

POWER

SHARING



- **Power sharing** is a technique to share the power at different levels. It is an idea inculcated in democracy so that the power is not concentrated at one hand only and that different forms can keep a check on each other. India is an example of 'holding together' federations, where the power is shared between central government and different constituent states.

MEANING

Majoritarian in Sri Lanka

- After independence in 1948, Sri Lanka adopted a series of majoritarian measures to establish Sinhalese supremacy over the Tamils
- In 1956, an Act was passed to recognise Sinhala as the only official language



Majoritarian in Sri Lanka

- In 1956 an Act was passed which recognised Sinhala as the only official language.
- Sinhala speakers were preferred both for university positions and Govt. jobs.



Reasons



- .Dominance of Sinhalese community due to majority**
- 1956 Act made Sinhala as the only official language**
- Preferential policies favouring Sinhalese in university position and jobs**
- State to protect and foster Buddhism**



WHY IS POWER SHARING IS NEEDED?

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PRUDENTIAL REASONS:

1. It reduces the possibility of conflicts.
2. It provides stability to the government.

MORAL REASONS:

1. Power sharing is the very spirit of democracy.
2. people have a right to be consulted

FORMS OF POWER SHARING



1. Power is shared among different organs of the government

2. Power is shared among government at different levels

3. Power is shared among different social groups

4. Power is also shared among political parties, pressure groups and movements

*POWER SHARING AMONG ORGANS OF THE GOVERNMENT



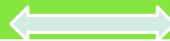
Legislature
(make laws)



Executive
(implement laws)



Judiciary
(resolves disputes)



- ✚ Legislature, executive and judiciary keep a check on each other. This results in balance of power among various institutions.
- ✚ This arrangement is also called a system of check and balance.

* POWER SHARING AT DIFFERENT LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

Central government

State government

Local self government



1

Under this arrangement government and administration gives space to the diverse social groups.

2

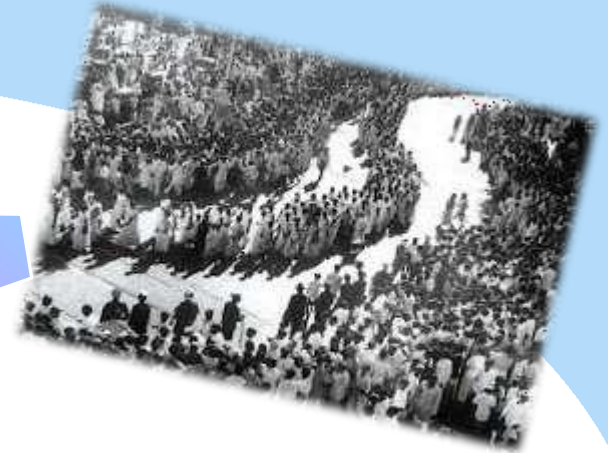
In this way minority communities get a fare share in power.

** Power sharing among different social groups*



In democracy
different
parties
compete to
come to
power.

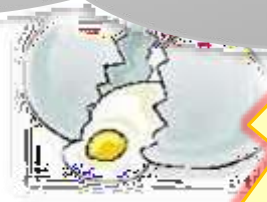
In case no party
gets majority
then two or more
parties form an
alliance to come
to power and
form coalition
government.



*** Power sharing among
political parties, pressure
groups and movements**



TWO EXAMPLES OF POWER SHARING



BELGIUM

SRILANKA

* BELGIUM

* *Belgium is a federal monarchy in Western Europe. It is a founding member of the European Union and hosts the EU's headquarters as well as those of several other major international organisations such as NATO. Belgium covers an area of 30,528 square kilometres (11,787 sq mi), and it has a population of about 11 million people.*



* ETHNIC COMPOSITION



BELGIUM:

- 59% Dutch speakers
- 40% French speakers
- 1% German speakers

BRUSSELS:

- 20% Dutch speakers
- 80% French speakers

*ACCOMMODATION IN BELGIUM

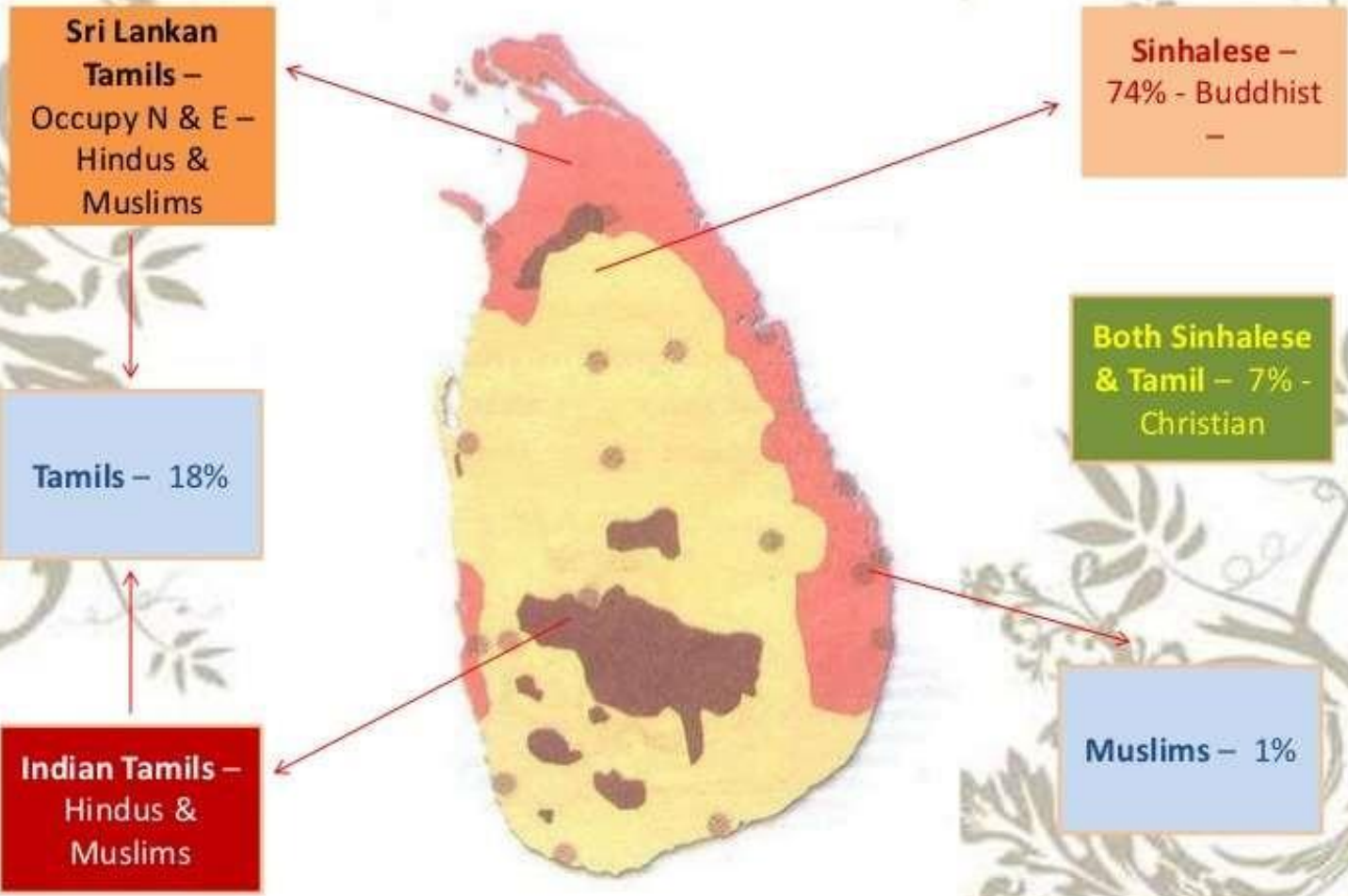
- Constitution of Belgium states that the number of Dutch and French speaking ministers shall be equal in central government.
- Many powers of central government have been given to the state government .
- Brussels have a separate government in which each party have the equal representation.
- There is a third kind of government called community government which is elected by the people belonging to one language community.



*SRI LANKA


Sri Lanka officially the **Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka**, is an island country in the northern Indian Ocean off the southern coast of **the Indian subcontinent in South Asia**. Known until 1972 as **Ceylon** , Sri Lanka has maritime borders with India to the northwest and the Maldives to the Southwest

Ethnic Communities of Sri Lanka



Sri Lanka emerged as an independent country in 1948. The government took many steps to establish majoritarianism. In 1956, an act was passed to recognize Sinhala as the only official language of Sri Lanka. Preference was given to Sinhala applicants for university positions and government jobs. Moreover, the government of Sri Lanka was insensitive to Tamil language and culture.

* MAJORITARIANISM IN SRI LANKA



By 1980 several political organisations were formed demanding an independent Tamil Eelam in northern and eastern parts of Sri Lanka . The distrust between the communities turned into widespread conflicts. It soon turned into a civil war as a result thousands of people were forced to leave the country. This civil war is still going on.



CIVIL WAR