

VERY SHORT ANSWERS –

1. The ancient Greek philosopher Plato was the first political philosopher to classify the government.
2. At present, Democracy is the most popular government in the world.
3. India.
4. The President is the Head of the state and the Prime Minister is the Head of the government.
5. Presidential form of Government.
6. United States of America.
7. Japan.
8. i) Central government. ii) Provincial government.
9. Federal.
10. No.

SHORT ANSWERS –

1. The different types of government prevalent in the world at present are :

- i) Monarchy, ii) Dictatorship, and iii) Democracy

The democratic type of government which is becoming popular at present is further classified into four types, such as –

- i) The Unitary form of Government, ii) The Federal form of Government,
iii) The Parliamentary form of Government and iv) The Presidential form of Government.

2. The two characteristics of the Parliamentary form of government are :

- i) There are two heads in this type of government. One is the nominal executive and the other one is the real or actual executive.
ii) In this type of government, the members of the executive are also the members of the legislature.

3. Two merits of the Parliamentary form of government are :

- i) The government can't act against the interest of the common people as the executive remains responsible and also accountable to the legislature.
ii) The parliamentary form of government is flexible in nature. The process of changing the executive is very easy.

Two demerits of the Parliamentary form of government are :

- i) The parliamentary form of government is unstable and can be removed from office by passing a no-confidence motion in the parliament.
ii) The ministers of the parliamentary form of government are generally found to be inexperienced in the departmental activities and thus become highly dependent on the bureaucrats.

4. The Principle of Separation of power states that the three organs of the governments i.e. Legislature, Executive and Judiciary are independent of one another. They enjoy equal powers and function within their prescribed limit without any interference from the others.

5. The two characteristics of the Presidential form of government are :

- i) In the presidential form of government there is no distinction between the head of the state and the head of the government.
ii) In the presidential form of government its legislature doesn't get dissolved before the expiry of its fixed term for any reason.

6. Two merits of the Unitary form of government are :

- i) The unitary form of government is very handy and useful in the emergent situation.
ii) The expenditure in running the government machinery is comparatively less than other forms of government.

Two demerits of the Unitary form of government are :

- i) The unitary form of government is not at all suitable for a state which is very big in size.
- ii) The mass people don't get any opportunity to participate actively in the government of the state.

LONG ANSWERS –

1. Merits of the presidential form of government :

- i) Presidential form of government is very useful in the time of any emergency situation.
- ii) In this type of government the executive is strong and hence the government can easily protect the unity and integrity of the state.

Demerits of the presidential form of government :

- i) In this type of government there is no cooperation between the executive and legislature as they are separated on the basis of the principle of separation of powers.
- ii) In the presidential form of government, political crises may arise more frequently if the executive and the legislature belong to different political parties.

2. The characteristics of the Parliamentary form of government are :

- i) There are two heads in this type of government. One is the nominal executive and the other one is the real or actual executive.
- ii) In this type of government, the members of the executive are also the members of the legislature.
- iii) In this type of government there is a close relationship between the legislature and the executive.
- iv) In the parliamentary form of government the executive remains responsible to the legislature for its every work.

3. The main reasons why the federal form of government has become popular at present are :

- i) Federal system is ideal for a country with diversities and differences.
- ii) There is a wider participation of the people in this form of government than in any other form.
- iii) Different races, groups, communities, languages, religions, etc. get due consideration in this form of government.
- iv) There is a great deal of decentralization of power. In a federal government, the provinces, territories or states enjoy separate powers and have separate cabinets and legislatures.

4. The characteristics of the Unitary form of government are :

- i) In a unitary form of government, all the powers belong to the central government. A strong central government is found in this type of government.
- ii) The constitution in the unitary form of government may be either written or an unwritten one.
- iii) Single citizenship is another important characteristic of the unitary form of government. The system of dual citizenship is not found in a unitary form of government.
- iv) In a unitary form of government, the constitution is generally found to be flexible and the central government can easily amend its provisions as and when required.

5. Yes, the unitary form of government is democratic in nature due to the following reasons :

- i) Government is elected by democratic process where common people can participate.
- ii) The constitution of the unitary form of government is very flexible which can be easily amended as and when required.
- iii) Like other forms of government, citizens of a unitary form of government also have different rights.

Although there are some negative aspects of the unitary form of government, they are:

- i) The judiciary does not have the power to review the laws enacted by the legislature.
- ii) The unitary form of government is more bureaucratic and in fact bureaucrats run the administration in a unitary form of government.