




पुर्ना International School
Shree Swaminarayan Gurukul, Zundal

Grade – VIII
Social Science
Study Material
2021-22



Index

Sr.no	Month	Name Of The Chapters
1.	June/July 	<u>History</u> Ch2. From trade to territory Ch3. Ruling the Countryside <u>Geography</u> Ch2.Land, Soil, Water, Natural Vegetation and Wildlife Resources <u>Social and political life</u> Ch2.Understanding Secularism Ch3.Why Do We Need a Parliament?

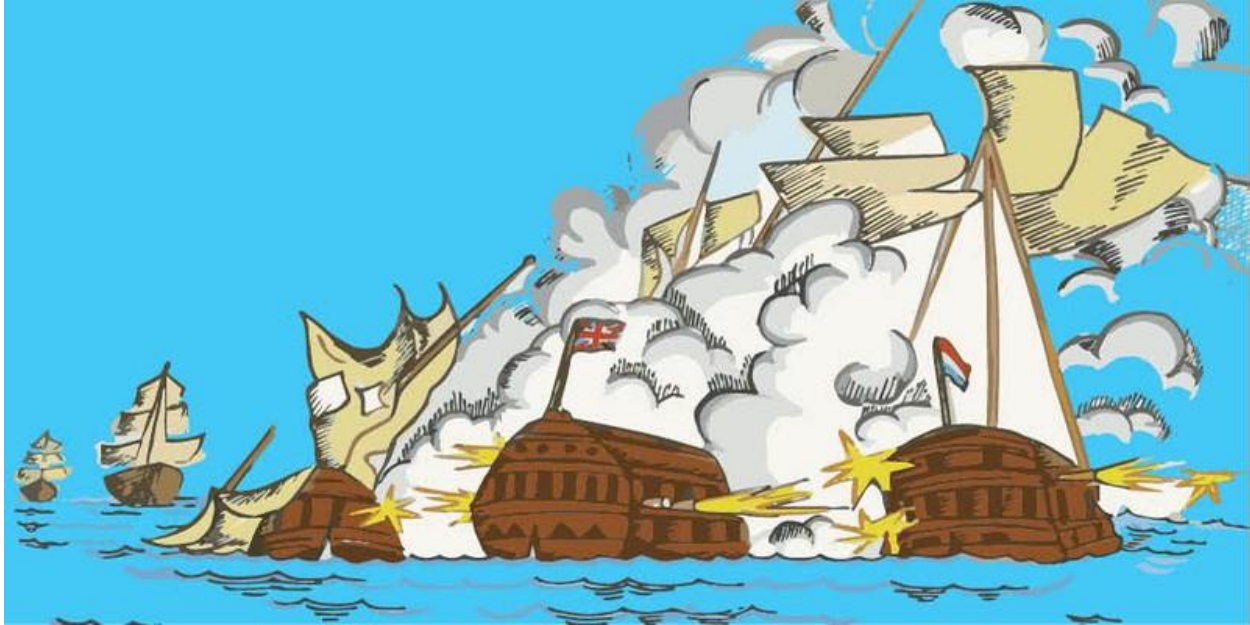


Sr.no	Name Of The Chapters	Value
1	Ch2. From trade to territory Ch3. Ruling the Countryside	Patriotism
2	Ch2.Land, Soil, Water, Natural Vegetation and Wildlife Resources	Sense of conservation of resources
3	Ch2.Understanding Secularism Ch3.Why Do We Need a Parliament?	Sense of duties, Respect of constitution

History

Chapter No- 2

Chapter Name- From trade to territory



Key Points To Remember

- ❖ The control of India, by the 18th century, had passed from the hands of the Mughals to the British Raj.
- ❖ After defeating the last major Indian rulers like Tipu Sultan, the Marathas, and Bahadur Shah Zafar, the last Mughal emperor, the British started spreading their courts and military.
- ❖ They easily won small battles because of internal rivalries among the local rulers.
- ❖ The East India Company, with support from the government of Britain, started expanding its business and area in India in the 17th century.

New Words

- ❖ **Mercantile:** The word refers to a business enterprise that makes profit primarily through trade, buying goods cheap and selling them at higher prices.
- ❖ **Factor:** The Company traders were known at that time as factors.
- ❖ **Farman:** A royal order during the Mughal period.
- ❖ **Puppet:** The term here is used to refer to a person who is controlled by someone else.
- ❖ **Negotiation:** A formal discussion between people in order to find a solution.

Short-question Answers

1. Who was the Nawab of Bengal at the time of Battle of Plassey?

Ans. Sirajuddaulah was the Nawab of Bengal at the time of Battle of Plassey.

2. Who was the commander of Sirajuddaulah who cheated him at the time of Battle of Plassey?

Ans. Mir Jafar was the commander who cheated Sirajuddaulah at the time of Battle of Plassey.

3. In which year was the Company appointed as the Diwan of Bengal by the Mughal Emperor?

Ans. In the year 1765, the Company was appointed as the Diwan of Bengal by the Mughal Emperor.

4. What was the outcome of the appointment of the Company as the Diwan of Bengal?

Ans. Appointment of the Company as Diwan of Bengal resulted in the beginning of exploitation of the vast revenue of the Bengal.

5. How many wars were fought between Mysore Kingdom and the Britishers?

Ans. Four Wars were fought between Mysore and Britishers.

6. Mention the time period in which prolonged war was fought between the Britishers and Afghanistan?

Ans. 1838 – 1842 was the time period when the prolonged war was fought and the Company rule was established in Afghanistan.

7. Name of the Governor-general who introduced several administrative reforms.

Ans. Warren Hastings was the Governor-General who introduced several administrative reforms.

8. What was the main aim of the Company before the territorial expansion?

Ans. Trading and earning profit from trade was the main aim of the Company before the territorial expansion.

9. Who was established as Nawab in replacement of Mir Jafar?

Ans. Mir Qasim was installed as the Nawab in place of Mir Jafar.

Long Answers Questions

1. It is said that before the Britishers, the Portuguese already got established in India. Explain how?

Ans. Yes, the Portuguese had been settled in India before the establishment of the Britishers as in 1498, a Portuguese explorer named Vasco da Gama discovered the sea route to India resulting in establishment of base at Goa.

2. What were the things which India had for the purpose of trade?

Ans. India had several things from which trade of the East India Company got wide and the rate of their profit got maximised. Those things were pepper, cloves, cardamom and cinnamon.

3. What attracted European trading companies to India?

Ans. European trading companies were attracted due to the following reasons:

1. Cheap and fine quality of silk and cotton.
2. For spices like pepper, cloves, cardamom and cinnamon etc.

4. Explain the system of 'subsidiary alliance'.

Ans. Subsidiary Alliance System

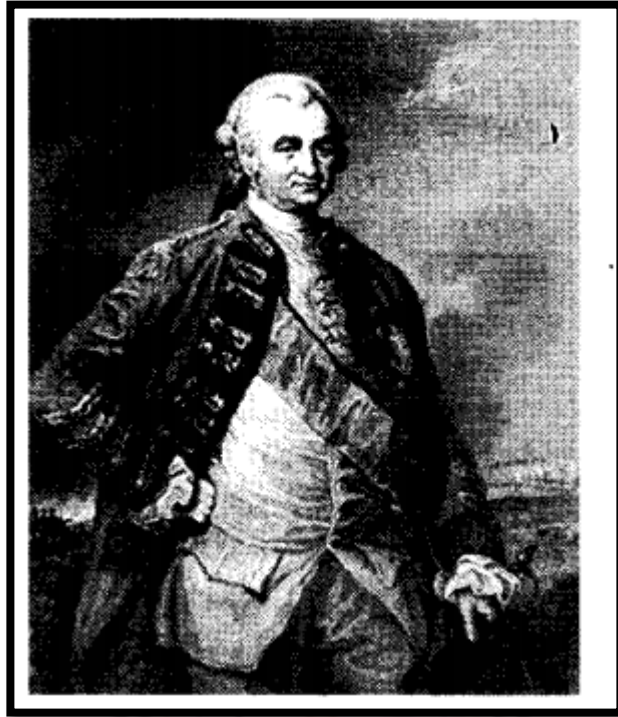
- **The Britishers as a supreme power:** Whichever state wanted to sign this treaty, had to accept the English as a supreme authority. The East India Company behaved as a guardian of that state.
- **Appointment of resident:** The state kept an English Resident in their court, to check the activities of the king.
- **Keeping of an English army:** Indian rulers were not allowed to have their army to protect the state from external and internal invasion. The state had to keep an English army. The state had to bear financial burden of the army.

- **Giving to the territory:** If the Indian rulers failed to make payments, part of their territories were taken away as penalty. For example,
 - The Nawab of Awadh was forced to give over half of his territory to the company in 1801.
 - Hyderabad was also forced to cede territories on similar grounds.

Map Skills -On outline map of India shows expansion of British territorial power in India.



Picture-Based Questions



Questions:

- (i) Identify the person above.
- (ii) When was he appointed the Governor of Bengal?
- (iii) Which battle did he fight in '1757 and against whom?

Answers:

- (i) He is Robert Clive.
- (ii) He was appointed the Governor of Bengal in 1764.
- (iii) In 1757, he fought the Battle of Plassey against Sirajuddaulah

Chapter No- 3

Chapter Name- Ruling the Countryside



Key Points To Remember

- ❖ The Company introduced the Permanent Settlement. By the terms of the settlement, the rajas and taluqdars were recognised as zamindars, and the amount to be paid to the Company was fixed permanently.
- ❖ The British forced cultivators to produce crops of their demand, like indigo and opium.
- ❖ Indigo production collapsed in Bengal as thousands of ryots rebelled.
- ❖ The East India Company became the Diwan of Bengal in 1765, but it still saw itself primarily as a trader

New Words

- ❖ **Countryside:** Rural areas.
- ❖ **Permanent Settlement:** Under this settlement it was decided that the rates of revenues once fixed would not be changed.
- ❖ **Mahal:** In British revenue records Mahal is a revenue estate which may be a village or a group of villages.
- ❖ **Mahalwari Settlement:** Under this system, the rates of revenues were to be revised periodically, not permanently fixed.
- ❖ **Ryoti:** Cultivator.
- ❖ **Indigo:** A plant that produces a rich blue colour.

Short-question Answers

1. **Who initiated and developed the Ryotwari system?**
Ans. Captain Alexander Read initiated and Thomas Munro developed the Ryotwari system.
2. **What is meant by Mahal?**
Ans. Mahal means village or groups of villages.
3. **What was the aim of the Company after getting Diwani?**
Ans. After Diwani the Company aimed at administering the land and organising its

revenue resources and this was done in way that could help the Company attaining enough revenue.

4. By whom was the 'Kalamkari print' was created?

Ans. By the weavers of Andhra Pradesh Kalamkari print was created.

5. Define 'Famine'.

Ans. Extreme Scarcity of food is termed as Famine.

Long Answers Questions

1. Briefly describe the system of permanent settlement.

Ans. Under this system Rajas and Taluqdars were recognized as Zamindars and they were asked to collect rent from the peasants and pay revenue to the Company. The amount that was to be paid was fixed permanently and was not to be increased or decreased in future.

2. How was the Mahalwari System different from the Permanent Settlement?

Ans.

Mahalwari system	Permanent Settlement
1. Mahalwari system, devised by Holt Mackenzie came into effect in 1822, in the North Western Provinces of the Bengal Presidency.	1. Lord Cornwallis introduced the Permanent Settlement in 1793.
2. The amount to be paid was to be revised periodically, not permanently fixed.	2. The amount to be paid was fixed permanently, that is, it was not to be increased ever in future.
3. The charge of collecting the revenue and paying it to the Company was given to the village headman.	3. The charge of collecting the revenue and paying it to the Company was given to the zamindar.

3. State the consequences of the economic crisis that gripped Bengal?

Ans. Consequences of the economic crisis that gripped Bengal

- Artisans were deserting villages since they were being forced to sell their goods to the Company at low prices.
- Peasants were unable to pay the dues that were being demanded from them.
- Artisanal production was in decline, and agricultural cultivation showed signs of collapse.
- Then in 1770 a terrible famine killed ten million people in Bengal. About one-third of the population was wiped out.

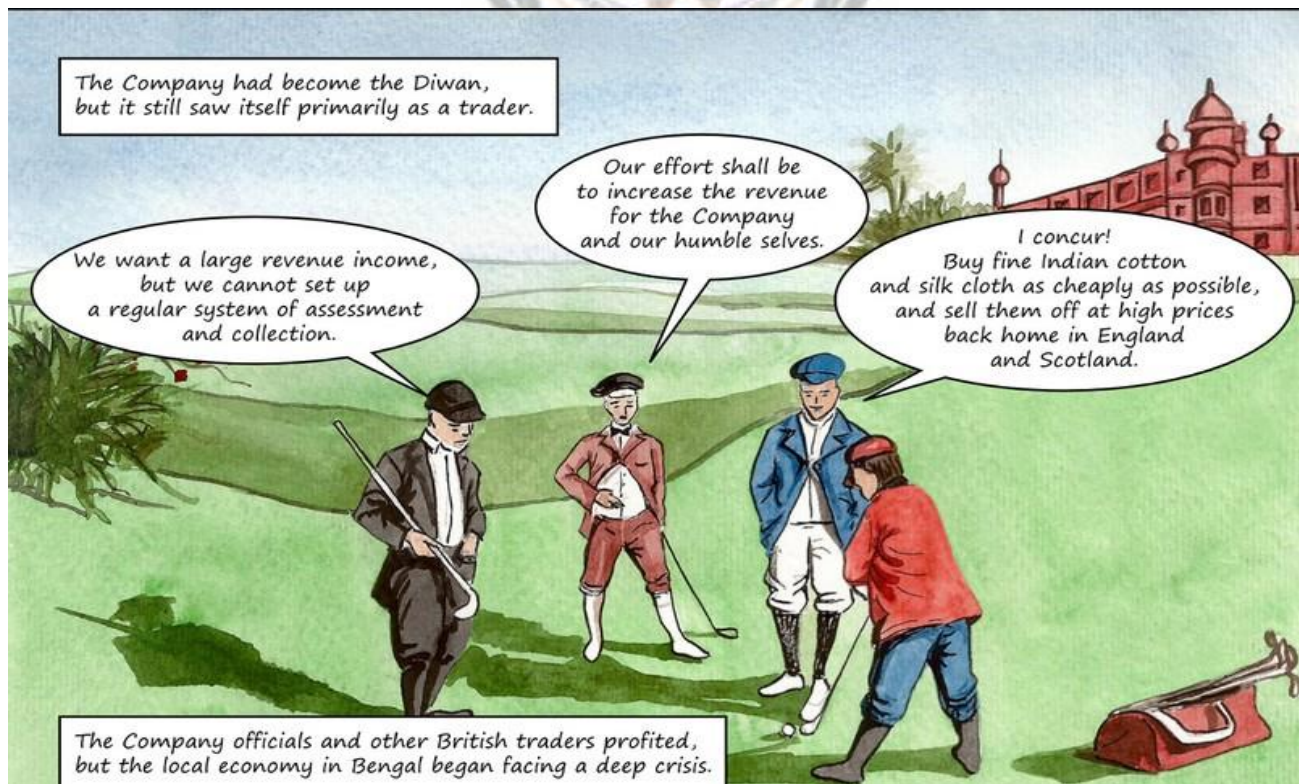
Map Skills

On Outline maps of India, mark the major centres of Blue Rebellion.



A story of ruling the countryside

A picture story depicts that how britishers had established their ruling in villages of india.

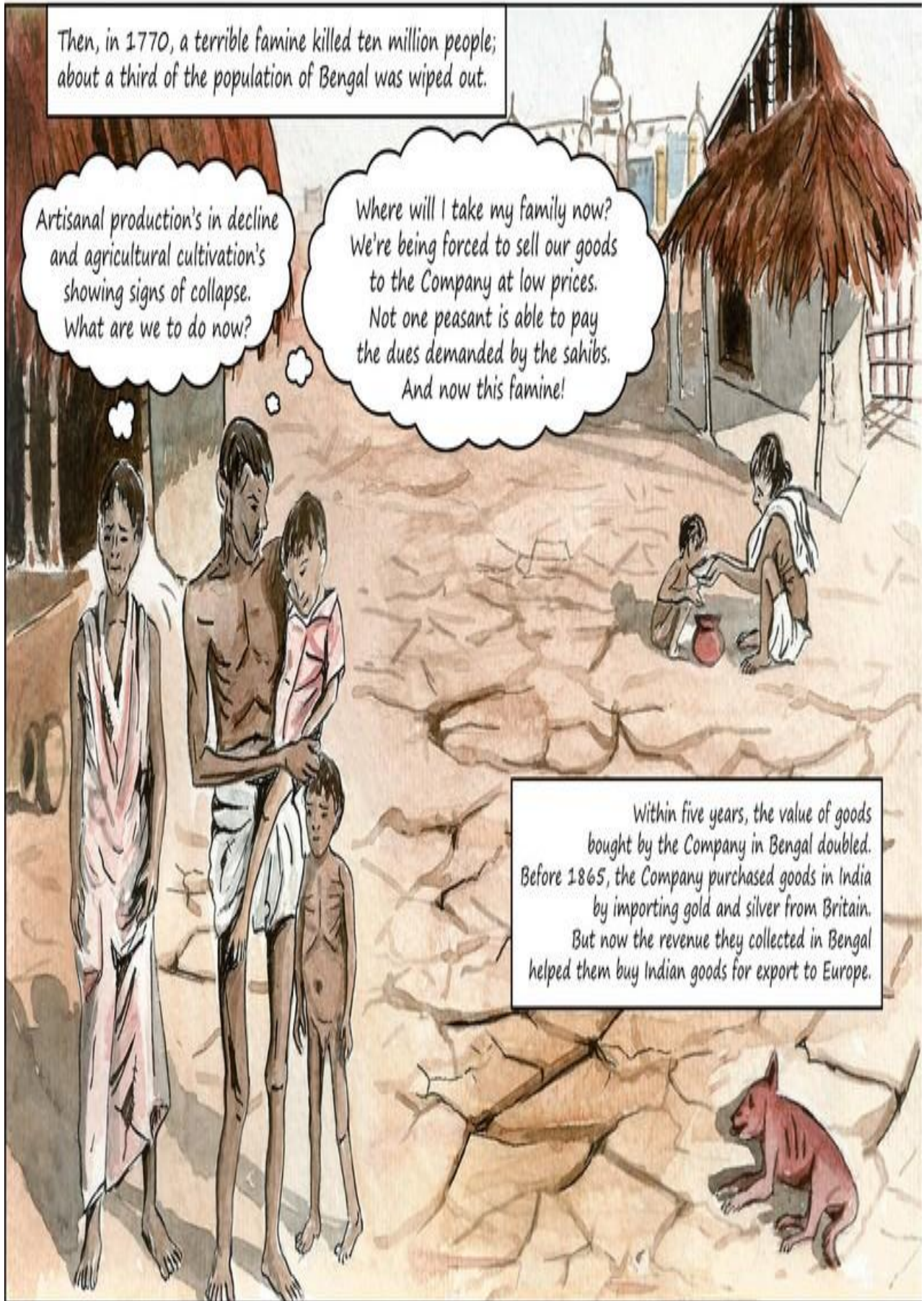


Then, in 1770, a terrible famine killed ten million people; about a third of the population of Bengal was wiped out.

Artisanal production's in decline and agricultural cultivation's showing signs of collapse. What are we to do now?

Where will I take my family now? We're being forced to sell our goods to the Company at low prices. Not one peasant is able to pay the dues demanded by the sahibs. And now this famine!

Within five years, the value of goods bought by the Company in Bengal doubled. Before 1865, the Company purchased goods in India by importing gold and silver from Britain. But now the revenue they collected in Bengal helped them buy Indian goods for export to Europe.



Geography

Chapter No- 2

Chapter Name- Land, Soil, Water, Natural Vegetation and Wildlife Resources



Key Points To Remember

- ❖ Land is one of the most important Natural resources although it covers only 30% of the total area of the earth's surface.
- ❖ Water is the most important natural resource for all life, but only 1% of water is directly useful to humans.
- ❖ The growth of vegetation depends mainly on temperature and moisture.
- ❖ Soil is closely linked to land, and its formation and use depend on many local factors.
- ❖ All plants and animals, big or small, are important to maintain balance in the ecosystem.

New Words

- ❖ **Land:** The surface of the earth which is solid and covers about 30% of the total surface of the earth is called land.
- ❖ **Land Use:** The way in which a particular section of land is being used is called land use.
- ❖ **Private Land:** A part of land owned by a particular individual or group of individuals is called private land.
- ❖ **Community Land:** A part of land not owned by anyone but meant for use by a large group of people living in a society, is called community land.
- ❖ **Deforestation:** The action of cutting down trees is called deforestation.
- ❖ **Afforestation:** The action of planting trees is called afforestation.
- ❖ **Soil:** The thin layer of grainy substance covering the surface of the earth is called soil.

Short-question Answers

1. Why is Earth appropriately called water planet?

Ans. Because 3/4th of the earth's surface is covered with water.

2. What percent of fresh water is present on Earth?

Ans. Only about 2.7%.

3. What determines the type of soil?

Ans. Landform determines the type of soil.

4. What is the majority of land in India used for?

Ans. Cultivation

5. Give three common forms of land use.

Ans. (1) As cropland (2) Pasture (3) Forests

Long Answers Questions

1. Why land is considered an important resource?

Ans: Land is considered as an important resource as it provides habitation to a wide variety of flora and fauna. Also used by Human beings for various purposes such as agriculture, forestry, mining, building houses and roads, and setting up industries.

2. Suggest three ways to conserve water.

Ans: Three ways to conserve water:-

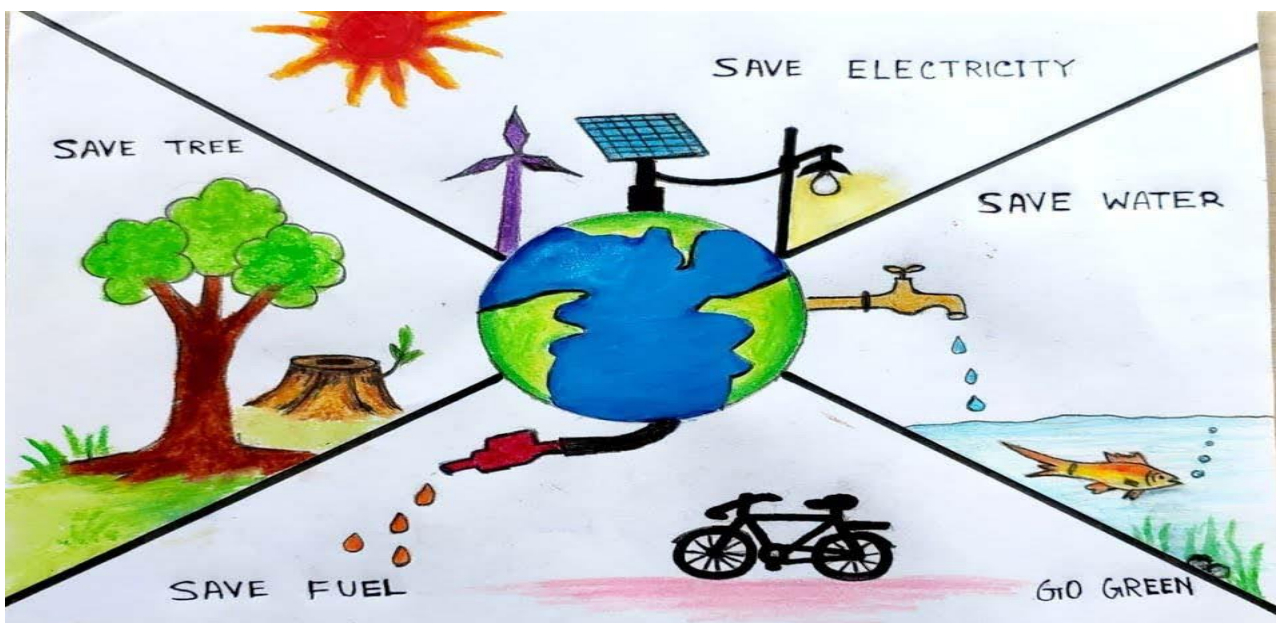
- (i) Rainwater harvesting- It is a process of storing rainwater in vessels of a big surface area.
- (ii) Lining irrigation canals to avoid seepage of water.
- (iii) Replenishing ground water by promoting afforestation.

3. Write a short note on wildlife.

Ans. The animal kingdom, which consists of animals, birds, aquatic creatures and insects, is called wildlife. These creatures provide us various important products such as milk, meat, hides, and wool. Bees give us honey and help in pollination. They play the role of decomposers in the environment. Birds like the vulture are scavengers and they help in cleansing the environment. All forms of wildlife are an integral part of our ecosystem.

Activity

Make poster on “Conservation Of Resources”



Social and political life

Chapter No- 2

Chapter Name- Understanding Secularism



Key Points To Remember

No one should be discriminated against on grounds of their religious practices and beliefs.

- ❖ A country which does not officially promote any religion as it's country's religion is a secular country. India is one of them.
- ❖ India adopted a policy to separate the power of religion and the power of the state.
- ❖ The separation of religion from the state is known as secularism.
- ❖ The state can intervene in religion in order to end an evil social practice which it believes discriminates and violates fundamental rights.
- ❖ The Indian secularism is different from other democratic countries as the Indian states can intervene in religious affairs.

New Words

- ❖ **Secularism:** It refers to the separation of religion from the State.
- ❖ **Coercion:** Forcing someone to do something. In the chapter, the term refers to the force used by a legal authority such as the State.
- ❖ **Freedom to interpret:** It refers to the freedom that all persons shall have to understand things in their own way. In the chapter, it refers to individual liberty to develop their own understanding and meaning of the religion they practice.
- ❖ **Intervene:** In the chapter, the term refers to the State's efforts to influence a particular matter in accordance with the principles of the Constitution

Short-question Answers

1. What does the term 'secularism' refer to?

Ans. The term 'secularism' refers to the separation of the power of religion from the power of the State.

2. What do you mean by the freedom to interpret'?

Ans. 'Freedom to interpret' means an individual's liberty to develop his own understanding and meaning of the religion that one practices.

3. State any one of the objectives that ensures that Indian Constitution mandates Indian State to be secular.

Ans. One religious community does not dominate another.

4. Define Coercion.

Ans. It means to force someone to do something. It also refers to the force used by a legal authority like state.

Long Answers Questions

1. What are the three objectives of a secular State?

Ans. The three objectives of a secular State are:

- One religious community does not dominate another.
- Some members do not dominate other members of the same religious community.
- The State does not enforce any particular religion nor does it take away the religious freedom of individuals.

2. Find out some examples of different views within the same religion.

Ans. Different views are followed even within the same religion. As for example, only in the Hindu religion, we have hundreds of deities worshipped by different groups of people. Similarly, in the Muslim community, there are Shiyas and Shunnis. In Jainas, there are Shwetambar and Digambar sects. In Buddha Dharma, there are Hinayaans and Mahayaans.

Chapter No- 3

Chapter Name- Why Do We Need a Parliament?



Key Points To Remember

- ❖ The Parliament makes laws for the entire country.

- ❖ The Parliament now has more and more people from diverse backgrounds.
- ❖ The Parliament in India consists of the President, the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha.
- ❖ After the Lok Sabha elections are declared, the leader of the party with the majority of elected members is invited by the President to form a government. The other political parties form the opposition. The largest amongst these parties are known as the opposition party.

New Words

- ❖ **Representative:** The person who is elected by the people is known as the people's representative.
- ❖ **Universal Adult Franchise:** All adult citizens of the country enjoy the right to vote.
- ❖ **Coalition:** When one party does not get a clear majority, a group of political parties form a coalition and elect a leader who then forms a government, known as a coalition government.
- ❖ **Parliament:** The Parliament in India consists of the President, the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha. It is the highest law-making body in the country. It is also known as Sansad.
- ❖ **Rajya Sabha:** It is also known as the Council of States. Its total membership is 245. It is chaired by the Vice-President of India.
- ❖ **Lok Sabha:** It is also known as the House of the People. Its total membership is 545. It is presided over by the Speaker.
- ❖ **Opposition Party:** The opposition in Parliament is formed by all the political parties that oppose the majority party or coalition formed. The largest amongst these parties is known as the opposition party.

Short-question Answers

1. When did India become independent?

Ans. On 15th August 1947.

2. What is Universal Adult Franchise?

Ans. It means that all Adult Citizens of the country have the right to vote.

3. In how many years is the Lok Sabha elected?

Ans. Once in every 5 years.

4. What does the term coalition mean in general?

Ans. Coalition is a temporary alliance of groups of parties.

5. What all does the Parliament consist of in India?

Ans. Parliament consists of the President, Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha in India.

Long Answers Questions

1. Why do you think the nationalist movement supported the idea that all adults have a right to vote?

Ans. The national movement supported the idea that all adults have a right to vote because of the following reasons:

- Every responsible citizen should participate in the government.
- Law-making and decision-making should also be shared by the adults of the country.

2. Who is the Prime Minister in India and what is the prime function of ministers selected by him from his party?

Ans. The Prime Minister of India is the leader of the ruling party in the Lok Sabha. From the

MPs, who belong to his party, the Prime Minister selects ministers to work with him to implement decisions. These ministers take charge of different areas of government functioning like health, education, finance, etc.

Did you Know ?

DO YOU KNOW ?



LOK SABHA

Lower House of
Parliament

Maximum strength is
552 members

Prime Minister is the
Leader of Lok Sabha

Lok Sabha operates
for 5 years

To become a member of
Lok Sabha, The
qualifying age is 25 years.



RAJYA SABHA

Upper House of
Parliament

Maximum strength is
250 members

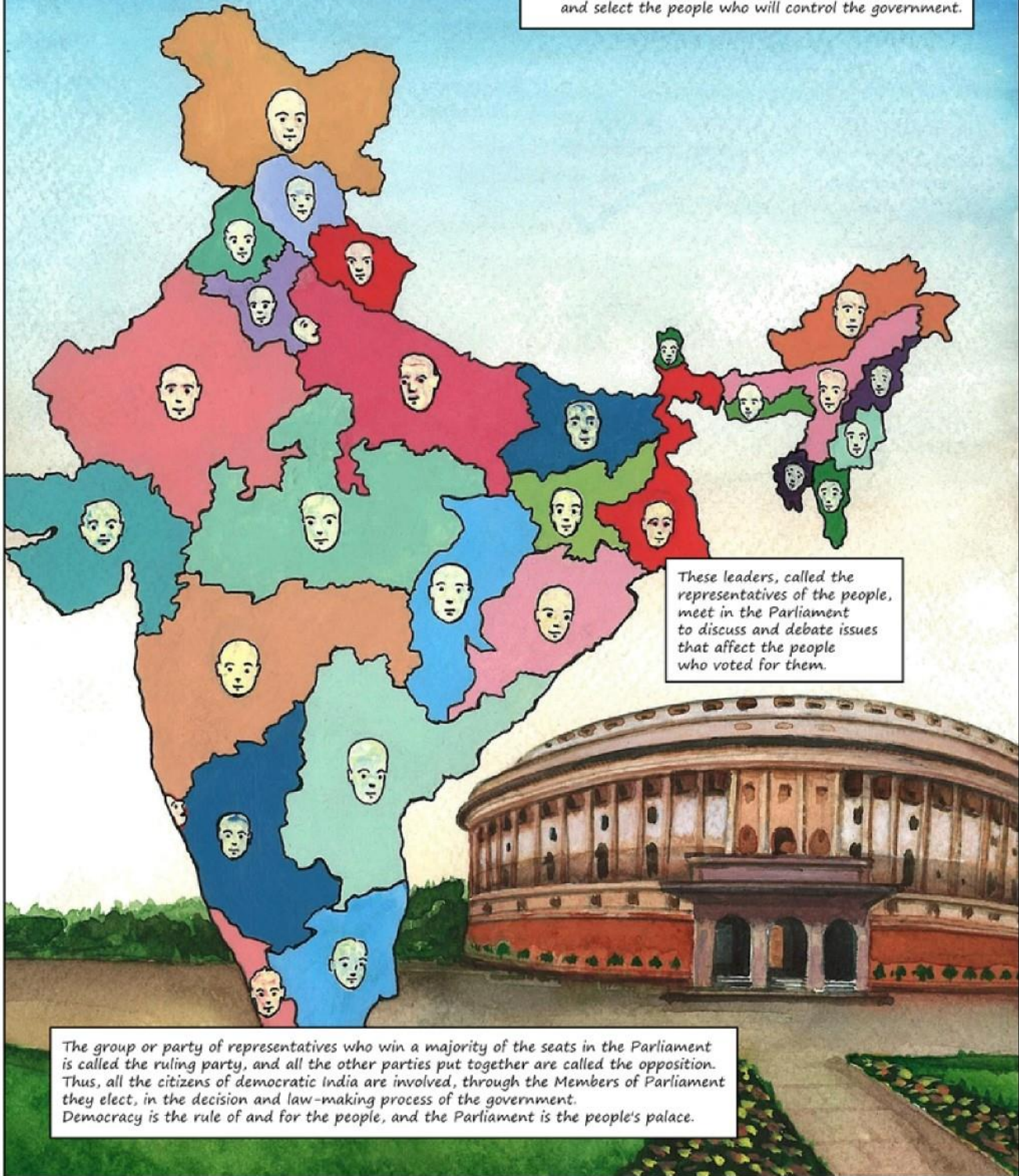
Vice President of India
acts as the chairman

Rajya Sabha is a
permanent body

To become a member of
Rajya Sabha, The
qualifying age is 30 years.

People and Their Representatives

India is a democratic country, which means that the needs and approval of the citizens is the most important. Every Indian can participate in the general elections and select the people who will control the government.



These leaders, called the representatives of the people, meet in the Parliament to discuss and debate issues that affect the people who voted for them.

The group or party of representatives who win a majority of the seats in the Parliament is called the ruling party, and all the other parties put together are called the opposition. Thus, all the citizens of democratic India are involved, through the Members of Parliament they elect, in the decision and law-making process of the government. Democracy is the rule of and for the people, and the Parliament is the people's palace.