

# **POLITICAL SCIENCE**

## **WORKSHEET**

## WORKSHEET-79

1. Sinhalese Buddhists formed majority.
2. The Dutch formed majority.
3. In 1949.
4. 59% people speak Dutch, 40% people speak French and 1% people speak German.
5. Legislature, Executive and Judiciary are the organs of govt in a democratic country.
6. Sinhalese.
7. Ethnic refers to a social division based on shared culture.
8. (d) Division of power between people
9. The population is less than a crore.

The Dutch form 59%, the French form 40% and the Germans about 1%. The French community is in majority in the capital, Brussels. They are rich and powerful and this is not liked by the Dutch. Therefore, tensions exist between the two communities.

## WORKSHEET-80

1. The central government or the federal government governs the entire country. The provincial governments or state governments control their respective regions. Constitution generally lays down the powers at each level. At the local level, the Panchayat and municipality exercise power.
2. (a) The French speaking people who were in a minority were rich and powerful.  
(b) The Dutch speaking people got the benefit of economic development and education much later. This resulted in tensions during the 1950s and 1960s.  
(c) In Brussels, the Dutch speakers were in a majority in the country and minority in the capital.
3. (a) Sri Lanka emerged as an independent country in 1948. The leaders of the Sinhala community sought to secure dominance over government by virtue of their majority. As a result, majoritarian measures were adopted to establish Sinhala supremacy.  
(b) In 1956, an Act was passed to recognise Sinhala as the only official language, thus disregarding Tamil.  
(c) The government followed preferential policies that favoured Sinhala applicants for university positions and government jobs.  
(d) A new constitution stipulated that the state shall protect and foster Buddhism.  
All these government measures, coming one after the other, gradually increased the feeling of alienation among the Sri Lankan Tamils. As a result, the relations between the Sinhala and Tamil communities strained overtime.
4. The Tamils consist of two groups — Sri Lankan Tamils who form 13% of the population while the Indian Tamils who form 1% of the Tamil population. Their forefathers came from India as plantation workers during colonial period. Sri Lankan Tamils live in the north-east parts of the country.

5. Different linguistic and social groups can share power. Community government in Belgium is an example. In many countries, the Constitution provides for the representation of women and weaker sections in the legislatures and administration. In India, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are given reserved constituencies in Parliament and State Legislatures.

This arrangement prevents alienation of people from administration and government.

6. (a) People rule through institutions of self governance.  
(b) Due respect is given to diverse groups and views that exist in society.  
(c) Everyone has a voice in the shaping of public policies and as many people as possible should share power.

### WORKSHEET-81

1. Both the countries are democracies. The leaders of Belgium have followed the path of accommodating cultural and regional differences in order to preserve the unity of the nation.

In Sri Lanka, the 'majority' community namely the Sinhalese want to keep all power and prestige to themselves and refuse to share power. Unity of the country is threatened.

2. The Sinhalese were the majority community in Sri Lanka. They formed 74% of the population. The democratically elected government of 1948 represented the Sinhala majority and adopted majoritarian measures to establish Sinhala supremacy.

In the 1956 Act,

- (a) Sinhala language was recognised as the only official language.  
(b) Preferential treatment was given to Sinhalese in university jobs and government jobs.  
(c) Buddhism which the Sinhalese followed was protected by the state.
3. (a) Power is shared among different organs of government like the legislature, executive and judiciary.  
(b) Each organ is equally important in a democracy and they exercise different powers.  
(c) Separation of powers ensures that all organs exercise their power within limits.  
(d) Each organ checks the others. This results in the maintenance of balance of power among various institutions.
4. In modern democracies, power sharing arrangements have taken different forms:
- (a) **Horizontal division of power.** Power is shared among different organs of government, such as the legislature, executive and judiciary. This ensures that none of the organs can exercise unlimited power. Each organ checks the others and thus balance of power among various institutions is maintained. Ministers and government officials are responsible to the Parliament or State Assemblies. Similarly, judges though appointed by the executive, keep a check on the functioning of executive or laws made by the legislatures. This arrangement is called a system of checks and balances.
- (b) **Vertical division of power.** Power can be shared among governments at different levels. A general government for the entire country which is usually called a Central or Union government in India, governments at the provincial or state level is known by different names in different countries and in India we call them State government and the same principle is extended to the levels lower than state government such as municipalities and panchayats. This type of government was also adopted by Belgium but rejected by Sri Lanka. This is called federal division of power.

- (c) **Division of power among social groups.** The countries having community government share the power among different social groups, such as the religious and linguistic groups. We can best cite the example of Belgium in this regard. This method is used to give minority communities a fair share in power.
  - (d) **Division of power among political parties,** pressure groups and movements. Political parties, pressure groups and movements help in controlling or influencing those who are in power. In a democracy, citizens have the freedom to choose among the various contenders for power. Such a freedom of choice entails competition among the different parties. Such competition ensures that power does not remain in one hand, but is shared among different political parties representing different ideologies and social groups. Sometimes this kind of sharing can be direct, when two or more parties form an alliance to contest elections. If their alliance group is elected, they form a coalition government and thus share power. Various interest groups such as those of traders, businessmen, industrialists, farmers and industrial workers have a share in governmental power, either through participation in governmental committees or bringing influence on the decision making process.
5. (a) Power sharing: When the power does not rest with any one organ of the state rather it is shared among legislature, executive and judiciary.
    - (b) Majoritarianism: Majority community rules the country in its own way by disregarding the wishes and needs of the minority.
  6. (i) Sinhala to be the official language of Sri Lanka.
    - (ii) Preferential policy of Sinhalese in government educational institutions and jobs.
    - (iii) To foster Buddhism.
    - (iv) Any other relevant point.
      - (Any three points)

### WORKSHEET-82

1. In the years 1970-1993, the Constitution of Belgium was amended four times to accommodate linguistic, cultural and regional differences.
  - (a) The Dutch and French speaking ministers were in equal numbers in the central government.
  - (b) Special laws required the support of majority of members from each linguistic group.
  - (c) Many powers of the central government had been given to state governments of the two regions of the country.
  - (d) Brussels had a separate government where both communities were given equal representation.
  - (e) Community government was introduced.
2. (a) It is an Island nation to the south of India.
  - (b) Tamil natives called 'Sri Lankan Tamils' formed 13% of population.
    - The 'Indian Tamils', whose forefathers had come from India as plantation workers formed the rest.
  - (c) The Sinhalese Buddhists, who were 74% of the population formed the majority government after independence in 1948.
  - (d) Tamils are either Hindus or Muslims, 7% of the people are Christians who are both Tamil and Sinhalese.
  - (e) Sinhalese enjoyed majority and can impose their will on the entire country.

3. In modern democracies, power sharing arrangements have taken different forms:
- (a) **Horizontal division of power.** Power is shared among different organs of government, such as the legislature, executive and judiciary. This ensures that none of the organs can exercise unlimited power. Each organ checks the others and thus balance of power among various institutions is maintained. Ministers and government officials are responsible to the Parliament or State Assemblies. Similarly, judges though appointed by the executive, keep a check on the functioning of executive or laws made by the legislatures. This arrangement is called a system of checks and balances.
  - (b) **Vertical division of power.** Power can be shared among governments at different levels. A general government for the entire country which is usually called a Central or Union government in India, governments at the provincial or state level is known by different names in different countries and in India we call them State government and the same principle is extended to the levels lower than state government such as municipalities and panchayats. This type of government was also adopted by Belgium but rejected by Sri Lanka. This is called federal division of power.
  - (c) **Division of power among social groups.** The countries having community government share the power among different social groups, such as the religious and linguistic groups. We can best cite the example of Belgium in this regard. This method is used to give minority communities a fair share in power.
  - (d) Division of power among political parties, pressure groups and movements. Political parties, pressure groups and movements help in controlling or influencing those who are in power. In a democracy, citizens have the freedom to choose among the various contenders for power. Such a freedom of choice entails competition among the different parties. Such competition ensures that power does not remain in one hand, but is shared among different political parties representing different ideologies and social groups. Sometimes this kind of sharing can be direct, when two or more parties form an alliance to contest elections. If their alliance group is elected, they form a coalition government and thus share power. Various interest groups such as those of traders, businessmen, industrialists, farmers and industrial workers have a share in governmental power, either through participation in governmental committees or bringing influence on the decision making process.

### Chapter Test

1. (d)
2. (i) Among different organs of the government (ii) among governments at different levels (iii) among various political parties, pressure groups etc.
3. Power shared at different levels of government.
4. (i) It reduces the possibility of conflict between social groups. (ii) It ensures political stability in the long run. (iii) It upholds the spirit of democracy.
5. French minority community.
6. The Tamils consist of two groups — Sri Lankan Tamils who form 13% of the population while the Indian Tamils who form 1% of the Tamil population. Their forefathers came from India as plantation workers during colonial period. Sri Lankan Tamils live in the north-east parts of the country.

7. Legislature, Executive and Judiciary are the organs of govt in a democratic country.
8. The leaders of the Sinhala community tried to secure the dominance of their community after Independence.

They adopted a series of majoritarian measures to establish Sinhala supremacy.

In 1956, an Act was passed to recognise Sinhala as the only official language. Sinhalese were given special preference in government jobs and university positions. State protection was given to Buddhism which was the religion practised by the Sinhalese.

All these government measures coming one after the other, gradually increased the feeling of alienation among the Sri Lankan Tamils. They felt that their language and culture were not given due importance. They also felt that the Constitution and government policies denied them equal political rights. As a result, their relations with the Sinhala community worsened.

### FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

#### WORKSHEET-83

- |                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Community government | 2. Power sharing   |
| 3. Sinhala              | 4. political power |
| 5. horizontal           | 6. federal         |
| 7. central              | 8. Ethnic          |
| 9. majoritarianism      | 10. Civil War      |



**WORKSHEET-84**

1. Independent states coming together on their own to form a bigger nation is known as coming together Federation.
2. Defence, Foreign Affairs, Banking and Currency.
3. A government formed by the coming together of at least two political parties is a coalition government.
4. Jammu and Kashmir has its own Constitution.
5. Mayor is the political head of a Municipal Corporation.
6. Sarpanch is the president of Village Panchayat.
7. Panchayati Raj
8. To create new states.
9. Power sharing between Union and state governments is basic to the structure of Constitution. It is not easy to make changes in the power sharing arrangement. Any change has to be first passed by both Houses of Parliament with at least two-third majority and then has to be approved by the legislatures of at least half of the total states.

Some states enjoy special status. Jammu and Kashmir has its own Constitution. Many provisions of the Indian Constitution are not applicable to this state with the approval of state Assembly. Indians who are not permanent residents of this state cannot buy a house or land here.

There are some states which enjoy very little power. These are the areas which are too small to become an independent state but could not be merged with any of the existing states. These areas like Chandigarh, or Lakshadweep or the capital city of Delhi, are called Union Territories. These territories do not have the powers of a state. The Central government has special powers in running these areas.

The Union and the state governments have the power to raise resources by levying taxes in order to carry on the government and the responsibilities assigned to each of them.

Judiciary plays an important role in overseeing the implementation of constitutional provisions and procedures. In case of any dispute about the division of power, High Courts and Supreme Court make a decision. The Supreme Court of India has original powers and has the exclusive authority of settling disputes between the government of India and one or more states, or between two or more states.

**WORKSHEET-85**

1. Education, Forest, marriage, Trade Union.
2. Computer software and cyber laws.
3. Australia, Switzerland, USA.
4. Changes were introduced in the Constitution to reduce the power of the central government and to give these powers to the regional governments and they were no longer dependent on the centre. Thus, Belgium became a federation. Sri Lanka, on the other hand, is a unitary state while the Sri Lankan Tamils want the country to be a federation.

5. (a) Union list includes those subjects on which a uniform policy is needed in the whole country. The Union Government makes laws on these subjects e.g. defence, foreign affairs, banking, communication, etc.
  - (b) State list includes subjects of state and local importance e.g. police, trade, agriculture, etc.
  - (c) Concurrent list includes subjects of common interest to both the Union Government and the State Governments, e.g. education, forest, marriage, adoption etc.
  6. Federalism is a system of government in which the power is divided between a central authority and various constituent units of the country. The power is shared among the central government and various states, regional and local governments. Both the central and non-central governments are answerable to the citizens of the country who elect them.
- Features of federalism
- (i) There are two or more levels (tiers) of government.
  - (ii) Different tiers of government govern same citizens but each tier has its own jurisdiction in specific matters of legislation, taxation and administration.
  - (iii) The jurisdiction of respective levels are specified in the constitution. So the existence and authority of each tier of government is constitutionally guaranteed.
  - (iv) Fundamental provisions of the constitution cannot be unilaterally changed by one level of government and require the consent of both levels of government.
  - (v) Courts have the power to interpret the constitution and the powers of government of different levels. The highest court acts as the umpire if disputes arise in the exercise of their respective powers.
  - (vi) Sources of revenue are specified to ensure the financial autonomy.
  - (vii) The federal system has dual objectives:
    - to safeguard and promote the unity of the country.
    - to accommodate regional diversity.
  7. (a) There are 36 lakh elected representatives in the local bodies.
  - (b) These bodies have a Constitutional status.
  - (c) There is reservation for women, SC and ST in these bodies.
  - (d) They have strengthened the democratic system in the country.

### WORKSHEET-86

1. The centre can legislate on defence, foreign affairs, banking, communication and currency. The states can make laws on police, trade, commerce, agriculture and irrigation. On the subjects listed in the concurrent list like marriage, education, forest etc. both can make laws and if they are conflicting, then law of Central Government prevails.
2. The Constitution originally provided for a two tier system of government.
  - (a) the union government or what we call the Central government representing the union of India.
  - (b) The State government.
  - (c) A third tier of federalism was added in the form of Panchayats and Municipalities in 1992.
3. Constitution clearly provided a three-fold distribution of legislative powers between the Union Government and the State Government:



1. Union List – Defence of the country, foreign affairs, banking.
2. State List – Police, trade, commerce, agriculture.
3. Concurrent List – Education, forest, trade union, marriage.
4. Residuary Subject – Computer Software, etc.
4. (a) When power is taken away from Central and State Government and given to Local Government, it is called decentralisation.
- (b) The basic idea behind decentralisation is that there are a large number of problems and issues which are best settled at the local level.
- (c) Local government get constitutional importance in democracy.
- (d) representation of women on the local bodies.
5. (a) There are two or more levels of government.
- (b) Each tier has its own jurisdiction.
- (c) These boundaries are specified by the Constitution.
- (d) Fundamental changes in the Constitution can't be done by one level of government. It has to be done with the consent of both levels.
6. In Brazil, an experiment on decentralisation and participative democracy has been done. Thirteen lakh people of the city of Porto Alegre participate in making budgets. The city is divided into sectors. People of the sectors meet and discuss issues. These proposals are put to the municipality. This has resulted in excellent decision-making and efficiency.
7. Hindi is the mother tongue of only 40% of the people of India. There are 21 languages recognised by the Constitution. In state like Tamil Nadu there has been violent opposition to Hindi.

### WORKSHEET-87

1. A three-tier democracy was introduced in 1992. A step was taken towards creating rural local self government or Panchayati Raj.
  - Regular elections to be held for Panchayat.
  - Seats reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs.
  - One-third of seats reserved for women.
  - State Election Commission to conduct elections to local bodies.
  - State Government to share power and revenue with local bodies.
2. India is a federal state. The Constitution recognises the diversity that exists in the country and thereby the need for decentralisation and power sharing between centre and states is provided in the Constitution. However, the Central Government tends to be more powerful in comparison to the states. Some states are given special status, e.g. Jammu and Kashmir. This state has its own Constitution.
 

Then Panchayats in villages and municipalities in urban areas came into existence in all the states. They are the third tier of democracy and they make it effective and powerful.
3. The Indian Constitution did not make any one language as the national language. Hindi was identified as an official language. But people are allowed to write the civil services exams in any of the 21 recognised languages of India.
 

English is also to be used as an official language. The government does not follow a policy of imposing Hindi on non-Hindi speaking states.

4. Constitutional provisions and democratic politics are the real pillars of federalism which help to make it a success.

1. **Linguistic states.** Since 1947 many changes have been done in the political map of India. Many old states have vanished and many new states have been created. Areas, boundaries and names of the states have been changed. In 1947, the boundaries of several old states of India were changed in order to create new states. This was done to ensure that people who spoke the same language lived in the same state. Some states were created to recognise differences based on culture, ethnicity or geography. These included states like Nagaland, Jharkhand and Uttarakhand.

2. **Centre-state relations in India.** Earlier in India for a long time, the same party ruled both at centre and states. This meant that state government did not exercise their rights as autonomous federal units. As and when ruling party at state level was different, the parties that ruled at the Centre tried to undermine the power of states. In those days central government would often misuse the Constitution to dismiss the state governments that were controlled by rival parties. This undermined the spirit of federalism.

But after 1990 significant changes occurred. There was rise of regional political parties in many states of the country. This was also the beginning of the era of the coalition governments at the Centre. Since no single party got clear majority in the Lok Sabha the major national parties had to enter into an alliance with many parties including several regional parties to form government at the Centre. This led to a new culture of power sharing and respect for the autonomy of the state governments. This trend was supported by the Supreme Court's judgment which made it difficult for the Central government to dismiss state governments in an arbitrary manner. Thus, power sharing is more effective today than it was in the early years after the Constitution came into force.

3. **Language policy.** Our Constitution did not give the status of national language to any one language. Hindi was identified as an official language but Hindi is the mother tongue of only 40% of Indians. Therefore, there were many safeguards to protect other languages. Besides Hindi, there are 21 other languages recognised as Scheduled Languages by the Constitution. A candidate in an examination conducted for the Central government positions may opt any of these languages.

The states too have their own official languages and much of the government work takes place in the official language of the concerned state. English is also to be used as an official language. The government does not follow a policy of imposing Hindi on non-Hindi speaking states.

### Chapter Test

1. India, Spain, Belgium.
2. Irrigation, Police, Agriculture, Trade and commerce
3. India, Russia, Canada, USA.
4. A three-tier democracy was introduced in 1992. A step was taken towards creating rural local self government or Panchayati Raj.
  - Regular elections to be held for Panchayat.
  - Seats reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs.
  - One-third of seats reserved for women.

- State Election Commission to conduct elections to local bodies.
  - State Government to share power and revenue with local bodies.
5. Local government bodies in towns are called municipalities and municipal corporations in cities. They are elected bodies. Municipality is headed by the Chairman and the head of the municipal corporation is called the Mayor.
  6. Rural local government is popularly known by the name Panchayati Raj. Each village or group of villages in some states has a Gram Panchayat. This is a council consisting of members called Panchs and a president called Sarpanch. They are directly elected by the adult population living in that ward or village. It is the decision making body for the entire village. The panchayat works under the supervision of the gram sabha. All the voters in the village are its members. It has to meet at least twice or thrice in a year to approve the annual budget of the gram panchayat and to review the performance of the gram panchayat.

The local government structure goes right up to the district level. A few gram panchayats are grouped together to form panchayat samiti or block or mandal. The members of this representative body are elected by all the panchayat members in that area. All the panchayat samitis or mandals in a district together constitute the zila Parishad. Most of its members are elected. Members of the Lok Sabha, and MLAs of that district and some other officials of other districts level bodies are also its members. Zila Parishad chairman is the political head of the Zila Parishad.

### FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

#### WORKSHEET-88

- |      |      |      |       |      |      |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1. T | 2. F | 3. T | 4. F  | 5. T | 6. F |
| 7. F | 8. T | 9. F | 10. T |      |      |



**WORKSHEET-89**

1. Descendants of Africa who were brought into America as slaves.
2. Martin Luther King Jr.
3. Those who do not believe in God or any religion.
4. Tommie Smith did so to represent black poverty and to protest against the racial discrimination done to African-Americans.
5. These meant to symbolise the Black Power.
6. They wanted to draw the international attention to racial discrimination in the United States.
7. Martin Luther King Jr. was the leader of the movement. He started a reform movement to abolish legal and racial discrimination against African-Americans. He used non-violent methods to protest.
8. Social divisions affect politics negatively as well as positively.

**Negative Impact**

Democracy involves competition among various political parties. Their competition tends to divide any society. If they start competing in terms of some existing social divisions, it can make social divisions into political divisions and lead to conflict, violence or even disintegration of a country. For example—Northern Ireland of the United Kingdom have been for many years the site of a violent and bitter ethno-political conflict.

Its population is divided into two major sections of Christianity: 53% Protestants and 44% Catholics. Catholics were represented by the Nationalist parties, who demanded Northern Ireland to be unified with the Republic of Ireland, a predominantly Catholic country. Protestants were represented by the Unionist who wanted to remain with UK, which is predominantly Protestant. Hundreds of civilians and militants were killed in the fight between Unionists and Nationalists and between the security forces of the UK and the Nationalists. It was only in 1998 that the UK government and the Nationalists reached a peace treaty after which the latter suspended their armed struggle.

In Yugoslavia the political competition and religious differences led to the disintegration of Yugoslavia into six independent countries. Such examples lead some people to think that politics and social divisions should not be allowed to mix; if social divisions exist in a country they must never be expressed in politics.

**Positive Impact**

Every expression of social division in politics does not lead to disasters. Social divisions of some or the other kind do exist in every society of the world and are reflected in politics. In democracy it is only natural that political parties would talk about these divisions, make different promises to different communities, look after due representation of various communities and policies to redress the grievances of disadvantaged communities.

## **WORKSHEET-90**

1. (a) The International Olympic Association held Carlos and Smith guilty of violating the Olympic spirit by making a political statement.  
(b) Their medals were taken back.
2. They belonged to African-American community. They protested against racial discrimination in the 1968 Olympics at Mexico City. They belonged to the Black power movement.
3. In India, Dalits tend to be poor and landless and often face injustice and discrimination.
4. No, all social differences do not lead to divisions. Social divisions of some or the other kind do exist in every society of the world and are reflected in politics. In democracy it is only natural that political parties talk of these divisions, make different promises to different communities, look after due representation of various communities and make policies to redress the grievances of disadvantaged communities.
5. Northern Ireland of the United Kingdom has been for many years the site of a violent and bitter ethno-political conflict. Its population is divided into two major sects of Christianity—53% are Protestants while 44% are Roman Catholics. The Catholics were represented by Nationalist parties who demanded that Northern Ireland be unified with the Republic of Ireland, a predominantly Catholic country. The Protestants were represented by Unionists who wanted to remain with the UK, which is predominantly Protestant. This resulted in several conflicts. Hundreds of civilians, militants and security forces were killed in the fight between Unionists and Nationalists and between the security forces of the UK and the Nationalists.
6. In Northern Ireland, the population is divided into two major sects of Christianity— 53% are Protestants and 44% are Roman Catholics. The Catholics are more likely to be poor. They have suffered a history of discrimination. On the other hand, the Protestants are very rich. This results in conflicts between the Catholics and the Protestants. Thus, we see that class and religion overlap with each other in Northern Ireland.
7. The social differences can be overlapping and cross-cutting in nature.  
The difference between Blacks and Whites becomes a social division when Blacks are found to be poor, racially discriminated and homeless people.  
If social differences cross-cut one another, it is difficult for groups to get pitted against one another e.g. in the Netherlands, class and religion cross-cut each other. Catholics and Protestants are equally rich or poor in that country.

## **WORKSHEET-91**

1. In 1968, Olympics were held at Mexico City in which Tommie Smith and John Carlos won the gold and bronze medals respectively. In the medal ceremony they stood on the dais with clenched fists upraised and heads bowed while the American national anthem was played. They received their medals wearing black socks and no shoes to represent 'Black Poverty'. they did so to draw the international attention to racial discrimination in the United States. The black gloved and raised clenched fists were meant to symbolise Black Power.
2. (i) Social divisions take place when some social difference overlaps with other differences. the difference between blacks and whites became a social division in the US because Blacks tend to be poor, homeless and discriminated against. If social differences cross cut one another, it is difficult to pit one group of people against the other.

- (ii) Consider the cases of Northern Ireland and the Netherlands. Both are predominantly Christians but divided between Catholics and Protestants. In Northern Ireland, class and religion overlap with each other. If you are Catholic, you are also likely to be poor and you may have suffered a history of discrimination. In the Netherlands, class and religion tend to cut across each other. Catholics and Protestants are about equally likely to be poor or rich. The result is that Catholics and Protestants have had conflicts in Northern Ireland, while they do not do so in the Netherlands.
  - (iii) Overlapping social differences create possibilities of deep social division and tensions. Cross-cutting social differences are easier to accommodate.
3. (i) First of all, the outcome depends on how people perceive their identities. If people see their identities in singular, it becomes difficult to accommodate.
    - (ii) Secondly, it depends on how political leaders raise the demands of any community. It is easier to accommodate demands that are within the constitutional framework and are not at the cost of another community.
    - (iii) Thirdly, it depends on how the government reacts to the demands of different groups. Minorities should also be taken care of with the majority.
  4. Every social difference does not lead to social division.
    - (i) Social differences divide similar people from one another but, they also unite different people.
    - (ii) People belonging to different social groups share differences and similarities cutting across the boundaries of their groups. For example, Carlos and Smith joined hands because both were similar but Peter supported them as they were athletes.
    - (iii) It is common for people belonging to the same religion feel that they do not belong to the same community because their caste or society is different. It is also possible for the people from different religions to have same caste and feel close to each other.
    - (iv) Rich and poor persons from the same family often do not have close relations with each other for they feel they are very different.

Thus, it can be said that we all have more than one identity and can belong to more than one group.

### WORKSHEET-92

1. Social differences are mostly based on accident of birth. At the same time, some of the differences are based on our choices too.
  1. Social differences are based on accident of birth. Normally we do not choose to belong to our community, we belong to it simply because we are born into it. We all experience social differences based on accident of birth in our day to day life. People around us are male or female, they are tall or short, have different complexions, or have different physical abilities or disabilities.
  2. Social differences are based on our choices. For example, some people are atheists—they do not believe in God or any religion, Some choose to follow religion other than in which they were born. Most of us choose what to study, which occupation to take up and which games to play or which cultural activities to take part in. All these lead to formation of groups that are based on our choices.
2. Northern Ireland of the United Kingdom has been for many years the site of a violent and bitter ethno-political conflict. Its population is divided into two major sects of Christianity—53% are Protestants while 44% are Roman Catholics. The Catholics were

represented by Nationalist parties who demanded that Northern Ireland be unified with the Republic of Ireland, a predominantly Catholic country. The Protestants were represented by Unionists who wanted to remain with the UK, which is predominantly Protestant. This resulted in several conflicts. Hundreds of civilians, militants and security forces were killed in the fight between Unionists and Nationalists and between the security forces of the UK and the Nationalists.

3. There are three factors which are crucial in deciding the outcomes of politics of social divisions.
  1. People's perception of their identities. It is very important to see how people perceive their identities. If people see their identities in singular and exclusive terms, it becomes difficult to accommodate. It is much easier if people see that their identities are multiple and are complementary with the national identity. This helps them stay together.
  2. Representation of a community by political leaders. The outcome of politics of social divisions depends on how the political leaders raise the demands of different social groups. It is easier to accommodate demands that are within the constitutional framework and are not at the cost of another community. The demand for only Sinhala was at the cost of the interest and identity of Tamil community in Sri Lanka. In Yugoslavia, the leaders of different ethnic communities presented their demands in such a way that these could not be accommodated within a single country.
  3. Government's reaction to such demands. The outcome of politics of social divisions also depends upon how the government responds to demands of various social groups. In Belgium and Sri Lanka, if the rulers are willing to share power and accommodate the reasonable demands of minority community, social divisions become less threatening for the country. If the reasonable demands of a community are suppressed by the government, then it leads to social divisions, which in turn threaten the integrity of the country.

### Chapter Test

1. In Netherlands, people are predominantly Christians but divided between Catholics and Protestants and both are equally likely to be rich or poor.
2. Their caste or society is different.
3. North Ireland is divided into Protestants (53%) and Catholics (44%). This ethnic divide became a political divide when Catholics were represented by Nationalist parties and Protestants by the unionists and violent clashes started between the two.
4. Cross-cutting differences:
  - (a) If social differences cross-cut one another, it is difficult to pit group of people against the other.
  - (b) It means those groups that share a common interest on the issue are likely to be on different sides on a different issue.
  - (c) Example—Northern Ireland and Netherlands both are predominantly Christians but divided between Catholics and Protestants. In Northern Ireland, class and religion overlap each other, Catholics tend to be poor and have suffered discrimination whereas in Netherlands, class and religion tend to cross-cut each other and both are equally likely to be rich or poor. It means they have conflict in Northern Ireland and it is not so in Netherlands.

Cross-cutting social differences are easier to accommodate.

5. The combination of politics and social divisions is very explosive and dangerous.
- (a) Democracy involves competition among various political parties. Their competitions tend to divide society.
  - (b) If they start competing in terms of some existing social divisions, they can make social divisions into political divisions and lead to conflict, violence or even disintegration of a country.
  - (c) Social divisions affect voting in most countries, people from one community tend to prefer one party more than others.
  - (d) In many countries, there are parties which focus only on one community. Yet all this does not always lead to disintegration.

Examples :

1. As in the case of Northern Ireland, this region of UK has been for many years a sight of violence and bitter ethno-political conflict.
2. In a democracy it is only natural that political parties talk of these divisions, make different promises to different communities, look after their representation and policies to redress the grievances of disadvantaged communities e.g., Dalits and OBCs have been empowered by democratic practices in India.

### FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

#### WORKSHEET-93

- |           |        |        |        |        |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| A. 1. (d) | 2. (e) | 3. (a) | 4. (b) | 5. (c) |
| B. 1. (d) | 2. (c) | 3. (e) | 4. (b) | 5. (a) |
-



## WORKSHEET-94

1. At Panchayat level.
2. Other Backward classes (OBCs).
3. Scheduled castes
4. It is 54%.
5. It is 933 girls per 1000 boys.
6. Jyotiba Phule, Mahatma Gandhi, B.R. Ambedkar
7. India.
8. (a) When candidates are chosen for a constituency, the caste composition of the area is kept in mind and then candidates are nominated who can win the elections.  
(b) Political parties make appeals to the caste sentiments of the electorate.  
(c) Caste has become an important factor of political parties.
9. (a) Politics based on caste identity alone is not a healthy feature in a democracy.  
(b) It can divert attention from other pressing issues like poverty, illiteracy, corruption etc.  
(c) Caste politics lead to tensions and violence.

## WORKSHEET-95

1. Position of women has improved a lot after Independence. They play an important role in public life as engineers, doctors, managers etc. But the participation remains much lower than countries of Scandavia. Our country continues to be 'patriarchal' or male dominated.
2. Social indicators which show that Indian women remain disadvantaged and discriminated in India:
  - (a) Literacy rate among women is 54% as against among men 76%.
  - (b) Dropout rate of girls from schools is very high.
  - (c) Parents prefer sons and abort a girl child leading to decline in child sex ratio.
3. Boys and girls are brought up to believe that women should be good at household work and men should do all the work outside home. Most of the jobs done by women at home remain unpaid and unrecognised. Many women do work outside to supplement domestic income. They work in fields and earn money for the family.
4. (a) It is believed by fundamentalists that people of a religious community have common interests and hence they form a nation.  
(b) It is also believed that people belonging to different religions can't live together as equal citizens within one nation.  
(c) Everyone has many identities. Religious identity is only one of them and hence religion alone can't be the basis of a nation.
5. (a) People can vote on the basis of religion in elections and bring their representatives to power.

- (b) It can ultimately result in the demand of a separate state on the basis of religion.
  - (c) If one religious group is a dominant community then it can lead to majoritarian dominance.
  - (d) It can result in communal tensions and riots.
6. (a) Caste-based politics damages democratic ideals.
- (b) There is overemphasis on caste interest loyalty rather than national interest. Hence, mechanisation of the polity gets weakened.
  - (c) It creates an atmosphere of fear in which the voters do not exercise their franchise freely.
  - (d) It leads to chaos and bargaining in party politics and ministry formation. It also leads to violence polarisation on caste lines.

### WORKSHEET-96

1. The sexual division of labour prevalent in most societies is reflected in many ways. Women in different parts of the world organised and agitated for equal rights and demanded voting rights to women. They demanded raising the political and legal status of women and improving the educational and career opportunities for women. The feminist movement demand equality in personal and family life as well.
2. (a) The practice of untouchability has been declared illegal by the Constitution.  
 (b) Caste based discrimination has been prohibited in any form by the Constitution.  
 (c) People belonging to any caste are allowed equal access to education. Reservations for SC and ST are provided in Lok Sabha, State Assemblies, in education and government services.
3. (a) Caste identities are made important in the political field by political parties.  
 (b) Alliances between castes emerge and make an impact on elections.  
 (c) New caste groups like dalits, OBCs and forward castes have emerged in politics.  
 (d) Many disadvantaged castes have got benefits from these new developments.  
 (e) Caste violence and tensions have also increased.
4. It is true that gender division is not based on biology but on social expectations and stereotypes. Boys and girls are brought up to believe that the main responsibility of women is housework and bringing up children. Women do all work inside the home such as cooking, cleaning, washing clothes etc. and men do all the work outside the home. It is not that men cannot do household work. They simply think that it is for women to attend to these things. When these jobs are paid for, men are ready to take up these works. Here it is worth mentioning that most tailors or cook in hotels are men. Similarly, women can also work outside. In villages, they fetch water, collect fuel etc. and in urban areas the women work in hospitals, offices, factories etc. But their work is not valued.
5. When religion is politicised in partisan terms and members of a religious group are presented as superior to those of other religions and the state uses its power to do so, it results in tensions.  
 Religion is seen as the basis of a separate nation. This belief resulted in the partition of India and communal riots.

## WORKSHEET-97

- (a) The literacy rate among women is low. It is only 54% compared to 76% among men.
  - (b) The proportion of women among highly paid and valued jobs is still very small. On an average an Indian woman works one hour more than an average man every day. Yet, her work is not counted fairly.
  - (c) Parents usually prefer to have sons and find ways to have the girl child aborted before she is born.
  - (d) Various kinds of harassment, exploitation and violence occur frequently against women. Urban areas have become unsafe for women.
2. The work is generally divided on the basis of gender of a person. The women of the family are supposed to do the household work and the men are supposed to go out for work. The work done by women is generally unpaid like cooking, cleaning, washing clothes and taking care of children. Also no specific skill is required to do the household work.
3. In our country, women still lag much behind men despite some improvement since Independence. It is because Indian society is a male dominated, patriarchal society. It values men over women and gives them more power and women face discrimination and oppression in many ways:
  - (a) **Education.** The literacy rate of women is still lower than men. Only 54% of the women are literate against 76% literacy among men. This is because a boy's education is still preferred over sending a girl child to school.
  - (b) **Proportion of women in paid jobs.** Women still have a small share in the highly paid jobs. Even though on an average an Indian woman works one hour more than an average man everyday, her work is not given importance. This results in low paid jobs for women. The Equal Wages Act provides that equal wages should be paid for equal work. However, in almost all areas of work, from sports and cinema to factories and fields, women are paid less than men, even when both do exactly the same work.
  - (c) **Preference for a male child.** In India, parents prefer sons over daughters and find ways of aborting girl child before she is born. This type of sex-selective abortion has led to decline in child sex ratio (number of girl children per thousand boys).
  - (d) **Crime against Women.** There are various instances of crime against women. Women are exploited and harassed at the work place and at the home. There are cases of domestic violence against women which make her unsafe even within her family.

## WORKSHEET-98

1. With economic development, large scale urbanisation, growth of literacy and education, occupational mobility and the weakening of the position of landlords in the villages, the old notions of caste hierarchy are breaking down. In urban areas we don't see the practice of untouchability anywhere. The Constitution of India prohibited any caste-based discrimination and laid the foundations of policies to reverse the injustices of the caste system.

Caste system also got weakened due to the efforts of our political leaders and social reformers like Jyotiba Phule, Gandhiji, B.R. Ambedkar and Periyar Ramaswami Naicker. They advocated and worked to establish a society in which caste inequalities are absent.
2. It is true that caste plays a vital role in Indian political scenario, but it doesn't mean that it is one way process between caste and politics. It is not necessary that only caste or caste system affects the politics but politics also affects caste system and caste identities by

bringing different caste leaders into political field. It is not alone politics which is affected by caste but caste also gets politicised and it takes many forms which are given below :

- (a) Every caste group tries to increase its strength by cooperating with its neighbouring castes or sub castes which were broken away from it in earlier times.
  - (b) Different caste groups try to enter into coalition with other caste and try to negotiate with them to strengthen their base.
  - (c) Certain new types of caste groups are coming forward in political arena like backward caste groups.
3. Yes, we agree that caste system alone cannot determine election results. The reasons are:
- (a) It is not necessary that people of the same caste vote for the same political party. They have different demands and vote according to their choice. It means that no political party represents only one caste.
  - (b) It does not happen that there are candidates from each caste. It might happen that all the candidates are from one caste and there are more than one candidate from one caste and no candidate from the other caste.
  - (c) No state legislature in the country has a majority of a particular caste group. Each caste group has its equal right in the Parliament. No caste group can be ignored and every citizen's vote is important.

### Chapter Test

1. It is less than 5%.
2. Adivasis
3. Those who spend ₹ 454 or less per person per month.
4. (i) Votes are generally given on the basis of previous performance of political parties.  
(ii) Voters have strong attachment to political parties which is often stronger than their attachment to their caste or community.  
(iii) People within the same caste or community have varied interests depending on their economic condition.  
(iv) Economic status also influences the voter's interests. Rich and poor men and women often vote very differently.
5. **Secular** means being neutral and giving no special status to any religion. In India, communalism has always been major threat and challenge to the spirit of democracy. The model of secular state was chosen by the makers of Constitution as they were aware of this challenge. So they took following provisions to make India a secular country.  
(i) There is no official religion for the Indian state.  
(ii) Our Constitution does not give a special status to any religion.
6. Social differences are mostly based on accident of birth. At the same time, some of the differences are based on our choices too.
  1. Social differences are based on accident of birth. Normally we do not choose to belong to our community, we belong to it simply because we are born into it. We all experience social differences based on accident of birth in our day to day life. People around us are male or female, they are tall or short, have different complexions, or have different physical abilities or disabilities.

2. Social differences are based on our choices. For example, some people are atheists—they do not believe in God or any religion, Some choose to follow religion other than in which they were born. Most of us choose what to study, which occupation to take up and which games to play or which cultural activities to take part in. All these lead to formation of groups that are based on our choices.

**FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT**

**WORKSHEET-99**

A. 1.(a)	2. (a)	3. (a)	4. (b)	5. (a)
B. Christian	— 2.3%			
Sikh	— 1.9%			
Buddhist	— 0.8%			
Jain	— 0.4%			
No Religion	— 0.1%			

**WORKSHEET-100**

Do yourself.

