

MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS AND ANS.**FEDERALISM**

Q. 1. Differentiate between 'Coming Together Federation' and 'Holding Together Federation', with examples

Ans. Difference between 'Coming Together Federation' and 'Holding Together Federation':

- (i) Coming Together federations are formed when independent states come together to form a bigger state and 'holding together federations' are formed when a large country decides to divide itself into sub-units.
- (ii) In 'Coming Together federations' the state governments are strong, whereas in 'holding together federations', the central government is strong.
- (iii) In 'Coming Together federations', all states governments have equal powers but in 'holding together federations, this may not be the case.
- (iv) Examples of Coming together federations— U.S.A., Switzerland and Australia.
Examples of holding Together federations — India, Spain and Belgium.

Q2. Q Describe the division of powers between the Central and the State Governments in India.

Ans. (b) State list : State list consists of 66 subjects. It contains subjects of state and local importance such as police, trade, commerce, agriculture and irrigation.

(c) Concurrent list : Concurrent list consists of 47 subjects It includes subjects of common interest to both such as education, forest, trade unions, marriage, adoption and succession.

(ii) Union Government can make laws on the subjects which are not covered under these lists. The name has been given to such subjects is residuary subjects

Q3. Q. Explain any five key features of federalism ?

Ans .Ans. Main Features of Federalism:

- (i) There are two or more levels of government. India has three levels.
- (ii) Each level of government has its own jurisdiction in matters of legislation, taxation

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and administration even though they govern the same citizens.

(iii) Power and functions of each tier of government is specified and guaranteed by Constitution.

(iv) The Supreme Court has been given power to settle disputes between different levels of governments.

(v) Fundamental provisions of the Constitution.

Q4. "India has a large cultural, regional and religious diversity but there is unity among people". What factors are responsible for this? Elaborate.

Ans. (i) Right to equality.

(ii) No discrimination on the basis of caste, creed region or religion.

(iii) SCs and STs have some seats reserved and do get representation.

(iv) Right to freedom of religion and cultural and educational rights

Q5.State any three differences between the local government before and after the constitutional Amendment in 1992.

Ans. Local Government before 1992:

(i) It was directly under the control of the state Government.

(ii) Elections were not held regularly.

(iii) Elections were controlled by the State Governments. Local Government after 1992 :

(i) Local Governments have got some powers of their own.

(ii) Elections are held regularly.

(iii) An independent state election commission is responsible to conduct the election

Q6.Explain any five features of Panchayati Raj system in India.

Ans. Rural local government is known as Panchayati Raj. (i) PRI is rural-based.

(ii) Each village has Gram Panchayat.

(iii) It has Panchos and a Sarpanch.

(iv) Her/she is directly elected by the adult population living in the village.

(v) Panchayat works under the Gram Sabha.

(vi) All the voters meet at least twice or thrice in a year.

(vii) Few grams panchayats form Panchayat Samiti or Block or Mandal.

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Q7. What is a Gram Sabha? Describe any four functions of a Gram Sabha.

Ans. Gram Sabha: A body comprising of all adult members of a village or a group of villages.

Functions of Gram Sabha:

- (i) It elects the members of the Gram Panchayat.
- (ii) The Gram Sabha supervises the work of the village panchayat.
- (iii) It approves the annual budget of the panchayat.
- (iv) It reviews the performance of the Gram Panchayat.

Q8. What is the rationale for decentralization of power? Explain the structure of Rural local government in India.

Ans. The basic idea behind decentralization:

- (i) Large number of problems and issues are best settled at the local level because people have better knowledge of their local problems.
- (ii) It helps in promoting direct participation.

Structure of Rural Local Government :

(i) Zila Parishad : All the mandals in a district together constitute the Zila Parishad. Most of the members are elected and headed by a chairperson.

(ii) Panchayat Samiti or Mandal or Block : The members of this body are elected by the entire panchayat members in that area. A few Gram Panchayats are grouped together to form this government body.

(iii) Gram Panchayat: A council consisting of several ward members often called Panch. The president is called sarpanch. It is the decision-making body for the entire village.

Q. 9. What is a Gram Sabha? Describe any four functions of a Gram Sabha.

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Functions of Gram Sabha:

- (i) It elects the members of the Gram Panchayat. (ii) The Gram Sabha supervises the work of the village panchayat. (iii) It approves the annual budget of the panchayat.
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Q10. Why has federalism succeeded in India? Which were the policies adopted by India that ensured this success? Explain

Ans. Federalism has succeeded in India due to the nature of democratic policies in our country. The policies adopted by India to ensure this success:

- (i) Linguistic States :** After independence, the boundaries of several old states were changed in order to create new states. The creation of linguistic states was the first and a major test for democratic politics in our country.
- (ii) Language Policy :** The second test for the Indian federation is the language policy. The Indian constitution did not give the status of national language to any one of the language.
- (iii) Centre-State Relations :** Restructuring the centre-state relations is one more way in which federalism has been strengthened in practice.
- (iv) Decentralization of Power :** Power in India has been decentralized to the local government. The local government includes Panchayats in villages and municipalities in urban areas.

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