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MODEL ANSWER PAPER
II SEMESTER, 5 YEARS B.A., LL.B. COURSE
SUBJECT: POLITICAL SCIENCE-II

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Q.NO.1. Define Constitution. Explain the types of Constitution.

Marks: 16

SYNOPSIS:

1. Introduction
2. Meaning and Definition of Constitution
3. Importance of Constitution
4. Types of Constitution
 - a. Written Constitution
 - b. Unwritten Constitution
 - c. Rigid Constitution and
 - d. Flexible Constitution
5. Conclusion

Introduction

Constitution is the supreme law of each State. It lays down rules regarding the organisation, powers and functions of government. It also defines the basic features of the State and the relation between the citizens and the State. The constitution is a set of the legal rules organize entity of the state and human society that exists among definite geographic space.

Meaning and definitions of constitution

The word Constitution is derived from the Latin word 'Constituera 'which means 'to form', 'to create', to establish, to organise, 'to compose. So literally Constitution means the establishment or the formation of a legal institution, i.e. the Government for the governance of a country. Basically Constitution means the establishment or the formation of the fundamental law of the country, which determines the political structure of the State or Government. in short it means a body of rules which ensure the smooth and proper functioning of the governance of a country. The term Constitution is defined by different political scientists in their own way.

1. According to **Aristotle**“ Constitution means it is the way of life the state has chosen for itself”
2. According to **K.C. Wheare**“ Constitution is that body of rules which regulates the ends for which and the organs through which the governmental power is exercised”

Types of Constitution:

Followings are the types of Constitution

1. Written Constitution:

A written constitution is one which is written in to black and white in a document or in several documents. It is a consciously planned system which is adopted by a deliberate creation, a constitution assembly or convention. For e.g., the constitution of India was formulated and adopted by the Constituent Assembly of India and drafted by Drafting committee of India. A written constitution is a deliberate design whereby government is conducted and all this is contained in a document bearing single data. A written constitution is distinct in its character. It is the supremacy of the Constitution, which means that its provisions can be changed or amended according to the prescribed procedure.

A written constitution can be amended only in accordance with a settled process of amendment written in the constitution itself. It is a duly passed and enacted Constitution. The Constitutions of India, the USA, Germany, Japan, Canada, France, Switzerland and several other states, are written constitutions.

2. Unwritten Constitution:

An unwritten constitution is one which is not written down into black and white. An unwritten constitution is one which has grown upon the basis of customs rather than that written laws .the best example for unwritten constitution is that of Britain. It consists of a collection of customs, traditions, usages characters, judicial decisions and statutes. It is evolutionary in nature it is not prepared by any particular group of persons at any particular time.

An unwritten constitution is one which is neither drafted nor enacted by a Constituent Assembly and nor even written in the form of a book. It is found in several historical charters, laws and conventions. It is a product of slow and gradual evolution. The government is organised and it functions in accordance with several well settled, but not wholly written rules and conventions. The people know their Constitution. They accept and obey it, but do not possess it in a written form. An unwritten constitution cannot be produced in the form of a book. However, an unwritten constitution is not totally unwritten. Some of its parts are available in written forms but these do not stand codified in the form of a legal document or a code or a book. According to Garner, "an unwritten constitution is one in which most and not all, rules are unwritten and these are not found in any one charter or document." The Constitution of the United Kingdom is an unwritten constitution.

3. Rigid Constitution:

Rigid Constitution is one which cannot be amended easily by a simple majority of the ordinary legislature. The process of amendment of a rigid constitution id extremely difficult. A rigid constitution is a type of constitution in which there

exists a distinction between constitutional law and ordinary law. The rigid constitution possesses a special and higher status standing above the ordinary law. Thus making it difficult to change .

The Rigid Constitution is one which cannot be easily amended. Its method of amendment is difficult. For amending it, the legislature has to pass an amendment bill by a specific, usually big, majority of 2/3rd or 3/4th. For passing or amending an ordinary law, the legislature usually passes the law by a simple majority of its members. A rigid constitution is considered to be the most fundamental law of the land. It is regarded as the basic will of the sovereign people. That is why it can be amended only by a special procedure requiring the passing of the amendment proposal by a big majority of votes which is often followed by ratification by the people in a referendum. The Constitution of United States of America is a very rigid constitution.

4. Flexible Constitution:

The flexible Constitution is one which can be amended easily by the ordinary process of legislation. The best example of a flexible constitution is the constitution of Great Britain. The flexible constitution places constitutional law and ordinary law on the same level. Both are enacted in the same way and both proceed from the same source. A Flexible Constitution is one which can be easily amended. Several political scientists advocate the view that a flexible constitution is one in which the constitutional law can be amended in the same way as an ordinary law. Constitutional amendments are passed in the same manner by which an ordinary law is passed. British Constitution presents a classic example of a most flexible constitution. The British Parliament is a sovereign parliament which can make or amend any law or constitutional law by a simple majority. Laws aiming to affect changes in a constitute law or in any ordinary law are passed through the same legislative procedure i.e., by a simple majority of votes in the legislature. Similarly, a Constitution is flexible when the procedure of amending it is simple and the changes can be made easily.

Conclusion: Constitution enjoys supreme importance in the state. It reflects the sovereign will of the people. It lies down of the aims, objectives, values and goals which the people want to secure. It contains description and guarantee of the fundamental rights of the people. It gives a detailed account of the organisation of the government and the organisation, powers and functions of its three organs of the government.

Q.NO.2.What are the Organs of the Government. Explain the Powers and Functions of Legislature. Marks: 16

SYNOPSIS

1. Introduction

2. Organs of the Government
 - a. Legislature
 - b. Executive and
 - c. Judiciary
3. Powers and Functions of Legislature.
4. Conclusion

Introduction:

One of the most indispensable elements of the state is Government. Government is a working mechanism of a State. The State gets its work done through the Government. It is through the Government that the will of the State is manifested, expressed, executed and realised. It gives concrete and practical shape to public expression. Government therefore, is a ruling power in a State. A state without a Government is like a car without an engine or an engine without petrol. The Government acts on behalf of the State.

Organs of the Government:

A Government, nowadays, has three major wings or organs. They are the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary. The Legislature is the law making organ, the Executive is the law enforcing organ of the Government and it executes or implements the laws passed by the Legislature. The Judiciary is an organs of Government vested with the power of interpreting and giving justification to the laws passed by the legislature as enforced by the executive.

Powers and Functions of Legislature:

Legislature occupies an important position in the machinery of government. Will of the state is formulated and expressed through the legislature. Legislature is treated with special respect and status as it is composed of people who represents the general population. A variety of terms are used to denote legislatures in various countries: it is called congress in USA, Parliament in India & Britain, National Assembly in France, House of Representatives in Japan and Congress of Deputies in Spain. The word legislature means Parliament. The word parliament comes from the Latin word "parlement" which means to 'talk 'or 'discuss'. Hence, the Legislature or the parliament is the place where strategic discussion takes place.

The Legislature of the State includes two houses. For example, the Indian Parliament consists of Lok-Sabha and Rajya Sabha(Lower House and Upper House). British Parliament consists of House of Commons and House of Lords (Lower and Upper Houses). American Congress consists of House of Representatives and Senate (Lower and Upper Houses)

Functions of Legislature

Functions of the legislature are not identical in every country. It may vary from country to country, depending on the forms of government and the provisions of the constitution. Yet there are certain functions which are performed by legislatures in most democracies. They are as follows:

(1) Law Making: First and foremost function of Legislature is to make laws for the country. Law is regarded as the expression of the will of the people. In cabinet system it is the duty of the

concerned minister to introduce the bill and get it passed and duly enacted. But in the presidential system executive is not directly involved in legislation, rather he only exerts his influence in the law making through his messages. Legislature is the creator of laws of a country and is thus rightly called the rule making department of the state. Besides it has to amend or alter the laws or provisions of the Constitution. Hence, law making, amending and law repealing activities come under the legislative functions.

(2) Deliberative Function: A legislative function consists of two kinds of work-one- law making and the other deliberative. The making of law is entrusted to small committee of experts while the actual work of deliberation is the function of the whole parliament. Laws should not be made hurriedly. Therefore, it needs proper discussion and deliberation. For discussion, two heads are better than one and two hundred are better than two. In this respect, a Legislature is par excellence a deliberative body.

(3) Administrative Function: Legislature exercises control over the general administration of the country. In parliamentary system legislature exercises control over the political executive .Ministers are individually as well as collectively responsible to the legislature for all their actions. Ministers can continue in office only till they enjoy the confidence of the legislature. Various measures like adjournment motions, censure motions and cut motions are available to control the executive. A vote of no-confidence can be passed by the legislature to remove the executive from office.

(4) Financial Function: Legislature performs important financial functions. A major function it performs every year is the presentation, consideration and authorization of the budget. No money can be spent or no tax can be levied by the executive without the prior approval of the legislature. Ordinarily lower house enjoys more powers over the money bill than the upper house in countries with bi-cameral legislature.

(5) Judicial Function: Legislature also performs some important judicial functions. In England the House of Lords is the highest court of appeal. The impeachment trial of the president and vice-president in America takes place in the senate and in India either of the two houses at the centre can conduct the impeachment trial of the president. In India parliament has the power to remove the judges of Supreme Court and high courts on grounds of proved misbehavior or incapacity.

(6) Elective Function: Legislature also performs elective functions. In India parliament takes part in the election of the President and vice President. British parliament can make a law to determine the mode of succession and abdication of the monarch. In Russia judges of the Supreme Court are elected by the parliament of that country.

(7) Constituent Function: In most democracies the power to change or amend the constitution rest with the legislature .In India the parliament has the power to change certain provisions of the constitution by following a special procedure. In England there is no distinction between ordinary laws and constitutional laws and the legislature has the power to amend the constitutional laws in the same manner as it changes ordinary law.

Q.NO.3. Define Political Party. Explain the types of Political Parties. Marks: 16

SYNOPSIS

1. Introduction
2. Definition of Political Parties
3. Types of Political Parties
 - a. One Member Constituency
 - b. Multi Member Constituency
4. Conclusion

Introduction

Political parties are indispensable for the working of modern representative democracy. They have made their way into vast majority of countries of the world and in most political systems. Nature of these parties may differ widely-they may be democratic or authoritarian; they may seek power through elections or through revolutions ;and may be ideologically as varied as left, right or centre. But one thing is certain, there will be some kind of political parties in almost all countries of the world, regardless of the fact that where that country is situated.

Definitions of Political Party

Some of the important definitions of political parties are stated below:

According to R N Glichrist “A political party is an organized group of citizens who profess to share the same political views and who by acting as a political unit try to control the government”

According to R.M.MacIver “A political party is an association organized in support of some principles or policy which by constitutional means in endeavors to make the determinant of government”.

Types of Political Parties

An easy and common way of classifying party systems are on the basis of number of parties competing for power. On this basis Maurice Duverger distinguish between ‘one party‘ ’two-party ’ and ‘multi- party systems.

1. One-Party Systems

One-Party or Single Party System is one in which a single party enjoys the monopoly of power, through the exclusion of all the other parties. Here one party dominates the politic of a country. There may be other parties but they are insignificant players, as they do not get enough votes to form a government or an effective opposition. One- party systems are generally associated with totalitarian regimes. In single party systems, authority of the party is total and the party members are well disciplined and are committed to the ideology of the party. Opposition parties are either banned by law or are removed using brute force. All the authority of the state will be concentrated in a single party and the party even absorbs the state, instead of merely acting on its behalf. Single party’s authority embraces all aspects of human life.

The second type of one party system is associated with anti-colonial nationalism and state consolidation in the developing world. Here ‘ruling ’party developed out of an independence movement that proclaimed the need for nation-building and economic development. One-party systems in Africa and Asia have usually been built around the

dominant role of a charismatic leader and ideology proclaimed by that leader. Julius Nyerere in Tanzania Robert Mugabe in Zimbabwe are prime examples of this.

2. Two Party Systems

Two-party system or Bi-party system is one in which two 'major' parties dominate the politics of a country and have equal prospect of forming governments. Two party systems can be identified by three distinct criteria:

- (a) Though a number of minor parties exist, only two parties enjoy sufficient electoral and legislative strength for winning government power.
- (b) One party is able to rule alone and the other party becomes the opposition
- (c) Power alternates between these two 'major' parties; both parties are electable and the opposition serving as 'government in the wings'.

Bi-party system is prevalent in countries such as USA, UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. In USA the two major parties are the Republican Party and the Democratic Party. In UK it is the Labour Party and the Conservative Party.

3. Multi-Party System

Multi party systems is characterized by the existence of three or more parties which regularly, secure substantial number of votes and are able to share power. Parties are well organized and they are able to exert considerable influence on the politics of a country. In multi-party systems, usually single parties are not able to secure absolute majority and form governments, and the result is the formation of coalition governments. Smaller parties may form coalitions and form governments by excluding the major parties. This is what happened in India during the Janata party rule in 1977, and the various non-congress governments that were formed in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Multiparty system exists in a number of countries including India, France, Germany, Italy, and Switzerland.

Conclusion

Political parties are more or less organized. Without organization people make just a disorganized crowd and it will be difficult to conform to the common principles on which they agree. Political party should formulate clear and specific programme which they should place before the electorate to win their support. A political party must endeavor to promote national interest and not sectarian or communal interest.

Q.NO.4.What is Universal Adult Franchise? Explain its Merits and Demerits. Marks: 16

Synopsis

1. Meaning of Universal Adult Franchise
2. Features of Universal Adult Franchise
3. Merits and Demerits of Universal Adult Franchise
4. Conclusion.

Meaning o Universal Adult Franchise

Giving voting to every citizens of the country is called universal adult suffrage. It is vary from country to country. For e.g. In India, US, and UK-18, SWISS, Denmark, Spain and Holland - 25 years of age. Who is to be given the right to vote is a great problem of democracy. Today most of the people are of the view that every adult should be given the right of franchise.

Universal Adult Franchise is an extension of the right to vote to adult citizens. It is not restricted by race, caste, gender, belief, wealth or social status. Historically Universal Adult Franchise initially referred to adult male suffrage. France was the first nation that adopted Universal Male Suffrage in the year 1792, followed by this the Greece adopted in the year 1830, Switzerland adopted in the year 1848, USA adopted in the year 1871.

In 1893 Newzaland become the first country in the world to grant Universal Male and Female Adult Franchise. Saudi Arabia is the last country that still does not allow women to vote, but has announced that this will change in the 2015 municipal election. In India the Universal Adult Franchise was adopted in the year Jan-26 1950.

India has a democratic setup with all citizens having equal rights. Article 326 of the Constitution grants Universal Adult Franchise, according to which every adult citizen is entitled to cast his/her vote in all state elections. As per this concept, the right to vote is not restricted by caste, race, gender, religion or financial status. The introduction of Universal Adult Franchise is considered as one of the most important decisions that changed India for the better.

Features of Universal Adult Franchise:

The Universal Adult Franchise has the following features:

1. It establishes political equality among all the adults.
2. It ensures that all the people are having hands in electing ruler and hence the government is democratic.
3. It gives the sense of equality in the minds of masses.
4. Democracy is not possible without Universal Adult Franchise.
5. It promotes the idea of equality among the citizens to give freedom to the people to choose their own leaders.

Merits of Universal Adult Franchise:

1. The source of sovereignty is the people and thus every adult should be given the right to vote.
2. Everybody is equally affected by the laws and policies of the state. Therefore, everybody should have the right to elect his or her representative.
3. All are equal. Those who do not take any part in politics are not taken much care of by the government.
4. Adult franchise is the best way of differentiating citizens from aliens.
5. Adult suffrage gives some representation to the minorities. Thus there is no need og giving them separate representation.
6. It enhances the prestige of the people in society, because big leaders come to them for securing.

7. For the protection of civil rights, it is essential that the people should be given political rights, so that the government should not try to crush the liberty of the people.
8. Elections bring about political awakening in society. In order to shake off political disinterestedness from the society, it is essential that every citizen should be given the right to vote.
9. Adult suffrage imparts political education to the people and their interest is created in the government.
10. It brings about national unity. The government elected on the basis of adult franchise enjoys the confidence of the people.

Demerits of Universal Adult Suffrage:

1. It would hinder the scientific development of the country.
2. The dangers of government run by ignorant masses and pleaded for a suffrage, based partly upon education and property. The legislature is essentially a machine for levying taxes.
3. Franchise is a sacred national duty and it should not be misused. If every adult is given the franchise right, very few intelligent persons shall misuse it.
4. The capitalists purchase the votes from the poor people and the labourers. Thus it is not proper to give the right to vote to everyone.
5. The questions relating to administration are becoming complex day by day. An ordinary voter is incapable of understanding complex questions. Thus elects undeserving representatives, not care for the interests of those persons who have no voting rights. Therefore, the illiterate persons should also be given the right to vote. It is not necessary that an educated person is more intelligent than an illiterate person.

On the basis of arguments given above, people are not in favour of franchise based on educational qualification. Today all the people are considered the source of sovereignty.

Q.NO.5.What is Minority Representation? Explain clearly the Importance of Minority Representation. Discuss the Proportional Representation (Hare System). Marks: 16

Synopsis

1. Introduction
2. Meaning of Minority Representation
3. Importance of Minority Representation
4. Proportional Representation (Hare System).
5. Conclusion

Introduction

Most countries follow the 'Majority Representation' where the candidate who secures the majority of votes in an election is declared elected and the rest non-elected. The elected candidate represents in the legislature the point of view of electors, who have voted for him. But, those who have voted for an unsuccessful candidate, remain unrepresented. There is gross injustice in a situation, where the difference between the votes secured by an elected candidate and the defeated candidate is almost negligible. Here minority, though a significant minority, does not find representation.

Meaning of Minority Representation

All democracies are aware of the need for providing adequate representation to the Minorities. Minorities may be of many kinds-political, national, racial, linguistic or communal. Political minorities are the product of representative government. Problem of minority representation can be solved, when people are divided on political ideologies, with some effort. But, when minorities differ from majority in race, religion and language and every minority desires to have a separate identity in order to safeguard its distinct social, religious and cultural institutions, it is then that minority representation becomes a difficult question. At the same time there should be some mechanism to ensure the representation of minorities.

Importance of Minority Representation

Fair minority representation is very often referred to in the constitution and can be achieved through any of the types of quotas. The reserved seats system is a widely used quota system to ensure the representation of minority groups in the legislature by setting aside a certain share of parliamentary seats for candidates representing the minority group.

1. More balanced representation can increase minority support for the political system in general and increase political stability
2. Legislated quotas can circumvent conservative party leadership: In some cases, a conservative party leadership dominated by a social elite is seen as the main obstacle to nomination of minority candidates. Legislated quotas circumvent these entrenched elites and force them to look for suitable candidates from different ethnic and religious groups.
3. Elected representatives serve as role models: If persons from minority backgrounds are elected to the legislature, they will serve as role models for younger persons who might be more inclined to put themselves forward for election in the future.
4. Through the Legislated quotas the minority representation engage political parties in finding suitable candidates: By tradition, habit, and networks, selection committees in political parties tend to be conservative and nominate fewer persons from disadvantaged groups. Legislated quotas force political parties to seek, find, and train a more diverse pool of candidates – efforts that they may not have made otherwise.
5. Legislated quotas are not discriminatory but rather compensate for an already existing discrimination: The main reason behind the low representation of minorities in some countries is a structural discrimination against them in the society. Quotas are therefore not discriminatory in themselves, they merely compensate for an already existing discrimination.
6. Rather than limit the freedom of choice, quotas give voters a chance to elect candidates for a more diverse pool: Some argue that quotas do not limit the freedom of choice of voters, but rather enhance it, giving voters the chance to vote for candidates from a more diverse pool – something they may not have had the possibility to do otherwise.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION

The principle of Proportional Representation is that parties should be represented in the parliament in direct proportion to their overall electoral strength. Which means a political party should be represented in parliament in proportion to its share of the popular vote. The assumption here is

that, if a party secures 10 per cent of the votes, then that party should get exactly 10 per cent of seats in the parliament. This ensures representation to all sections and interest in proportion to the numerical strength of their votes, and also it ensures that no vote is wasted. There are two varieties of proportional representation:

- (a) Hare Scheme of Single Transferable Vote, and
- (b) The List System.

The Hare System/ Single Transferable Vote System

The Hare system is associated with Thomas Hare who formulated it in 1857 and explained it in his book 'The Machinery of Representation'. This system is also known by the name Single transferable Vote System. Yet another name is preferential system, because of the preferences which a voter is required to give to different candidates on the list. In Hare system, the constituencies are multimember with at least three seats. No maximum is prescribed for the number of seats. Regardless of the number of representatives to be elected, each voter has only one vote. However, voters can indicate on the ballot paper his preference or choice- first preference, second preference, and so on by marking the figures 1,2,3, against the name of the candidates. He can vote for as many candidates as there are seats to be filled from that constituency by denoting his preference.

A candidate to be declared elected requires to get a certain quota of votes. Different methods are followed to determine the quota. The simplest method is to divide the number of votes cast by the number of seats to be filled from the constituency, and the quotient is taken as the quota or the number of votes necessary to elect a candidate. For example, if the total votes cast are 10000 and 10 members are to be elected from that constituency, the quota necessary would be 1000. But, in 1881 Droop pointed out certain defects in this system and suggested another method of determining the quota. He suggested determining of the quota by dividing the total number of votes cast by one more than the number of seats to be filled and then by adding one to the result.

In counting the votes, only first preference or choice are counted first and a candidate securing the quota is declared elected. His surplus votes are passed on to candidates not yet elected, in the order expressed in the preferences. The process of transferring surplus votes to the next preference continues down the list, until the necessary number of representatives have been elected. If need be vote of unsuccessful candidates are also transferred. The idea is that no vote should be wasted. The voter is thus assured that if the candidate of his choice does not require his vote, his second or other choices will gain by it. This method of proportional representation prevailed in Britain in the election of the four university constituencies to the House of Commons. In India, members of the Rajya Sabha are elected by members of the state Legislative Assemblies through the system of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote. Presidential election also follows the same method. In South Africa it is used for senatorial elections.

Conclusion

Proportional representation gives representation to minorities in proportion to their electoral strength. Both the Hare and List system formally recognise each party or groups and are given

special representation. Two aspects of proportional representation system is that: One, it works only in multi-member constituencies, and Two, the candidates are elected not by securing a relative or absolute majority but by securing a quota of votes. Quota is generally arrived at by dividing the total number of votes cast by the total number of seats. This is done to bring about mathematically the exact representation of the electorate in the legislature.

Q.NO.6.What are the Forms of Government? Bring out the Difference between Unitary and Federal Government. Marks: 16

SYNOPSIS

1. Introduction
2. Forms of Government
3. Differences between Unitary and Federal Government.

Introduction:

Government is the agency or the machinery through which the will of the State is formulated, expressed and realised. Power rests with the government. The functions of the State, for all practical purposes are performed by the government through its three branches—legislature, executive and judiciary.

Forms of Government:

On the basis of distribution of governmental powers between the centre and the states political scientist like, J.A.R. Marriot, C.F.Strong and Stephen Leacock have divided the governments into two types namely

1. Unitary Government and
2. Federal Government

UNITRAY GOVERNMENT		FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	
1.	In a Unitary System of Government one single national or central government exists	1.	In the federal system of government there are two sets of government-one national government and a number of state governments
2.	Power and Authority concentrates in the Central Government in the unitary government	2.	Constitutional division of power between the central and federating units is the essence of federation
3.	In this system the Constitution may be written or unwritten, and it need not be supreme.	3.	In the federal system the Constitution must be written and supreme law of the land.

4.	A Unitary government may be flexible or rigid. There is no specific bar on it.	4.	A federal form of government is to be rigid in character.
5.	The constitution of a unitary government is not the outcome of a treaty.	5.	A federal constitution is an outcome of a treaty or an agreement.
6.	In a unitary government the citizens have to obey one law, i.e., of the Central Government.	6.	In a federation, a citizen is to obey central laws and the laws of the unit where he lives.
7.	In a unitary government, there is no need of special mechanism to resolve disputes between different areas.	7.	A special federal court is established in order to resolve the disputes between the centre and the states themselves.
8.	It is less Expensive	8.	It is more expensive.
9.	It is an efficient government in times of crisis.	9.	It should consult States with respect of wars, revolts and crisis.
10.	It is best suited for small countries.	10.	It is best suited for big countries with different races, cultures, languages etc.
11.	Parliament is Supreme.	11.	Constitution is Supreme.
12.	In a unitary government, there is only one Constitution for the entire country.	12.	In a federal government, there may be two types of Constitution—one for nation and the other for the States.
13.	It is a simple type of government.	13.	It is a complex type of government.
14.	It is a strong government.	14.	It is a weak government as it is based on division of powers.

15.	It is more flexible and can meet any situation and adopt according to changing needs.	15.	It is more rigid and cannot change according to the requirements of the time due to the presence of a rigid constitution.
16.	It leads to administrative inefficiency because the Centre is over burdened with work.	16.	It leads to administrative efficiency because the States reduce the burden of the Central Government.
17.	It leads to the establishment of dictatorship because of centralization of powers in Central government.	17.	It does not lead to the establishment of dictatorship because powers are distributed between the Centre and States.
18.	It does not give scope for conducting experiments in administration.	18.	It gives scope for conducting experiments in administration.
19.	It does not provide local governments for local people to participate in local problem.	19.	It allows the local people to participate in local problems through local bodies.
20.	It consist Unicameral Legislature.	20.	It consists of Bicameral Legislature.

Q.NO.7..Define Citizenship. Explain clearly the methods of acquiring the Citizenship. State under what circumstances a citizen may lose his Citizenship. Marks: 16.

Synopsis

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Definition of Citizenship**
- 3. Methods of Acquiring the Citizenship**
- 4. Termination of Citizenship**

Introduction

The term citizen is used in many contexts. So, it is necessary to have a detailed discussion of the term "Citizenship". The population of a country can be divided into two classes namely

1. Citizens and
2. Aliens.

A citizen of a state is a person who enjoys full civil and political rights. Citizens are different from aliens who do not enjoy all these rights. Citizenship carries with it certain advantages conferred by the Constitution.

Meaning and Definition of Citizenship:

Citizenship is membership of a society living under the one Government. It confers the status and carries with it certain privileges of the state. According to Hans Kelsen, "Citizenship is a legal status determined by the specific rights and duties of which the statute is the condition. Citizen of a State is he who has political rights, the duty of military service and diplomatic protection afforded by the state concerned". Citizenship may also be defined as the legal relationship between an individual and the state under which an individual pledges his loyalty to the state, and the state offers protection to the individual. Citizenship is confined to only natural or physical persons. It is not extended to Corporations and juristic persons.

Methods of Acquiring Citizenship:

Each Country has its own very unique laws and rules for citizenship. Citizenship may be acquired according to two methods:

1. By Birth or
2. By Naturalisation.

• By Birth:

A person can acquire the Citizenship of a particular nation by birth. There are two practices which are observed regarding the acquisition of citizenship by birth. i.e. Jus Soli and Jus Sanguinis

a) Jus Soli:

Jus Soli is a Latin term that means laws of the Soil. (Right of the Soil). It is the right of everyone born in the territory of state to nationality/ citizenship. Under this concept, citizenship of a person is determined by the place where a person was born. Jus Soli is the most common means a person acquires citizenship of a nation. Jus Soli is the most common means a person acquires citizenship of a nation. Jus Soli is common in developed countries some of the countries that follow the jus soli system include, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Mexico, Jamaica, Pakistan, U.S.A. etc.

According to this practice, citizenship is determined by the place of birth and not by parentage. This practice is now not popular. It was of course, popular in the middle ages when citizenship was associated with land. In England, U.S.A and France, both the above practices are employed simultaneously. Observance of both the practices sometime gives rise to duplication of citizenship. For e.g. a child born of English parents in America, becomes the citizen of America according to the practice of Jus Soli. The same child becomes a citizen of England also according to the practice of Jus Sanguinis.

The problem is solved by giving an option to the child to accept the citizenship of either state it likes when it comes to the age.

b) Jus Sanguinis:

Jus Sanguinis is a Latin term, which means laws of blood or right of blood. It is a principle of nationality law by which citizenship is not determined by place of birth but by having one or both parents who are citizens of the State. Children at birth may automatically be citizens if their parents have state citizenship. Many countries of the world practice the Jus Sanguinis like; Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy etc...

According to this, a child acquires the citizenship of parents irrespective of place of birth, e.g., child born of Indian parents is an Indian Citizen whether it is born on Indian soil or abroad. The practice of Jus Sanguinis was very popular in ancient times. This practice is natural as well as logical. It is exclusively observed in Germany, Italy, Sweden, Norway etc..

If a country follows the Jus Sanguinis or right of blood system a person inherits a parent's citizenship. So, if a father and mother were each from a different Jus Sanguinis nation and a person were born in Jus Soli a child would be able to claim citizenship in three countries.

• By Naturalisation:

Citizenship can also be acquired through naturalisation. According to this method an alien can become a citizen after fulfilling certain conditions. Though these conditions vary from state to state, yet some of the general principles which are observed may be summed up as follows.

Naturalization (or **naturalisation**) is the legal act or process by which a non-citizen in a country may acquire citizenship or nationality of that country. It may be done by a statute, without any effort on the part of the individual, or it may involve an application and approval by legal authorities. The rules of naturalization vary from country to country and typically include a minimum legal residency requirement, and may specify other requirements such as knowledge of the national dominant language or culture, a promise to obey and uphold that country's laws. A person may acquire the citizenship by naturalisation by following methods;

1. Residence: A certain period of residence in the State is essential before an alien can be granted citizenship. This period varies from state to state. In England and U.S.A. the period is 5 yrs and in France it is 10 yrs.

2. Oath of Allegiance: An oath or pledge of allegiance is also sometimes required. An alien must take an oath of allegiance before he can become a citizen of another state.

3. Purchase of Real Estate: an alien, who buys real estate in foreign land, can get the right of citizenship if he so desire.

4. Service (Civil/ Military): an alien may be given right of citizenship. If he renders meritorious service in another state.

5. Marriage: women acquire the citizenship of their alien husband. e.g., an English lady will acquire the citizenship of India if she marries an Indian. The condition of marriage in Japan, however is quite different. Japanese women do not lose their citizenship even if they marry an alien husband. The alien household on the other hand acquires the citizenship of Japan if he marries a Japanese lady.

Loss/ Termination of Citizenship:

Loss of citizenship is also termed as termination of citizenship or cancellation of citizenship. It is an event of ceasing to be a citizen of a country under the laws of that country. There are generally two categories of grounds for loss of citizenship.

Involuntary loss which may occur either due to automatic lapse of citizenship from the citizen for failure to perform some action to retain citizenship. Or due to active withdrawal of citizenship by the country.

1. By Renunciation of Citizenship:

A person or if a citizen of another country voluntarily renounces the citizenship through a declaration in the prescribed manner he ceases to be a citizen.

2. By Termination (Operation of Law):

If any person who has acquired Citizenship by naturalization, registration or otherwise voluntarily acquired the citizenship of another country ceases to be a citizen of from the date of such acquisition.

3. By Deprivation (Compulsory Termination):

The Government of any Country is empowered to deprive a citizen of his citizenship by issuing an order for the compulsory termination of citizenship. The followings are the possible grounds of deprivation:

1. Voluntary acquisition of another citizenship
2. Residing abroad on a permanent basis
3. Obtaining of Citizenship certificate by means of fraud, false representation or concealment of any fact.
4. Disloyalty or disaffection towards the constitution shown by act or speech
5. assisting an enemy with whom India is at war.
6. Sentenced to imprisonment in any country for a term not less than 2 years.
7. Serving in a foreign military or foreign government
8. Upon adoption by a foreign citizen, or other change in the child's legal relation to the parents such as annulment of maternity/paternity.

Conclusion:

Citizenship is the status of a person recognized under the custom or law as being a member of a state. A person may have multiple citizenships and a person who does not have citizenship of any state is said to be stateless. It determines the relationship between the state and the citizens. It signifies permanent commitment of an individual to the country. That is through citizenship, a

citizen expresses his loyalty to the nation. In return, the nation provides protection to the citizen. Citizenship grants to a person the right to vote and the right to contest in the election. Citizenship provides certain special right i.e., fundamental rights to a person. It provides to a person an opportunity to hold public offices.

Q. No. 8. Define Electorate. Discuss the qualifications and disqualifications of the electorate, including the views of J.S. Mill.

In political science, the **electorate** is defined as the entire body of citizens who are legally qualified to vote in an election. It represents the "**sovereign people**" in a democracy, as they possess the ultimate power to select their representatives. The quality of a democracy is often judged by the maturity and participation of its electorate, making them the foundation upon which representative institutions are built.

Regarding **qualifications**, modern democratic states typically require that an individual be a citizen of the country, meet a minimum age threshold (like 18 years in India), and be a registered resident of a specific constituency. These criteria ensure that voters have a permanent stake in the nation's affairs.

Conversely, **disqualifications** are legal barriers meant to protect the sanctity of the electoral process. Common grounds for being disqualified include unsoundness of mind, conviction for serious criminal offenses, or engagement in corrupt electoral practices. As noted in Indian constitutional frameworks, these provisions prevent individuals who have disregarded the law or who cannot make rational, informed choices from influencing the governance of the state.

J.S. Mill, a renowned liberal thinker, offered a unique and cautious perspective on the electorate. While he was a firm supporter of representative government, he was deeply concerned about the "**tyranny of the majority**," where an uneducated and uninformed crowd might elect leaders who pursue short-sighted or harmful policies. To mitigate this, Mill famously advocated for **plural voting**. He proposed that individuals with higher education or professional expertise should be granted more than one vote. His logic was that those with greater knowledge would be more likely to protect the long-term interests of the state. While this view is largely considered undemocratic by modern standards, it highlights the importance Mill placed on the "quality" and "intelligence" of the electorate in ensuring a stable and ethical government.

Q. No. 9. Discuss Montesquieu's theory of separation of powers?

The theory of **separation of powers** was famously proposed by the French philosopher Baron de Montesquieu in his work, **The Spirit of the Laws**. Montesquieu argued that liberty is only possible when the three primary functions of government—law-making (legislative), law-enforcing (executive), and law-interpreting (judicial)—are kept separate. He believed that if these powers were concentrated in the hands of a single person or a small group, it would inevitably lead to

tyranny or "despotism," as the same body that makes the laws would also enforce and interpret them to suit its own interests.

To prevent this, Montesquieu suggested a system of **checks and balances**. In this model, each branch of government is given the power to oversee, and if necessary, limit the actions of the others. For example, in a constitutional system, the legislature makes laws, but the judiciary has the power to declare them unconstitutional if they violate fundamental rights. Similarly, the executive is responsible for daily administration but remains accountable to the legislature for its actions and spending.

This theory is vital because it establishes a structure where no single organ becomes omnipotent. In the context of Indian polity, while we follow a parliamentary system with some overlap (as cabinet ministers are also members of the legislature), the principle of an independent judiciary and the clear division of functions remains a "basic feature" of the Constitution. Montesquieu's framework ensures that the power of the state is restrained, protecting the individual from arbitrary rule and ensuring that the government operates within its defined legal boundaries.

Q. No.12. What is public opinion? Explain its various agencies and importance?

Public opinion: refers to the collective views, attitudes, and beliefs held by a significant portion of the adult population on matters of public interest. It is not just the opinion of one person, but a consensus or a majoritarian trend that influences government policy. In a democracy, public opinion is the ultimate force that provides legitimacy to the government; it acts as a silent but powerful monitor, constantly signaling whether the policies of the state are in alignment with the needs and aspirations of the people.

Several **agencies** contribute to the formation of public opinion. The **media** (newspapers, television, and the internet) is often called the "fourth estate" because it provides the information that shapes how people perceive issues. **Political parties** are another major agency, as they mobilize people and create agendas around specific ideologies.

Educational institutions foster a sense of civic consciousness, while pressure groups and NGOs keep specific societal concerns in the public eye. Finally, family and social circles often form the primary basis for an individual's political awareness and values.

The **importance** of public opinion is immense. It acts as a safety valve, allowing the public to voice their grievances without resorting to violence. It also prevents the government from becoming autocratic, as leaders are aware that they must face the electorate in upcoming elections. When the government ignores public sentiment for too long, it loses its credibility and support. Thus, public opinion acts as a constant reminder that the state is a servant of the people, not their master.

Q. No. 13. Discuss the importance and limitations of minority representation.

Minority representation: refers to the mechanisms and systems, such as reserved seats, quotas, or proportional representation, that ensure minority groups (religious, linguistic, or ethnic) have a formal voice in the legislative process. Its primary **importance** lies in the principle of inclusivity. In a large and diverse nation, there is always a risk that the majority could dominate the political process and overlook the unique needs or rights of smaller communities. Minority representation provides these groups with a seat at the table, allowing them to advocate for their specific interests and ensuring that the government's laws do not accidentally (or intentionally) marginalize them. It promotes social stability by giving everyone a stake in the democratic system.

However, there are notable **limitations** to this approach. Critics often argue that emphasizing minority identity can lead to "sectarian politics," where representatives focus only on their own community's demands rather than the common good of the entire nation. This can sometimes create a feeling of fragmentation, where the legislature is divided into warring camps based on identity rather than policy. There is also the challenge of "tokenism," where a representative might be placed in a seat but lacks the actual influence to make a real difference for their community.

Moreover, some argue that minority representation can be patronizing if it assumes that a minority group cannot compete or succeed on its own merits in an open electoral contest. Despite these criticisms, most modern democracies continue to use forms of minority representation because the alternative—total exclusion—is far more dangerous to national unity. It serves as a necessary safeguard in a pluralistic society to ensure that "the people," as a whole, truly includes everyone.

Q. NO. 13 Quasi Federal Government System

Ans: SYNOPSIS

❖ Introduction

Quasi Federal Government

Meaning and Definition

Introduction

Quasi federal refers to a system of government where the distribution of powers between the Center and the state are not equal. India is a federation with a unitary bias and is referred as a quasi federal state because of strong central machinery.

Quasi Federal Government

The Constitution of India has not described India as a federation. On the other hand, Article 1 of the Constitution describes India as a —Union of States. This means, India is a union comprising of various States which are integral parts of it. The Indian Union is not destructible. Here, the States cannot break away from the union. They do not have the right to secede from the union. In a true federation, the constituting units or the States have the freedom to come out of the union India is not a true federation. It combines the features of a federal government and the features of a unitary government which can also be called the non-federal features. Because of this, India is regarded as a semi-federal state.

Meaning and Definition

Prof K.C Wheare describes it as —a quasifederal state. The Supreme Court of India also describes it as —a federal structure with a strong bias towards the Centre Indian constitution contains both features of a federal constitution and unitary constitution. For understanding Quasi Federal government, we have to know that what are the federal features and what is unitary features of Indian Constitution

The main features of Indian Federal system are as follows:

1) **Division of Powers :** The division of powers between two levels of governments is an essential feature of federalism. Federalism means the distribution of powers of the state between the central and the state governments. The basis of such distribution of power is that in matters of national importance, in which a uniform policy is desirable in the interest of the units, authority is entrusted to the centre and matters of local concern remain with the states. In a Federation there should be clear division of powers so that the units and the centre are required to enact and legislate within their sphere of activity and none violates its limits and tries to encroach upon the functions of others. The Seventh schedule contains three legislative lists which enumerate subjects of administration viz., Union, State and Concurrent lists. The union list consists of 100 subjects, the more

important of which are defense, railway, posts and telegraph, currency etc. The state list consists of 61 subjects, including public order, police, administration of justice, public health, education, agriculture etc. The concurrent list embraced 52 subjects including criminal law, marriage, divorce, trade unions, electricity etc. The residuary powers have been vested in the central government.

2) Supremacy of the Constitution: In a federation, the constitution should be the supreme source of strength, both for the centre as well as the federating units. Accordingly, Indian constitution is also supreme and not the hand maid of either the centre or of the states. If, for any reason, any organ of the state dares to violate any provision of the constitution, the court of law is there to ensure the dignity of the constitution, which is upheld at all costs

3) A Written Constitution: A Federal constitution must almost be a written constitution. It will be practically impossible to maintain the supremacy of the constitution and division of powers between the centre and the states, unless the terms of the constitution have been reduced into writing. Accordingly, the Indian constitution is a written document containing 395 Articles and 10 Schedules, and therefore fulfills this basic requirement of a federal government. In fact the Indian constitution is the most elaborate constitution of the world.

4) Rigid Constitution: A natural corollary of a written constitution is its rigidity. In a rigid constitution the procedure of amendment is complicated and difficult. But this does not mean that the constitution should be legally unalterable. A Rigid constitution, as we know, is one which cannot be changed easily. The Indian constitution is largely a rigid constitution. All the provisions of the constitution concerning federal state relations can be amended only by the joint actions of the state legislatures and the union parliament. Such provisions can be amended only if the amendment is passed by a two-third majority of the members present and by voting in the parliament, and is ratified by at least one half of the states

5) Independent Judiciary: For a federation, it is also essential that the judiciary is impartial and independent. A Federal court is indispensable to a federation. It acts as the guardian of the constitution. Especially, this principle has been playing an important and key role in the working of federal government. The constitution has provided for a Supreme Court, and every effort has been made to see that the judiciary in India is independent and supreme. The Supreme Court of India can declare a law as unconstitutional if it contravenes any provisions of the constitution. In order to ensure the impartiality of the judiciary, our judges are not removable by the executive and their salaries cannot be curtailed by the Parliament.

6) Bicameral Legislature: A bicameral system is considered essential in a federation because it is in the Upper House alone that the units can be given equal representation. The Constitution of India also provides for a bicameral legislature at the Centre consisting of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. While the Lok Sabha consists of the elected representatives of people, the Rajya Sabha mainly consists of representatives elected by State Legislative Assemblies.

Q.NO.14: Write Short Note on the following.

Marks: 8X2=16

1. Single Member Vs Multi- Member Constituency

There are many methods of electing representatives in constituencies. The first method is known as Single-Member Constituency and the second is Multi-Member Constituency.

a) SINGLE – MEMBER CONSTITUENCY: If only one representative is elected from each constituency, it is known as ‘Single Member ‘Constituency. This means that the entire Country is divided into as many constituencies as the number of representatives is to be elected. This system has been adopted by a majority countries in the world such as India, the U.K., the U.S.A. etc.

For Example, if 224 members are to be elected for the Karnataka Legislative Assembly, Karnataka will be divided into 224 constituencies. From each constituency one member will be elected. The candidate who secures maximum votes will be deemed to have been elected. Every citizen has to cast, one vote, which means, he has the right to cast his vote for only one assembly and from only one constituency.

b) MULTI-MEMBER CONSTITUENCY:

If more than one representative are elected from the same constituency it is known as ‘multi-member constituency. This method is In this system the entire country is divided into large constituencies. more than one representative is elected from each constituency. Every voter gets more than one vote. Ordinary member cannot dump all his votes in favour of one candidate. In order to win the elections, the candidate has to secure a fixed number of votes, and there is no need for securing a majority vote. The number of representatives to be elected from one constituency is

decided on the basis of area or the population. This system is also known as General Ticket System.

2) Civil Services

The term executive in its broad sense includes not only the head of the State, but also the entire body of administrative officials, high or low. The real work of the administration is done by the permanent members of the government. In fact, the work of government would never be done, if there were only the ministers. It is true that each department of administration is headed by a Minister, but it is not his business to run the department. His business is to only see that the department pursues a definite policy and runs in a certain direction. Those who actually run the department and implement the policies of the government are known as members of the permanent civil or administrative services. They have a permanent status and tenure and are selected for their administrative capacity alone. They have no interest in party policies and do not go out of office when a ministry changes. The Civil Service constitutes the permanent and professional part of the executive organ of government. It is usually described as the non-political or politically neutral, permanent, and professionally trained civil service. It runs the administration of the state according to the policies and laws of the government political executive. Upon the qualities and efficiency of bureaucracy depends the quality and efficiency of the state administration. It, however, works under the leadership and control of the Political Executive.

The civil servants hold permanent jobs in government departments. They mostly join their services during their youths and continue to work as government servants till the age of retirement which is usually 58 to 60 years. The members of the Bureaucracy are not directly involved in politics. They cannot join political parties and participate in political movements. They are not affected by the political changes which keep on coming in the political executive. Whichever party may come to power and make the government, the civil servants remain politically neutral and carry out their assigned departmental roles impartially and faithfully.

The Bureaucracy constitutes the educated and professionally trained class of persons which helps the political executive in carrying out its functions. The members of civil service are recruited through competitive examinations for appearing in which they have to possess some minimum educational qualifications. Before their appointments, they get special trainings. During the course of their service they attend orientation and refresher courses. They have the knowledge, training and expertise necessary for carrying out their administrative work.

Each member of the Bureaucracy receives a fixed salary. Right at the time of appointment he is allotted a scale of pay, which depends upon the nature and level of his job-responsibility. All the civil servants belonging to a particular class of administrative hierarchy are placed in one scale of pay. Each job also entitles them to some allowances.

Modern Bureaucracy identifies itself with public service spirit. It always tries to project itself as the civil servants devoted to the promotion of public welfare through the satisfaction of public

needs. They are expected to behave as 'officers' responsible for public welfare, with service as their motto.

3)Franchise for Women.

The term 'political participation' has a very wide meaning. It is not only related to 'Right to Vote', but simultaneously relates to participation in decision making process, political activism, political consciousness, etc. Women participate in voting, run for public offices and political parties at lower levels more than men. Political activism and voting are the strongest areas of women's political participation.

Earlier, a woman was considered as a weaker section of the society. The women are generally conservative in nature and most of them are illiterate thus if they are given with franchise, they will misuse it and cast their votes in favour of incompetent persons. If the women cast their votes against the will of their husbands, there will be tension and clash in the family. The women would lose their feminine qualities of virtues, if they are given the right to vote. Women cannot perform public duties as men can, because they are physically weaker than men. But the trend has been changed to the extent that women is not weaker than men she is much capable of handling any situation and she well aware of her rights and duties. Women also need the protection of their rights and interests. Males alone should not make laws pertaining to the rights of women. The entire people will be benefited by giving the voting right to women. In countries where women have been given the voting right, they have done a marvellous job of getting the laws passed for the welfare of labourers, children, orphans and other weaker sections of the society. Women are capable of sharing with men the experience of political rights and privileges.

Today the consensus of opinion is in favour of women franchise. It has been considered good to deprive them of the voting right. Thus in the Indian Constitution every adult who has attained the age of 18 has given the right to franchise. Adult franchise is also there in Soviet Union, France, England and U.S.A.

Women Participation in Voting In 1893 Newzaland become the first country in the world to grant Universal Male and Female Adult Franchise. Saudi Arabia is the last country that still does not allow women to vote, but has announced that this will change in the 2015 municipal election. In India the Universal Adult Franchise was adopted in the year Jan-26 1950.

In India the movement for

women's suffrage began in the early 1900s in response to a national movement for suffrage, even though vast majority of neither men nor women had a right to vote during the British colonial rule before 1947. After Indian independence from Britain, the Indian Constitution in 1950 officially granted women and men suffrage. Prior to universal suffrage, provincial legislatures had granted women the right to vote. Madras was the first to grant women's suffrage in 1921, but only to those men and women who owned land property according to British administration's records. This

changed in 1950 when universal suffrage was granted to all adult Indian citizens. It can be said that India has moved a big step forward in empowering the women to participate in the political process at the policy decision making level.

4)Direct Vs Indirect Election

The primary aim of election in a democratic system is the formation of government, according to the will of the people. Elections are at the very core of democracy. Even if democracy is conceived as involving much more than elections and even if an ideal democracy includes important forms of direct participation by citizens in many aspects of public decision.

The methods of electing representatives are of two types:

a.Direct Election Method

b.Indirect Election Method

a)Direct Election Method:

If the voters directly participate in election and elect their representatives it is known as the direct election method. in a direct election method, the representatives are elected directly by voters of electorate. the members of the Lok Sabha at the Centre and the State Legislative Assemblies of India and the members of the House of Commons in the U.K. are elected directly by the voters.

The process of direct elections is very simple. Every voter goes to the polling station and cast/records his votes either in favour of one candidate or the other. a candidate securing the maximum number of votes is declared elected. This method of elections is the most popular and is followed in all democratic countries for electing members of the representatives.

Direct election makes the people conscious of their rights and duties and it is fully in keeping with democratic principles. In direct elections a direct contact between the electors and their representatives stimulates interest in public affairs and develops the sense of private spirit. Democracy has an educative value and there is no better method of educating citizens then giving them the opportunity of directly participating in the election of their representatives.

b.Indirect Election Method:

When the voters do not directly participate in the elections of their representatives, but choose only an intermediary body which alone will make the final choice, the method of election is called Indirect Election Method.

This intermediary body of electors is usually known as Electoral College. Indirect method of election involves double election. in the first instances, the general mass of voters elect among themselves a small group of electors. These

electors than elect the final representatives, who becomes the members of legislature.

The final choice of electing the representatives is not that of the general mass of voters, but of the intermediary body of electors whom the general mass of voters had elected in the first instances. This system of elections limits the power of the voters. In India, the members of the Rajya Sabha at the Centre and the Legislative Council at the State are elected indirectly. The President of USA is elected indirectly; Members of France and USSR Upper House are also elected indirectly.

5. Presidential System: Merits and Demerits

Merits:

The defining merit of the **Presidential System** is the **stability and continuity** it provides. Because the President is elected for a fixed tenure, the government cannot be removed by a simple legislative vote of no-confidence, allowing the administration to focus on long-term policy goals without the distraction of frequent electoral threats. This system also fosters **clear executive authority** and decisiveness. Since the President acts as both the Head of State and Head of Government, they can take swift, unified action in areas like national security or economic crisis without being hampered by legislative bargaining. Additionally, the **strict separation of powers** protects the system against "legislative tyranny," ensuring that the executive does not become merely a subordinate committee of the law-making body.

Demerits

The significant drawback is the **risk of legislative deadlock**. In this system, the executive and legislature often hold separate mandates, which frequently leads to a situation where the President and the majority of the legislature belong to opposing political parties. This creates gridlock where the legislature may block executive initiatives out of political friction, causing administrative paralysis. Furthermore, the system lacks the **daily accountability** found in parliamentary setups; the President is not answerable to the legislature on a day-to-day basis, which can lead to a perception of isolation from public grievances. Finally, the extreme concentration of power in one individual can sometimes foster an environment where institutional checks are weakened, potentially leading to an over-reliance on executive orders and a drift toward unilateral governance.

6. Pressure Groups.

Apart from political parties there are various associations and groups existing in almost all countries of the world. A group has an interest of its own and it also represents a pattern of process rather than a static form. A group can emerge, only when the interactions among its members are relatively frequent and sufficiently patterned to produce directional activity. What binds members of the group is the interest – a shared attitude concerning a claim or claims to be made by one group upon certain other groups in a social system.

Interest is the main reason for the organization of groups. People holding similar views and interest may form groups for the realisation of their interest. The shared interest may be political, religious, occupational, cultural etc. Groups or association formed by like minded people for the protection and promotion of specific interest or goals are called Interest Groups. It is a formal organization of people who share one or more common aim or interest. Interest groups may be formed at the national, state or even at the local level. A person can be a member of different interest groups at the same time. Interest groups may or may not indulge in politics, but their main aim is to protect the interest of the group.

Pressure groups are part of political process and they attempt to reinforce or change the direction of government policy. It can be said that, pressure groups are those interest groups that exert pressure on the government with the aim of accomplishing what is advantageous to them. An interest group when they start influencing the formation and administration of public policy by the government, they become pressure groups.

Pressure groups do not seek to influence the electorate on the basis of certain programmes. They are only concerned about the interest that they espouse. They normally do not actively get involved in politics, but at the same time they are not averse to indulge in politics if that helps their cause. Generally, no distinction is made between interest groups and pressure groups and both terms are used interchangeably by most writers on the subject.

Main Features of Pressure Groups(Interest Groups)

We can identify certain characteristics which are common to all pressure groups. They are:

(a) **Self Interest-** Self interest is guiding force for the formation of a pressure group. Individuals having common interest come together to form groups to fight for their interest.

(b) **No Open Alignment with Politics-** Pressure groups are not organizations without politics, but at the same time they do not prefer to have open alignment with politics. They are somewhere in the middle. In the view of Eckstein, “Pressure group politics represent something less than the full politicization of groups and something more than de-politicization: it constitutes an intermediate level of activity between the political and the apolitical.” Generally a group keeps its political complexion mainly for the sake of expediency.

(c) **Pressure Groups Differ from Political Parties-** political parties are generally bigger associations and represent the interest of various sections of a society. Pressure groups on the other hand are comparatively smaller groups and have specific interest to pursue. One can be a member of different interest groups simultaneously, but that is not possible in the case of political parties.

(d) **Universality-** pressure groups enjoy universality. They are formed in all parts of the world. They include organizations catering to the interest of various sections of the society. These include business, labour, farm cooperative, church and other organizations. Interest groups based on religion and caste are predominantly a feature of developing countries like India.

7. Judicial Review

Judicial Review is a special power given to the High Courts and the Supreme Court. It allows them to examine the actions of the government and the laws passed by the Parliament. If the court finds that a law or an order goes against the rules of the Constitution, it can declare that law "null and void," meaning it is no longer valid. This power is essential because it ensures that the government follows the law and does not misuse its authority.

The main basis for this power is found in the Indian Constitution. Article 13 says that any law that takes away or harms the Fundamental Rights of citizens will not be valid. Furthermore, Articles 32 and 226 allow citizens to go to court if their rights are violated. When a court uses its power of judicial review, it is acting as a "guardian" of the Constitution, making sure that every citizen's rights are protected and that the government stays within its legal limits.

There are two main things the court checks during a review. First, it checks if the government had the legal authority to pass that law or order. Second, it checks if the law violates the Constitution. It is important to remember that the court does not judge whether a law is a "good" or "bad" policy—that is the job of the politicians. Instead, the court only looks at whether the law is legally correct and follows constitutional rules.

A very important landmark in this topic is the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973). In this case, the Supreme Court declared that judicial review is a part of the "Basic Structure" of the Constitution. This means that even the Parliament cannot change or remove this power through any amendment. This judgment is very important for students to remember because it ensures that the power of the courts to check the government can never be taken away.

Finally, judicial review acts as a "check and balance" system. In a democracy, no one should have unlimited power. By having the authority to review laws, the judiciary prevents the legislature or the executive from becoming too powerful or acting like a dictator. It ensures that the "Rule of Law" is supreme, meaning the law is above everyone, even the government itself. This system provides a way for the common person to challenge unfair actions, keeping the democracy healthy and fair.

8. Parliamentary Executive

Function of parliamentary executive

The **Parliamentary Executive** serves as the bridge between policy formulation and implementation, operating under the principle of collective responsibility. Its primary function is to **formulate and execute national policies** while maintaining the confidence of the legislature. Members of the executive, including the Prime Minister and the Cabinet, are simultaneously members of the parliament; this ensures that the government is continuously answerable to elected representatives. Beyond administrative duties, they **steer the legislative agenda**, drafting laws and ensuring they pass through the houses. The executive also acts as the face of the nation in foreign

affairs and crisis management. Because they must constantly defend their actions in parliamentary debates, question hours, and committees, the executive is kept in a state of perpetual accountability, ensuring that governance remains sensitive to public opinion and legislative oversight.