

CLASS NOTES

Class: VIII

Topic: THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION

Subject: SOCIAL SCIENCE

NCERT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. WHY DOES A DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY NEED A CONSTITUTION?

ANS- I. It lays out certain ideals that form the basis of the kind of country that we as citizens aspire to live in.

II. It defines the nature of a country's political system.

III. To prevent its tyranny or domination by the majority to the minority.

IV. To save us from ourselves.

v. It generates a degree of trust and co-ordination.

2. What would happen if there were no restrictions on the power of elected representatives?

ANS- The chances of power being used unfairly would be higher.

3. In each of the following situations, identify the minority.

a) In a school with 30 teachers and 20 of them are male.

ANS- The other 10% females are in minority. It is important to respect the views of the female teachers

Because their needs, talent and requirements may be different from those of male teachers.

b) In a city, 5% of the population are Buddhists.

ANS- The Buddhists are in minority. The views of the Buddhist population should be respected as India is a secular country.

c) In a factory mess for all employees, 80% are vegetarians.

ANS- The remaining 20% are in minorities. It is important to respect the views of the minorities i.e.

non-vegetarian families because all employees have equal rights to eat the food of their choice.

d) In a class of 50 students, 40 belong to more well-off families.

ANS- In the above class, rest 10 students who do not belong to well-off families are in minority. The views of

These 10 students should be respected as their families may not be able to spend money on books,

Stationery and educational trips etc.

EXTRA QUESTIONS

1. What are Fundamental Rights? How many Fundamental rights are granted in Indian constitution?

ANS- I. The **Fundamental Rights** are defined as the basic human **rights** of all citizens.

II. These **rights**, defined in Part III of the Constitution, applied irrespective of race, place of birth, religion, caste, creed, or gender;

There are 6 fundamental rights which we enjoy:

- (i) right to equality, (ii) right to freedom, (iii) right against exploitation, (iv) right to freedom of religion, (v) **cultural** and educational rights, and (vi) right to constitutional remedies.

2. Name the 3 organs of the Indian government with one specific power of each.

ANS- Legislature-Making Laws

Executive-Execute or implement laws

Judiciary-interpretes the laws

3. Mention the key features of Indian constitution.

ANS-a)Federalism-**Federalism** is a type of government in which the power is divided between the national government and other governmental units.

b)Parliamentary form of government- A **parliamentary** system of **government means** that the executive branch of **government** has the direct or indirect support of the **parliament**.

c)Fundamental Rights- **Fundamental Rights** are defined as the basic human **rights** of all citizens.

d)Secularism-**Secularism** Refers to Separation of Religion from the state.

e) **Directive Principles of State Policy** – It aims to create social and economic conditions under which the citizens can lead a good life.

4. What are the factors the drafting committee had to take into consideration while drafting the constitution?

ANS- a)The committee had to keep in mind that India was a land of many communities ,languages and many regions.

b)The princely states in India had to be considered.

c)Finally the biggest consideration was the socio-economic condition of the majority.
