

QUESTION BANK IN SOCIAL SCIENCE CLASS-IX (TERM-I)

3

CONSTITUTIONAL DESIGN

CONCEPTS

Democratic Constitution in South Africa

- Nelson Mandela, the South African leader of African National Congress, fought a long battle against Apartheid.
- Imprisoned for 28 years (1964–1992) emerged as the First President of the Republic of South Africa.
- People struggled against the horrible discrimination practised against them by the white minority rulers.
- Apartheid finally defeated in 1994 and a new constitution made in 1996.
- Remarkable constitution, forgot past sufferings, sought co-operation of all the races which make S. Africa based on equality, democratic values and social justice.

Do We Need a Constitution?

- Yes. A constitution has written laws accepted by people living together in a country.
- It generates trust and co-ordination.
- It specifies how a government should be constituted.
- It lays down limits on the powers of the government.
- It expresses the aspirations of the people about creating a good society.

Making of the Indian Constitution

- The process began during the national struggle for freedom.
- First draft 1928, then 1931. Motilal Nehru and 8 leaders demanded in the draft : universal adult franchise, social justice, right to freedom and liberty.
- Participation in Provincial Legislatures helped Indians in framing their constitution.
- Leaders inspired by French Revolution, British parliamentary system and the Bill of Rights of the US.
- They also learnt what the British were denying Indian citizens.

The Constituent Assembly

- Elections to the Constituent Assembly held in July 1946.
- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar appointed chairman of the drafting committee.
- Constitution adopted on 26 November 1949, and enacted on 26 January, 1950, when India became a republic.
- The Constitution reflects the best minds of the country. Its members represented mini-India. Every law was debated clause by clause and a consensus arrived at.
- It is the longest written constitution.

I. SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT

A. NCERT TEXTBOOK QUESTIONS

Questions within the Lesson

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Q.1. What would have happened in South Africa if the black majority had decided to take revenge on the whites for all their oppression and exploitation?

Ans. Chaos and war. The white nations would have attacked S. Africa and perhaps she could have lost her independence once again!

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Q.2. This image captures the spirit of South Africa today. South Africans call themselves a 'rainbow nation'. Can you guess why?

Ans. It is called a 'rainbow nation' because this nation comprises many races — Whites, Blacks, Coloured and Indians.

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Q.3. This is not fair! What was the point in having a Constituent Assembly in India if all the basics were already decided?

Ans. It is fair. The basics were decided by the Congress Party which did not at that time represent the whole country, and it was not an elected representative of the people. The Constituent Assembly was the people's representative body and took every one's views and opinions into consideration.

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Q.4. Compare the Preambles to the Constitutions of the United States of America, India and South Africa.

- *Make a list of ideas that are common to all these three.*
- *Note down at least one of the major differences among these.*
- *Which of the three makes a reference to the past?*
- *Which of these does not invoke God?*

Ans. 1. Common Features :

- All three begin with "We the people".
- All three want to establish liberty, justice and fraternity.
- All three want to promote general welfare of the people.

2. Difference : USA does not mention the word Republic or the word Democratic like India and South Africa.

3. South Africa

4. India.

Questions in the Exercise

Q.1. Here are some false statements. Identify the mistake in each case and rewrite these correctly based on what you have read in this chapter.

- (a) Leaders of the freedom movement had an open mind about whether the country should be democratic or not after independence.

- (b) Members of the Constituent Assembly of India held the same views on all provisions of the Constitution.
- (c) A country that has a constitution must be a democracy.
- (d) Constitution cannot be amended because it is the supreme law of a country.

- Ans.** (a) Leaders of the freedom movement were decided on certain basic values and wanted India to be a democratic republic.
- (b) No. There were sharp differences on many issues. They were solved after long discussions and debates and a consensus was reached.
 - (c) Not necessarily. Every country has a Constitution but all are not democracies — some are dictatorships, theocracies or monarchies.
 - (d) A Constitution is not inflexible. It has to change according to the changes in society and reflect people's aspirations.

Q.2. Which of these was the most salient underlying conflict in the making of a democratic constitution in South Africa?

- (a) Between South Africa and its neighbours.
- (b) Between men and women
- (c) Between the white minority and the black majority
- (d) Between the coloured minority and the black majority.

- Ans.** (c) between the white minority and black majority.

Q.3. Which of these is a provision that a democratic Constitution does not have?

- (a) Powers of the head of the state
- (b) Name of the head of the state
- (c) Powers of the legislature
- (d) Name of the country

- Ans.** Name of the head of the state.

Q.4. Match the following leaders with their roles in the making of the Constitution:

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| (a) Motilal Nehru | (i) President of the Constituent Assembly |
| (b) B.R. Ambedkar | (ii) Member of the Constituent Assembly |
| (c) Rajendra Prasad | (iii) Chairman of the Drafting Committee |
| (d) Sarojini Naidu | (iv) Prepared a Constitution for India in 1928 |

- Ans.** (a) — (iv); (b) — (iii); (c) — (i); (d) — (ii).

Q.5. Read again the extracts from Nehru's speech 'Tryst with Destiny' and answer the following:

- (a) Why did Nehru use the expression "not wholly or in full measure" in the first sentence?
- (b) What pledge did he want the makers of the Indian Constitution to take?
- (c) "The ambition of the greatest man of our generation has been to wipe every tear from every eye." Who was he referring to?

- Ans.** (a) He says this because India was partitioned into India and Pakistan.
- (b) The pledge of service of the millions who suffer.
 - (c) Mahatma Gandhi.

Q.6. Here are some of the guiding values of the Constitution and their meaning. Rewrite them by matching them correctly.

- (a) Sovereign
- (i) Government will not favour any religion

- (b) Republic (ii) People have the supreme right to make decisions
 (c) Fraternity (iii) Head of the state is an elected person
 (d) Secular (iv) People should live like brothers and sisters

- Ans.** (a) Sovereign — People have the supreme right to make decisions.
 (b) Republic — Head of the state is an elected person.
 (c) Fraternity — People should live like brothers and sisters.
 (d) Secular — Government will not favour any religion.

Q.7. Here are different opinions about what made India a democracy. How much importance would you give to each of these factors? [Important]

- *Democracy in India is a gift of the British rulers. We received training to work with representative legislative institutions under the British rule.*
- *Freedom struggle challenged the colonial exploitation and denial of different freedoms to Indians. Free India could not be anything but democratic.*
- *We were lucky to have leaders who had democratic convictions. The denial of democracy in several other newly independent countries shows the important role to these leaders.*

Ans. I would give the maximum importance to the second opinion. Freedom struggle was the biggest factor in teaching us the values of freedom of thought, expression and belief. It taught us that we had to be united, live as brothers and sisters to fight the common enemy. It taught us the democratic value of equality, how social equality was as important as political one. It taught people that inspite of differences, some basic values are accepted by all.

- Second important factor was the quality of leadership. Gandhiji, Nehru, Bose, Azad, to name a few, were great democrats who believed in equality, liberty and fraternity. They believed that the suffering of the people had to be alleviated.
- The British gave the Indians training to work with legislative institutions, but they were certainly not believers of democracy. They did not allow every one to vote, they had all the power in their hands, they created divisions among Hindus and Muslims, did not treat Indians as equal to them. In fact it was the freedom struggle which taught Indians to value democracy.

Q.8. Read the following extract from a conduct book for ‘married women’, published in 1912. ‘God had made the female species delicate and fragile both physically and emotionally, pitiably incapable of self-defence. They are destined thus by God to remain in made protection – of father, husband and son — all their lives. Women should, therefore, not despair, but feel obliged that they can dedicate themselves to the service of men.’ Do you think the values expressed in this para reflected the values underlying our Constitution? Or does this go against the constitutional values?

Ans. They certainly go against our constitutional values. The Constitution makes no gender differences. Equal rights are given to women. They can vote, take up any job, have property rights and are paid (according to the constitution) equal wages for equal work. The statement of 1912 makes women inferior to men and does not give them equal status.

Q.9. Read the following statements about a Constitution. Give reasons why each of these is true or not true.

- (a) The authority of the rules of the constitution is the same as that of any other law.

- (b) Constitution lays down how different organs of the government will be formed.
- (c) Rights of citizens and limits on the power of the government are laid down in the Constitution.
- (d) A Constitution is about institutions, not about values.

Ans. (a) Not true. Constitution is the supreme law. Its authority cannot be challenged even by the government. It is not like an ordinary law.

- (b) Yes, it is true. It defines the role of the legislature, the executive and the judiciary and how they should be formed and by whom.
- (c) Yes, true. The Fundamental Rights state clearly the rights of the citizens. They also state the power of the executive, lay down the rules of how the legislature and the judiciary can control the government.
- (d) Not true. The Constitution contains all the values which the institutions have to promote. The Preamble to the Constitution is a shining example of this and states clearly that justice, liberty, equality and fraternity have to be promoted. Secularism has to be followed and socialism and democracy should be the basis of the government.

OTHER IMPORTANT QUESTIONS (AS PER CCE PATTERN)

B. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS [1 MARK]

Q.1. On what charges was Nelson Mandela sentenced to life imprisonment?

- (a) For treason
- (b) For breaking the laws
- (c) For corruption charges
- (d) For possessing illegal property

Ans. (a)

Q.2. What is apartheid?

[V. Important]

- (a) Election in proportion to population
- (b) Official policy of discrimination against the Blacks
- (c) Equality among all
- (d) None of the above

Ans. (b)

Q.3. In which way did the system of apartheid discriminate among the South Africans?

- (a) Restricted social contacts between the races
- (b) Segregation of public facilities
- (c) Created race-specific job categories
- (d) All the above

Ans. (d)

Q.4. Name the organisation that led the struggle against the policies of segregation.

- (a) African National Conference
- (b) African Neutral Congress
- (c) African National Congress
- (d) All National Party

Ans. (c)

Q.5. Why did the white regime decide to change its policies?

- (a) Increase in protests and struggles

- (b) Government realised that repression was becoming difficult
- (c) Rise of sympathetic attitude in government for the blacks
- (d) Both (a) and (b)

Ans. (d)

Q.6. Which of these did not form a part of the changed attitude of South African government?
[Important]

- (a) Discriminatory laws were repealed
- (b) Ban on political parties and media was lifted
- (c) Nelson Mandela was freed from imprisonment
- (d) More discriminatory laws were passed

Ans. (d)

Q.7. When did South Africa become a democratic country?

- (a) 26 April, 1995
- (b) 26 April, 1994
- (c) 24 March, 1994
- (d) 27 April, 1996

Ans. (b)

Q.8. With the end of apartheid, who became the first President of South African Republic?

- (a) F.W. de Klerk
- (b) P.W. Botha
- (c) Nelson Mandela
- (d) None of the above

Ans. (c)

Q.9. Name the autobiography of Nelson Mandela.

- (a) The Long Walk to Freedom
- (b) South Africa Wins Freedom
- (c) Walk to Freedom
- (d) Our Freedom

Ans. (a)

Q.10. What did the black population want in the new Constitution?

- (a) A black President
- (b) Substantial social and economic rights
- (c) Whites should be turned out of the country
- (d) Apartheid for the whites

Ans. (b)

Q.11. What did the white minority want from the new Constitution?

- (a) Protect its privileges and property
- (b) A separate country for themselves
- (c) Reservation in legislature
- (d) Some special rights

Ans. (a)

Q.12. During negotiations for making the Constitution, the whites agreed to

- (a) The principle of majority rule
- (b) One person one vote
- (c) Accept some basic rights for the poor and the workers
- (d) All the above

Ans. (d)

Q.13. Which of the following sentences is correct?

- (a) All countries that have constitutions are necessarily democratic

- (b) All countries that are democratic necessarily have constitutions
(c) Both (a) and (b) (d) None of the above

Ans. (b)

Q.14. When did Motilal Nehru draft a Constitution for India?

- (a) 1927 (b) 1926 (c) 1929 (d) 1928

Ans. (d)

Q.15. Where was the 1931 session of Indian National Congress held?

- (a) Nagpur (b) Karachi (c) Calcutta (d) Delhi

Ans. (b)

Q.16. Which of these features were accepted by all the Indian leaders much before they sat down to make the Constitution?

- (a) Universal adult franchise (b) Right to freedom
(c) Protection of the rights of minorities (d) All the above

Ans. (d)

Q.17. According to which Act were the elections held to provincial legislatures in India in 1937?

- (a) Government of India Act, 1935 (b) Government of India Act, 1919
(c) Government of India Act, 1909 (d) None of the above

Ans. (a)

Q.18. Which of these inspired our leaders while framing the Constitution?

- (a) Ideals of the French Revolution (b) Parliamentary democracy in Britain
(c) Bill of Rights in US (d) All the above

Ans. (d)

Q.19. Which revolution in the world inspired the Indians to set up a socialist economy?

[Important]

- (a) French Revolution (b) Turkish Revolution
(c) Russian Revolution (d) American War of Independence

Ans. (c)

Q.20. Name the body which framed the Constitution of India?

- (a) General Assembly (b) Constituent Assembly
(c) Constitutional Assembly (d) People's Assembly

Ans. (b)

Q.21. When did the Assembly adopt the Constitution?

- (a) 26 November, 1949 (b) 26 December, 1949
(c) 26 January, 1950 (d) 26 January, 1949

Ans. (a)

Q.22. Who was the chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Constituent Assembly?

- (a) Dr. Rajendra Prasad (b) Jawaharlal Nehru
(c) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar (d) Abul Kalam Azad

Ans. (c)

Q.23. How many amendments were considered before adopting the Constitution?

- (a) Around 500 (b) Around 2000 (c) Around 1550 (d) Around 1000

Ans. (b)

Q.24. Who said the following?

“I shall work for an India in which the poorest shall feel that it is their country in which all communities shall live in perfect harmony.”

- (a) Mahatma Gandhi (b) Jawahar Lal Nehru
(c) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar (d) Sarojini Naidu

Ans. (a)

Q.25. Who among these leaders was a bitter critic of Mahatma Gandhi?

- (a) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (b) Sarojini Naidu
(c) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar (d) Dr. Rajendra Prasad

Ans. (c)

Q.26. Whose famous speech are these lines a part of?

“The ambition of the greatest man of our generation has been to wipe every tear from every eye. That may be beyond us, but as long as there are tears and suffering, so long our work will not be over.” **[Important]**

- (a) Mahatma Gandhi (b) Jawaharlal Nehru
(c) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (d) Vallabhbhai Patel

Ans. (b)

Q.27. “The ambition of the greatest man of our generation has been to wipe every tear from every eye.” Who was Nehru referring to in his speech?

- (a) Abdul Ghaffar Khan (b) Mahatma Gandhi
(c) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar (d) Vallabhbhai Patel

Ans. (b)

Q.28. The Constitution begins with a short statement of its basic values. What is it called?

- (a) Preface (b) Preamble (c) Introduction (d) Article

Ans. (b)

Q.29. Match these guiding values with their meanings.

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| (A) Sovereign | (i) government will not favour any particular religion |
| (B) Republic | (ii) People will have supreme right to make decisions without outside interference |
| (C) Fraternity | (iii) Head of the state is an elected person |
| (D) Secular | (iv) There should be a feeling of brotherhood among all the people |
| (a) A-(iii), | B-(i), C-(ii), D-(iv) |
| (b) A-(ii), | B-(iii), C-(iv), D-(i) |
| (c) A-(i), | B-(iv), C-(iii), D-(ii) |
| (d) A-(iv), | B-(iii), C-(i), D-(ii) |

Ans. (b)

Q.30. Which of these countries is/are examples of a Republic?

- (a) USA (b) India (c) South Africa (d) All the above

Ans. (d)

Q.31. What kind of 'Justice' does our Preamble provide?

- (a) Economic Justice (b) Political Justice (c) Social Justice (d) All the above

Ans. (d)

Q.32. Which of these positions is correct in relation to the 'Sovereign' status of India?

- (a) USA can decide India's foreign policy
(b) USSR can support the CPI (M) in setting up its government here
(c) The Indian government only can decide its internal and external policies
(d) Pakistan can control India's Armed Forces

Ans. (c)

Q.33. Who was the chairman of the Constituent Assembly?

[CBSE 2010]

- (a) Jawaharlal Nehru (b) Dr. Rajendra Prasad
(c) B.R. Ambedkar (d) Mahatma Gandhi

Ans. (b)

Q.34. Which of the following days is celebrated to mark the enforcement of the constitution?

[CBSE 2010]

- (a) Republic Day (b) Independence Day
(c) Gandhi Jayanti (d) Constitution Enforcement Day

Ans. (a)

Q.35. The Indian constitution has borrowed from

[CBSE 2010]

- (i) Ideas from French Revolution (ii) The British Constitution
(iii) The Bill of Rights of the US (iv) Israeli Constitution
(a) i, ii, iv (b) i, ii, iii, (c) ii, iii, iv (d) i, ii, iv

Ans. (b) i, ii, iii

Q.36. The Constituent Assembly met for how many days?

[2010 (T-1)]

- (a) 114 (b) 280 (c) 365 (d) 150

Ans. (a)

Q.37. Who was the chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Indian constitution ?

[2010 (T-1)]

- (a) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar (b) Jawaharlal Nehru
(c) C. Rajgopalachari (d) Dr. Rajendra Prasad

Ans. (a)

Q.38. When did the Indian constitution come into force?

[2010 (T-1)]

- (a) 26th Nov, 1949 (b) 15th August, 1947 (c) 26th Jan, 1950 (d) 26th Jan, 1930

Ans. (c)

Q.39. Who prepared the draft of a constitution for India in 1928?

[2010 (T-1)]

- (a) Motilal Nehru (b) B. R. Ambedkar (c) Dr. Rajendra Prasad (d) Jawaharlal Nehru

Ans. (a)

Q.40. When was the Constitution of India adopted?

[2010 (T-1)]

- (a) 26th Nov, 1949 (b) 26th Jan, 1949 (c) 26th Jan, 1950 (d) 26th Nov, 1950

Ans. (a)

Q.41. Drafting Committee was chaired by:

[2010 (T-1)]

- (a) Gandhiji (b) Pt. J.L. Nehru (c) Baldev Singh (d) Dr B.R. Ambedkar

Ans. (d)

Q.42. Mahatma Gandhi wrote : [2010 (T-1)]

- (a) Young India (b) New India
(c) Discovery of India (d) The Wonder That Was India

Ans. (a)

Q.43. In the constituent assembly, the first captain of the Indian hockey team also had a role. [2010 (T-1)]

- (a) Baldev Singh (b) Somnath Lahiri (c) Jaipal Singh (d) K.M. Munshi

Ans. (a)

Q.44. Congress session of 1931 was held at : [2010 (T-1)]

- (a) Karachi (b) Lucknow (c) Kanpur (d) Madras, now Chennai

Ans. (a)

Q.45. In which year did Motilal Nehru and others draft a constitution for India? [2010 (T-1)]

- (a) 1931 (b) 1928 (c) 1929 (d) 1932

Ans. (b)

Q.46. Who was the President of India's Constituent Assembly? [2010 (T-1)]

- (a) Motilal Nehru (b) Rajendra Prasad (c) Sarojini Naidu (d) B. R. Ambedkar

Ans. (b)

C. SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS [3 MARKS]

Q.1. In which way was the system of 'apartheid' oppressive? [Important]

Ans. The apartheid system was particularly oppressive for the blacks. They were forbidden from living in white areas. They could work in white areas only if they had a permit. Trains, buses, taxis, hotels, hospitals, schools and colleges, swimming pools, public toilets etc. were all separate for the whites and blacks. They could not even visit the churches where the whites worshipped. Blacks could not form associations or protest against the terrible treatment.

Q.2. What was the appeal made by the black leaders to the fellow blacks after the emergence of the new democratic South Africa?

Ans. After the emergence of the new democratic South Africa, black leaders appealed to fellow blacks to forgive the whites for the atrocities they had committed while in power. They urged the people to build a new South Africa based on equality of all races, and of men and women, on democratic values, social justice and human rights.

Q.3. What is meant by the term 'Constitution'? [Important]

Ans. The constitution of a country is a set of written rules that are accepted by all people living in that country. It is the supreme law that determines the relationship among the people living in a territory (called citizens) and also the relationship between the people and government. It specifies how the government will be constituted and who will have the power to take different decisions.

Q.4. Describe the advantages that Indians had when they participated in the legislatures which were set up as a result of the elections of 1937.

Ans. Although the legislatures set up in India as a result of elections of 1937 were not fully democratic, the experience gained by Indians in the working of the legislative institutions proved to be very useful for the country in setting up its own institutions and working in them.

Q.5. Give a description of the composition of the Constituent Assembly. [Important]

Ans. The Constituent Assembly was elected mainly by the members of the existing Provincial Legislatures. This ensured a fair geographical share of members from all the regions of the country. Congress, which was the dominant party in the Assembly, itself included a variety of political groups and opinions. It represented members from different languages, castes, religions, classes and occupations.

Q.6. What did Ambedkar mean by ‘Contradiction’ in his concluding speech to the Constituent Assembly?

Ans. In his concluding speech to the Constituent Assembly Dr. Ambedkar said that India was entering a life of ‘contradictions’ on 26th Jan 1950. By this he meant that in politics Indians would have equality but in social and economic life, there would be inequality. In politics India would be recognising the principle of one man one vote, with one value, but in social and economic life, the principle of one man one value would be denied.

Q.7. Why was a constitution necessary for a country like South Africa? [CBSE 2010]

Ans. The oppressor and the oppressed, i.e. the whites and the blacks were planning to live together, as equals. It was not going to be easy for them to trust each other. They wanted to safeguard their interests. The only way to build and maintain trust was to write down some rules. This set of basic rules was the constitution needed for South Africa.

Q.8. What do you understand by secularism? Why is India called a secular country?

[CBSE 2010]

Ans. India is a country of many religions and it respects all religions. No religion is given the status of state religion and equal respect is given to all beliefs, faiths and practices. Citizens have complete freedom to follow any religion.

Q.9. What are Constitutional Amendments? State its significance in a democratic country like India. [2010 (T-1)]

Ans. Constitutional Amendments are changes in the constitution made by the Supreme Legislative body in a country. The constitution of India is a very long and detailed document. Therefore it needs to be amended quite regularly to keep it updated.

Q.10. What were the difficulties faced during the making of Indian constitution? [2010 (T-1)]

Ans. It was drawn up under very difficult circumstances. Making a constitution for a huge country like India was not an easy affair. The country was born through partition. The problem of princely states was left undecided by the British. There were anxieties about the present and future of the country.

Q.11. State the steps involved in the framing of Indian constitution. [2010 (T-1)]

Ans. The drafting of the document called the constitution was done by an assembly of elected representatives called the Constituent assembly. Elections to the Constituent Assembly were held in July 1946. Its first meeting was held in December 1946. It had 299 members. The assembly adopted the constitution on 26 November 1949 and it came into force on 26 January 1950.

Q.12. The Preamble of our constitution is a short statement of values. Which country has inspired India to incorporate the Preamble? Why does it start with “We The People of India?” [2010 (T-1)]

Ans. Taking inspiration from American model, most countries including India have chosen to begin their constitutions with a importance to the people of India by saying that it is the people who have drawn up and enacted the constitution. It has not been handed down to them by a king or any outside power.

D. LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS [4 MARKS]

Q.1. Regarding the constitution-making, what was the compromise reached at between the blacks and whites?

Ans. The constitution of South Africa was drawn together by the party of whites which had rules through oppression and the party that led the freedom struggle. The constitution gave to its citizens the most extensive rights available in any country. After long negotiations both parties agreed to a compromise. The whites agreed to the principle of majority rule and that of one person one vote. They also agreed to accept some basic rights for the poor and the workers. The blacks agreed that the majority rule would not be absolute. They agreed that the majority would not take away the property of the white minority.

Q.2. What does the constitution effectively do that makes a country a democratic one?

Ans. A constitution does many things to make a country a democratic one :

- (i) It generates a degree of trust and coordination that is necessary for different kind of people to live together.
- (ii) It specifies how the government will be constituted and who will have the power of taking which decisions.
- (iii) It lays down limits on the powers of the government and tells us what the rights of the citizens are.
- (iv) It expresses the aspirations of the people about creating a good society.

Q.3. Why did the makers of the Indian constitution have anxieties about the present and the future of the country?

Ans. The makers of the Indian constitution had anxieties because making of the constitution for a huge and diverse country like India was not an easy affair. The country was born through partition on the basis of religious differences. At least ten lakh people were killed on both sides of the border in partition related violence. Another problem was that the British had left it to the rulers of the princely states to decide whether they wanted to merge with India or with Pakistan or to remain independent.

Q.4. Describe how the Constituent Assembly worked to prepare the constitution for India.

Ans. The Constituent Assembly worked in a systematic, open and consensual manner. First some basic principles were decided and agreed upon. Then a Drafting Committee chaired by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar prepared a draft constitution for discussion. Several rounds of thorough discussion took place, clause by clause. More than 2000 amendments were made. The members deliberated for 114 days spread over 3 years. Every document presented and every word spoken in the Constituent Assembly was recorded and preserved. These are called 'Constituent Assembly Debates'.

Q.5. In his speech 'Tryst with Destiny', Nehru said, 'Freedom and power bring responsibility.' Explain what he meant by this.

Ans. By saying that 'Freedom and power bring responsibility', Nehru meant that it is the responsibility of Indians to not relax with ease after having got the freedom, but to constantly strive to fulfil the pledges taken. He said that the service of India meant the service of the millions who suffered, it meant the erasing of poverty and ignorance and disease and inequality of opportunity.

Q.6. What is the preamble of the constitution? What is the significance of 'We the people of India' and 'secular' in the preamble? [CBSE 2010]

Ans. It is an introductory part of the constitution. It is called the key of the Constitution. "We the

people of India" means the constitution has been drawn up and enacted by the people through their representatives. Secular means that citizens have complete freedom to follow any religion. But there is no official religion.

Q.7. Describe any three features of the Indian constitution. [CBSE 2010]

Ans. (i) It establishes a Sovereign, Democratic, Republic in India (ii) It establishes a secular state in India (iii) It provides Fundamental Rights and Fundamental Duties.

- (i) The Constitution begins with a short statement called the preamble. Sovereign means people have supreme right to make decisions on internal as well as external matter. No external power can dictate the government of India. Democratic means a form of government where people enjoy equal political rights, elect their rulers and hold them accountable. Republic means the head of the state is an elected person and it is not a hereditary position.
- (ii) Secular means citizens have complete freedom to follow any religion – Government treats all religions beliefs and practices with equal respect.
- (iii) The Indian constitution provides justice – social, economic and political.
Liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship.
Equality of status and opportunity.
Fraternity assuring dignity of the individual and unity and integrity of the nation.

Q.8. What is constitution? Why do we need a constitution? [CBSE 2010]

Ans. It is a set of written rules that are accepted by all the people of a country. It is needed as it is the supreme law that determines the relationship among citizens of a country. It defines how the government will be formed and also limits the powers of the government and defines the rights of the citizens.

Q.9. The Indian constitution is both rigid and flexible. Explain. [CBSE 2010]

Ans. The Indian Constitution is neither wholly flexible nor wholly rigid. It is partly rigid and partly flexible. It is not so flexible as the British constitution is, nor so rigid as the American constitution is.

Some of the articles of the constitution can be amended by a simple majority of the parliament, e.g. changing the names of states, altering boundaries of states, matters relating to citizenship etc. Some of the articles of the constitution can be amended with $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of the members of parliament, e.g. the election of the president of India. If any change in it is intended then it has to be passed first by a majority of the total members in each house of parliament.

Q.10. Mention the landmark years in the making of the Indian constitution. [2010 (T-1)]

Ans. As far back as 1928, Motilal Nehru and eight other Congress leaders drafted a constitution for India. In 1931 at the Karachi Session of Indian National Congress leaders pondered what India's constitution should be like. Elections held in 1937 to provincial Legislatures and Ministeri all over British India. It was beneficial for Indians to gain experience. That is why Indian Constitution adopted many insitutional details from colonial laws like the Government of India Act 1935.

Q.11. What is the aim of a socialist state? How can that be achieved? [2010 (T-1)]

Ans. We all us generated socially and should be shared equally by society. Government should regulate the ownership of land and industry to reduce socioeconomic equalities. Social inequalities have to be reduced, Government should work for the welfare of all.

Q.12. What was the African Policy of Apartheid? How could that come to an end? [2010 (T-1)]

Ans. Apartheid was the name of a system of racial discrimination unique to South Africa. The White Europeans imposed this system on South Africa. The native people of Africa are black. They had 3/4 of the population. The whites treated all non-whites as inferiors. The non-whites did not have voting rights. The blacks were forbidden from living in the white area. Trains, buses, hospitals, schools, hotels, taxis, cinemas etc were all separate for the whites and blacks. The blacks, coloured and Indians fought for their rights-arranged marches protests and strikes. The racist government for tortured them. On 26 April 1994. Apartheid came to an end with the birth of the Republic of South Africa.

Q.13. Define the following terms mentioned in the Preamble to the constitution of India.

(a) Sovereign (b) Socialist (c) Secular (d) Republic [2010 (T-1)]

Ans. Sovereign means people have supreme right to make decisions on internal and external matters. No external power can dictate to the Government of India.

Socialist means that wealth is generated socially it should be shared equally by society.

Secular means that citizens have complete freedom to follow any religion but there is no official religion.

Republic means the head of the State is an elected person and not a hereditary position.

Q.14. What is the Preamble? Explain any three guiding principles explained in the Preamble. [2010 (T-1)]

Ans. Preamble is a short statement of the basic values of the constitution. Taking inspiration from American model, most countries have adopted constitutions with a preamble. The preamble of the Indian constitution reads like a poem on democracy. It contains the philosophy on which the entire constitution has been built; 1. Democratic–It will have a democratic government where people will enjoy equal rights; 2. Equality–All citizens will be equal before the law; and 3. Fraternity–All world would behave as if they are members of the same family.

Q.15. Why do we need a constitution? Give any four points. [2010 (T-1)]

Ans. Every country has diverse groups of people. People have differences. Hence the need to have a set of rules. To maintain a trust it is best to write down these rules. Thus the constitution of a country is a set of written rules that are accepted by all. A constitution.

1. generates trust and coordination.
2. specifies how government will be constituted.
3. lays down limits on the powers of the government.
4. expresses the aspirations of the people.

II. FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

A. PROJECT

- Topic Covered** : Struggle against apartheid in South Africa.
- Objective** : To create awareness of racial discrimination in South Africa and the struggle to dismantle the apartheid system.
- Skills Developed** : Analytical understanding of racial discrimination in South Africa.

Time Required : 1–2 days

Method : (a) Explain how the apartheid system discriminated against the blacks
(b) Focus on the leadership of Nelson Mandela and the struggle launched by the African National Congress
(c) Also explain the problems in making of a new constitution for democratic South Africa.
(d) In ‘conclusion’ throw light on the main features of the new constitution of South Africa, the values and ideals cherished by it.

B. ACTIVITIES

- (1) Make a poster on the life and struggle of Nelson Mandela, highlighting the main events.
- (2) Each student shall read some portions of Nelson Mandela’s autobiography ‘The Long Walk to Freedom’. Later on, read important extracts from it in the class.

C. ASSIGNMENTS

- (1) Make a chart listing the similarities and dissimilarities between the South African struggle for freedom and the Indian National Movement. Focus on the following points :
(a) Nature of colonialism (b) Relationship between different communities. (c) Leadership of Gandhiji and Nelson Mandela (d) Method of struggle (e) Parties that led the struggle – ANC/ INC.
- (2) Visit the office of a local club or a cooperative society or union or a political party. Get a copy of their rule book/constitution and study it. Are these rules in accordance with the principles of democracy? Note down its main features.

D. POSTER MAKING

Collect pictures/sketches of fifteen prominent members of the Constituent Assembly and make a poster. Below each picture, write a short note – name, year of birth and death, brief description of political activities, role played in the Constituent Assembly, role played later on.

E. GROUP DISCUSSION

In his concluding speech to the Constituent Assembly. Dr B.R. Ambedkar commented, “*On the 26th of January 1950, we are going to enter a life of contradictions. In politics we will have equality and in social and economic life, we will have inequality...*” Do you agree with the views of Dr Ambedkar?

Organise a group discussion in the class on the above topic.

(**Guidelines** : The class could be divided into groups of 5 – 6 students. Each group could be given 10 –15 minutes.)