

CBSE Test Paper - 01
Chapter - 16 Power Sharing

1. The _____ launched parties and struggles for the recognition of Tamil as an official language, for regional autonomy and equality of opportunity in securing education and jobs. **(1)**
 - a. Muslims
 - b. Sri Lankan Tamils
 - c. Christians
 - d. Sinhalese
2. It is the law-making organ of the government. **(1)**
 - a. defence
 - b. Legislature
 - c. Executive
 - d. Judiciary
3. Under Belgian model, Constitution prescribes that the number of ____ & ____ ministers shall be equal in the central government. **(1)**
 - a. English and French speaking
 - b. Dutch and French-speaking
 - c. German and English speaking
 - d. Dutch and German speaking
4. Which community has increased the feeling of alienation in Sri Lanka? **(1)**
 - a. Indian Tamils
 - b. Sri Lankan Tamils
 - c. Sinhalese
 - d. Christians
5. It is an organ of the government which interprets the laws made **(1)**

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- a. Judiciary
 - b. Executive
 - c. Legislature
 - d. Administrator

6. In Sri Lanka, the policies of the government sought to ensure the dominance of which is language speaking people? **(1)**
7. Mention any one characteristics of power sharing. **(1)**
8. How is power shared in modern democracies? **(1)**
9. State two main basis of the social divisions in Sri Lanka. **(1)**
10. How is the ethnic composition of Belgium very complex? Explain. **(3)**
11. Write down the features of Vertical division of power sharing. **(3)**
12. What is power sharing? Why power sharing is important in a democracy? **(3)**
13. Explain the differences between horizontal power sharing and vertical power sharing. **(3)**
14. Briefly explain the ways in which power sharing between different organs of the government results in the maintenance of balance of power. **(5)**
15. Describe the population composition of Sri Lanka and the reasons for the formation of Majoritarian government in 1948. **(5)**

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Answers

1. b. Sri Lankan Tamils

Explanation: The Sri Lankan Tamils launched parties and struggles for the recognition of Tamil as an official language, for regional autonomy and equality of opportunity in securing education and jobs. But their demand for more autonomy to provinces populated by the Tamils was repeatedly denied

2. b. Legislature

Explanation: The different organs of the government:-

- i. Legislature → makes laws
- ii. Executive → enforces those laws
- iii. Judiciary → interprets those laws

3. b. Dutch and French-speaking

Explanation: Between 1970 and 1993, the constitution was amended four times so as to work out an arrangement that would enable everyone to live together within the same country.

Under the Belgian model, its Constitution prescribes that the number of Dutch and French-speaking ministers shall be equal in the central government.

4. b. Sri Lankan Tamils

Explanation: All these government measures, coming one after the other, gradually increased the feeling of alienation among the Sri Lankan Tamils. They felt that none of the major political parties led by the Buddhist Sinhala leaders was sensitive to their language and culture.

5. a. Judiciary

Explanation: The different organs of the government:-

- i. Legislature → makes laws
- ii. Executive → enforces those laws
- iii. Judiciary → interprets those laws

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6. The policies of the government under the Act of 1956 sought to ensure the dominance of Sinhala speaking people in Sri Lanka.
 7. It gives people the right to be consulted.
 8. In modern democracies, power is shared among different organs of government, among government at different levels and among various political parties, pressure groups etc.
 9. Religion and Language
 10. The ethnic composition of a small country, Belgium is very complex. Ethnic is a social division based on shared culture. People belonging to the same ethnic group believe in their common descent because of similarities of physical type or of culture.
 - i. Of the country's total population, 59% live in the Flemish region and speak the Dutch language.
 - ii. Another 40% of people live in the Wallonia and speak French.
 - iii. Remaining 1% of the Belgians speak German.
 - iv. 80% of people speak French while 20% are Dutch-German speaking in the capital city Brussels.
 11.
 - i. In vertical division of Power Sharing power is shared among the different levels of the government like Union Government, state government and Lower levels.
 - ii. Different levels of the government exercise the power of the government.
 - iii. No specification of the system of checks and balance.
 - iv. It ensures the concept of deepening of democracy.
 - v. Central Government, State Government and Panchayat Raj are the example of the Vertical division of Power Sharing.
 12.
 - i. When the power does not rest with any one organ of the state rather it is shared among the legislature, executive and judiciary it is called power sharing.
 - ii. Power sharing is important in a democracy because:
 - a. It helps to reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups.
 - b. It is the very spirit of democracy.
 - c. It is a good way to ensure the stability of the political order.
 - d. A democratic government is chosen by the people. So, they have the right to be

consulted on how they are to be governed. A legitimate government is one where groups, through participation, acquire a stake in the system.

13. In a modern democracy, power-sharing arrangement can take many forms. It can be horizontal or vertical.

Horizontal Division of Power Sharing	Vertical Division of Power Sharing
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 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.

14. i. Power is shared among different organs of government like the legislature, executive and judiciary. It is called vertical distribution of power because it allows different organs of the government placed at the same level to exercise different powers.
- ii. Each organ is equally important in a democracy and they exercise different powers.
- iii. Separation of powers ensures that all organs exercise their power within limits.
- iv. Each organ checks the others. This results in the maintenance of balance of power among various institutions.
- v. The equivalent distribution of power allows different organs of government at the same level to employ various powers.
- vi. This guarantees that all structures are given with equal power. The judges are elected by the executive but the judges can check the functioning of the executive or laws made by the legislature. This is called as a system of checks and balances.
- vii. Our constitution is drafted in such a way that each organ inspects the other organs.

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- viii. E.g. though ministers and officials exercise power, they are still answerable to the Parliament or State Assemblies. Also, Judges are appointed by the executive; they can verify the operations of executive.
 - ix. This enables the maintenance of balance of power between different organs of the government.
- 15.
- i. It is an Island nation south of India. Tamil natives are called Sri Lankan Tamils and formed 13% population.
 - ii. The Indian Tamils whose forefathers had come from India as plantation workers formed 5% population.
 - iii. The Sinhala Buddhist, who was 74% of the population, formed the majority government after independence in 1948.
 - iv. Tamils are either Hindus or Muslims, 7% of the people are Christian who are both Tamil and Sinhala.
 - v. Sinhalese enjoy majority and can impose their will on the entire country.