

CBSE Test Paper - 04
Chapter - 16 Power Sharing

1. The idea of power-sharing has emerged in opposition to the notions of undivided _____. **(1)**
 - a. political power
 - b. judiciary power
 - c. legislative power
 - d. executive power
2. The major social groups are the Sinhala-speakers and the Tamil-speakers constitute _____ & _____ respectively. **(1)**
 - a. (24 per cent) & (76 per cent)
 - b. (50 per cent) & (50 per cent)
 - c. (18 per cent) & (18 per cent)
 - d. (74 per cent) & (18 per cent)
3. With which of the following countries, Belgium does not share its borders? **(1)**
 - a. Luxemburg
 - b. Italy
 - c. Netherlands
 - d. Germany
4. Which language is spoken by 80 per cent people of Brussels? **(1)**
 - a. Latin
 - b. German
 - c. Dutch
 - d. French
5. Name the community who got the benefit of economic development and education much later in Belgium? **(1)**

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- a. French-speaking
 - b. German-speaking
 - c. English-speaking
 - d. Dutch-speaking

6. What is the separation of power? **(1)**
7. Name two subgroups of Tamils in Sri Lanka. **(1)**
8. Name the community that is relatively rich and powerful in Belgium. **(1)**
9. Which language is spoken by majority of Sri Lankans? **(1)**
10. Mention any three demands of Sri Lankan Tamils? **(3)**
11. What made the Sri Lankan Tamils feel alienated? **(3)**
12. What is civil war? Name the country and two social groups between which civil war broke out due to Majoritarianism. **(3)**
13. Why did civil war break out in Sri Lanka? List the result of the civil war. **(3)**
14. How are the ethnic problem solved in Belgium? Mention any four steps which were taken by the governments to solve the problem? **(5)**
15. Describe any three demands of the Sri Lankan Tamils. How did they struggle for their demands? **(5)**

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Answers

1. a. political power

Explanation: The idea of power-sharing has emerged in opposition to the notions of undivided political power. For a long time it was believed that all power of a government must reside in one person or group of persons located at one place. It was felt that if the power to decide is dispersed, it would not be possible to take quick decisions and to enforce them. But these notions have changed with the emergence of democracy.

2. d. (74 per cent) & (18 per cent)

Explanation: Sri Lanka has a diverse population. The major social groups are the Sinhala-speakers (74 per cent) and the Tamil-speakers (18 per cent).

3. b. Italy

Explanation: Belgium is a small country in Europe, smaller in area than the state of Haryana. It has borders with France, the Netherlands, Germany and Luxembourg.

4. d. French

Explanation: In the capital city Brussels, 80 per cent people speak French while 20 per cent are Dutch-speaking

5. d. Dutch-speaking

Explanation: The minority French-speaking community was relatively rich and powerful. This was resented by the Dutch-speaking community who got the benefit of economic development and education much later.

6. The power sharing among the different organs of government with their specific jurisdiction is called separation of power.

7. Sri Lankan Tamils and Indian Origin Tamils

8. French minority community

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9. Sinhala language.
 10. Demands of the Tamils:
 - i. Recognition of Tamil as an official language.
 - ii. Equal opportunities for Tamils in government jobs .
 - iii. Regional autonomy.
 11. Sri Lankan Tamils felt alienated because of the following reasons:
 - i. The government adopted a majoritarian measure to establish Sinhala Supremacy. The Act passed in 1956, introduced by Sinhalese Government to recognise Sinhala as the only official language made the Sri Lankan Tamils feel alienated.
 - ii. The governments followed preferential politics that favoured Sinhala applicants for university positions and government jobs.
 - iii. A new Constitution stipulated that the state shall protect and foster Buddhism.
 - iv. They felt that none of the major political parties led by the Buddhist Sinhalese was sensitive to their language and culture. They also felt that the constitution and government policies denied them equal political rights.
 - v. Thus, they realized that the government had discriminated against them in getting jobs and other opportunities by ignoring their interests. As a result, the relations between the Sinhala and Tamil communities strained overtime and it soon turned into a Civil War.
 12.
 - i. Civil war is a violent conflict between the opposing groups within the country that becomes so intense that it appears like a war.
 - ii. Sri Lanka.
 - iii. Sinhalese and Tamils
 13. The distrust between Tamil speaking and the Sinhalese over the majoritarianism issue resulted in a wider conflict which soon turned into a civil war.

The following were the results of the civil war:

 - i. Thousands of people of Sinhala and Tamil communities were killed.
 - ii. Many families were forced to leave the country and many more lost their livelihood.
 - iii. Sri Lanka, in general, suffered from an economic crisis.
 - iv. Civil war has caused a terrible setback to the social-cultural and economic life of the country.
 14.
 - i. Equal no of Ministers for both the groups: The Belgium constitution prescribes

that the number of Dutch and French speaking ministers shall be equal in the central government. Some special laws require the support of majority of members from each linguistic group.

- ii. More powers to the state government: Under the proper power sharing arrangement many powers of the central government were given to state government for the two regions of the country. The state governments were not subordinate to the central government.
 - iii. Equal representation at state and the central level: A separate government has been set up at Brussels in which both the communities have equal representation.
 - iv. Formation of community government: A third kind of government was made that is community government. This community government is elected by the people belonging to one language community. Dutch, French and German speaking people have their own community government.
15. The leaders of Sinhala community sought to secure dominance over government by virtue of their majority. In 1956, an Act was passed to recognise Sinhala as the only official language. The governments followed preferential policies that favoured Sinhala applicants for university positions and government jobs. Disillusioned by the government's Majoritarian Policy, the Sri Lankan Tamil started their struggle. They wanted
- i. recognition of Tamil as an official language,
 - ii. regional autonomy
 - iii. equality of opportunity in securing education and jobs.

These were their three demands. But the demands of the Sri Lankan Tamils for more autonomy to provinces populated by the Tamils were repeatedly rejected. By the 1980s, several political organisations were formed demanding an independent Tamil Eelam (state) in Northern and Eastern parts of Sri Lanka. Sri Lankan Tamils launched their own political party LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) in northern and eastern parts of Sri Lanka. The distrust between the two communities turned into widespread conflict and it soon turned into a Civil War. As a result, thousands of people of both the communities have been killed and this caused a terrible setback to the social, cultural and economic life of the country. Many families were forced to leave the country as refugees and many more lost their livelihoods.