



## **Democracy and Diversity**

1. We saw how power can be distributed to accommodate linguistic and regional diversities.
2. People also identify them on the basis of their physical appearance, class, religion, gender, caste, tribes, etc.
3. In this chapter, we will study how democracy responds to social difference, divisions, and inequalities.
4. We then turn to how democratic politics affects and is affected by these social diversities.

## **A Story from Mexico Olympics**

1. The story depicts an important landmark in the history of the CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES.
2. The two men standing with clenched fists upraised and head bowed are the US athletes, Tommie Smith and John Carlos.
3. The International Olympics Association held Carlos and Smith guilty of violating the Olympic spirit by making a political statement.
4. Their medals were taken back.
5. Back home, they were subjected to a lot of criticism even Norman had also suffered a lot, he was not included in the next Olympics.
6. But their action gained attention for the Civil Rights Movements in the US.

## **Differences, similarities, divisions**

1. The athletes above were responding to social divisions and social inequalities.
2. Social diversity can take different forms in different societies.

## **Origins of social differences**

1. These social differences are mostly based on an accident of birth.
2. We don't choose to belong to our community.
3. But all kinds of social differences are not based on our birth.
4. Some of the differences are based on our choices.

5. For example, some people are atheists. They don't believe in God or any religion.
6. Every social difference does not lead to social divisions.
7. In the instances above, Carlos and Smith were similar in one way and thus different from Norman who was white.
8. But they were also all similar in another way – they were all athletes who stood against racial discrimination.
9. We all have more than one identity and can belong to more than one social group.
10. We have different identities in different contexts.

### **Overlapping and cross – cutting differences**

1. Social division takes place when some social differences overlap with other differences.
2. In the US because the blacks tend to be the poor, homeless and discriminated against.
3. In our country, Dalits tend to be poor and landless.
4. They often face discrimination and injustice.
5. The group that shares a common interest on one issue are likely to be in different issues.
6. Overlapping social differences create possibilities of deep social divisions and tensions.
7. Cross – cutting social differences are easier to accommodate.

### **Politics of social divisions**

1. At first sight, it would appear that the combination of politics and social divisions is very dangerous and explosive.
2. Political parties can make social divisions into political divisions and lead to conflict, violence or even disintegration of a country.
3. This has happened in many countries.

### **Range of outcomes**

1. Northern Ireland of the United Kingdom has been for many years the site of a violent and bitter ethnic – political conflicts.
2. Such example leads some people to conclude that politics and social divisions must not be allowed to mix.
3. But if social divisions do exist in a country, they must never be expressed in politics.
4. At the same time every expression of social divisions in politics does not

lead to such disasters.

5. In a democracy, it is only natural that political parties would talk about these divisions, make different promises to different communities.

6. Social divisions affect voting in most countries.

7. In many countries, there are parties that focus only on one community.

### **Three determinants**

1. Three factors are crucial in deciding the outcome of politics of social divisions.

a. First of all, outcome depends on how people perceive their identities.

b. Second, it depends on how political leaders raise the demands of any community.

c. Third, it depends on the how the government reacts to demands of different groups.

2. Thus the assertion of social diversities in a country need not be seen as a source of danger.

3. Expression of various kinds of social divisions in politics often results in their canceling one another out and thus reducing their intensity.

4. People who feel marginalised, deprived and discriminated have to fight against the injustices.

5. Sometimes social differences can take the form of unacceptable level of social inequality and injustice.

6. History shows that democracy is the best way to fight for recognition and also to accommodate diversity.

### **Very Short Answer type questions**

**Q1 What is language problem?**

**Ans.** The language problem means giving more preference to one's own language. South Indian people are not ready to accept Hindi.

**Q2. Where were the Olympics held in 1968?**

**Ans.** Mexico

**Q3. What is meant by economic disparities?**

**Ans.** The gulf between the haves and have not has led to an increase in tension among the classes.

**Q4. What is homogeneous society?**

**Ans.** A society that has similar kinds of people, especially where there are no significant ethnic difference.

**Q5. What is meant by secular state?**

**Ans.** A secular state has no official religion. It is neither religious and nor anti-religious. It allows equal freedom of faith and worship to all.

**Q6. What is meant by national integration?**

**Ans.** National integration implies harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India despite differences of religion, race, caste, language or place of birth.

**Q7. What is communalism?**

**Ans.** Communalism means encouraging and defending religious fundamentalism in order to divide society along the religious lines.

**Q8. What is caste prejudice?**

**Ans.** To make matters worse, very stick toward own caste and feels better than others.

**Q9. Name any two Asian countries in which there was conflict between two linguistic and ethnic groups.**

**Ans.** Sri Lanka and Israel

**10. Who was the Australian athlete who showed sympathy and support to the two black American athletes?**

**Ans.** Peter Norman

**11. Name two US athletes who showed their resentment against the racial discrimination policy of the United States?**

**Ans.** Tommie Smith and John Carlos

**12. Give the reason that led to the disintegration of Yugoslavia.**

**Ans.** Political division on religion and ethnic lines.

**13. Who are referred to as atheists?**

**Ans.** Those who do not believe in God or any religion.

**14. Who started the Civil Rights Movement in USA?**

**Ans.** Martin Luther King Junior.

**15. Why did Tommie Smith wear black socks and shoes?**

**Ans.** Tommie Smith did so to represent black poverty and to protest against the racial discrimination done to African American.

**Short Answer Type questions**

**Q1. Give example to prove that social divisions of one kind or another exist in most of countries.**

**Ans.** 1) India is famous for its diversity.

2) Even the Muslim countries are divided in to shias and Sunies.

3) Countries like Germany and Sweden which are considered homogeneous societies are undergoing rapid change because of migration from other parts of world. Thus social division exists in all parts of the world.

**Q2. Give examples of people belonging to different social groups sharing differences and similarities cutting across the boundaries of countries.**

**Ans.** 1) Johan Carlos and Tommie Smith of US were Black Americans.

2) They were similar and but different from Peter Norman who was white from Australia.

3) But they were all athlete who stood up against racial discrimination.

**Q3 Explain with examples different forms of social diversity.**

**Ans.** 1) The social differences can be overlapping and cross-cutting in nature.

2) The differences between Blacks and whites become a social division when blacks are found to be poor, racially discriminated and homeless.

3) If social difference cross cut one another it is difficult for groups to get pitted against one another. Example, In Netherlands, class and region cross cut each other. Catholics and Protestants are equally rich or poor in that country.

**Q4. Describe the idea of overlapping differences with examples.**

**Ans.** 1) Overlapping differences includes when some social differences overlaps with other differences.

2) Situation of this kind produce social divisions, when one kind of social differences becomes more important than the other and people start feeling that they belong to different communities.

In our country Dalits tend to be poor and landless and often face injustice and discrimination.

**Q5. Do you agree that most of the social differences are based on birth?**

**Ans.** Yes, it is true that most of the social difference originates by nature and we can say that most of the social differences are based on birth; we cannot choose the community in which we will have to take birth. We belong to that community in which we are born. People don't have any choice in setting their physical features like height, colour gender etc. These are not their choice but these differences are given by nature. But all the differences are not given by nature. Person can choose many things himself which become a base if differences.

**Q6. Who is African –Americans?**

**Ans.** 1) African Americana are persons in the United States of America whose ancestors were from Africa.

2) A majority of them were transported to America as slaves during the trans-Atlantic slave trade between 1565 and 1807.

3) Some sources estimate that as many as sixty million Africans were brought as slaves to America at that time.

**Long Answer Type Questions**

**1. Do you think that social divisions are always dangerous? Explain.**

**Ans.** 1) Every social difference does not lead to social division. Also social divisions are not always dangerous.

2) Social differences divide similar people from one another, but they also unite very different people. People belonging to different social groups share differences and similarities cutting across the boundaries of their groups.

3) People belonging to the same religion do not feel that they do not belong to the same community because their caste or sect is very different. It is also possible for people from different religions to have the same caste and feel close to each other.

4) Rich and poor persons from the same family do not keep close relation with each other for they feel they are very different.

5) Thus we all have more than one identity and can belong to more than one social group.

**2. In a democracy every expression of social division in politics is not disastrous". Establish the truth of the statement.**

**Ans.** 1) At first sight it would appear that the combination of politics and social divisions is very dangerous and explosive.

2) But social division of one kind or another exist in most countries of the world. Wherever they exist, these divisions are reflected in politics.

3) Democracy involves competition among various political parties tends to divide any society. But it is not always disastrous.

4) In a democracy political expression of social division is very normal and can be healthy. This allows various disadvantages and marginal social groups to express their grievances and get the government to attend to these.

5) Expression of various kinds of social divisions in politics often results in their cancelling one another out and thus reducing their intensity. This leads to strengthening of a democracy.

**Note: Write Down all NCERT Question Answers in Fair Note Book.**







## CLASS -X

### SUBJECT: POLITICAL SCIENCE

#### CHAPTER -2 FEDERALISM

The form of power sharing is most commonly referred to as federalism.

#### WHAT IS FEDERALISM?

1. Federalism is a system of government in which the power is divided between a central authority and various constituent units of the country.
2. Federalism has two levels of government:
  - a. One is the government for the entire country that is usually responsible for a new subject of common national interest.
  - b. The others are governments at the level of provinces or states that look after much of the day- to-day administering of their state.
3. Federations are contrasted with unitary governments.
4. Under the unitary system, either there is only one level of government or the sub-units are subordinate to the central.
5. In a federal system, the central government cannot order the state government to do something.

Let us look at some of the key features of federalism:

- (i) There are two or more levels (or tiers) of government.
- (ii) Different tiers of government govern the same citizens, but each tier has its own JURISDICTION in a specific matter of legislation, taxation and administration.
- (iii) The jurisdictions of the respective levels or tiers of government are specified in the Constitution.
- (iv) The fundamental provisions of the Constitution cannot be unilaterally changed by one level of government.
- (v) Courts have the power to interpret the Constitution and the powers of different levels of government.
- (vi) Sources of revenue for each level of government are clearly specified to ensure its financial autonomy.
- (vii) The federal system thus has dual objectives: to safeguard and promote the unity of the country, while at the same time accommodate regional diversities.
- (viii) There are two kinds of routes through which federations have been formed.
  - a) The first route involves independent States coming together on their own to form a bigger unit so that by pooling sovereignty and retaining identity they can increase their security. This is 'coming together' federations.
  - b) The second route is where a large country decides to divide its power between the constituent States and the national government. This is 'holding together' federations.

#### WHAT MAKES INDIA A FEDERAL COUNTRY?

1. The constitution declared India as the Union of States.
2. The Constitution originally provided for a two-tier system of government, the Union Government or what we call the Central Government, representing the Union of India and the State government.
3. Later the third tier of federalism was added in the form of Panchayats and municipalities.
4. The Constitution contains three lists:

Union Lists includes subjects of national importance such as defence of the country, foreign affairs, banking, communications and currency.

- I) State Lists contains subjects of States and local importance such as police, trade, commerce, agriculture and irrigation.
- II) Concurrent List includes subjects of common interest to both the Union Governments, such as education, forest, trade unions, marriage, adoption and succession.

### **HOW IS FEDERALISM PRACTICED?**

1. Constitutional provisions are necessary for the success of federalism but these are not sufficient.
2. The real success of federalism in India can be attributed to the nature of democracy politics in our country.

### **LINGUISTIC STATES:**

1. The creation of linguistic states was the first and a major test for democratic politics in our country.
2. Many old States have vanished and many new States been created.
3. In 1947, the boundaries of several old states of India were changed in order to create new States.
4. This was done to ensure that people who spoke the same language lived in the same States.
5. When the demand for the formation of States on the basis of language was raised, some national leaders feared that it would lead to the disintegration of the country.

### **LANGUAGE POLICY:**

1. The second test for Indian Federation is the language policy.
2. Our Constitution did not give the status of national language to any one language.
3. Hindi was identified as the official language.
4. According to the Constitution, the use of English for official purposes was to stop in 1965.
5. The central government responded by agreeing to continue the use of English along with Hindi for official purposes.
6. Promotion does not mean that the Central Government can impose Hindi on states where people speak a different language.

### **CENTRE-STATE RELATION:**

1. Restructuring the centre-state relations is one more way in which federalism has been strengthened in practice.
2. In 1990 there was the rise of regional political parties in many States of the country.
3. This was also the beginning of the era of COALITION GOVERNMENT at the Centre.
4. Since no single party got a clear majority in the Lok Sabha, the major national parties had led to enter into an alliance with many parties.
5. This led to a new culture of power sharing and respect for the autonomy of State Government. Thus, federal power sharing is more effective today than it was in the early years after the Constitution came into force.

### **DECENTRALIZATION IN INDIA:**

1. We noted above that federal government has two or more tiers of government.
2. But a vast country like India cannot be run only through these two-tiers.
3. Federal power sharing in India needs another tier of government
4. This resulted in a third-tier if the government called local government.
5. When power is taken away from Central and State government, it is called decentralisation.
6. As the local level, it is possible for the people to directly participate in decision making.
7. A major step towards decentralisation was taken in 1992.
8. The rural local government is popularly known by the name panchayati raj. This is a council consisting of several ward members, often called panch, and a president or sarpanch.

9. They are directly elected by all the adult population living in that ward or village.
10. It is the decision-making body for the entire village.
11. All the panchayat Samiti or mandals in a district together constitute the Zilla Parishad.
12. Local government bodies exist for urban areas as well.
13. Big cities are constituted into municipal corporations.
14. This new system of local government is the largest experiment in democracy conducted anywhere in the world.





## Power Sharing

### Key Points

- . With this chapter, we resume the tour of democracy that we started last year.
- An intelligent sharing of power among a legislature, executive and judiciary is very important to the design of a democracy.
- We start with two stories from Belgium and Sri Lanka.
- Both these stories are about how democracies handle demands for power sharing.

### Belgium and Sri Lanka:

1. Belgium is a small country in Europe.
2. It has borders with Netherlands, France and Germany.
3. 59% in the Flemish region speaks Dutch.
4. Another 40% people live in Wallonia region and speaks French.
5. Remaining 1% of the Belgians speak Germany.
6. In the capital city Brussels, 80% people speak French while 20% are Dutch – speaking.
7. The minority French – speaking community was relatively rich and powerful.
8. This was resented by the Dutch-speaking community who got the benefit of the economic development and education much later.
9. The tension between two communities was acuter in Brussels.
10. Like other nations in the south Asia region, Sri Lanka has a diverse population.
11. The Sinhala speaks are 74% and Tamil speakers are 18%



12. Among Tamils, there are two sub groups, Tamil natives of the country are called “Sri Lankan Tamils”; the rest whose forefathers came from India as a population workers during the colonial period, is called ‘Indian Tamils’.

### **Majoritarianism in Sri Lanka:**

1. Sri Lankan emerged as an independent country in 1948.
2. The leaders of the Sinhala community sought to secure dominance over the government by virtue of their majority.
3. In 1956, an Act was passed to recognize Sinhala as the only official language, thus disregarding Tamil.
4. A new constitution stipulated that the state shall protect and foster Buddhism.
5. All these coming measures, coming one after the other, gradually increased the feeling of alienation among the Sri Lankan Tamils.
6. As a result, the relations between the Sinhala and Tamil communities strained over time.
7. The Sri Lankan Tamils launched parties and struggles.
8. But their demand for more autonomy to provinces populated by the Tamils was repeatedly denied.
9. The distrust between the two communities turned into widespread conflict. It soon turned into CIVIL WAR.
10. The civil war caused a terrible setback to the social, cultural and economic life of the country.

### **Accommodation in Belgium:**

1. Belgium recognized the existence of regional differences and cultural diversities.
2. Between 1970 and 1993, they amended their constitution four times so as to work out an arrangement that would enable everyone to live together within the same country.

3. Here are some of the elements of the Belgian model:
  - a. Constitution prescribes that the number of Dutch and French-speaking ministers shall be equal in the central government.
  - b. Many powers of the central government have been given to states government of the two of the regions of the country.
  - c. Brussels has separated government in which both the communities have equal representation.
  - d. Apart from the central and state government, there is a third kind of government. This is community government.

4. In Belgium, the leaders have realized that the unity of the country is possible only by respecting the feelings and interests of different communities and regions.

5. Sri Lanka shows us a contrasting example. It shows us that if a majority community wants to force its dominance over others and refuses to share power, it can undermine the unity of the country.

### **Why is power sharing desirable?**

1. Thus, two different sets of reasons can be given in favor of power sharing.
2. Firstly, power sharing is good because it helps to reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups.
3. There is a second, deeper reason why power sharing is good for democracy. Power sharing is very spirit of democracy. A democratic rule involves sharing power with those affected by its exercise, and who have to live with its effects.
4. Let us call the first set of reasons PRUDENTIAL and the second moral.
5. While prudential reasons stress that power sharing will bring out better outcomes, moral reasons emphasizes the very act of the power sharing as valuable.

### **Forms of power sharing:**

1. The idea of power sharing has emerged in opposition to the notions of undivided political power.

2. For a long time, it was believed that all power of a government must reside in one person or group of a person located at one place.
3. One basic principle of power sharing is that people are the source of all political power.
4. In a good democratic government, due respect is given to diverse groups and views that exist in a society.
5. Everyone has a voice in the shaping of public politics.
6. Therefore, it follows that in a democracy political power should be distributed among as many citizens as possible.

**Let us look at some of the most common arrangements that we have or will come across.**

1. Power is shared among different organs of the government, such as the legislature, executive, and judiciary. Let us call this horizontal distribution of power because it allows different organs of the government placed at the same level to exercise different powers.
2. Power can be shared among governments at different levels – a general government for the entire country and governments at the provincial or regional level. The division of higher and lower levels of government is called the vertical division of power.
3. Power may also be shared among different social groups, such as the religious and linguistic groups. 'Community government' is a good example of this arrangement.
4. Power sharing arrangement can also be seen in the way political parties, pressure groups and movements control or influence those in power.

Very Short Answer type Questions

**Q1 What is Majoritarianism?**

**Ans.** A belief that the majority community should be able to rule a country in whatever way it wants, by disregarding the wishes and needs of the minorities.

**Q2 Mention one step which was taken by Sri Lankan Government to create Majoritarianism.**

**Ans.** In 1956, an act was passed to recognize Sinhala as the official language.

**Q3. State one prudential reason and one moral reason for power sharing from the Indian context.**

**Ans.** India is a multinational society and India is a democratic country.

**Q4. Name the country which has lost peace due to Majoritarianism.**

**Ans.** Sri Lanka.

**Q5 what is the difference between prudential and moral reasons for power sharing?**

**Ans.** Prudential reasons stress that power sharing will bring out better outcome or results; whereas moral reasons emphasize the very act of power sharing as valuable.

**Q6 Name two subgroups of Tamils in Sri Lanka.**

**Ans.** Sri Lankan Tamils and Indian Origin Tamils.

**Q7 What is the system of checks and balances of power sharing?**

**Ans.** Under this system, one organ of the government keeps the check over other. None of the organs can exercise unlimited power.

**Q8 State two main bases of the social divisions in Sri Lanka.**

**Ans.** Religion and Language

**Q9 Who formed majority in terms of population in Sri Lanka?**

**Ans.** Sinhalese Buddhist formed majority.

**Q10 Who formed majority in terms of population in Belgium?**

**Ans.** The Dutch formed majority



**Q11. In which year, Sri Lanka emerged as an independent country?**

**Ans.** 4 February, 1948

**Q12. What is the linguistic composition of Belgium?**

**Ans.** 59% people speak Dutch, 40% people speak French and 1% people speak German.

**Q13 How is power shared in modern democracies?**

**Ans.** In modern democracies power is shared among different organs of government, among government at different levels and among various political parties, pressure groups etc.

**Q14 What do you mean by federal division of power?**

**Ans.** Power shared at different levels of government

**Q15 Name the community that is relatively rich and powerful in Belgium.**

**Ans.** French minority community

### **Short Answer Type Questions**

**Q1. Explain the ethnic problem of Srilanka.**

**Ans.** a). In Srilanka there are two communities' sinhala and Tamil  
b). Among Tamils the Tamil natives who are called, Srilankan Tamils and the Indian Tamils whose forefathers come from India as plantation workers during the colonial period.  
c). Most of the Sinhalas are Buddhist and Tamils are Hindus or Muslims. So in Srilanka the problem was who is going to hold power and enjoy the economic benefits.

**Q2. What is majoritarianism? How it has led to alienation of majority community in Sri Lanka?**

**Ans.** The dominance of majority community to rule the country in whichever way it wants totally disregarding the wishes and needs of minority community is known as majoritarianism.

a). In srilanka mainly there are two communities- Sinhala and Tamils the leaders of the sinhala community sought to secure dominance over the govt by virtue of their majority. Sinhala has been recognized as the official language of the country by disregarding

b). Government followed a preferential policy favouring sinhalased in university portions and govt jobs.

c). The govt encouraged and protected BudhismThe distrust has turned into a civil war that has caused a set back to social cultural and economic life of Srilanka.

**Q3 How is federal government better than a unitary government? Explain with examples of Belgium and Sri Lanka.**

**Ans.** Federalism is a system of government under which power is divided between a central authority and its various constituent units.

a). In federal government power is shared among the different levels of government but in unitary government all powers are in the hands of a single unit.

b). The Belgium leaders tried to solve the ethnic problem by respecting the feeling and interest if different committees and regions by establishing a federal government, whereas the Sri Lankan Government tried to solve the problem through Majoritarianism.

**Q4. Write down the features of Horizontal division of power sharing.**

**Ans.** Horizontal Division of power, in which power is shared among different organs of the government like legislature, Executive and Judiciary.

a). Different organs of the government exercise the power.

b). It specifies the concept of check and balance.

c). It ensures the concept of the expansion of the democracy.

d). Examples: Legislature, Executive and Judiciary are the organs Government of India

**Q5. Write Down the features of Vertical division of power sharing.**

**Ans.** In vertical division of Power Sharing power is shared among the different levels of the government like Union Government, state government and Lower levels.

- a). Different levels of the government exercise the power of the government.
- b). No specification of the system of checks and balance.
- c). It ensures the concept of deepening of democracy.
- d). Central Government, State Government and Panchayat Raj are the example of the Vertical division of Power Sharing.

**Long Answer Type Questions**

**Q1. Explain the power sharing arrangement among the different political parties, pressure groups and movements.**

**Ans.** a). In a democracy power is also shared among the different political parties, pressure groups and movements.

b). Democracy provides the citizens a choice to choose their rulers. This choice is provided by the various political parties, who contest elections to win. Such competition ensures that power does not remain in one hand.

c). In the long run power is shared among different political parties that represent different ideologies and social groups.

d). Sometimes this kind of sharing can be direct, when two or more parties from an alliance to contest elections. If their alliance is elected, they form a coalition government and thus share power.

e). In a democracy, various pressure groups and movements also remain active. They will also have a share in governmental power, either through participation in governmental committees or bringing influence on the decision making process.

**Q2 Differentiate between Horizontal division of power sharing and Vertical division of power sharing?**

**Ans.**

<b>Horizontal Division of Power Sharing</b>	<b>Vertical Division of Power Sharing</b>
A. Horizontal Division of power, in which power is shared among different organs of the government like legislature, Executive and Judiciary.	A. In vertical division of Power Sharing power is shared among the different levels of the government like Union Government, state government and Lower levels.
B. Different organs of the government exercise the power.	B. Different levels of the government exercise the power of the government.
C. It specifies the concept of check and balance.	C. No specification of the system of checks and balance.
D. It ensures the concept of the expansion of the democracy.	D. It ensures the concept of deepening of democracy.
E. Examples: Legislature, Executive and Judiciary are the organs Government of India.	E. Central Government, State Government and Panchayat Raj are the example of the Vertical division of Power Sharing.

Note: **Write all NCERT Question Answers in Fair Notebook.**

