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# **NCERT Civics (Political Science) Class 10th**

## **Chapter 2: Federalism Notes**

### **Introduction to Federalism and Power Sharing**

#### **1. Vertical Division of Power:**

- Refers to the division of power among different levels of government.
- Recognized as one of the major forms of power-sharing in modern democracies.

#### **2. Definition of Federalism:**

- A system of government where power is shared between central, state, and local governments.

### **Focus of the Chapter**

#### **1. Understanding Federalism:**

- General description of federalism as a system of governance.
- Examines how federalism operates in theory and practice in India.

#### **2. Federal Constitutional Provisions:**

- Analysis of constitutional features that establish and govern federalism in India.

### **3. Strengthening Federalism:**

- Discussion on policies and politics that have reinforced federalism in practice.

### **4. Local Government as a Third Tier:**

- Exploration of the emergence and significance of the local government in Indian federalism.
- Represents a new tier, extending federalism to the grassroots level.

## **What is Federalism?**

### **Comparison Between Belgium and Sri Lanka**

#### **1. Belgium's Transition to Federalism:**

- Shifted from a unitary to a federal form of government in 1993.
- Regional governments were given constitutional powers, independent of the central government.

#### **2. Sri Lanka's Unitary System:**

- The national government retains all powers.
- Tamil leaders demand a federal system to accommodate regional aspirations.

## **Definition of Federalism | What is Federalism?**

## **1. Federal System of Government:**

- Power is divided between a central authority and various constituent units.
- Usually involves two levels:
  - a.** A national government responsible for common interests.
  - b.** State or provincial governments are responsible for local administration.

## **2. Contrast Between Federal and Unitary Systems:**

- In federal systems, the central government cannot dictate state governments.
- State governments are independent and answerable directly to the people.
- In unitary systems, sub-units are subordinate to the central government.

## **Key Features of Federalism**

### **1. Multiple Levels of Government:**

- Two or more tiers govern the same citizens, each with its jurisdiction.

### **2. Constitutionally Guaranteed Powers:**

- Jurisdictions of all levels are specified in the constitution.
- Fundamental provisions require consent from all levels for amendments.

### **3. Judicial Interpretation:**

- Courts, particularly the highest court, interpret the Constitution and resolve disputes between levels of government.

#### **4. Financial Autonomy:**

- Revenue sources for each level are specified to maintain independence.

#### **5. Dual Objectives:**

- Federalism aims to:
  - a. Safeguard and promote the unity of the country.
  - b. Accommodate regional diversity.

#### **6. Mutual Trust and Agreement:**

- Effective federal systems require trust and cooperation between levels of government.

## **Types of Federations**

### **1. Coming Together Federations:**

- Independent states pool sovereignty to form a larger unit for security and shared identity.
- Examples: *USA, Switzerland, Australia*.
- Constituent states usually have equal powers.

### **2. Holding Together Federations:**

- Large countries divide power between the central and state governments.
- The central government is often more powerful than the states.

- Examples: India, Spain, Belgium.
- Some units may have special powers, creating unequal power distribution.

## **Jurisdiction**

### **1. Definition of Jurisdiction:**

- Legal authority over a defined geographical area or specific subjects.
- Ensures clarity in the division of responsibilities between levels of government.

## **Federalism's Adaptability**

### **1. Variation in Power Balance:**

- The balance of power between central and state governments varies based on the historical context of formation.
- Examples:
  - a. Coming Together federations focus on equality.
  - b. Holding Together federations emphasize central authority.

## **MCQs on NCERT Civics Class 10 Chapter 2 Topic**

### **– What is Federalism?**

Here are top exam oriented MCQ's type questions on "What is federalism?" that you should prepare for your CBSE or state board exams:

**Question 1.** What change occurred in governance in Belgium in 1993?

- a) Powers of regional governments were withdrawn.
- b) Regional governments were given constitutional powers.
- c) The Central Government became more powerful.
- d) Belgium adopted a unitary form of government.

**Answer: b)** Regional governments were given constitutional powers.

**Question 2. What type of government system does Sri Lanka currently follow?**

- a) Federal system
- b) Confederation
- c) Unitary system
- d) Decentralized system

**Answer: c)** Unitary system

**Question 3. What do Tamil leaders in Sri Lanka demand?**

- a) Complete independence
- b) A federal system of governance
- c) Abolishment of the national government
- d) Unitary governance with Tamil autonomy

**Answer: b)** A federal system of governance

**Question 4. Which of the following best defines federalism?**

- a) A system where power is concentrated at the centre.
- b) A system where power is divided between central and state governments.
- c) A system with only provincial governments.
- d) A system where central authority controls all constituent units.

**Answer: b)** A system where power is divided between central and state governments.

**Question 5. How many levels of government are typically present in a federation?**

- a) One level
- b) Two or more levels
- c) Three levels only
- d) Four levels

**Answer: b)** Two or more levels

**Question 6. What guarantees the existence and authority of different tiers of government in a federation?**

- a) Supreme Court rulings
- b) National policy
- c) The Constitution
- d) Central Government directives

**Answer: c)** The Constitution

**Question 7. What role does the highest court play in a federal system?**

- a) To resolve disputes between citizens and governments
- b) To interpret the Constitution and resolve disputes between levels of government
- c) To oversee the functioning of the federal government only
- d) To enforce decisions made by the central government

**Answer: b)** To interpret the Constitution and resolve disputes between levels of government

**Question 8. Which feature of federalism ensures financial autonomy for each level of government?**

- a) Decentralization
- b) Specified sources of revenue
- c) Power-sharing agreements
- d) Judicial review

**Answer: b)** Specified sources of revenue

**Question 9. Which countries are examples of 'coming together' federations?**

- a) India, Spain, and Belgium
- b) USA, Switzerland, and Australia
- c) Russia, Germany, and Brazil
- d) France, Sri Lanka, and China

**Answer: b)** USA, Switzerland, and Australia

**Question 10. What is a characteristic of 'coming together' federations?**

- a) Central government holds more power than states.
- b) States retain their identity and sovereignty.
- c) States are subordinate to the central government.
- d) Some states are granted special powers.

**Answer: b)** States retain their identity and sovereignty.



**Question 11.** Which of the following countries is an example of a 'holding together' federation?

- a) USA
- b) Switzerland
- c) India
- d) Australia

**Answer: c)** India

**Question 12.** In a 'holding together' federation, which of the following is true?

- a) All states have equal power.
- b) The Central government is usually more powerful.
- c) States form the federation on their own.
- d) States have complete independence from the central government.

**Answer: b)** The Central government is usually more powerful.

**Question 13.** Which category of federation often grants special powers to certain units?

- a) Coming together federations
- b) Holding together federations
- c) Decentralized federations
- d) Mixed federations

**Answer: b)** Holding together federations

**Question 14.** In a unitary system, who has the ultimate authority?

- a) Regional governments
- b) Central government
- c) Judiciary
- d) Local governments

**Answer: b)** Central government

**Question 15. What is one key feature of a federal system that distinguishes it from a unitary system?**

- a) The central government can issue orders to the state governments.
- b) State governments have powers independent of the central government.
- c) There is only one level of government.
- d) The Constitution does not guarantee state powers.

**Answer: b)** State governments have powers independent of the central government.

**Question 16. Under which system are sub-units subordinate to the central government?**

- a) Federal system
- b) Unitary system
- c) Parliamentary system
- d) Coalition system

**Answer: b)** Unitary system

**Question 17. What are the dual objectives of federalism?**

- a) To centralize power and promote unity
- b) To safeguard unity and accommodate regional diversity

- c) To grant equal powers to all levels of government
- d) To unify all regions under a single government

**Answer: b)** To safeguard unity and accommodate regional diversity

**Question 18. What is essential for an ideal federal system?**

- a) Centralized decision-making
- b) Mutual trust and agreements to share power
- c) Uniformity across all regions
- d) Subordinate state governments

**Answer: b)** Mutual trust and agreements to share power

**Question 19. What is the term for the area over which someone has legal authority?**

- a) Federalism
- b) Jurisdiction
- c) Autonomy
- d) Sovereignty

**Answer: b)** Jurisdiction

**Question 20. What was the significant change in Belgium's governance system after 1993?**

- a) Introduction of a unitary government
- b) Establishment of federal governance
- c) Central government gained more power
- d) Removal of regional governments

**Answer: b)** Establishment of federal governance

**Question 21. What was a key reason for the shift to federalism in Belgium?**

- a) To strengthen the central government
- b) To accommodate regional diversity and promote unity
- c) To create a new constitution
- d) To abolish state governments

**Answer: b)** To accommodate regional diversity and promote unity

**Question 22. Why do Tamil leaders in Sri Lanka demand a federal system?**

- a) To centralize power in their hands
- b) To ensure autonomy for Tamil-majority regions
- c) To eliminate the central government
- d) To abolish regional governance

**Answer: b)** To ensure autonomy for Tamil-majority regions

## **What Makes India A Federal Country?**

### **Managing Diversity in India**

#### **1. Power-Sharing Challenge:**

- India faces significant challenges in managing diversity due to its vast population with multiple languages, religions, and regions.

### **Federal Features of the Indian Constitution**

## **1. Union of States:**

- The Constitution declares India as a “Union of States” based on federal principles, though the term “federation” is not used.

## **2. Two-Tier System:**

- Initially, India had a two-tier system: Union Government and State Governments.

## **3. Three-Tier Federalism:**

- A third tier was added, introducing Panchayats and Municipalities to Indian federalism.

## **Three-Fold Legislative Distribution**

### **1. Union List:**

- Includes subjects of national importance, such as defence, foreign affairs, banking, and communications.
- Only the Union Government can legislate on these subjects.

### **2. State List:**

- Covers subjects of state and local importance, such as police, trade, agriculture, and irrigation.
- State Governments have exclusive power to legislate on these subjects.

### **3. Concurrent List:**

- Includes subjects of common interest to both Union and State Governments, like education, forests, and marriage.
- In case of conflict, Union Government laws prevail.

#### **4. Residuary Subjects:**

- Matters not listed in any of the three lists (e.g., computer software) fall under Union Government's jurisdiction.

## **Special Provisions and Units**

### **1. Special Status States:**

- States like Assam, Nagaland, and Mizoram have special provisions (Article 371) for land rights, culture, and preferential employment.

### **2. Union Territories:**

- Areas like Chandigarh, Lakshadweep, and Delhi are directly governed by the Central Government with limited powers.

## **Amending Federal Structure**

### **1. Rigidity of Power Sharing:**

- **Changes to the power-sharing arrangement require:**
  - a. Approval by a two-thirds majority in both Houses of Parliament.
  - b. Ratification by at least half of the State legislatures.

## **Role of Judiciary**

### **1. Dispute Resolution:**

- High Courts and Supreme Court resolve disputes over the division of powers between Union and State Governments.

## **Financial Autonomy**

### **1. Taxation Powers:**

- Both Union and State Governments can levy taxes to raise resources for their responsibilities.

## **Illustrative Scenarios**

### **1. Nuclear Policy Example:**

- States cannot prevent the Central Government from conducting nuclear tests, as defense is under Union List.

### **2. Textbook Policy:**

- States like Sikkim can introduce textbooks without Union Government's permission if it falls under their jurisdiction.

### **3. State Police Policy:**

- Chief Ministers can decide their state police's response without mandatory intervention from the Prime Minister, showcasing state autonomy.

## **MCQs on NCERT Civics Class 10 Chapter 2 Topic**

### **– What Makes India A Federal Country?**

Here are top exam oriented mcq's type questions on "*What Makes India A Federal Country?*" that you should prepare for your CBSE or state board exams:

**Question 1. What did the Indian Constitution declare India as after independence?**

- a) Federation of States
- b) Confederation of States
- c) Union of States
- d) Democratic Union

**Answer: c)** Union of States

**Question 2. What principle is the Indian Union based on?**

- a) Unitary governance
- b) Decentralization
- c) Federalism
- d) Socialism

**Answer: c)** Federalism

**Question 3. What tier of government was added later to Indian federalism?**

- a) Central Government
- b) Panchayats and Municipalities
- c) Provincial Government
- d) Special State Zones

**Answer: b)** Panchayats and Municipalities



**Question 4. Which list in the Indian Constitution includes subjects of national importance?**

- a) State List
- b) Union List
- c) Concurrent List
- d) Residuary List

**Answer: b)** Union List

**Question 5. Which of the following subjects is NOT in the Union List?**

- a) Defence
- b) Agriculture
- c) Foreign Affairs
- d) Banking

**Answer: b)** Agriculture

**Question 6. What kind of subjects are included in the State List?**

- a) Subjects of national importance
- b) Subjects of State and local importance
- c) Subjects that both Union and State governments legislate on
- d) Residuary subjects

**Answer: b)** Subjects of State and local importance

**Question 7. What happens when laws made by the Union Government and State Government conflict on subjects in the Concurrent List?**

- a) The State law prevails.
- b) The Union law prevails.
- c) Both laws are nullified.
- d) The Supreme Court decides which law prevails.

**Answer: b)** The Union law prevails.

**Question 8. Which of the following is a residuary subject?**

- a) Trade
- b) Police
- c) Computer software
- d) Agriculture

**Answer: c)** Computer software

**Question 9. Which Article of the Indian Constitution grants special provisions to certain States?**

- a) Article 356
- b) Article 371
- c) Article 370
- d) Article 395

**Answer: b)** Article 371

**Question 10. Which of the following States enjoy special powers under Article 371?**

- a) Uttar Pradesh and Punjab
- b) Nagaland and Mizoram
- c) Gujarat and Maharashtra
- d) Tamil Nadu and Kerala

**Answer: b)** Nagaland and Mizoram

**Question 11. Why do some States have special provisions under the Constitution?**

- a) To ensure uniform governance across all States.
- b) To recognize their unique social and historical circumstances.
- c) To reduce their autonomy.
- d) To make them subordinate to the Union Government.

**Answer: b)** To recognize their unique social and historical circumstances.

**Question 12. Which of the following is a characteristic of Union Territories in India?**

- a) They enjoy equal powers as States.
- b) They are independent of the Central Government.
- c) The Central Government has special powers in running them.
- d) They have special provisions under Article 371.

**Answer: c)** The Central Government has special powers in running them.

**Question 13. Which of the following is NOT a Union Territory?**

- a) Chandigarh
- b) Delhi
- c) Lakshadweep
- d) Sikkim

**Answer: d)** Sikkim

**Question 14. What is the basic structure of the Indian Constitution regarding power-sharing?**

- a) Central Government has complete control over States.
- b) States are independent of the Central Government.
- c) Power-sharing between Union and State Governments is basic to the Constitution.
- d) Parliament can unilaterally change the power-sharing arrangement.

**Answer: c)** Power-sharing between Union and State Governments is basic to the Constitution.

**Question 15. How can changes to the power-sharing arrangement be made?**

- a) By a simple majority in Parliament.
- b) By a two-thirds majority in both Houses of Parliament and ratification by half of the State legislatures.
- c) By a directive from the Prime Minister.
- d) By an order from the Supreme Court.

**Answer: b)** By a two-thirds majority in both Houses of Parliament and ratification by half of the State legislatures.

**Question 16. What is the role of the judiciary in the federal system?**

- a) To execute laws passed by Parliament.
- b) To oversee the implementation of constitutional provisions.
- c) To legislate on concurrent subjects.
- d) To determine taxation policies.

**Answer: b)** To oversee the implementation of constitutional provisions.

**Question 17. Which court resolves disputes about the division of powers?**

- a) District Court
- b) High Court
- c) Supreme Court
- d) Both b and c

**Answer: d)** Both b and c

**Question 18. How do Union and State Governments raise resources?**

- a) By borrowing from other countries.
- b) By levying taxes.
- c) By donations from citizens.
- d) By international funding agencies.

**Answer: b)** By levying taxes.

**Question 19. Can a State Government prevent the Central Government from conducting nuclear tests within its territory?**

- a) Yes, because States have jurisdiction over land.
- b) No, because nuclear policy is a subject in the Union List.
- c) Yes, because the State Government can overrule Central directives.
- d) No, because nuclear tests are under the Concurrent List.

**Answer: b)** No, because nuclear policy is a subject in the Union List.

**Question 20. If a State Government introduces new textbooks in schools, does it need permission from the Union Government?**

- a) Yes, because education is in the Union List.
- b) No, because education is in the Concurrent List.
- c) Yes, because the Union Government controls all educational policies.
- d) No, because education is exclusively in the State List.

**Answer: b)** No, because education is in the Concurrent List.

**Question 21. Can the Prime Minister intervene and issue an order on how State police should respond to a situation?**

- a) Yes, because law and order are in the Union List.
- b) No, because the police are on the State List.
- c) Yes, because the Prime Minister has overriding powers.
- d) No, because law and order is in the Concurrent List.

**Answer: b)** No, because the police are on the State List.

## **How is Federalism Practised in India?**

### **Constitutional Provisions and Federalism**

#### **1. Constitutional Provisions:**

- Constitutional provisions are essential for federalism, but they alone are not enough to ensure its success.

#### **2. The success of Indian Federalism:**

- India's successful federalism is not just due to the Constitution but also the nature of democratic politics.

## **Key Factors for the Success of Federalism**

### **1. Role of Democratic Politics:**

- Democratic politics in India ensured that the spirit of federalism, respect for diversity, and the desire to live together became shared ideals among the people.

## **Linguistic States**

### **Creation of Linguistic States**

#### **1. Major Test for Democratic Politics:**

- The creation of linguistic States was a major test for democratic politics in India.

#### **2. Political Map Changes (1947–2019):**

- There have been significant changes in the political map of India from 1947 to 2019, with many old States disappearing and new States being created.

#### **3. Changes in Boundaries:**

- The boundaries of several old States were changed in 1947 to create new States.

## **Formation of States Based on Language and Culture**

## **1. Creation of States Based on Language:**

- Some States were formed based on the language spoken by the people in those regions.

## **2. States Formed on Cultural, Ethnic, or Geographical Basis:**

- Some States, such as Nagaland, Uttarakhand, and Jharkhand, were created not based on language, but to recognize differences in culture, ethnicity, or geography.

## **3. Fear of Disintegration:**

- Initially, there was a fear among national leaders that the creation of linguistic States might lead to the disintegration of the country.

## **4. Impact of Linguistic States:**

- The formation of linguistic States has united the country and simplified administration.

# **Language Policy**

## **Language Policy and Its Challenges**

### **1. No National Language in the Constitution:**

- The Indian Constitution did not designate any language as the national language.

### **2. Hindi as Official Language:**



- Hindi was identified as the official language, but it is the mother tongue of only about 40% of Indians.

### **3. Safeguards for Other Languages:**

- To protect other languages, the Constitution recognized 22 other languages as Scheduled Languages.

### **4. Examination in Multiple Languages:**

- Candidates can opt to take Central Government exams in any of the 22 Scheduled Languages.

### **5. State-Specific Official Languages:**

- Each State in India has its official language for government work.

## **Hindi Language Promotion and Opposition**

### **1. Cautious Approach to the Spread of Hindi:**

- Unlike Sri Lanka, India's political leaders adopted a cautious approach in promoting Hindi.

### **2. 1965 Deadline for English Use:**

- The Constitution initially planned to stop the use of English for official purposes by 1965.

### **3. Demand for Continued Use of English:**

- Many non-Hindi-speaking States demanded that English continue to be used for official purposes.

#### **4. Violent Protests in Tamil Nadu:**

- The movement to continue English use became violent in Tamil Nadu.

#### **5. Government's Response:**

- The Central Government agreed to continue the use of English alongside Hindi for official purposes.

#### **6. Criticism of the Policy:**

- Critics argue that this solution favoured the English-speaking elite.

#### **7. Official Promotion of Hindi:**

- The promotion of Hindi continues to be the official policy, but it does not mean that the government can impose Hindi on States where a different language is spoken.

### **Comparison with Sri Lanka**

#### **1. Avoiding Sri Lanka's Situation:**

- The flexibility shown by Indian leaders helped avoid the language-related conflicts seen in Sri Lanka.

### **Centre-State Relations**

#### **Restructuring Centre-State Relations**

##### **1. Centre-State Relations and Federalism:**

- Restructuring Centre-State relations is one of how federalism has been strengthened in practice.

## **2. Constitutional Arrangements and Political Reality:**

- The practical functioning of constitutional arrangements for power-sharing depends on how ruling parties and leaders implement them.

## **3. Centralization Under One Party Rule:**

- For a long time, the same party ruled both at the Centre and in most of the States, which led to a lack of autonomy for State Governments.

## **4. Misuse of Power by the Central Government:**

- When the State Government was led by a rival party, the Central Government often tried to undermine state power by misusing constitutional provisions to dismiss the State Government.

## **5. Undermining Federalism:**

- This behavior undermined the spirit of federalism and did not respect the autonomy of States.

# **Rise of Regional Parties and Coalition Governments**

## **1. Shift After 1990:**

- After 1990, regional political parties gained prominence in many States, leading to the rise of coalition governments at the Centre.

## **2. Formation of Coalition Governments:**

- With no single party gaining a clear majority in the Lok Sabha, major national parties had to form alliances with regional parties to form the Central Government.

### **3. New Culture of Power Sharing:**

- This led to a new culture of power-sharing and respect for the autonomy of State Governments.

### **4. Supreme Court Judgment:**

- A major Supreme Court judgment made it difficult for the Central Government to dismiss State Governments in an arbitrary manner.

### **5. More Effective Federal Power Sharing:**

- As a result, federal power-sharing has become more effective today than it was in the early years after the Constitution came into force.

## **Coalition Government**

### **1. Definition of Coalition Government:**

- A coalition government is formed when at least two political parties come together, usually forming a political alliance with a common program.

## **Linguistic Diversity in India**

### **1. Number of Languages in India:**

- India has over 1300 distinct languages, as recorded in the 2011 Census.

## **2. Grouping of Languages:**

- These 1300 languages were grouped under major languages like Hindi, which encompasses languages like *Bhojpuri, Magadhi, Bundelkhandi, Chhattisgarhi, and Rajasthani*.

## **3. Major Languages in India:**

- After grouping, the Census identified 121 major languages in India.

## **4. Scheduled and Non-Scheduled Languages:**

- Out of the 121 major languages, 22 are included in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution and are called Scheduled Languages.
- The remaining languages are referred to as Non-Scheduled Languages.

## **5. India's Linguistic Diversity:**

- India is considered one of the most linguistically diverse countries in the world.

## **Language Distribution**

### **1. Hindi as the Most Widely Spoken Language:**

- Hindi is the mother tongue of only about 44% of Indians.

- Even when considering people who speak Hindi as a second or third language, the total number of people speaking Hindi remains less than 50% in 2011.

## **2. English in India:**

- Only 0.02% of Indians recorded English as their mother tongue.
- Another 11% of Indians knew English as a second or third language.

## **MCQs on NCERT Civics Class 10 Chapter 2 Topic**

### **– How is Federalism Practised in India?**

Here are top exam oriented mcq's type questions on "*How is Federalism Practised in India?*" that you should prepare for your CBSE or state board exams:

#### **Question 1. What is the real reason behind the success of federalism in India?**

- a) Clear constitutional provisions
- b) Democratic politics and respect for diversity
- c) Strong central government
- d) Uniform language policy

**Answer: b)** Democratic politics and respect for diversity

#### **Question 2. What role did democratic politics play in the success of federalism in India?**

- a) It ensured that federalism was imposed by the central government.
- b) It encouraged people to respect diversity and promoted unity.

- c) It allowed only one language to be used throughout the country.
- d) It led to the centralization of power in the Union Government.

**Answer: b)** It encouraged people to respect diversity and promoted unity.

**Question 3. What was the primary reason for the creation of linguistic States in India?**

- a) To recognize regional economic disparities
- b) To ensure people speaking the same language lived in the same State
- c) To encourage migration of people
- d) To create a uniform culture

**Answer: b)** To ensure people speaking the same language lived in the same State

**Question 4. Which of the following States was NOT created based on language?**

- a) Nagaland
- b) Uttarakhand
- c) Jharkhand
- d) Punjab

**Answer: d)** Punjab

**Question 5. What was the initial concern of national leaders regarding linguistic States in India?**

- a) That it would lead to an increase in regional languages
- b) That it would lead to the disintegration of the country

- c) That it would create too many States
- d) That it would decrease economic growth

**Answer: b)** That it would lead to the disintegration of the country

**Question 6. What was the outcome of the formation of linguistic States in India?**

- a) The country became more divided.
- b) The country became more united, and administration became easier.
- c) It led to the formation of regional political parties.
- d) It did not change anything in the political map.

**Answer: b)** The country became more united, and administration became easier.

**Question 7. Which language was identified as the official language of India in the Constitution?**

- a) English
- b) Hindi
- c) Bengali
- d) Sanskrit

**Answer: b)** Hindi

**Question 8. What percentage of Indians consider Hindi to be their mother tongue?**

- a) 20%
- b) 40%
- c) 60%
- d) 80%



**Answer: b)** 40%

**Question 9. How many languages are recognized as Scheduled Languages by the Constitution of India?**

- a) 10
- b) 12
- c) 22
- d) 24

**Answer: c)** 22

**Question 10. What is the policy regarding the use of Hindi in government work?**

- a) Hindi is mandatory for all government work.
- b) English is used exclusively for all government work.
- c) Hindi is the primary official language, but States can use their own official languages.
- d) Hindi is banned in official work.

**Answer: c)** Hindi is the primary official language, but States can use their own official languages.

**Question 11. Why did the Central Government agree to continue the use of English along with Hindi for official purposes?**

- a) To promote Hindi across the country
- b) Due to demands from non-Hindi speaking States, especially Tamil Nadu
- c) To make it easier for citizens to learn English
- d) Because the Constitution mandated it

**Answer: b)** Due to demands from non-Hindi speaking States, especially Tamil Nadu

**Question 12. What was the original plan regarding the use of English after 1965?**

- a) It would become the national language.
- b) It would be stopped for official purposes.
- c) It would only be used for higher education.
- d) It would replace Hindi as the official language.

**Answer: b)** It would be stopped for official purposes.

**Question 13. What was the impact of the rise of regional political parties after 1990 on Centre-State relations?**

- a) The power of the Central Government increased.
- b) It led to a new culture of power-sharing and respect for State autonomy.
- c) It reduced the importance of regional issues.
- d) It resulted in the dissolution of several States.

**Answer: b)** It led to a new culture of power-sharing and respect for State autonomy.

**Question 14. What role did the Supreme Court play in strengthening federalism in India?**

- a) It helped increase the powers of the Central Government.
- b) It made it difficult for the Central Government to dismiss State Governments arbitrarily.
- c) It eliminated the need for a federal structure.
- d) It merged several States into larger units.

**Answer: b)** It made it difficult for the Central Government to dismiss State Governments arbitrarily.

**Question 15. What was a major challenge for federalism in India in the early years after independence?**

- a) The dominance of regional parties
- b) The misuse of power by the Central Government to dismiss State Governments
- c) The uniform distribution of power across States
- d) The lack of political leadership

**Answer: b)** The misuse of power by the Central Government to dismiss State Governments

**Question 16. What system of government became more prevalent in India after 1990?**

- a) Single-party rule
- b) Coalition governments
- c) Presidential form of government
- d) Unitary government

**Answer: b)** Coalition governments

**Question 17. What is the key characteristic of a coalition government?**

- a) A single party rules at the Centre and in the States.
- b) At least two political parties come together to form a government.
- c) Only one political party is allowed to form a government.
- d) The government is formed by regional parties alone.

**Answer: b)** At least two political parties come together to form a government.

**Question 18. Which of the following is NOT a feature of Indian federalism?**

- a) Division of powers between the Union and State Governments
- b) Creation of new States based on linguistic or cultural identities
- c) Uniformity in the distribution of power across all States
- d) Recognition of multiple languages as Scheduled Languages

**Answer: c)** Uniformity in the distribution of power across all States

**Question 19. What was one major criticism of the Central Government's language policy?**

- a) It promoted only regional languages.
- b) It favored the English-speaking elite.
- c) It imposed Hindi uniformly on all States.
- d) It ignored the diversity of languages in India.

**Answer: b)** It favored the English-speaking elite.

**Question 20. Which of the following best describes the status of the Indian federal system?**

- a) It is a unitary system.
- b) It is a purely centralized system.
- c) It is a federal system with strong decentralization.
- d) It is a loose confederation of States.

**Answer: c)** It is a federal system with strong decentralization.

**Question 21.** How many distinct languages were recorded in the Census of India held in 2011?

- a) More than 500
- b) More than 1000
- c) More than 1300
- d) More than 1500

**Answer: c)** More than 1300

**Question 22.** How many major languages were identified in the Census of India 2011 after grouping the distinct languages?

- a) 100
- b) 121
- c) 150
- d) 200

**Answer: b)** 121

**Question 23.** Which of the following is included in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution?

- a) Non-Scheduled Languages
- b) Scheduled Languages
- c) Regional Languages
- d) Foreign Languages

**Answer: b)** Scheduled Languages

**Question 24.** What percentage of Indians consider Hindi to be their mother tongue according to the 2011 Census?

- a) 34%
- b) 40%
- c) 44%
- d) 50%

**Answer: c)** 44%

**Question 25. What is the status of English as a mother tongue in India according to the Census 2011?**

- a) 1% of Indians recorded it as their mother tongue.
- b) 0.02% of Indians recorded it as their mother tongue.
- c) 5% of Indians recorded it as their mother tongue.
- d) 11% of Indians recorded it as their mother tongue.

**Answer: b)** 0.02% of Indians recorded it as their mother tongue.

**Question 26. Which of the following languages is NOT included in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution?**

- a) Hindi
- b) Bengali
- c) Sanskrit
- d) English

**Answer: d)** English

**Question 27. Which group of languages were merged under the term 'Hindi' in the 2011 Census?**

- a) Punjabi, Gujarati, and Marathi
- b) Bhojpuri, Magadhi, Bundelkhandi, Chhattisgarhi, and Rajasthani

- c) Tamil, Telugu, and Kannada
- d) Urdu, Punjabi, and Sindhi

**Answer: b)** *Bhojpuri, Magadhi, Bundelkhandi, Chhattisgarhi, and Rajasthani*

**Question 28. In terms of linguistic diversity, India is considered to be the most diverse country in the world because:**

- a) It has only two main languages.
- b) It has more than 1300 distinct languages.
- c) It has no regional languages.
- d) It only has official languages.

**Answer: b)** It has more than 1300 distinct languages.

**Question 29. What percentage of Indians knew Hindi as a second or third language in 2011?**

- a) 10%
- b) 20%
- c) Less than 50%
- d) 60%

**Answer: c)** Less than 50%

**Question 30. Based on the linguistic diversity of India, which of the following would be an appropriate representation for the language data?**

- a) Bar chart or pie chart
- b) Line graph

- c) Histogram
- d) Map of literacy

**Answer: a)** Bar chart or pie chart

**Question 31. What could you use to represent the linguistic diversity of India on a map?**

- a) Mark the region where each language is spoken with different colours
- b) Use symbols to represent each language
- c) Represent the number of languages in each state
- d) Use text to list all languages spoken in India

**Answer: a)** Mark the region where each language is spoken with different colours

**Question 32. What is the total number of Scheduled Languages in India as recognized by the Constitution?**

- a) 10
- b) 22
- c) 50
- d) 100

**Answer: b)** 22

**Question 33. Which of the following languages is NOT a Scheduled Language in India?**

- a) Hindi
- b) Bengali
- c) Marathi
- d) English



**Answer: d)** English

**Question 34. What is the significance of the Census of India 2011 in the context of languages?**

- a) It recorded the population of India.
- b) It grouped and categorized languages based on their popularity and use.
- c) It introduced new languages.
- d) It documented the geographical locations of languages.

**Answer: b)** It grouped and categorized languages based on their popularity and use.

**Question 35. Which language is the mother tongue of only 0.02% of Indians according to the Census 2011?**

- a) Marathi
- b) English
- c) Tamil
- d) Hindi

**Answer: b)** English

**Question 36. Which of the following languages was NOT mentioned as a distinct language grouped under 'Hindi' in the 2011 Census?**

- a) Bhojpuri
- b) Bundelkhandi
- c) Gujarati
- d) Chhattisgarhi

**Answer: c)** Gujarati

# **Explain Decentralisation In India Class 10**

## **Need for Decentralisation and Third-Tier Government**

### **1. Federal Power Sharing in India:**

- India's vastness and internal diversity necessitate power-sharing within States, leading to the creation of a third tier of government, local government.

### **2. Decentralisation:**

- Decentralisation involves transferring power from Central and State governments to local government bodies, ensuring decisions are made at the local level.
- The basic idea behind decentralisation is that local people have better knowledge of the problems in their localities and can manage resources more efficiently.

### **3. Benefits of Local Government:**

- Local government fosters democratic participation, as people can directly participate in decision-making.
- It helps realise the principle of local self-government and strengthens democracy at the grassroots level.

## **Decentralisation in India's Constitution**

### **1. Constitutional Recognition:**

- The Indian Constitution recognised the need for decentralisation, leading to the establishment of local governments in villages and towns.

## **2. Challenges Before 1992:**

- Before 1992, local governments were under State control, had no regular elections, and lacked powers or resources.

## **3. 1992 Constitutional Amendment:**

- A major step towards decentralisation was the 1992 Constitutional amendment, which empowered local governments and made them more effective.
- Regular elections to local government bodies became constitutionally mandatory.

## **Key Features of Local Government Post-1992**

### **1. Reservation of Seats:**

- Seats in local bodies are reserved for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, and women (at least one-third of positions).

### **2. State Election Commission:**

- An independent institution, the State Election Commission, was created in each State to oversee panchayat and municipal elections.

### **3. Power and Revenue Sharing:**

- State governments are required to share powers and revenue with local government bodies, though the extent of sharing varies across States.

## **Structure of Rural Local Government: Panchayati Raj**

### **1. Gram Panchayat:**

- A Gram Panchayat exists for each village or group of villages and is the decision-making body for the village.
- Ward members (panch) and the sarpanch are directly elected by the adult population of the village.

### **2. Role of Gram Sabha:**

- The Gram Sabha, composed of all voters in the village, supervises the work of the gram panchayat and meets to approve budgets and review performance.

### **3. Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishad:**

- Panchayat Samiti or Block/Mandal is formed by grouping gram panchayats. Its members are elected by panchayat members from the area.
- The Zilla Parishad at the district level consists of representatives from the Panchayat Samitis and includes elected members, Lok Sabha members, MLAs, and officials. The Zilla Parishad chairperson is its political head.

## **Urban Local Government: Municipalities and Municipal Corporations**

## **1. Municipalities and Municipal Corporations:**

- Municipalities exist in towns, while municipal corporations are set up for big cities.
- Both are controlled by elected bodies, with a chairperson in municipalities and a mayor in municipal corporations.

## **Impact of Local Government System**

### **1. Largest Democratic Experiment:**

- India's system of local government is the largest experiment in democracy in the world, with 36 lakh elected representatives in panchayats and municipalities.

### **2. Impact on Women's Representation:**

- The system has increased women's representation in politics, making their voices stronger in the democratic process.

### **3. Challenges in Decentralisation:**

- Despite regular elections, gram sabhas are not always held regularly, and many State governments have not transferred significant powers to local governments.
- Resources for local governments remain inadequate, and the goal of realising self-government is still far from complete.

## **An Experiment in Brazil**

# **Decentralisation and Participative Democracy in Porto Alegre (Brazil)**

## **1. Porto Alegre's Experiment:**

- Porto Alegre, a city in Brazil, implemented an extraordinary experiment combining decentralisation with participative democracy.
- A parallel organisation was created alongside the municipal council, allowing local inhabitants to make real decisions for their city.

## **2. Citizen Participation in City Budgeting:**

- 13 lakh citizens in Porto Alegre participate in making decisions related to the city budget.
- The city is divided into sectors (wards), with each sector holding meetings similar to the gram sabha where any citizen can participate.

## **3. City-wide Decision Making:**

- There are special meetings to discuss issues that affect the entire city, where any citizen can participate.
- Budget proposals are discussed and then submitted to the municipality for a final decision.

## **4. High Participation Rate:**

- About 20,000 people participate in this decision-making process annually, ensuring that diverse voices are heard.

## **5. Inclusive Budgeting:**

- The participatory budgeting system ensures that money is not spent solely in wealthy areas but also benefits poor colonies, including services like public transportation and the protection of slum-dwellers.

## Similar Experiment in Kerala (India)

### 1. Participative Planning in Kerala:

- A similar experiment of participative planning took place in some areas of Kerala, where ordinary people contributed to planning the development of their locality.

## MCQs on NCERT Civics Class 10 Chapter 2 Topic

### – Decentralisation In India

Here are top exam oriented mcq's type questions on "*Decentralisation In India*" that you should prepare for your CBSE or state board exams:

#### **Question 1. What is decentralisation in the context of government?**

- a) Transfer of power from the local government to the central government
- b) Transfer of power from the state government to the local government
- c) The government being ruled by a single political party
- d) The power is solely held by the central government

**Answer: b)** Transfer of power from the state government to the local government

#### **Question 2. What is the primary purpose of decentralisation?**

- a) To increase the control of the central government
- b) To allow people at the local level to manage problems and resources efficiently
- c) To reduce the involvement of citizens in decision-making
- d) To centralize control over all government decisions

**Answer: b)** To allow people at the local level to manage problems and resources efficiently

**Question 3. Which of the following is NOT a feature of decentralisation in India?**

- a) Giving powers to local governments
- b) Regular elections to local government bodies
- c) Local governments having full control over resources
- d) Regular participation of local people in decision-making

**Answer: c)** Local governments having full control over resources

**Question 4. Which amendment in 1992 played a crucial role in decentralisation in India?**

- a) 42nd Amendment
- b) 44th Amendment
- c) 73rd and 74th Amendments
- d) 52nd Amendment

**Answer: c)** 73rd and 74th Amendments

**Question 5. Which of the following is a key feature of the Panchayati Raj system?**



- a) Central government's control over local affairs
- b) Regular elections to local government bodies
- c) No involvement of women in local governance
- d) No reserved seats for Scheduled Castes, Tribes, and Other Backward Classes

**Answer: b)** Regular elections to local government bodies

**Question 6. Which of the following is NOT a level of the Panchayati Raj system?**

- a) Gram Panchayat
- b) Panchayat Samiti
- c) Zilla Parishad
- d) Rajya Sabha

**Answer: d)** Rajya Sabha

**Question 7. What is the minimum percentage of seats reserved for women in local government bodies under the 73rd and 74th Amendments?**

- a) 10%
- b) 20%
- c) 30%
- d) 40%

**Answer: c)** 30%

**Question 8. Which of the following local government bodies is the political head of a municipality?**

- a) Sarpanch
- b) Mayor
- c) Zilla Parishad Chairperson
- d) Panchayat Samiti President

**Answer: b)** Mayor

**Question 9. What is the primary responsibility of the Gram Sabha in rural local government?**

- a) Approve the annual budget of the gram panchayat
- b) Elect the members of the panchayat
- c) Review the performance of the state government
- d) Decide on the national budget

**Answer: a)** Approve the annual budget of the gram panchayat

**Question 10. How many elected representatives are there in the panchayats and municipalities across India?**

- a) 1 lakh
- b) 5 lakh
- c) 10 lakh
- d) 36 lakh

**Answer: d)** 36 lakh

**Question 11. Which of the following is an important effect of decentralisation on democracy in India?**

- a) It has reduced the number of elections held in the country
- b) It has decreased women's participation in politics

- c) It has helped deepen democracy by increasing local participation
- d) It has made the central government more powerful

**Answer: c)** It has helped deepen democracy by increasing local participation

**Question 12. In the Panchayati Raj system, which body is directly elected by all the adult population living in a village or ward?**

- a) Zilla Parishad
- b) Panchayat Samiti
- c) Gram Panchayat
- d) Lok Sabha

**Answer: c)** Gram Panchayat

**Question 13. Which of the following is true about the Zilla Parishad?**

- a) It is the decision-making body at the village level
- b) It is made up only of elected members from urban areas
- c) It is formed at the district level by grouping Panchayat Samitis
- d) It has no connection to the local government

**Answer: c)** It is formed at the district level by grouping Panchayat Samitis

**Question 14. Which of the following describes Porto Alegre's experiment in Brazil?**

- a) A city-wide decentralised system where citizens directly make decisions on the budget
- b) A dictatorship where citizens have no say in government decisions

- c) A country-wide decentralised system for rural areas only
- d) A system where the government makes all decisions without citizen participation

**Answer: a)** A city-wide decentralised system where citizens directly make decisions on the budget

**Question 15. Which Indian state is mentioned as having experimented with participatory democracy at the local level?**

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Kerala
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) West Bengal

**Answer: b)** Kerala

**Question 16. Which of the following is a challenge faced by local governments in India?**

- a) Regular holding of gram sabhas
- b) Sufficient transfer of powers and resources by state governments
- c) Lack of participation from the youth
- d) Overrepresentation of women in local bodies

**Answer: b)** Sufficient transfer of powers and resources by state governments

**Question 17. Which of the following is the role of the State Election Commission in India?**

- a) To conduct elections for the central government
- b) To conduct elections for state legislative assemblies

- c) To conduct elections for Panchayats and Municipalities
- d) To appoint the members of local government bodies

**Answer: c)** To conduct elections for Panchayats and Municipalities

**Question 18. What is the name of the rural local government system in India?**

- a) Gram Sabha
- b) Panchayati Raj
- c) Municipal Corporation
- d) Zilla Parishad

**Answer: b)** Panchayati Raj

**Question 19. Which of the following does NOT directly participate in the local government structure in India?**

- a) Elected representatives
- b) Local citizens
- c) The President of India
- d) State governments

**Answer: c)** The President of India

**Question 20. What was one of the main objectives of the 1992 Constitutional Amendment regarding local government?**

- a) To increase the power of the central government
- b) To decentralise power to local government bodies
- c) To centralise resources in urban areas
- d) To limit women's participation in local elections

**Answer: b)** To decentralise power to local government bodies