

INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

CLASS: IX DEPARTMENT: SOCIAL SCIENCE SUB: Demo: Politics

CHAPTER: 3 TOPIC: ELECTORAL POLITICS YEAR: 2024 -25

QB. NO: 3

1. Explain the term Election. Why do we need election in a democracy? Ans:

It is a mechanism by which people can choose their representatives at regular intervals and change them if they wish to do so in next election

It provides voters with many choices such as:-

- > They can choose those who will make laws for them.
- > They can choose who will form the government and take major decisions.
- They can choose the party whose policies will guide the country and people.

2. How do we distinguish democratic elections from any other elections? OR

What are the minimum conditions required for an elections?

Ans

There is a simple list of the minimum conditions that makes an election democratic:

- Everyone should have one vote and every vote should have equal value.
- ➤ The election should offer some real choice to the voters. Parties and the candidates should be free to contest election.
- The elections must be held at regular intervals.
- The candidate preferred by the people should get elected.
- Elections should be conducted in a free and fair manner where people can choose as they really wish.

3. "An electoral competition has many demerits." Justify the statement.

Ans:

- Electoral competition creates a sense of disunity and division in every society.
- > Different Political parties and leaders often put allegations against one another.
- > Parties and candidates often use dirty tricks to win elections.
- Electoral fights do not allow long-term policies to be formulated for the nation.
- Some good people who may wish to serve the country do not enter in to politics because of the unhealthy competition in electoral politics.

4 Distinguish between General election and By-election.

Ans:

- Elections are held in India in Lok Sabha regularly after every five years. Elections are held in all the Constituencies at the same time, either on the same day or within a few days. This is called a **General election**.
- Sometimes elections are held only for one constituency to fill the vacancy caused by the death or resignation of a member. This is called **By-election**.

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5. Explain electoral constituencies.

Ans:

- The country is divided into different area for purposes of elections. These areas are call electoral constituencies. There are **543 constituencies**. The representatives elected from each constituency are called a **Member of Parliament** or an **MP**.
- Each state is divided into specific number of Assembly constituencies. In this case the Elected representative is called the **Member of Legislative Assembly** or an **MLA**.

6. What are Reserved Constituencies? Why the makers of our constitution thought of a special system of reserved constituencies for the weaker sections? Ans:

- Some constituencies are reserved for people who belong to the **Scheduled Castes** and **Scheduled Tribes**. In a SC reserved constituency only, someone who belongs to the Scheduled Castes can stand for election. Similarly, only those belonging to the Scheduled Tribes can contest an election from a constituency reserved for ST. Currently, in the Lok Sabha, **84 seats are reserved for the Scheduled Castes and 47 for the Scheduled Tribes**.
- ➤ The Constitution makers were worried that in an open electoral competition, certain weaker sections may not get a good chance to get elected to the Lok Sabha and the State Legislative Assemblies. They may not have the required resources, education and contacts to contest and win election. So, the makers of our Constitution thought of a special system of Reserved constituencies for the weaker sections.

7. What is a Voter's List? Mention its importance. Ans:

- In a democratic election the list of people who are eligible to vote is prepared much before the election. This list is officially called the **Electoral Roll** and is commonly known as the **Voters' List**.
- In our country all the citizens aged 18 years and above can vote. It is the responsibility of the government to get the names of all the eligible voters. The Electoral roll is normally revised every year to add the names of those who are to turn18 on the 1st January of that year and to remove the names of those who have died or moved out of a constituency. Recently a new system of Election Photo Identity Card (EPIC) has been introduced. This card is also considered as an identity proof.

8. Explain the process of nomination of a candidate? Ans:

- Political Parties nominate their candidates who get party symbol and support. Party's nomination is often called party 'ticket'.
- Anyone who can be a voter can also become a candidate in elections. The only difference is that in order to be a candidate the minimum age is 25 years, while it is only 18 years forbeing a voter. Every person who wishes to contest an election has to fill a 'nomination form' and give some money as 'security deposit'
- According to the direction of the Supreme Court, every candidate now has to make a 'legal declaration giving full details of:
 - ✓ Any serious case pending against the candidate
 - ✓ Complete details of assets and liabilities of the candidates and his/her family .
 - ✓ Educational qualifications of the candidate.

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9. Explain election campaign. State the laws that to be followed by the parties and candidates.

What are election laws?

Ans:

The main purpose of election is to give people a chance to choose the representatives, the government and policies they prefer. So, it is necessary to have a free and open discussion on different political parties and their policies. This is what happens during election campaigns. According to our election law, no party or candidate can:-

- Bribe or threatens voters.
- > Appeal to them in the name of caste or religion.
- Use government resources for election campaign
- > Spend more than 25 lakhs in a constituency in Lak Sabha or 10 lakhs in a constituency in an Assembly election.

"All the Political parties in our country have agreed to a Model Code of Conduct for election 10. campaigns". Explain.

Ans:

According to the **Model Code of Conduct**, no party or candidate can:

- Use any place of worship for election propaganda;
- > Use government vehicles, aircrafts and officials for elections; and
- > Once elections are announced, Ministers shall not lay foundation stones of any projects, take any big policy decisions or make any promises of providing Public facilities.

11. "Newspapers and television reports often refer to different unfair practices in elections." Justify.

Ans:

- > Inclusion of false names and exclusion of genuine names in the voter's list.
- Misuse of government facilitates and officials by the ruling party.
- Excessive use of money by rich candidates and big parties.
- Intimidation of voters and rigging on the polling day.

12. "Very few Election commissions in the world have such wide-ranging powers as the Election Commission of India". Justify

Ans:

- > EC takes decisions on every aspect of conduct and control of elections from theannouncement of elections to the declaration of results.
- > It implements the Code of Conduct and punishes any candidate or party that violates it.
- > During the election period, the EC can order the government to follow some guidelines, toprevent use and misuse of governmental power to enhance its chances to win elections, or to transfer some government officials.
- > When on election duty, government officers work under the control of the EC and not thegovernment.

13. What are the Challenges to free and fair elections? Ans:

- > Candidates and parties with a lot of money may not be sure of their victory but they do enjoy big and unfair advantage over smaller parties and independents.
- In some parts of the country, candidates with criminal connection have been able to push others out of the electoral race and to secure a 'ticket' from major parties.

- Some families tend to dominate political parties; tickets are distributed to relatives from these families.
- > Very often elections offer little choice to ordinary citizens, because the major parties are quite similar to each other both in policies and practice.
- > Smaller parties and independent candidates suffer a huge disadvantage compared tobigger parties.

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