

**CLASS – 10**

**SOCIAL SCIENCE**

**Democratic Politics - II**

**CH-1 : POWER-SHARING**

**CBSE Board**

**Previous Year Questions-1**

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# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

**1** | How did the feeling of alienation develop among the Sri Lankan tamils? **(2019)**



Act of 1956  
↓  
Majoritarianism  
↓  
Favour Sinhalese



# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

**1** | How did the feeling of alienation develop among the Sri Lankan tamils? **(2019)**

**Answer:**

The majoritarian measures of the Sinhala Government like making the Sinhala as the official language and favouring Sinhala applicants for university positions and government jobs gradually increased the feeling of alienation among the Sri Lankan Tamils.

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS



2

State any one step taken in Belgium to rule out the problem of regional differences and cultural diversities?

(2019)

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

2 | State any one step taken in Belgium to rule out the problem of regional differences and cultural diversities? (2019)



**Answer:**  
Belgium introduced a third kind of government, i.e. community government to rule out the problem of regional differences and cultural diversities. Community government is elected by all the people of a linguistic group, irrespective of their region.



# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

3

How is the idea of power sharing emerged?  
Explain different forms that have common  
arrangements of power sharing. (2019)

① Horizontal distribution

② Vertical

③ Among social groups

④ Among political parties or  
pressure groups

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

**3** | How is the idea of power sharing emerged?  
Explain different forms that have common  
arrangements of power sharing. **(2019)**

**Answer:**

Power sharing has emerged as a strong substitute to the idea of undivided political power, which believed in giving power to one person or a group of people located in one place. The core principle of power sharing is that people are the source of all political powers. Common forms of power sharing are :

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

**(i) Vertical division of power :** The sharing of power can be done at different levels of the government - a central government for the entire country and governments at provincial or regional level. This type is usually called federal government.

**(ii) Horizontal division of power :** In this form, the power is divided among different organs of the government, such as legislature, the executive and the judiciary. It places different organs of the government at the same level.

Separation  
of  
powers  
↓  
Checks  
and balance  
system

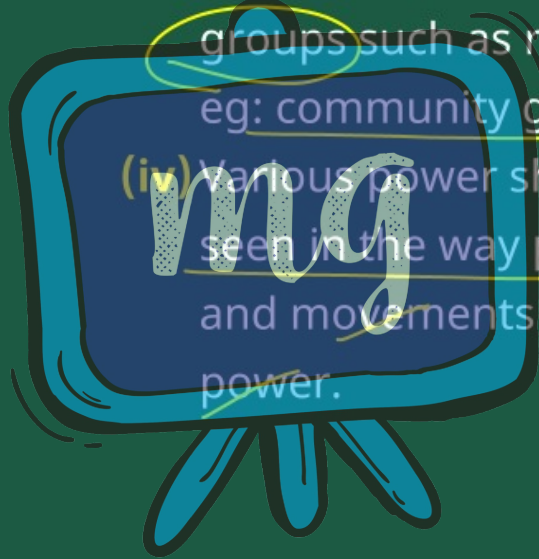


# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS



(iii) Power is also shared among different social groups such as religious and linguistic groups eg: community government.

(iv) Various power sharing arrangement can also be seen in the way political parties, pressure groups and movements control or influence those in power.

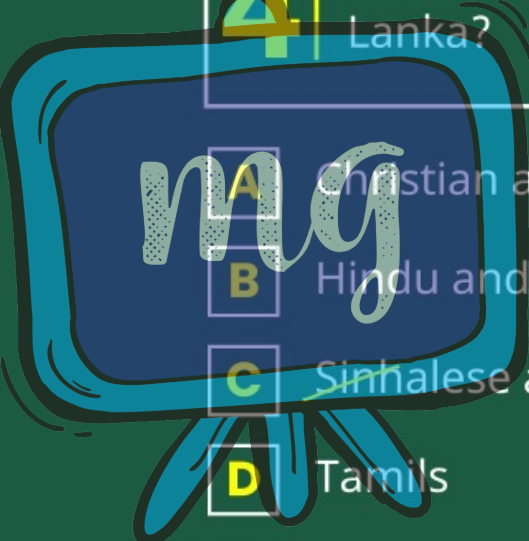


# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

4

Which is a major caste group of Sri Lanka?

(2020)

- 
- A Christian and Tamils
  - B Hindu and Tamils
  - C Sinhalese and Tamils
  - D Tamils

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS



**5** | Modern democracies maintain check and balance system. Identify the correct option based on the horizontal power sharing arrangement? **(2020)**

- A** Central government, state government, local bodies.
- B** Legislature, executive, judiciary.
- C** Among different social groups.
- D** Among different pressure groups.

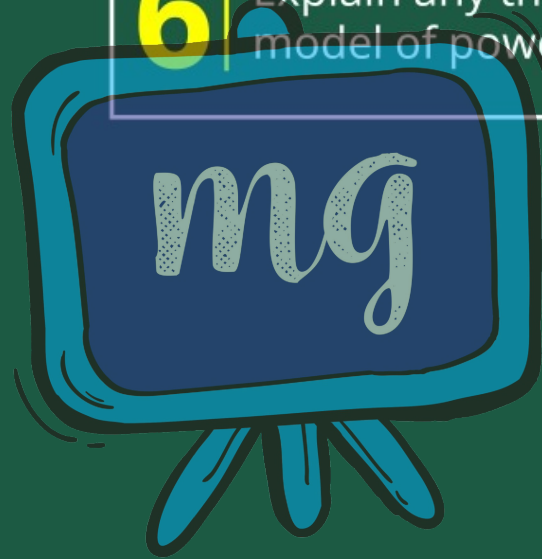
# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS



6

Explain any three demands of the Belgium model of power sharing ?

(2020)



# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

**6** | Explain any three demands of the Belgium model of power sharing ? **(2020)**

**Answer :**

The main elements of the Belgium model of power-sharing includes:

- i. 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 a majority of members from each linguistic group. Thus no single community can make decisions unilaterally.

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS



- ii. Many powers of the Central Government have been given to State Governments of the two regions of the country. The State Governments are not subordinate to the Central Government.
- iii. Brussels had a separate government in which both the communities have equal representation. The French-speaking people accepted equal representation in Brussels because the Dutch-speaking community has accepted equal representation in the Central Government.

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

7

Which of the following languages was declared as the official languages of Sri Lanka by an act passed in 1956 ? (2023)

- A Hindi
- B Sinhala
- C Hindi
- D English

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

8

Case based question :

(2023)

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. It has a population of a little over one crore, about half the population of Haryana. The ETHNIC composition of this small country is very complex. Of the country's total population, 59 per cent lives in the Flemish region and speaks Dutch language. Another 40 per cent people live in the Wallonia region and speak French. Remaining one per cent of the Belgians speak German. In the capital city Brussels, 80 per cent people speak French while 20 per cent are Dutch-speaking.

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS



8

Case based question :

(2023)

A. Explain the ethnic composition of Belgium?



# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

8

Case based question :

(2023)

A. Explain the ethnic composition of Belgium?

Answer :

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Another 40 per cent people live in the Wallonia region and speak French. Remaining one per cent of the Belgians speak German. In the capital city Brussels, 80 per cent people speak French while 20 per cent are Dutch-speaking.

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS



8

Case based question :  
B. Explain the term Ethnic ?

(2023)



# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

8

Case based question :

(2023)

B. Explain the term Ethnic ?

Answer :

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 or both. They need not always have the same religion or nationality .

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS



8

Case based question :

(2023)

c. How did Belgium government solve their ethnic problems. Explain.



# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

8

Case based question :

(2023)

c. How did Belgium government solve their ethnic problems. Explain.

Answer :

In Belgium, leaders recognized the existence of regional differences and cultural diversities. The Belgian government accommodated its diverse ethnic population in the following manner:

- (i) Constitution says that the number of Dutch and French speaking ministers shall be equal in the Central government. Thus, no single community can make decisions unilaterally.

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

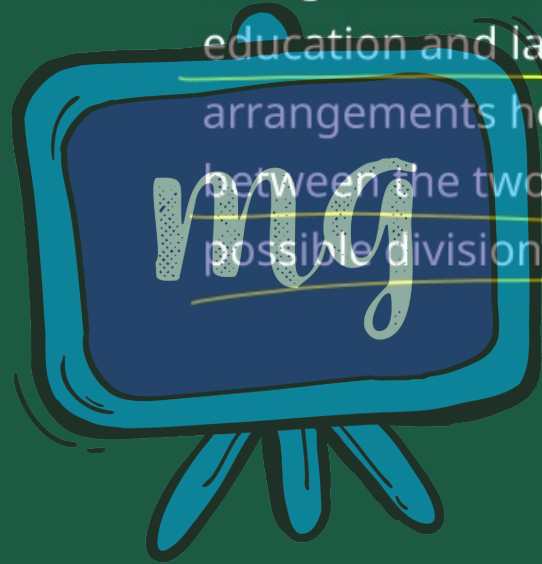


(ii) Many powers of the Central Government have been given to the state governments, of the two regions of the country. The state governments are not subordinate to the Central government.

(iii) Brussels has a separate government in which both the communities have equal representation.

(iv) There is a third kind of government, called the 'community government'. This government is elected by the people belonging to one language community-Dutch, French and German speaking, no matter where they live.

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS



This government has the power relating cultural education and language related issues. These arrangements helped to avoid a civic strife between the two major communities and a possible division of the country on linguistic lines.

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

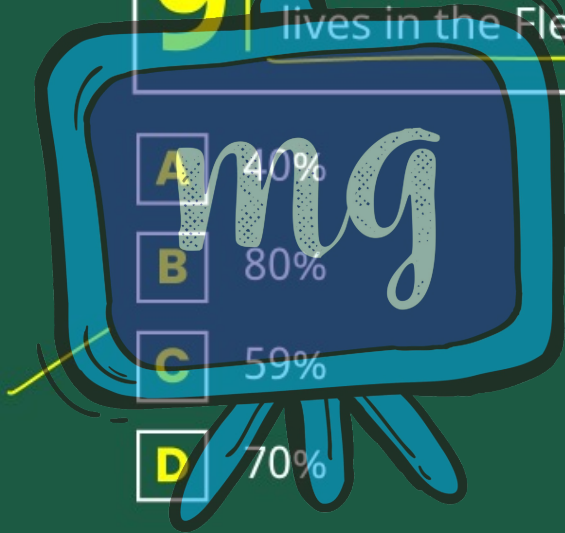
9 | What percentage of the population of Belgium lives in the Flemish region? (2023)

A | 40%

B | 80%

C | 59%

D | 70%



# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS



Two statements, I and II are given below. Read both the statements and choose the correct option. (2024)

**Statement I :** Division of power is good for democratic systems. ✓

**Statement II :** It helps to reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups ethnic problems. Explain.

- A** Statement I is true, but II is false.
- B** Statement I is false, but II is true.
- C** Statements I and II are true and II is the correct explanation of I.
- D** Statements I and II are true, but II is not the correct explanation of I.

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

11

What role do 'checks and balances' play in a democratic country?  
Choose the most suitable option from the following. (2024)

A

To establish a direct form of government without representatives.

B

To create a separation of powers to prevent from authoritarianism.

C

To prevent any change to the Constitution.

D

To ensure absolute power for one branch of government.

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS



12

Which of the following was the primary objective of Belgium to form the separate government in Brussels? (2024)

- A Promoting cultural events.
- B Managing international relations.
- C Enforcing local laws.
- D Ensuring linguistic accommodation.

*language*

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

13

Why power sharing is desirable ?

(2024)



# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS

13

Why power sharing is desirable ?

(2024)

Answer :

Power sharing is desirable in democracy because:

i. Prudential reasons :

- a. It helps to reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups. Since social conflict often leads to violence and political instability.
- b. It is a good way to ensure the stability of political order.
- c. Imposing the will of majority community over others may look like an attractive option in the short run but in the long run it undermines the unity of the nation.

# PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTIONS



## ii. Moral reasons :

- a. Power sharing is the very spirit of democracy. A democratic rule involves sharing power with those affected by its exercise and who have to live with its effect.
- b. People have a right to be consulted on how they are to be governed.
- c. A legitimate government is one where citizens through participation acquire a stake in the system.