

CBSE Test Paper - 01
Chapter - 17 Federalism

1. Besides Hindi, there are other languages recognised as Scheduled Languages by the Indian Constitution. **(1)**
 - a. 26
 - b. 29
 - c. 22
 - d. 21
2. Choose the right statement as to when the major national parties had to enter into an alliance with many parties including several regional parties to form a government at the Centre? **(1)**
 - a. no party is allowed without having a coalition
 - b. when there no single party get a clear majority in the Rajya Sabha
 - c. when there no single party get a clear majority in the Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha
 - d. when there no single party get a clear majority in the Lok Sabha
3. The regional governments were given constitutional powers that were no longer dependent on the central government, these change that took place in _____. **(1)**
 - a. 1969
 - b. 1954
 - c. 1993
 - d. 1985
4. The exact balance of power between the central and the state government varies from one federation to another. This balance depends mainly on the _____ context in which the federation was formed. **(1)**
 - a. economical
 - b. political
 - c. historical

d. social

5. _____ became the 29th State of India. **(1)**

- a. Telangana
- b. Haryana
- c. Uttarakhand
- d. Punjab

6. What are the two main basis on which new states of India have been created? **(1)**

7. Which Indian state has its own Constitution? **(1)**

8. What is Panchayati Raj? **(1)**

9. In which list do education, forest and marriages fall? **(1)**

10. Explain the role of union list, state list and concurrent list with context to India. **(3)**

11. In what ways has the local government deepened our democracy? **(3)**

12. How federalism leads to reservation of seats for different caste groups? **(3)**

13. Distinguish between Coming Together and Holding Together type of federations. **(3)**

14. Explain five changes towards decentralisation brought in the Constitution after the amendments made in 1992. **(5)**

15. Why does the exact balance of power between the Central and State Governments vary from one federation to other federations? Explain with example. **(5)**

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Answer

1. d. 21

Explanation: Hindi was identified as the official language. But Hindi is the mother tongue of only about 40 per cent of Indians. Therefore, there were many safeguards to protect other languages. Besides Hindi, there are 21 other languages recognised as Scheduled Languages by the Constitution.

2. d. when there no single party get a clear majority in the Lok Sabha

Explanation: The period after 1990, was the beginning of the era of COALITION GOVERNMENTS at the Centre. Since no single party got a clear majority in the Lok Sabha, the major national parties had to enter into an alliance with many parties including several regional parties to form a government at the Centre. This led to a new culture of power sharing and respect for the autonomy of State Governments.

3. c. 1993

Explanation: The change that took place in 1993 was that the regional governments were given constitutional powers that were no longer dependent on the central government.

4. c. historical

Explanation: The exact balance of power between the central and the state government varies from one federation to another. This balance depends mainly on the historical context in which the federation was formed.

5. a. Telangana

Explanation: Telangana became the 29th State of India on the 2nd June, 2014. It was seperated from Andhra

6. The main basis on which new states have been created are Language and regional ethnicity.

7. Jammu and Kashmir state has its own Constitution. Many provisions of Indian

Constitution are not applicable to this state.

8. Rural local government is popularly known as Panchayati Raj. Each village or group of villages in some states, has a gram panchayat.
9. Education, forest and marriages fall under Concurrent List. It includes subjects of common interest to both the Union government as well as the state governments.
10.
 - Union list includes those subjects which are of national interest and on which a uniform policy is needed in the whole country. The Union Government makes laws on these subjects. Example, defense, foreign affairs, banking etc.
 - State list includes subjects of state and local importance. Example, police, trade, agriculture etc. State government alone can make laws in the subjects of importance.
 - Concurrent list includes subjects of common interest to the Union Government and the State Government, Example: Education, forest, adoption etc
11. Local self-governance helped in deepening of democracy in the following ways:
 - a. The Constitution was amended to make the third-tier of democracy more powerful and effective. Hence, constitutional status for local government has helped to deepen democracy in our country.
 - b. It has increased women's representation and voice in our democracy. At least one-third of all positions are reserved for women.
 - c. The new system of local government has widened the scope of political participation.
 - d. Seats are reserved in the elected bodies and the executive heads of these institutions for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. This has increased their participation in decision making.All these features strengthen the very aspect of our democracy.
12. Federalism means sharing power among the central and non central authorities. it seeks to give equal representation to all the constituent units.
 - A. In the constituent units or in states, there is diversity in the population with respect to language, religion, caste and culture.

- B. To give equal opportunity and voice to various social groups, there is reservation for some categories like SCs, STs, OBCs and women in some areas.
- C. This reservation aims to give power to the socially weaker sections of the society to give them an equal chance and representation in the political system.

13. The difference between Coming Together and Holding Together type of federations are as follows:

Coming Together Federation	Holding Together Federation
Coming Together Federalism involves independent states coming together on their own to form a bigger unit.	In Holding Together Federation, the large power or country decides to divide its power between its constituent states and national government.
In this type of federation, units try to increase their security by pooling sovereignty and retaining identity.	In this type of federation, there is the absence of pooling sovereignty and retaining identity. In fact in this federation the central government subordinates over the constituent units.
All the constituent units usually have equal power and are strong vis-a-vis the federal government in the Coming Together Federation.	The central government tends to be more powerful vis-a-vis the states in Holding Together Federation. Sometimes constituent units of the federation have unequal powers. For example, in India, Jammu and Kashmir have been granted special status.
United States of America, Switzerland, and Australia are examples of Coming Together Federations.	India, Spain and Belgium are examples of Holding Together Federations.

14. When power is taken from the central and state governments and is given to local government, it is called decentralisation. The Constitution was amended in 1992 to make the third tier of democracy more powerful and effective. Several changes were

brought into decentralisation in 1992.

Provisions of the Constitutional Amendment of 1992 are :

- a. Now it is mandatory to hold regular elections to local government bodies.
 - b. Seats are reserved in the elected bodies and the executive heads of these institutions for SCs, STs and OBCs.
 - c. At least one-third of all positions are reserved for women.
 - d. An independent institution called State Election Commission has been created in each state to conduct panchayat and municipal elections.
 - e. The state governments are required to share some powers and revenue with local government bodies. The nature of sharing varies from state to state.
15. The balance of power between the Central and the State government varies from one federation to another due to the nature of route adopted by the country like: 'Coming Together' Federations and 'Holding Together' Federation.
- i. Coming together Federation: In this type of federation independent units come together on their own to form a union or federation. Their main aim is to form a bigger unit, so that by pooling sovereignty and retaining their identity they can increase their security. Federations of USA, Switzerland and Australia are its examples.
 - ii. Holding Together Federations: Under this type of federation, the federal government decides to divide its power between the constituent states and the national government. In this, type of government the Central government tends to be more powerful vis-a-vis states. Holding together sometimes gives unequal power to constitute states. Some states are granted special powers. India, Spain and Belgium federations are the examples of Holding Together Federations.