

Social Science
Class – 8th
Civics
Chapter 3
Why Do We Need A Parliament

1. Why do you think the nationalist movement supported the idea that all adults have a right to vote?

Answer :

The nationalist movement supported the idea that all adults have a right to vote because of the following reasons:

Every responsible citizen should participate in the government.

Law-making and decision-making should also be shared by the adults of the country.

2. In this 2004, map of Parliamentary constituencies, roughly identify the constituencies in your State. What is the name of the MP from your constituency? How many MPs does your state have? Why are certain constituencies coloured green while others are coloured blue?

Answer :

- My state is : Jharkhand
- My constituency is : Ranchi
- M.P. from my constituency is : Ram Tahal Chaudhary
- Our state has 14 (Fourteen) MPs.
- **Green Constituencies** : Reserved for Scheduled Tribes (ST)
- **Blue Constituencies** : Reserved for Scheduled Castes (SC)

3. You have read in Chapter 1 that the ‘Parliamentary form of government’ that exists in India has three tiers. This includes the Parliament (Central Government) and the various State Legislatures (state governments).

Fill in the following table with information on the various representatives from your area:

	State Government.	Central Government
Which political party/parties is/are currently in power?		
Who (name) is the current representative from your area?		
Which political parties currently form the Opposition?		
When were elections last held?		
When will the next elections be held?		

How many women representatives are there (from your state)?		
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Answer :

The answer will vary for each state. One example is:

	State Government (Uttar Pradesh)	Central Government
Which political party/parties is/are currently in power?	Samajwadi Party	BJP Led NDA
Who (name) is the current representative from your area?	Laxmi Kant Vajpayee	Rajender Aggarwal (Meerut)
Which political parties currently form the Opposition?	Bahujan Samajwadi Party	Congress
When were elections last held?	In 2012	In 2014
When will the next elections be held?	In should be 2017	In 2019
How many women representatives are there from your state?	Find yourself	Find yourself

Very Short Answers

1. When did India become independent?

Answer : On 15th August 1947.

2. Which is the most important symbol of Indian democracy and a key feature of the Constitution?

Answer: The Parliament is an important symbol and key feature of Indian democracy.

3. What is Universal Adult Franchise?

Answer: It means that all Adult Citizens of the country have the right to vote.

4. In how many years is the Lok Sabha elected?

Answer: Once in every 5 years.

5. How many elected members are there in Lok Sabha?

Answer: 543 elected members.

6. Who selects ministers to work with him/her to implement decisions?

Answer: The Prime Minister selects ministers.

7. Which is the very important way through which the Parliament controls the executive?

Answer: During Question Hour MPs can elicit information about the working of the government.

8. How are the marginalized given adequate representation?

Answer: By reserving the seats in the Parliament, the marginalized are given adequate representation.

9. What does the term coalition means in general?

Answer: Coalition is a temporary alliance of groups of parties.

10. How many elected and nominated members are there in Rajya Sabha?

Answer: There are 233 elected and 12 nominated members in Rajya Sabha.

11. What does the Parliament enables the citizen of India to?

Answer: Parliament enables citizens of India to participate in decision making and control the govt.

12. What is considered as the most important symbol of the Indian democracy?

Answer: Parliament is the most important symbol of Indian democracy.

13. Which act was seen as the graye danger during British rule in India?

Answer: Criticising the British government was a grave danger at that time.

14. Which act allowed some elected representation?

Answer: Govt of India Act 1909, allowed for some elected representation.

15. How can we say that Parliament in our system has immense powers?

Answer: Parliament in our system has immense powers because it is the representative of the people.

16. Who together make's up the Parliament?

Answer: The MP's together makes up the Parliament.

17. What all does the Parliament consists of in India?

Answer: Parliament consists of the President, Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha in India

18. What is the main eligibility for the political party to form the govt.?

Answer: They must have majority of elected MP's.

19. What is one of the most important functions of the Lok Sabha?

Answer: One of the most important functions of the Lok Sabha is to select the executive.

20. Define the term Approval.

Answer: It meant to give one's consent to and be favorable towards something.

Short Answer

1. Define the term 'Approval' in the context of this chapter and in general.

Answer : Approval means to give one's consent to and be favorable towards something. In the context of this chapter, it refers to the formal consent (through elected representatives) that Parliament has as well as the fact that it needs to continue to enjoy the people's trust.

2. How are the marginalized group of people get an adequate representation in Parliament and how does Parliament now have more and more people from different backgrounds?

Answer:

The Parliament now has more and more people from different backgrounds. For eg. there are more rural members and also members from many regional parties. Groups and people that were non-unrepresented are beginning to get elected to the Parliament. There has also been an increase in political participation from the Dalit and backward castes and the minorities. It has been observed that representative democracy cannot produce a perfect reflection of society.

There is a realization that when interests and experiences separate us it is important to ensure that communities that have been historically marginalized are given adequate representation. With this mindset, some seats are reserved in the Parliament for SCs and STs. This has been done so that MPs elected from these constituencies will be familiar with and can represent Dalit and Adivasi interests in the Parliament.

3. Briefly describe the function Rajya Sabha in the working of the Parliament?

Answer:

The Rajya Sabha functions primarily as the representative of the States of India in the Parliament. The Rajya Sabha can also civiliate legislation and a bill is required to pass through the Rajya Sabha in order to become a law. It, therefore has an important role to reviewing and altering (if needed) the laws initiated by the Lok Sabha.

The members of the Rajya Sabha are elected by the elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of various States. There are 233 elected plus 12 nominated members in Rajya Sabha among them 12 are nominated by the President.

4. Which is one of the most important functions of the Lok Sabha? Who are the executives?

Answer:

One of the most important functions of the Lok Sabha is to select the executive. The executive is a group of persons who work together to implement the laws made by Parliament. This executive is often what we have in mind when use the term Government.

5. Who is the Prime Minister in India and what is the prime function of ministers selected by him from his party?

Answer : The Prime Minister of India is the leader of the ruling party in the Lok Sabha. From the MPs, who belong to his party, the Prime Minister selects ministers to work with him to implement decisions. These ministers take charge of different areas of government functioning like health, education, finance, etc.