

## CHAPTER -1 POWER SHARING

### Political Science

#### Chapter 1 Power Sharing

**Q1. Describe any three provisions of the act which was passed in Sri Lanka in 1956 to establish Sinhala Supremacy.**

**Ans.** Following are the 3 provisions of the act which was passed in Sri Lanka in 1956:

1. Sinhala was recognised as the only official language.
2. The government followed preferential policies that favoured Sinhala applicants for university positions and government jobs.
3. The State shall protect and foster Buddhism.

**Q2. Why did civil war break out in Sri Lanka? List the results of the civil war.**

**Ans.** There was distrust between Tamil speaking and Sinhala speaking people because government adopted majoritarian measures to establish Sinhala Supremacy.

Following were the results of civil war:-

1. Thousands of people of both the communities were killed.
2. Many families were forced to leave the country and many more lost their livelihood.
3. Civil war caused major set back to the social, cultural and economic life of the country.

**Q3. What do you mean by power sharing ? Why is it desirable?**

**Ans.**

**Power Sharing** is a system of political arrangements in which power is shared between-

- 1) different organs of the government
- 2) different levels of the government
- 3) different social groups and
- 4) different political parties, pressure groups and movements.

Power sharing is desirable because of the two reasons:

## CHAPTER -1 POWER SHARING

### 1) Prudential Reasons

- Power Sharing accommodates diversity
- Power Sharing reduces conflicts among diverse groups
- Power sharing ensures political stability

### 2) Moral Reasons

- Power Sharing is the spirit of democracy
- Power sharing produce accountable , responsible and legitimate government.
- Power sharing makes possible the popular participation of people

### **Q4. What is so special about the community government in Belgium?**

#### **Ans.**

- Community government is elected by people belonging to one language community--Dutch, French and German speaking- no matter where they live.
- This government has power regarding cultural, educational and language issues .
- This kind of government helps to avoid conflict between the two major communities.

### **Q5. How did the Belgium government solve it the ethnic problem?**

#### **Ans.**

Between 1970 and 1993 Belgium amended their constitution four times. The arrangement they worked out is different and innovative following are are the the elements of of Belgian model :-

1. The number of Dutch and French speaking ministers shall be equal in the central government.
2. No single community can make decisions unilaterally. The state government is not subordinate to the central government.
3. Brussels has a separate government in which both the communities have equal representation.
4. Apart from Central and state government there is a third kind of government called community government. It is elected by people belonging to one language and take decisions regarding culture education and language.

## CHAPTER -1 POWER SHARING

**Q6. Existence of Dutch and French speaking people in Belgium created an ethnic tension. Elaborate the statement.**

**Ans.**

1. The minority French speaking community was relatively rich and powerful .
2. This was resented by the Dutch speaking community, who got the benefits of economic development and education much later.
3. This led to tension between the Dutch and French speaking communities.

**Q7. With the help of examples show how power can be shared between social and linguistic groups.**

**Ans.**

- There are countries where socially and economically weaker sections and women are given legal and constitutional protection.
- This is done to enable them to be part of decision- making Process.
- In India there is a provision in the constitution to have reserved constituencies for the members of the socially and economically backward classes.

**Q8. Differentiate between horizontal and vertical power sharing.**

**Ans.**

<b>Horizontal Power Sharing</b>	<b>Vertical Power Sharing</b>
1. Power is Shared among different organs of the government.	Power is shared among different levels of the government.
2. Organs of the government are placed at the same level to exercise different powers.	Vertical division of power involves the higher and the lower levels of the government.
3. Under this , each organs checks the other.	Under vertical power sharing, the lower organ works under the higher organ.
4. Example: Legislature, Executive and Judiciary.	Example: Central government, State government and Panchayat Raj.

**Q9. “Power Sharing makes the country more powerful and united”. Justify the statement.**

**Ans.**

**Power sharing** makes the country more powerful and united because of the

## CHAPTER -1 POWER SHARING

following reasons:-

1. Power sharing ensures that all the people have stake in the government.
2. Power Sharing ensures maximum participation. It upholds the concept of people's rule.
3. It ensures political stability in the government.
4. Power sharing accommodates diverse groups.

**Q10. What is the meaning of ethnic?**

**Ans.**

- **Ethnic** means a social division based on shared culture.
- People belonging to the same ethnic group believe in their common descent because of similarities of physical type or of culture or both.
- They need not always have the same religion or nationality.

# CHAPTER -1 POWER SHARING