



UDAAAN 2024

– FOR CLASS 10th STUDENTS

Lecture No. – 02

- **Political Science**
- **Power Sharing**



By – Kunal Sir

Today's



Majoritarianism and Accommodation



- 1** 8 minutes Revision of First Class
- 2** Accommodation in Belgium
- 3** Forms of Power Sharing
- 4** Questions

Question



The 7% Christians that lived in Sri Lanka spoke which language ?

A French

B Tamil

C Sinhala

D Both b and c

ऐ भाई! पहले
रिकैप तो देखले !!





Geography of Belgium





Belgium-In The Country

Flemish Region

Wallonia Region



59% Dutch Speaking

40% French Speaking

1% German Speaking



Belgium-In Brussels

↓ capital
// Belgium



20% Dutch Speaking



80% French Speaking



Problem In Belgium



Dutch Speaking-Got the benefits of education and development very late



French speaking –Rich and Powerful



Result of the Problem



Tensions between the Dutch speaking and French-speaking communities during the 1950s and 1960s.





Geography of Sri Lanka



Island nation and Southern neighbor
of India



Situated few kilometres off the
southern coast of Tamil Nadu



(Hindi
meaning)

कुछ किमी स्थित है। तमिलनाडु के
दक्षिणी तट से दूर





Ethnic Composition of Sri Lanka



**74% Sinhala
Speaking**



**13% Sri Lankan
Tamils**



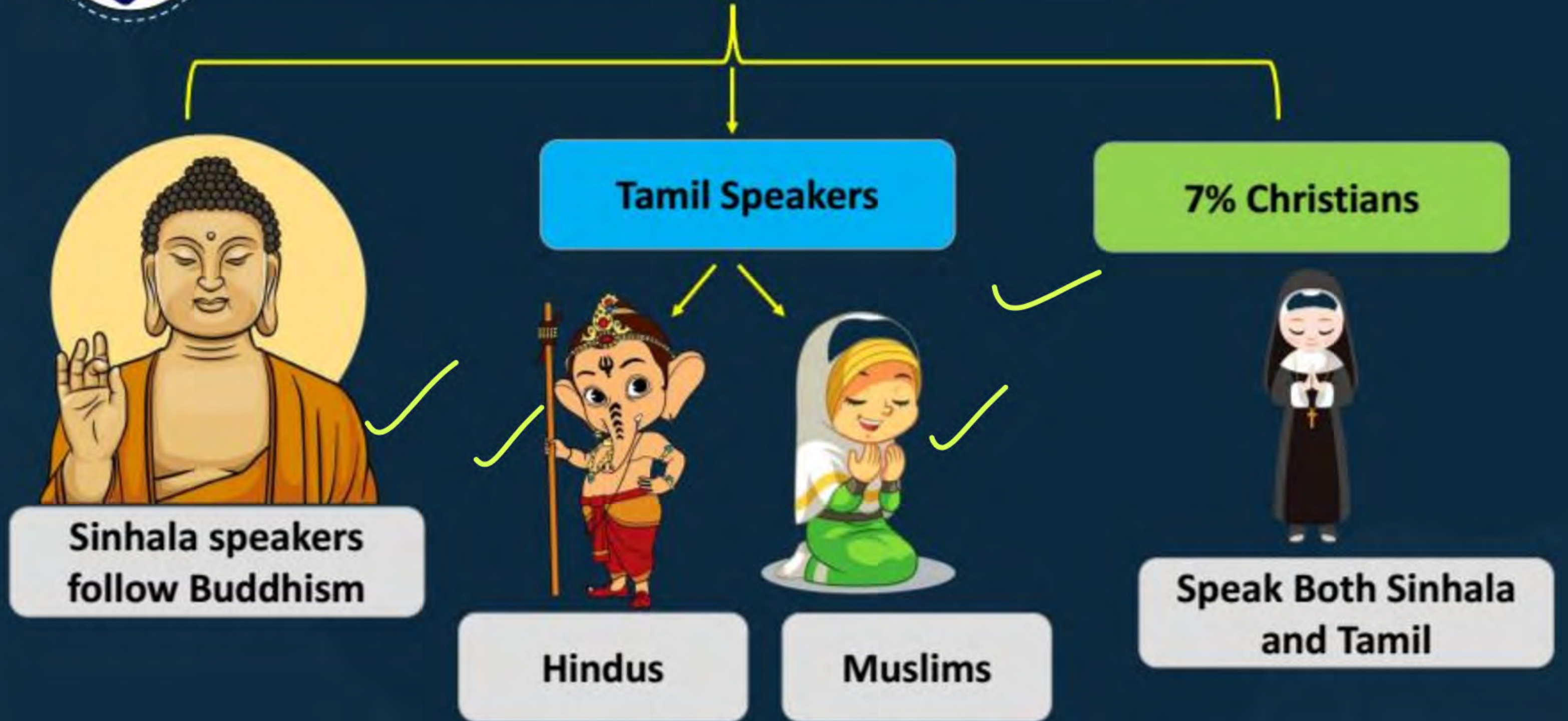
18% Tamil Speaking



5% Indian Tamils



Religious Division in Sri Lanka





Majoritarianism Policy

Sri Lanka became independent in 1948

A democratic government was formed

Majority ministers in the govt. were Sinhala speakers



Established Sinhala as the only official language

Sinhala community wanted to dominate Tamils



In 1956, an act was passed

Favoured Sinhala applicants for jobs and university

Asked govt. to protect and promote Buddhism

Question



Which religion was declared as the official religion in Sri Lanka ? ✓

A Hinduism

B Islam

C Christianity

D Buddhism ✓

Aaj की अपेक्षा

Alone

Rejected → (Alienated)



childhood

friend



best friend



Vidhayak Ji

Dogesh

Dogelina



Impact on Tamils in Sri Lanka

They felt
alienated
(neglected)

They felt
that none of
the Buddhist Sinhala
political leaders respected
their language and culture

They felt that the
new policies :
→ Disrespected their
language and
culture
→ Did not give them
equal rights in jobs
and education



How Did The Tamils React ?

Sri Lankan Tamils launched
parties and struggles for:

- ① Recognising Tamil as an official language ✓
- ② Equal opportunity in jobs and education ✓
- ③ More regional autonomy (power)

By 1980s ✓
↓
Political organisations
Started

demanding
Separate Tamil Eelam
(State) in north and
Eastern parts



Outcome of Tensions

It led
to Civil
War in Sri Lanka

Thousands of
people died
from both the

Sides, people left the country,
lost the jobs

Civil
War ended
in 2009

Question



Which of the following term was used by the Tamils in Sri Lanka to refer to an independent state ?

A Eelam

B Vanakkam

C Gundam

D Desha



Accommodation In Belgium

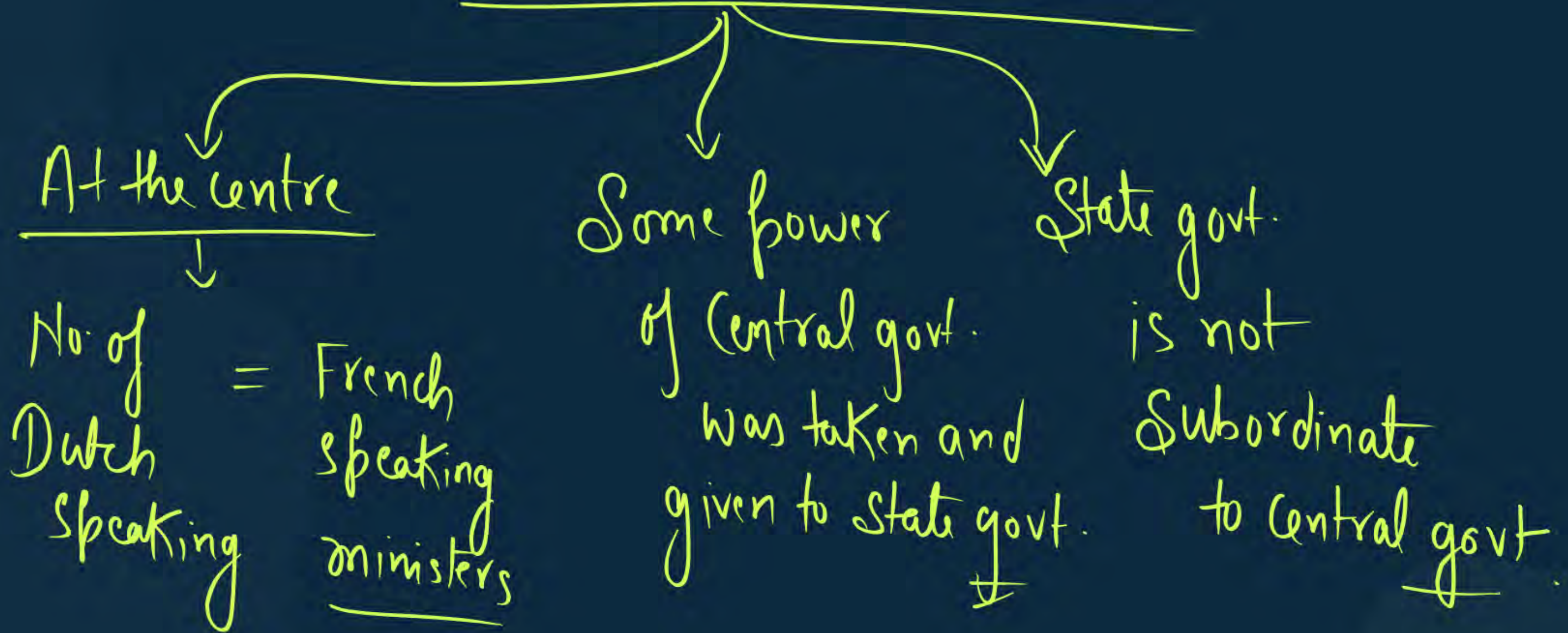
Belgium

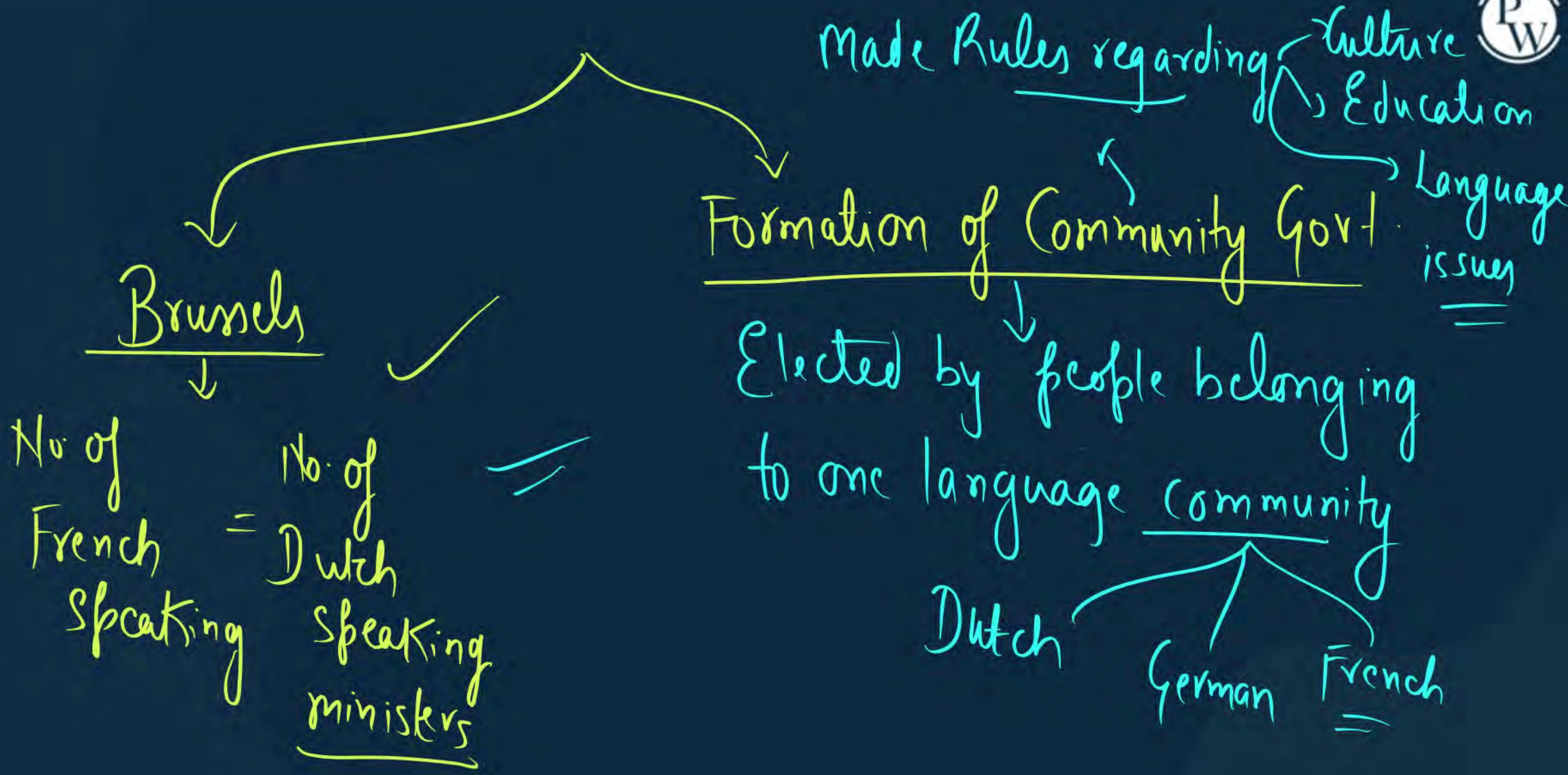
Leaders they
understood differences
and respected them

Between 1970-1993

↓
Constitution was
amended 4 times

Accommodation





Question



The amended Constitution of Belgium prescribed that the number of _____ and French-speaking ministers shall be equal in the Central Government.

A Italian

B German

C English

D Dutch



NCERT Bytes !

Accommodation in Belgium

The Belgian leaders took a different path. They recognised the existence of regional differences and cultural diversities. Between 1970 and 1993, they amended their constitution four times so as to work out an arrangement that would enable everyone to live together within the same country. The arrangement they worked out is different from any other country and is very innovative. Here are some of the elements of the Belgian model:

- Constitution prescribes that the number of Dutch and French-speaking ministers shall be equal in the central government. Some special laws require the support of majority of members from each linguistic

group. Thus, no single community can make decisions unilaterally.

- Many powers of the Central Government have been given to State Governments of the two regions of the country. The State Governments are not subordinate to the Central Government.

- Brussels has a separate government in which both the communities have equal representation. The French-speaking people accepted equal representation in Brussels because the Dutch-speaking community has





NCERT Bytes !

accepted equal representation in the Central Government.

- Apart from the Central and the State Government, there is a third kind of government. This 'community government' is elected by people belonging to one language community – Dutch, French and German-speaking – no matter where they live. This government has the power regarding cultural, educational and language-related issues.

You might find the Belgian model very complicated. It indeed is very complicated, even for people living in Belgium. But these arrangements have worked well so far. They helped to avoid civic strife between the two major communities and a possible division of the country on linguistic lines. When many countries of



European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium

Europe came together to form the European Union, Brussels was chosen as its headquarters.



Important Question



How is Belgium's power-sharing path different from any other country? (3)

The power-sharing arrangements made by the Belgian leaders were different and more innovative than any other country. To recognise the existence of regional differences and cultural diversities, they amended their Constitution four times between 1970 and 1993.

The major elements of the Belgian Model are:

1. Constitution prescribes that the number of Dutch and French-speaking ministers shall be equal in the Central Government. No single community can take decisions unilaterally.
2. The State Governments are not subordinate to the Central Government.
3. Brussels, the capital, has a separate government where both the communities have equal representation.
4. A third kind of government, 'Community Government', is elected by people belonging to one language community — Dutch, French and German speaking — no matter where they live. This government can decide on cultural, educational and language related issues.



Dealing with Differences – Belgium and Sri Lanka

Belgium

Leaders understood
that unity of the country
can be maintained only by
respecting the differences

Sri Lanka

Leaders felt that majority
should dominate minority
↓
Result → It disturbed the
unity of the country

Question



When many countries of Europe came together to form the European Union,
_____ was chosen as its headquarters. ✓

A Brussels ✓✓

B Austria

C Prussia

D Netherlands



NCERT Bytes !

What do we learn from these two stories of Belgium and Sri Lanka? Both are democracies. Yet, they dealt with the question of power sharing differently. In Belgium, the leaders have realised that the unity of the country is possible only by respecting the feelings and interests of different communities

and regions. Such a realisation resulted in mutually acceptable arrangements for sharing power. Sri Lanka shows us a contrasting example. It shows us that if a majority community wants to force its dominance over others and refuses to share power, it can undermine the unity of the country.



Important Question



"Both Belgium and Sri Lanka are democracies, yet they have dealt with the problem of cultural diversity very differently". Discuss (5)

Belgium:

- Leaders realised that for the unity of the country it is important to respect the feelings and interests of different communities. The Constitution prescribes that the number of Dutch and French speaking people shall be equal in the Central Government.
- Both Dutch and French communities share power on an equal basis at the Centre. Along with the State Government, both communities have a third kind of Government called 'Community Government' which decides on cultural, education and language related issues.
- Between, 1970 and 1993, the Constitution was amended four times to enable all linguistic groups to live together within the same country.



Important Question



Sri Lanka:

- In Sri Lanka, there are two major communities, the Sinhalese speaking (74%) and Tamil speaking (18%). The majority community, the Sinhalese have forced their domination over Tamils, refusing to share power.
- Both communities have lived in tension as the Sinhalese have denied political, educational, religious, employment and economic rights to the Tamils leading to Civil War.
- In 1956, the Government passed an Act to recognise Sinhala as the only official language, thus disregarding Tamil.



Why is Power Sharing Desirable ?

→ 3

Prudential Reason

- ① It reduces the possibility of conflict among social groups
- ② It maintains peace and stability of the political order

Moral Reason ✓

- ① Power sharing is the spirit of democracy

Question



Power can be shared for which of the following reasons ?

A Moral

B General

C Prudential

D Both a and c



Forms of Power Sharing



Wrong Ideas about Power
Sharing

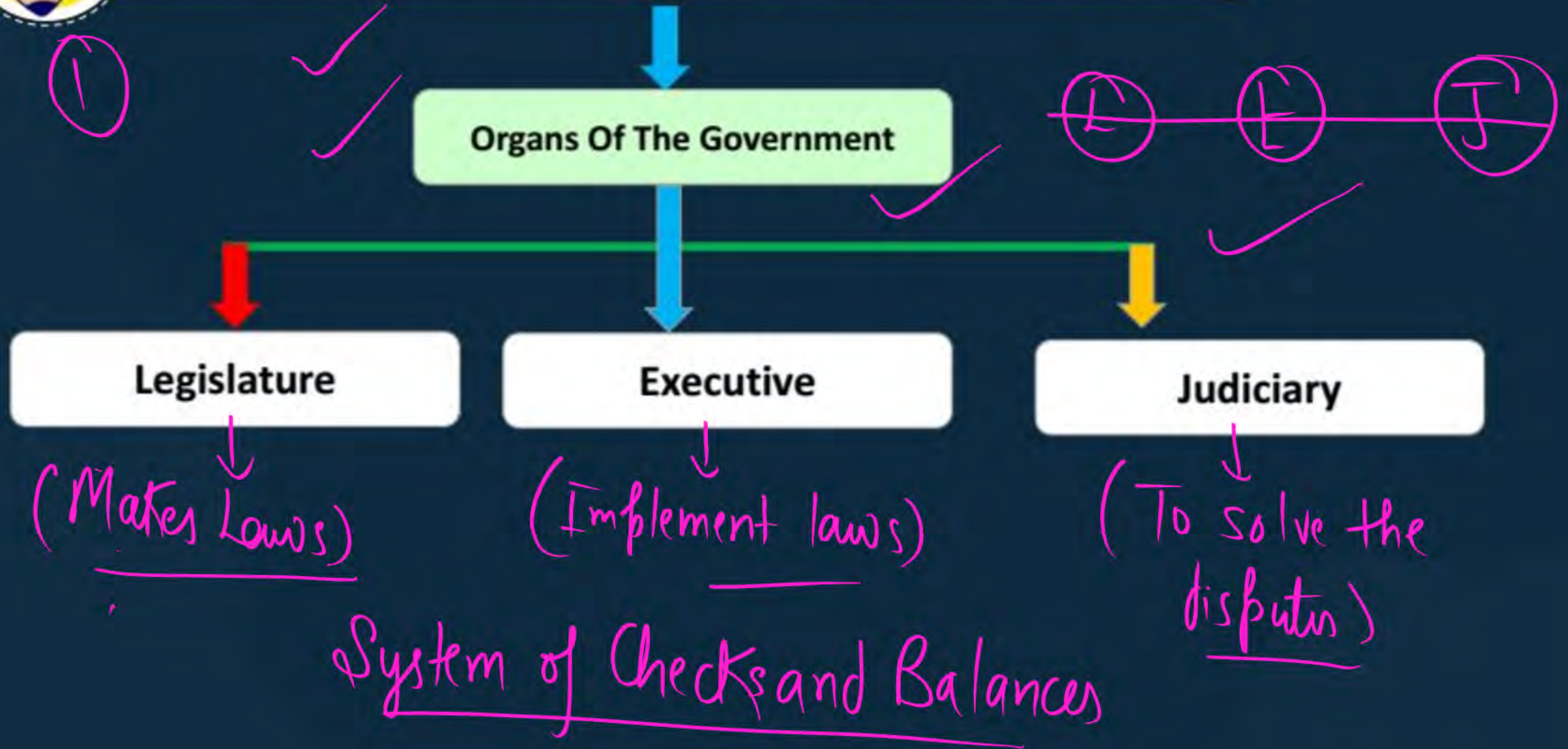
↓ Last Topic

People
Feel :

Power Sharing = Power Divided = Country becomes
Weak



Horizontal Form of Power Sharing



Question



Power shared among organs of the government is also called _____



A Moral Sharing

B Vertical Division

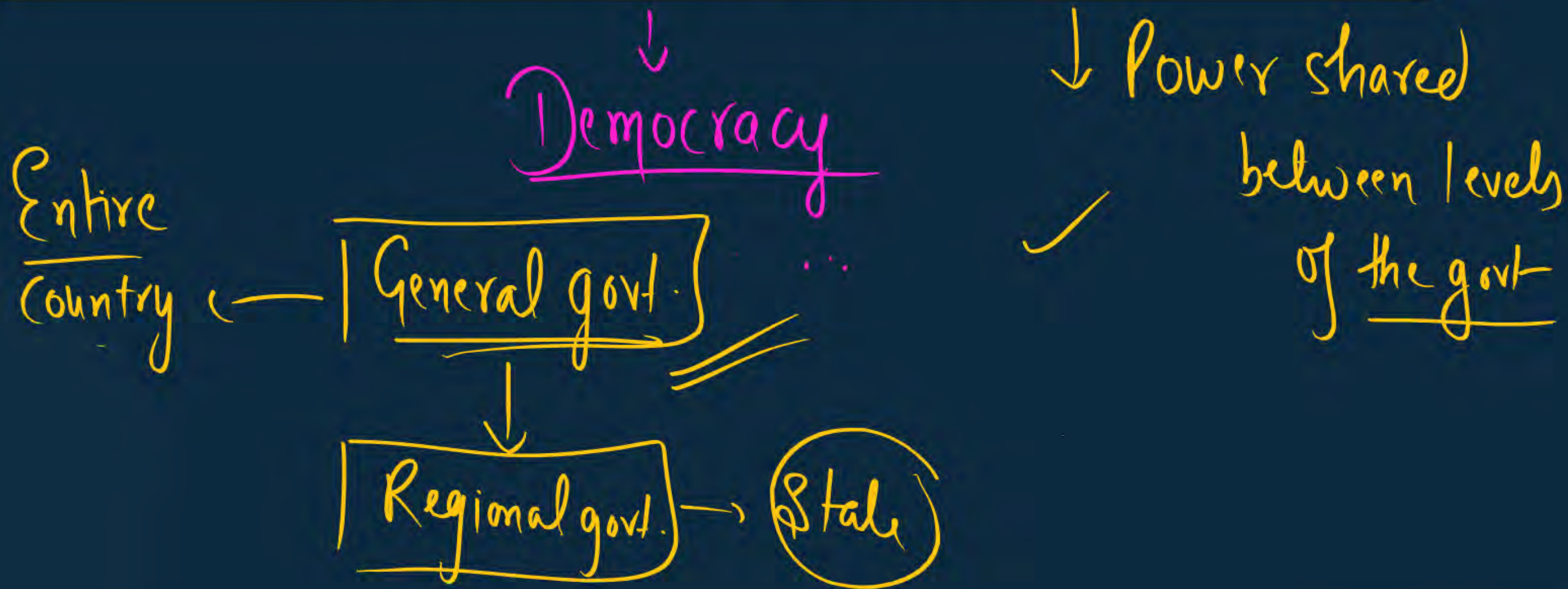
C System of Checks and Balances

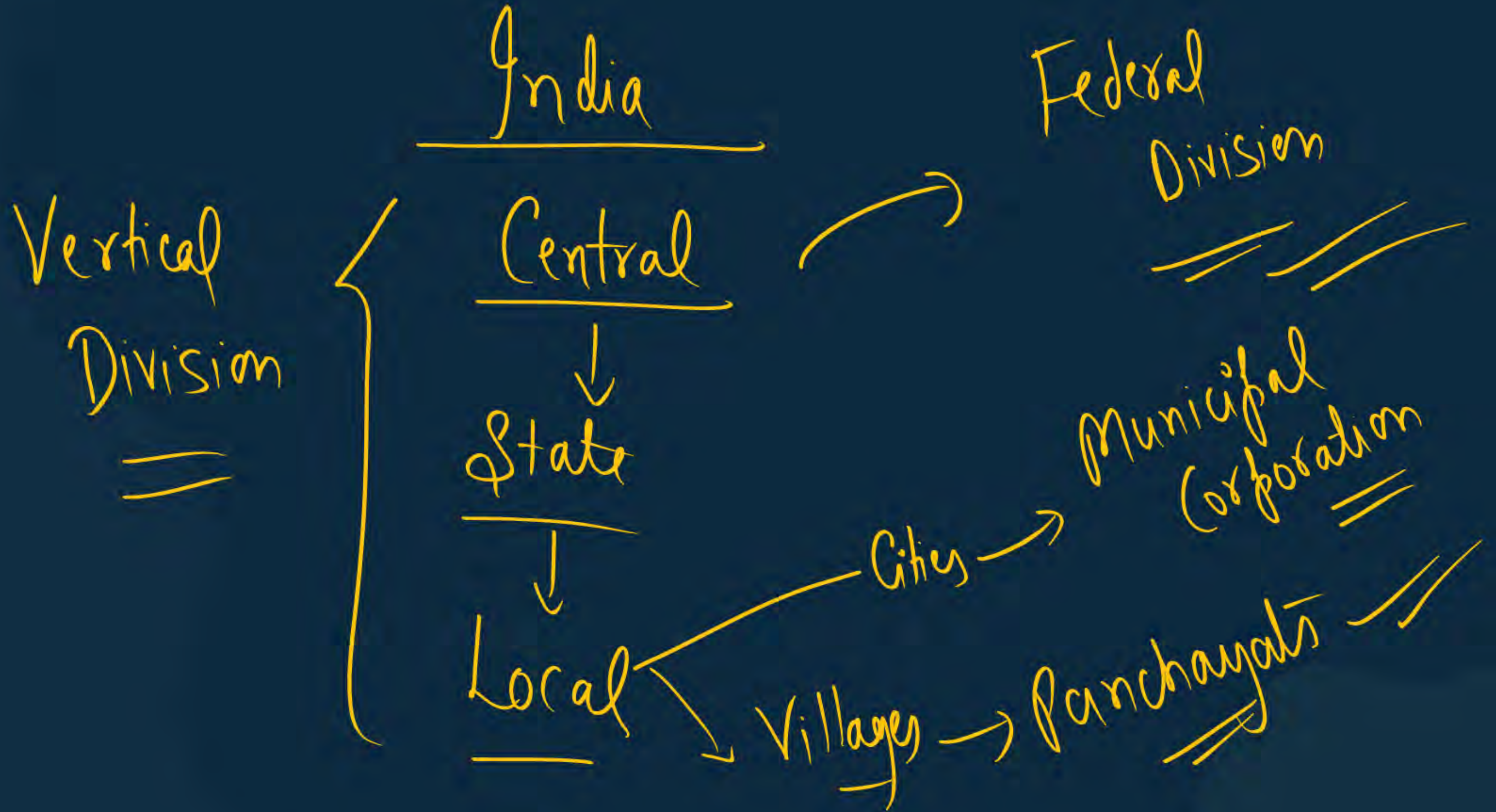
D Both a and c





Vertical Form of Power Sharing







Power Sharing Among Social Groups

Linguistic & Religious Groups

(Ex) → Community
govt.
(Belgium)

Socially Weaker Sections

Women

Minority

Dalits

SC

ST

}



Power Sharing-Political Parties ,Pressure Groups and Movements

Power is
Shared with
Political parties ✓

Power is
Shared
with pressure
Groups ✓

Homework





Case Study Based Question

Khalil's dilemma

As usual, Vikram was driving the motorbike under a vow of silence and Vetat was the pillion rider. As usual, Vetat started telling Vikram a story to keep him awake while driving. This time the story went as follows:

"In the city of Beirut, there lived a man called Khalil. His parents came from different communities. His father was an Orthodox Christian and mother a Sunni Muslim. This was not so uncommon in this modern, cosmopolitan city. People from various communities that lived in Lebanon came to live in its capital, Beirut. They lived together, intermingled, yet fought a bitter civil war among themselves. One of Khalil's uncles was killed in that war.

At the end of this civil war, Lebanon's leaders came together and agreed to some basic rules for power sharing among different communities. As per these rules, the country's President must belong to the Maronite sect of Catholic Christians. The Prime Minister must be from the Sunni Muslim community. The post of Deputy Prime Minister is fixed for Orthodox Christian sect and that of the Speaker for Shi'a Muslims. Under this pact, the Christians agreed not to seek French protection and the Muslims agreed not to seek unification with the neighbouring state of Syria. When the Christians and Muslims came to this agreement, they were nearly equal in population. Both sides have continued to respect this agreement though now the Muslims are in clear majority.



Case Study Based Question

Khalil does not like this system one bit. He is a popular man with political ambition. But under the present system, the top position is out of his reach. He does not practise either his father's or his mother's religion and does not wish to be known by either. He cannot understand why Lebanon can't be like any other 'normal' democracy. "Just hold an election, allow everyone to contest and whoever wins maximum votes becomes the president, no matter which community he comes from. Why can't we do that, like in other democracies of the world?" he asks. His elders, who have seen the bloodshed of the civil war, tell him that the present system is the best guarantee for peace..."

The story was not finished, but they had reached the TV tower where they stopped every day. Vetat wrapped up quickly and posed his customary question to Vikram: "If you had the power to rewrite the rules in Lebanon, what would you do? Would you adopt the 'regular' rules followed everywhere, as Khalil suggests? Or stick to the old rules? Or do something else?" Vetat did not forget to remind Vikram of their basic pact: "If you have an answer in mind and yet do not speak up, your mobike will freeze, and so will you!"

Can you help poor Vikram in answering Vetat?



Q → Is Khalil right?

Handcrafted Revision Notes

Power Sharing –II

Dealing with differences — Belgium and Sri Lanka

Belgium

⇒ Leaders realised that unity of the country can be maintained only by respecting feelings and interests of different communities

⇒ So, they shared political power

Sri Lanka

It shows that if a majority community tries to dominate over other and does not share power, it harms unity of the country.

* Why is Power Sharing Desirable?

Prudential Reason

① It helps to reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups ;

② It avoids violence

③ It ensures stability of the political order.

Moral Reason

① Power sharing is the spirit of democracy

② Power is shared with people in a democracy.

③ Democratic govt. is legitimate

* Meaning → Elected by the people and answerable to the people

Forms of Power Sharing

Wrong ideas that people had about power sharing

✗ Power sharing = Power divided
= Country will become weak.

✗ People believed that:

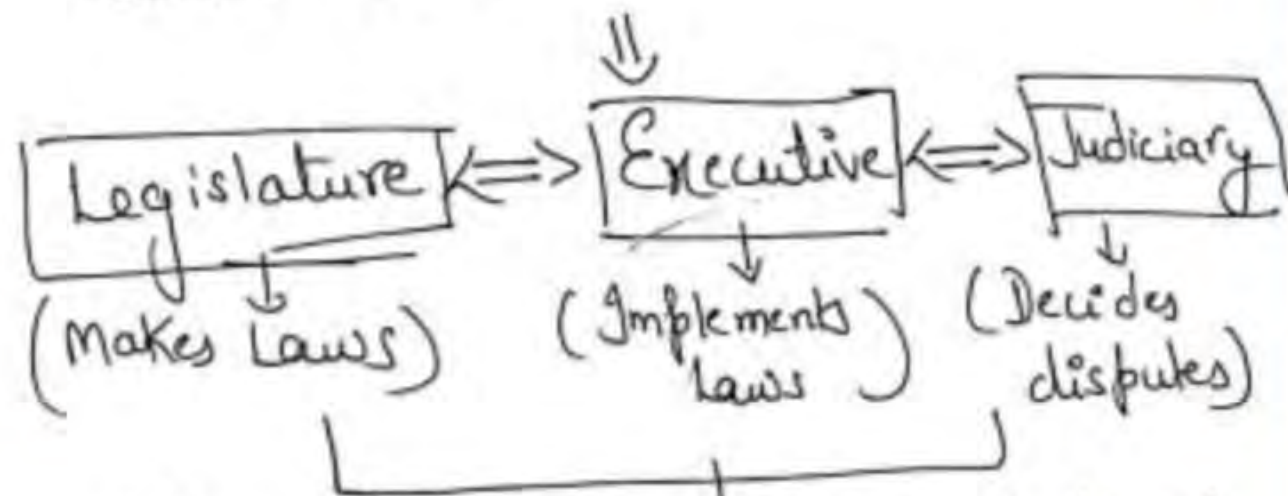
All power should be in the hands of one person or group of people located at one place.

Otherwise, quick decisions cannot be implemented
(निष्पत्ति करनी)

Forms of Power Sharing - Modern Democracies

① Horizontal Form of Power Sharing

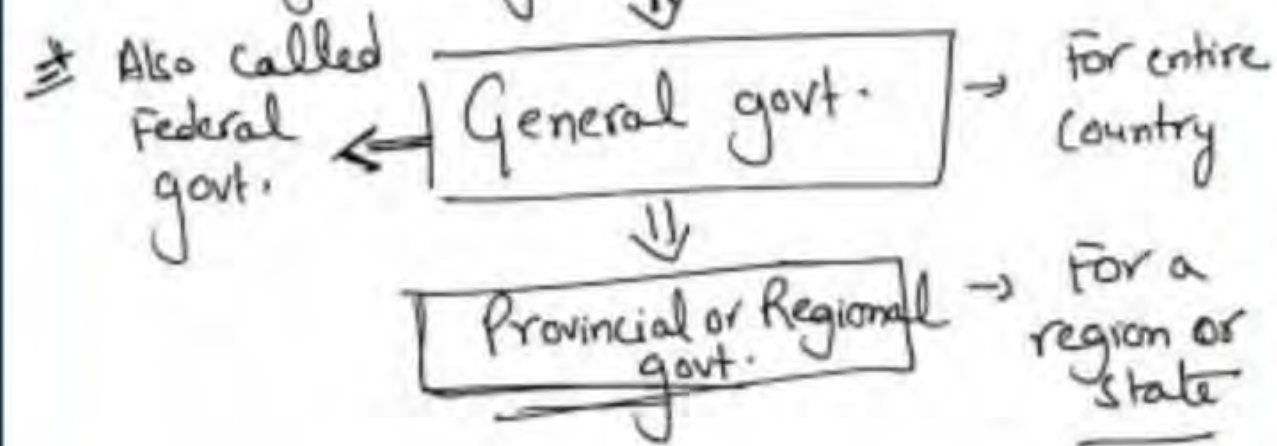
Power shared among the organs of the government placed at the same level



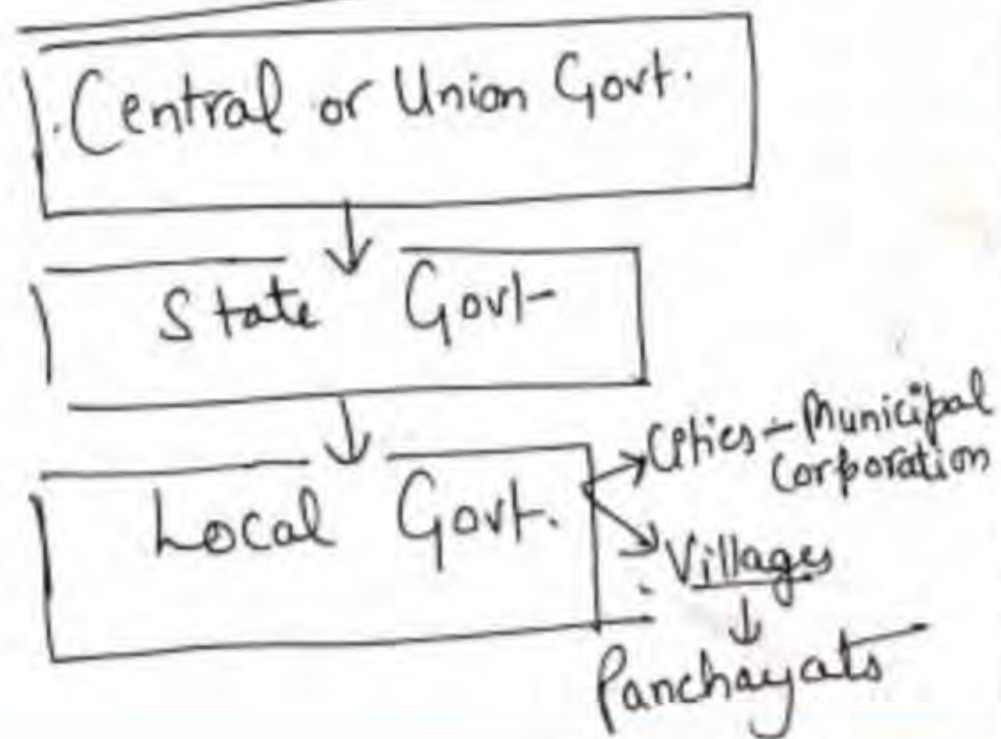
✗ They keep a check on each others' powers and no organ can have unlimited power
✗ So, it is also called system of checks and balances

② Vertical Form of Power Sharing

≠ Power is shared among levels of the government



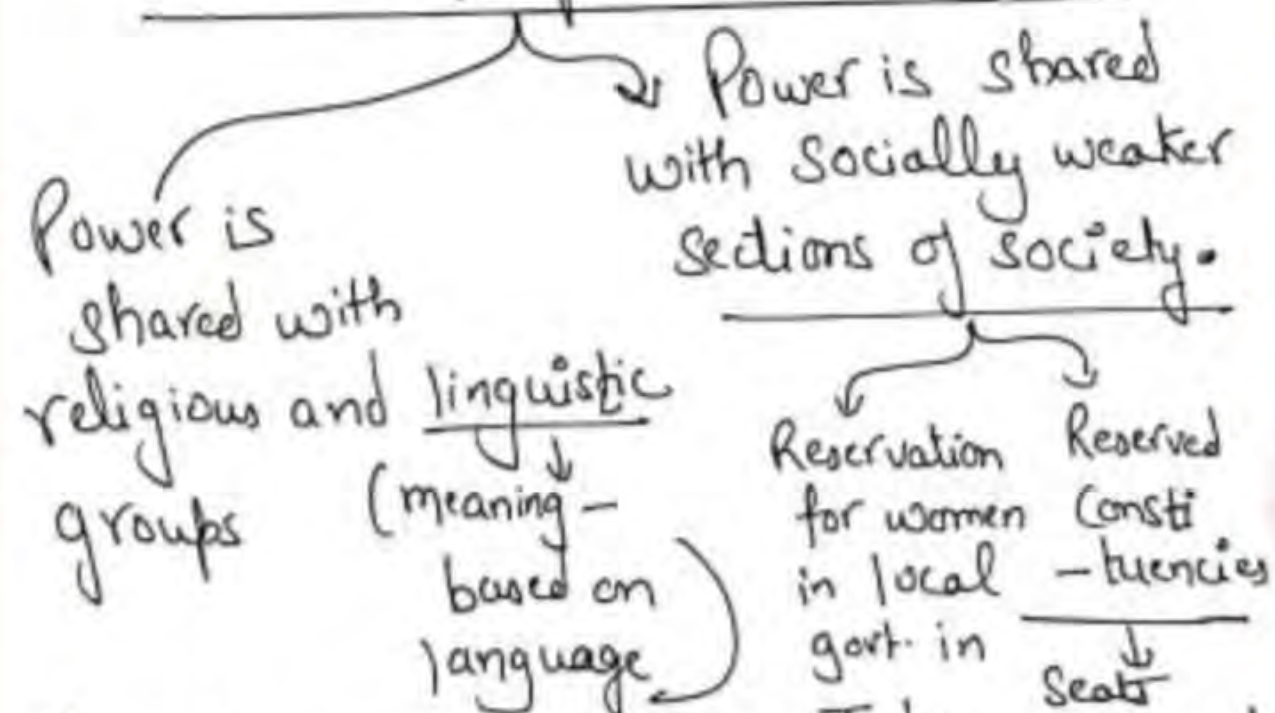
India



≠ Constitution clearly defines the power of each level of government.

≠ It is also called federal division of power.

③ Power Sharing Among Social Groups



En: Community govt. in Belgium

Reservation for women in local govt. in India

Reserved constituencies - Seats reserved in elections for SC, ST

* Religious Minorities are also given reservation

* Main Objective

To give opportunity to different social groups in govt. and administration

To give a fair share in power to different social and religious groups like
Religious minority, Women, Backward Classes

④ Power Sharing Among Political parties, pressure groups and movements

Political Parties

In a democracy, people have the freedom to choose their leaders

They do this with the help of voting system

Different political parties contest (fight) elections to gain political power

Sometimes two or more political parties come together to form a big group. This is called alliance.



If this alliance wins the election and forms the govt., it is called coalition govt.

*

Pressure Groups or Interest Groups

- Groups formed by ↓ traders, businessmen, farmers, industrial workers
- To fight for ↓ their rights and demands

How do they share power?

By participating
in govt. Committees

Influencing
the decision
making process

Hindi meaning

(सरकारी
कमेटियों में
भाग लेना)

Hindi meaning → (सरकार के
कानून बनाने या निर्णय
लेने की प्रक्रिया पर
प्रभाव डालना)

Example :

(Farmer protest
↓
किसान आंदोलन)

