age of eighteen have been given the right to vote in elections. People above the age of 25 can contest in the elections.



Electronic Voting Machine

Types of Elections in India

In India, people elect their representatives through direct and indirect elections.

I) Direct Election

The citizens themselves elect the representatives through votes. Members of the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies are elected in this manner.

II) Indirect Election

The citizens do not directly take part in the election. The elected representatives are the voters here. The members of the Rajya Sabha, the President and Vice - President are elected in this manner.

By-Elections

By-elections held when an elected candidate from a constituency dies or resigns from the parliament or the state

legislatures. Under these circumstances elections will be held only in those constituencies. Such elections are called by-elections.

Mid-term polls

Some times it happens that the Parliament or the state legislatures do not function for the whole period of five years for various reasons. Then they are dissolved, elections are held. These elections are called the mid-term polls.

Role of opposition parties

The Success of the democracy depends to a great extend on the constructive role of the opposition parties. In every democracy all the parties cannot get majority seats all the time in the parliament. The parties which do not get majority seats are called opposition parties. The party which gets majority seats in the Lok Sabha next to the ruling party is called the recognised opposition party. The leader of the opposition party enjoys some privileges equivalent to that of a cabinet minister.

The work of the ruling party is very important. All the powers mentioned in the constitution are exercised by the ruling party. The opposition party also functions in an effective manner, and their work is no less important than that of the ruling parties.

To check the government from becoming authoritarian and to restrict its powers, the opposition parties keep a watch over them. The main duty of the opposition party is to criticize the policies of the government. Outside the legislature the opposition parties attract the attention of the press and report their criticism of the government policy in the news papers.

The opposition parties have the right to check the expenditure of the government also. During the question hour, the opposition parties criticize the government generally. The criticisms of these parties make the ruling party correct its actions. Thus the opposition parties try to restrain the government from abusing its power.

How does democracy help a Nation?



Election Voting

Constitution of India is based on the democratic principles. India has Parliamentary democracy. Constitution of India has provided two types of government. One at the Union (Central) level and other at the State level. The elected representatives of the parliament are known as **MPs (Member of Parliament)** and the body of the elected representatives at the state level are known as State Legislature (**MLA - Member of the Legislative Assembly**). Apart from this the Local Self Government also enjoys power in villages and towns.

The Election Commission

The Indian constitution has provided for an election commission to conduct elections, to elect the peoples 'representatives to the state legislatures' and the parliament. The election commission is an independent constitutional body. It is situated at New Delhi. It is also known as "Nirvachan sadan".

The election commission of India consist three member with Chief Election Commissioner and two other election commissioners. They are all appointed by the President of India. The election commissioners hold office for a term of six years. The status of election commissioner is equivalent to that of the Supreme Court judges.



Mention the name of the Chief election Commissioner of India.

The Chief Electoral Officer

Every state has a chief electoral officer. They are appointed by the president in consultation with the state government. The chief electoral officer is authorized to supervise the election work in the state.

Who is the present Chief Electoral Officer of Tamil Nadu?

Functions of the Election Commission

The election commission has the following important functions.

1. It gives recognition to the political parties.
2. It allots symbols for the parties as well as independent candidates who stand for the election.
3. It announces the dates of election and the dates on which the votes will be counted and the declaration of the final results.

Our country is the largest democratic country in the world with a large density of population. In spite of several hardships India had succeeded in preserving the democratic functioning in all spheres of life and government. For the effective functioning of democracy, all political parties, citizens should play a major role. More over, the citizens of our country should judiciously use their political rights i.e., the Right to Vote to make democracy more effective. We should not forget that it is our fundamental duty.

EXERCISE

I) Choose the correct answer.

1. The most popular form of Government in modern days
 - a) Monarchy
 - b) Oligarchy
 - c) Democracy
 - d) Hierarchy
2. Direct democracy existed in ancient
 - a) Greece
 - b) Italy
 - c) Sardinia
 - d) Cyprus
3. Telugu Desam is a
 - a) Regional Party
 - b) National Party
 - c) International Party
 - d) Cultural Party

4. If two parties exist in a country, it is called
 - a) Single party system b) Bi-party system
 - c) Multi party system d) Regional party system
5. The opposition party leader will be given the status of a
 - a) Cabinet Minister b) Deputy Minister
 - c) Minister of State d) Council of Ministers
6. To vote in an election a person should be above the age of
 - a) 21 b) 18 c) 25 d) 35
7. The body of the elected representative at the Central level is known as
 - a) Legislature b) Supreme Court
 - c) House of Common d) Parliament
8. The status of election commissioner is equivalent to that of the
 - a) High court judge b) Supreme court judge
 - c) District court judge d) Magistrate
9. The election process in the state level is supervised by
 - a) Chief Election Commissioner b) Chief Electoral officer
 - c) Supreme court judge d) High court judge
10. Election Commission of India is situated at
 - a) Chennai b) Mumbai c) Moradabad d) New Delhi

II. Answer the following in brief.

1. Give Abraham Lincoln's definition of Democracy.
2. What are National Parties?
3. What is a Political Party?
4. Mention the functions of the Political Parties.
5. Write the advantages of Single Party System.
6. Give a brief note on the functions of the Election Commission.
7. Name the Regional Parties of Tamil Nadu.

III. Answer the following in a paragraph.

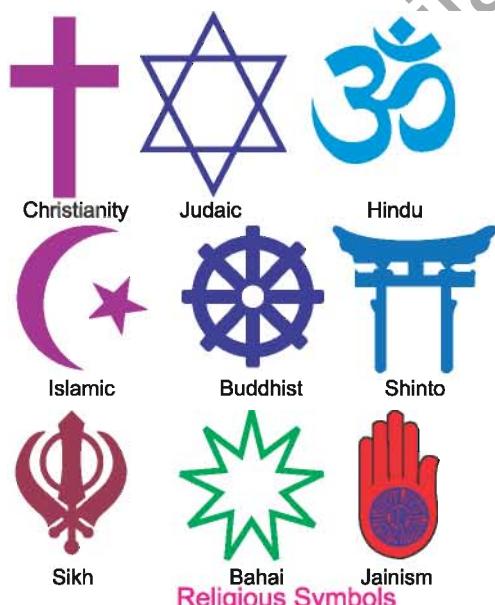
1. Explain the types and importance of democracy.
2. Mention the types of election and explain them.
3. Explain the role of Opposition Party in a democracy.

3. Unity in Diversity

India is a vast country with extreme diversity in geographical, religious linguistic, racial, cultural aspects. There are high mountains, low coastal plains, fertile plains, desert, evergreen forests, and dry scrub vegetation, variety of flora and fauna and cultures. In spite of diversities we maintain unity. The unity in diversity of India is because of our long history and rich heritage.

Religion

India has a population of more than hundred Crores made up of diverse ethnic groups, divided into number of castes, professing different religions, speaking hundreds of languages and dialects. It is this marvelous diversity of people in India which has made it both a museum and a laboratory for the study of man. Hence India is rightly called the "Museum of human race".



India is the birth place of many religions and has become the home of many others. Vedic religion (Hinduism) is an ancient religion of our country.

Christianity was first brought to India by St. Thomas, an apostle of Christ in the first century A.D. The Persians who were driven into India brought to us their religion Zoroastrianism. Muslim conquest of India brought Islam into the land. Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism had their origin in India. In spite of all the religious diversity we have developed a spirit of religious tolerance and never give room for religious fanaticism.

Language

People of India speak different languages like Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, Hindi, Urdu, Sanskrit, Gujarathi and Bengali, besides many foreign languages and dialects are spoken by its people.

Almost, in India about 845 languages are spoken. Out of these 22 are recognized by our Government. Hindi in Devanagari Script has been chosen as the official language of India. English is being used as the official link language. Language is the means of communication, now it has become an instrument of division rather than unity. If we realize all other languages are as good and special as our own language, they would become the instruments of growth, development and common brotherhood.

Literature

The growth of Indian languages led to Indian literature to reach its zenith. Sanskrit and other languages have helped the growth of thoughts and philosophy.

The Ramayana and Mahabharata are the two great epics of India. Thirukkural by Thiruvalluvar is the greatest literary work in Tamil. The Bhagavad-Gita is the holy book of Hindus. Umaruppulavar's Seerappuram tells the life history of Prophet Mohammad. Thembavani written by Veeramamunivar is related to Christianity.

Festivals

The Hindu festivals of Deepavali, Navarathri, Vinayaka Chatthurthi, Pongal, Chittirai Thiruvizha, Aadi Velli, and Vaikunta Ekadesi, Sri Rama Navami and Kumbamela are important festivals celebrated by all.



Deepavali

The Christians celebrate X-mas and New year day. The Muslims celebrate Meeladi-Nabi and the Ramzan. The Buddhist celebrate the Buddha poornima while the Jains celebrate Mahavir Jayanthi. The Sikhs celebrate Guru Nanak Jayanthi. In spite of all these different festivals celebrated by different people, and they advocate and practice religious

tolerance. Yet all the religious people believe that Godhood could be attained by devotion and tolerance.



Pongal

Our customs, Habits and Heritage

The Indian heritage advocates hospitality, charity, friendship, love, unselfishness, dharma, proper conduct, humility, truth, peace, mercy, spiritual feelings, respect for parents and elders and tolerance. All these help the Indian people live in unity forgetting their difference in other respects.

Art and Architecture



Statue of Buddha

Even from ancient days, India was famous for its architectural unique. Still they are growing to suit the modern tasks.

The paintings at Ajanta and Ellora are world famous. The Gandhara Art and Sculpture speaks the excellence of India's greatness in this field. Temple architecture is the best among Indian building architecture.

The North Indians go on a Pilgrimage to the South Indian temples, Churches and Dharkas In the same way the South Indians go on pilgrimage to the North Indian places like Kasi, Mathura, Haridwar and Rishikesh. Thus the Holy centres bring the unity among Indians.

Music and Dance

The Carnatic style and Hindustani style of music is originated in India which is loved and learned by many. Bharathanatiya, Kuchipudi, Kathak,



Bharathanatiyam

Manipuri and Oddissi are some of the famous dances in India. In addition to this there are various folk dances which are loved and patronized by the people. In many respects the rich and varied Indian Music and Dance play an important part in fostering unity and integration.

National integration

In spite of diversity in physical features, its influences on person's living, their varied habits, religious faiths, language, food and dress habits make the people look different but the heritage of India binds them together; Humanism, spiritual urge, brotherhood, friendship, love for all and religious tolerance make the Indians live in unity and harmony.

The feeling and thought that all are the sons of Bharath, all are Indians and brothers and sisters help towards the growth of National Integration along with national symbols. National flag, and National anthem. United we live, divided we fall is the spirit with which the Indians live and safeguard National Integration. This unity of India which we have achieved is basically the result of cultural heritage which has developed through the ages right from the days of the Indus culture.

EXERCISE

I) Choose the correct answer.

1. The ancient religion of our country is
 - a) Vedic religion(Hinduism)
 - b) Christianity
 - c) Islam
 - d) Zorastrianism

2. Recognised official languages of India
 - a) 25
 - b) 23
 - c) 22
 - d) 27

3. Language is, the means of
 - a) Transport
 - b) Irrigation
 - c) Communication
 - d) Spirituality
4. Thembavani is related to
 - a) Hinduism
 - b) Sikhism
 - c) Christianity
 - d) Islam
5. Buddha Poornima is celebrated by the
 - a) Hindus
 - b) Muslims
 - c) Jains
 - d) Buddhist
6. They play an important part in fostering unity and integration
 - a) Music and Dance
 - b) Art and Architecture
 - c) Food and Customs
 - d) Dress and Habits.

II) Answer the following in brief.

1. Why is India called the “Museum of human race”?
2. Name some of the religions of India.
3. How do our customs, habits and heritage help to maintain unity?
4. What do you know about art and architecture of India?
5. Give a brief note on Indian Music and Dance.

III. Answer the following in a paragraph.

1. Explain how do language and literature help to maintain unity in diversity.
2. Write a paragraph on National Integration.

4. Consumer Rights

Consumer is a person one who gives final utility to a commodity. When we pay a price for a commodity or service and use it, we become consumers. Sometimes the shopkeeper cheats us as he or she gives poor quality goods, or charges more for a commodity or service.

Forms of Consumer Exploitation

Due to the expansion of business activities in an economy, we have a variety of goods available in the market. We also have a number of services including insurance, transport, electricity, finance and banking. Our demand for goods and services is influenced by the advertisement.



Grocery Shop

The companies spend a considerable amount on advertisements alone to attract consumers and feed information that they want us to know, but not the information that we as consumers need about the products. When the consumers, do not have sufficient information about the products, normally they get exploited and are sometimes even harassed by the business community.

The consumers are exploited by manufacturers and traders in different ways.



Electronic Shop

The goods being sold in the market are sometimes not measured or weighed correctly. The goods sold are sometimes of sub-standard quality. Selling of medicines beyond their expiry dates and supply of deficient or defective home appliances are generally the regular grievances of consumers. Very often the traders charge a price higher than the prescribed retail price. In the name of genuine parts, duplicate items are being sold to the consumers.

Rights of Consumers

The following are the rights of consumers as codified in the Indian laws, which the business community has to keep in mind:

Rights

The consumers have the right to be protected against marketing of goods and services, which are hazardous to life and property. The quality, quantity, potency, purity, standard and price of goods; should be properly informed. Assurance of access to variety of goods and

services at competitive price. In case of single supplier, the consumer has the right to be assured of satisfactory quality and service at a fair price. The consumer's interests should receive due consideration at appropriate forums relating to consumer welfare. They seek redressal against unfair trade practices or exploitation of consumers and right to fair settlement of the genuine grievances and the knowledge about goods and issues relating to consumer welfare. **The Right to Information Act** was passed by the Parliament on 12th Oct 2005 to enable all citizens to use their fundamental rights to access information from public bodies.

The main objectives of the RTI Act

To promote transparency and accountability in the working of every public authority and to setup a practical regime for giving citizens access to information that is under the control of public authorities.

The Right to Information Act (RTI) will cover all levels of government Centre, State, district and the local self governing bodies like Panchayats and Municipal bodies. It will also cover non-governmental organizations- i.e. NGOs, VOs, and other private bodies that are financed substantially with public funds provided by the government. This means every citizen has the right to put in an application requesting information or copies of records held by these bodies and such information should be given by the concerned body. The citizens' right to information is not explicitly mentioned in the fundamental rights chapter of the Constitution. Parliament passes the Act to enable all the citizens' fundamental right to access information from public bodies.

Consumer Protection Measures

In order to protect the interests of the consumers, the government adopted three strategies:

(1) Legislative measure-Enactment of Consumer Production Act (2) Administrative measure-Distributing essential commodities through Public Distribution System (PDS) (3) Technical measure-Standardization of the product

a) Legislations Concerning Consumer Rights

The Government enacted a specific law called the consumer Protection Act in 1986. The Act has led to setting up of separate Departments of Consumer Affairs in Central and State governments, which focus exclusively on the rights of the consumers as enshrined in the Act.

Legal formalities for filing a complaint

There are no legal formalities for filing the complaint. Suppose, you find yourself cheated by a trader or a manufacturer and wish to make a complaint to consumer court, you can write the details on a plain paper. Attach the supporting documents, that is, guarantee or warranty card and cash memo with the complaint and submit it in the district consumer court. You do not have to go to any lawyer or professional for legal assistance. You yourself can plead the case in the consumer court.

Most important feature of the Act is the provision for setting up a three-tier system, popularly known as Consumer Courts at national, state and district levels.

National Level- National Consumer Commission (Delhi) Apex court under the Act.

State Level- State Consumer Commission

District Level - District Forum

b) Public Distribution System

Apart from ensuring food security to the poor as a part of certain administrative measures, Public Distribution system is also expected to be strengthened. Measures to prevent hoarding, black-marketing and over-charging by traders need to be enforced.

c) Standardization of Products

Another important measure taken by the government to protect the consumers from lack of quality and varying standards of goods is creation of institutions for setting up the standards for making and producing various products and enforcing them. In India, this has been achieved through **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)** and **Agmark**. While BIS caters to the industrial and consumer goods, the Agmark is meant for the agricultural products.

Just as we have standardization of products in India, at the International level also, an institution called **International Organization for Standardization (ISO)**, located in Geneva, serves to provide such a common reference standard. It is a non-governmental organization established in 1947. ISO's work results in international agreements, which are published as international standards.

For setting international food standards, there is a similar body called **Codex Alimentations Commission**. This commission was

created in 1963 by the **Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)** and **World Health Organisation (WHO)**, located in Rome, Italy. It develops food standards, guidelines and codes of practices for production and international trade in food products.

India has been observing 24th December as the National Consumers' Day. It was on this day that the Indian Parliament enacted the Consumer Protection Act in 1986. March 15 is observed as 'the World Consumers' day'. This day has a historic importance as it was on this day in 1962, when the Bill for Consumer Rights was moved in the US Congress.

Ralph Nadar, a consumer activist was considered as the Father of Consumer Movement.

Birth of 'COPRA'

The right to redress lead to the passing of the **Consumer Protection Act (COPRA)** in 1986 in India which has been defined as the Magna Carta of consumers.

Measures taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu to protect-the consumers

Establishment of Citizen Consumer clubs in every educational institution. Providing consumer education to rural masses through Women Self Help Groups/ Panchayat level federations and through Residents Welfare associations in urban areas. Generating awareness through sectoral workshops/ seminars. Publication and distribution of monthly magazine under the caption. "**Tamil Nadu Nugarvor Kavasam**". Propagating consumer awareness messages through Radio/ Television Media and short video films.

With the motive of developing citizen as a "Valuable Consumer" various consumer organisations are serving together with Government of Tamil Nadu in providing consumer education to general public.



Ration Shop

Consumer Rights In Different Nations

United States

In the United States a variety of laws are passed at both the federal or state levels to regulate consumer affairs. Among them are the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, the Fair Credit Reporting Act, Truth in Lending Act etc.

At the state level, many states have a Department of Consumer Affairs devoted to regulating certain industries and protecting Consumers.

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom, as member state of the European Union, is bound by the consumer protection directives of the EU.

It also acts as the UK's official consumer and competition watchdog.

Germany

A minister of the federal cabinet is responsible for consumer rights and protection.

Advantages and Disadvantages

Advantages

1. Create Awareness – The responsibility to be alert and questioning the price and quality of the goods and services we buy and use.

2. Social Concern – We need to make sure that the product and services that we use or not produced in a situation that harms others.

3. Environmental concern – We should understand the environmental and other consequences of our consumption.



Social Awareness



Environmental Awareness

Disadvantages

1. In many cases consumers are exploited by attractive advertisements through media.

2. The sellers take full advantage of weakness of consumers to mould it

in their favour whether it is scheme of exchange, gifts, lotteries, etc., if there is any problem arise most of the people cannot move to consumer court.

3. The Government in most of the countries has found that, though consumer is the king, he is exploited.

4. The People had no awareness of the consumer rights and products.

Current Planning to create consumer awareness

Planning for Elders staff and leaders participate in core activities, discussions, and popular education activities.

Other Plans

- Trade Fair
- Consumer Fest

- Consumer Awareness Training to self help group / Panchayat level
- Federation members
- Seminar or Orientation to Residents Welfare Associations on Consumer Rights
- Workshop on Unfair Trade Practices
- Seminar on "Credit Cards"
- Seminar on "Mobile phones"

By creating consumer awareness among the people the Government can uplift the standard of living of the people.

EXERCISE

I) Choose the correct answer.

1. A person one who gives final utility to a commodity is
a) Producer b) Consumer c) Shop keeper d. farmer
2. The customer are exploited by the
a) Carpenters b) Farmers c) Tailors d) Traders
3. The Right to Information Act was passed by the parliament on
a) 12th Oct. 2005 b) 21st Oct. 2005
c) 12th Oct 2006 d) 21st Oct .2006
4. World consumer day is celebrated on
a) March 15 b) March 16 c) March 14 d) March 11
5. The Magnacarta of consumers
a) WHO b) COPRA c) EXNORA d) FAO
6. One of the planning schemes to create awareness among the consumers
a) Vana Mahotsava b) Operation 21 c) Trade fair d) Rajarajan 1000

II) Answer the following in brief.

1. How are the customers exploited? Mention any two forms.
2. Write a brief note on the birth of COPRA.
3. Write any two measures taken by the Government of TamilNadu to protect the consumers against exploitation.

III) Answer the following in a paragraph.

1. Write a paragraph on the rights of consumers.
2. What are the measures taken by the Government of TamilNadu to protect the consumers?