

IMPORTANT QUESTION CLASS – 11 POLITICAL SCIENCE

CHAPTER- 3 ELECTION AND REPRESENTATION

Question 1.

Explain the merits and demerits of Direct democracy and Indirect democracy.

Answer:

Direct democracy is one form of a democratic form of government in which people participate directly in the process of governance. The people of state sit together in person, discuss the issues and make final decisions about old matters like policymaking, making rules, making appointments, and giving punishment. It has two important merits

No.1. People take part in the discussion and decisions directly.

No. 2. The decisions are taken quickly and no time is wasted.

It has some demerits also which are as under:

1. It is not feasible in bigger states,
2. Common people are not competent to taken technical decisions. Indirect democracy is another form of democracy where people do not participate directly but indirectly i.e. through their representative. The elected representatives act on behalf of the people and take part in the matter of administration.

It has two main merits which are as under.

1. It is possible in big states.
2. Elected people are responsible to the people.

Its demerits are as under.

1. A lot of expenditure has to be incurred on elections
2. Representatives are unable to keep all the interest of the people.

Question 2.

What is the election? What are the requisites of an election?

Answer:

The election is a method of choosing one's representative. In a representative democracy, the election becomes a necessity because people cannot take part in administration directly. It is an elected representative who works on behalf of the common people. There is a number of requisitions for an election.

These requisites are as under

1. It is to be decided that who will be eligible for vote.
2. There should be free and fair elections for which a competent body has to be constituted to conduct free and fair elections.
3. The basis of constituency formation has to be decided
4. The method of election has to be decided.
5. Election results are decided.

Question 3.

Write main features of the Indian electoral system.

Answer:

Following are the main features of the Indian electoral system:

1. Adult Franchise: Every person above the age of 18 years has been given the rights to Vote.
2. Multimember Election Commissioner: Indian Constitution has provided a multimember (Now three members) Election Commission to conduct free and fair elections.
3. Joint Electorate: Joint electorate is a very important feature of the Indian electoral system. In this system, all the persons irrespective of their caste or occupation, elect their representative jointly.
4. Temporal representation: In India Territorial representation has been adopted which means the country has been divided into territorial constituencies (Now 543). Each such Territorial constituency will send one representative.
5. reservation ensure the adequate representation of each minority social groups some seats have been reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled tribes in Parliament and State Assemblies.
6. Secret ballot papers.
7. First Past the Post system
8. Election Petitions

Question 4.

Describe various steps in the Election Process of India.

Answer:

Following are the stages of the Election process in India:

1. Formation & Electoral Territorial constituencies by the commission.
2. Updating and finalizing the voter's list
3. Notification of declaration of Elections
4. Nomination of candidates
5. Scrutiny of the forms of candidates
6. Time for withdrawal of the candidature
7. Finalization of the total candidates in the Electron and publication of such a list.
8. Printing of the ballot papers
9. The proportion of EVM (Electronic Voting Machine) or the ballot box.
10. Constitution of Polling booths in different constitutions
11. Constitution of polling parties

12. Preparation of poll registers with necessary election material for each polling booth.
13. Conducting of the elections
14. Counting of the votes
15. Declaration of the result.
16. Settlement of Election petitions

Question 5.

Distinguish between FPTP and PR system.

Answer:

FPTP system stands for First Past the Post system which means that candidate, who secures the highest vote among the total candidates in the election is declared elected. It is not necessary for him to get even 50% of the total votes. It means that in the electorate race, the candidate who is ahead of others and who crosses the winning post, first of all, is the winner.

In the PR system i.e the Proportional Representation method, multi-member constituencies are made. It is of two types 1. Single Transferable vote system and No.2. is the list system. In this system, it is ensured that minority social groups are duly represented as per the proportion of their qualifications. Similarly, all political parties are given a number of seats in proportion to the votes they have received in the election.

Question 6.

Discuss the composition of the Election Commission of India.

Answer:

Now Election Commission of India is a three-member body with one Chief Election Commissioner and two other election commissioners. Each election commissioner has equal power and pay. However, Chief Election Commissioner provides the meetings of the commission and discharges the formal duties of the Election Commission. He also acts as spokesman of the commission. Every Election Commissioner enjoys the tenure of six years or up to the attainment of the age of 65 years whichever is earlier.

To assist the Election Commissioner of India there is a chief electoral officer in every state. State Election Commissioner is responsible for conducting the local body elections and is independent of the Election Commission of India. When elections are declared every State and Central Government employee comes under the jurisdiction of Election Commissioner under the Representation of people's Act 1951 which makes it obligatory for every employee to perform the election duty assigned to him by the commission.

Question 7.

Write main functions of the Election Commissioner.

Answer:

The Election Commissioner has a wide range of functions which are as under.

1. The election Commissioner supervises the preparation of updated voter's list in every state.,

2. It also determines the timings of the election and prepares the schedules of the election. It also notifies the schedule which includes filling up of nomination form, last date of scripting, last date of withdrawals, date of polling, date of counting, and declaration to the result.
3. Its main duty is to conduct free and fair poll:
4. It has the power to implement the model code of elections and it punishes those who try to violate it.
5. It takes the decision regarding repel! in any constituency.
6. The Election Commission accord recognition to political parties and allocates flaps, symbols to the candidates and political parties.
7. Election Commission monitor and supervise the election and takes a decision about any dispute related, with the election. „

Question 8.

Discuss the position of the Election Commission of India.

Answer:

Chief Election Commissioner has a wide range of powers so is its role and position. Once the years the Election Commission of India has emerged as an independent authority and has exercised its powers and authority to ensure free and fair elections.

When Chief Election Commissioners like T.N. Susan, B.B. Lyndog were at the helm of authority it has acquired more and more teeth. It is widely agreed that Election Commission is more independent and assertive now than it was ever. The Election Commission has started using more effectively its powers that it has been given by the Constitution makers. Many political leaders call it judicial activism also but it is not so.

Over the years Election Commission has conducted the election of 14 Lok Sabhas and many more state assembly elections and bye-elections have been conducted. Election Commission has conducted the elections in the most difficult situations. Generally, its decisions have been accepted and its impartiality has never been questioned. Its authority has been appreciated even in other countries also.

Question 9.

Mention some Election defects in our Election system.

Answer:

In spite of the smooth functionary of our electoral democracy, our electoral system is not free from defects. It has some structural and functional defects which are as under.

1. The multiplicity of the political parties and candidates
2. Rigging in the elections
3. FPTP system is defective because it ensures the win of a candidate even if he or she does not get the majority of the votes.
4. Booth capturing
5. The minority is ruling over the majority
6. Hung Assemblies and hung Parliament
7. Impersonation

8. Use of black money in the elections
9. Criminalisation of politics.
10. Lack of political training.

Question 10.

Explain Single Transferable Vote System.

Answer:

A single Transferable system is a proportional method of representation. It is used in multi-member constituencies. In this system, every voter can express as many preferences as there are candidates in the election. A person who secures the desired quotas on basis of counting of votes of first preference is declared elected. The formula of getting the quota is as under.

$$\text{Quota} = \frac{\text{Total number of votes}}{\text{Number of Posts} + 1} + 1$$

If no person does not get the definite Quota in first counting the remaining votes of other candidates are transferred to the nearest candidate till he gets desired Quota.