

NCERT Solutions Class 10 SST Political Science

chapter 1 Power sharing Questions with Answer

Exercises Page No. 10

1. What are the different forms of power-sharing in modern democracies? Give an example of each of these.

Answer. The different forms of power sharing in modern democracies are:

1. **Horizontal Power Division-** It is the division of authority among the various branches of the government, such as the executive, legislative branch, and judicial branches. Different government organs were positioned at the same level and were given varying degrees of power to exercise. Each organ has a limited amount of power. The various organs check each other. As a result, power is distributed fairly across different institutions.
2. **Community governance** - Different social groupings, like religious and linguistic ones, may share power. In Belgium, "Community Government" is a notable illustration of this kind of power-sharing.
3. **The federal division of power** is a framework for power sharing between governments at various levels, including a national general government and governments at the province or regional level. As an illustration, The Central Government, State Governments, Municipalities, Gram Panchayat, etc. are how we refer to them in India. The powers of several governmental levels are defined by the Constitution.
4. **Power Sharing Among Political Parties, Pressure Groups, and Interest Groups** - Power-sharing agreements can also be evident in the ways that political parties, pressure groups, and movement groups are able to manipulate or sway persons in positions of authority. It in turn ensures that power is divided among various political parties representing various ideologies and social groups and does not remain in one hand.

2. State one prudential reason and one moral reason for power sharing with an example from the Indian context.

Answer. **Prudential reason for power sharing:** Power sharing aids in the reduction of conflict between various social groups. As a result, power sharing is required to maintain social harmony and peace. Seats are reserved for the weaker sections of society in India. Seat reservations for SC and ST, for example. This allows the

government's weaker segments to participate in its administration. Power is distributed horizontally among various government organs. The legislature, executive, and judiciary are in charge of administering India, The powers of several governmental levels are defined by the Constitution.

The moral reason for power sharing: Power-sharing is valuable for moral reasons. Citizens in India are granted fundamental rights, and the government is bound by the principles of state policy. It embodies the democratic spirit. Citizens have a say in governance in a democratic system.

3. After reading this chapter, three students drew different conclusions. Which of these do you agree with and why? Give your reasons in about 50 words.

Thomman – Power sharing is necessary only in societies which have religious, linguistic or ethnic divisions.

Mathayi – Power sharing is suitable only for big countries that have regional divisions.

Ouseph – Every society needs some form of power-sharing even if it is small or does not have social divisions.

Answer. Ouseph came to the correct conclusion. Even if a society is small or does not have social divisions, power-sharing is necessary because it reduces the possibility of conflicts among individuals. Power-sharing maintains an optimal balance among various sections of society.

Power sharing aids in the maintenance of a balance of power in various institutions; regardless of the type of society or its size, people will be satisfied if they have a say in decision-making.

4. The Mayor of Merchtem, a town near Brussels in Belgium, has defended a ban on speaking French in the town's schools. He said that the ban would help all non-Dutch speakers integrate into this Flemish town. Do you think that this measure is in keeping with the spirit of Belgium's power-sharing arrangements? Give your reasons in about 50 words.

Answer. The mayor of Merchtem's decision to ban French language instruction in the town's schools near Brussels is unjust. Because this is a Flemish town, this measure does not relate to Belgium's power-sharing arrangements. The people of this region speak Dutch. Power-sharing helps maintain a balance between different sections of society, and in Belgium, there is a need to maintain power-sharing between the Dutch and the French to avoid civil unrest. The ban on speaking French may result in strained

relations between French-speaking and Dutch-speaking communities. The Mayor should promote bilingual education in the town's schools to promote peace among different communities.

5. Read the following passage and pick out any one of the prudential reasons for power sharing offered in this. "We need to give more power to the panchayats to realize the dream of Mahatma Gandhi and the hopes of the makers of our Constitution. Panchayati Raj establishes true democracy. It restores power to the only place where power belongs in a democracy – in the hands of the people. Giving power to Panchayats is also a way to reduce corruption and increase administrative efficiency. When people participate in the planning and implementation of developmental schemes, they would naturally exercise greater control over these schemes. This would eliminate the corrupt middlemen. Thus, Panchayati Raj will strengthen the foundations of our democracy."

Answer. In the given passage, the prudential reason is "Giving power to Panchayats is also a way to reduce corruption and increase administrative efficiency."

6. Different arguments are usually put forth in favour of and against power-sharing. Identify those who are in favour of power-sharing and select the answer using the codes given below? Power-sharing:

A. reduces conflict among different communities

B. Decreases the possibility of arbitrariness

C. Delays the decision-making process

D. Accommodates diversities

E. Increases instability and divisiveness

F. Promotes people's participation in government

G. undermines the unity of a country

(a) A B D F

(b) A C E F

(c) A B D G

(d) B C D G

Answer.

(a) A B D F

7. Consider the following statements about power-sharing arrangements in Belgium and Sri Lanka.

- 1. In Belgium, the Dutch-speaking majority people tried to impose their domination on the minority French-speaking community.**
- 2. In Sri Lanka, the policies of the government sought to ensure the dominance of the Sinhala-speaking majority.**
- 3. The Tamils in Sri Lanka demanded a federal arrangement of power-sharing to protect their culture, language and equality of opportunity in education and jobs.**
- 4. The transformation of Belgium from unitary government to a federal one prevented a possible division of the country on linguistic lines.**

Which of the statements given above is correct?

(a) A, B, C, and D

(b) A, B, and D

(c) C and D

(d) B, C and D

Answer. (d) B, C, and D

8. Match List I (forms of power-sharing) with List II (forms of government) and select the correct answer using the codes given below in the lists:

	List I	List II
1.	Power shared among different organs of government	A. Community government
2.	Power shared among governments at different levels	B. Separation of powers
3.	Power shared by different social groups	C. Coalition government
4.	Power shared by two or more political parties	D. Federal government

Answer.

List I	List II
1. Power shared among different organs of government	Separation of powers
2. Power shared among governments at different levels	Federal government
3. Power shared by different social groups	Community government
4. Power shared by two or more political parties	Coalition government

9. Consider the following two statements on power-sharing and select the answer using the codes given below:

A). Power-sharing is good for democracy.

B). It helps to reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups.

Which of these statements are true and false?

(a) A is true but B is false

(b) Both A and B are true

(c) Both A and B are false

(d) A is false but B is true

Answer.

(b) Both A and B are true



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