

NTSE

NCERT Solutions for Class 10 Social Science
CIVICS – Power Sharing



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1. Describe the ethnic composition of the people in Belgium.

- Ans.** (i) The ethnic composition of Belgium is very complex. Of the country's total population, 59 per cent lives in the Flemish region and speaks Dutch language.
(ii) Another 40 per cent people live in the Wallonia region and speak French.
(iii) Remaining 1 per cent of the Belgians speak German.
(iv) In the capital city Brussels, 80 per cent people speak French while 20 per cent are Dutch-speaking.
(v) The minority French-speaking community was relatively rich and powerful. This was resented by the Dutch-speaking community who got the benefit of economic development and education much later. This led to tension between the Dutch speaking and French-speaking communities during the 1950s and 1960s

2. State the basic reason for the tension between the French speaking and Dutch speaking communities in Belgium.

- Ans.** The minority French-speaking community was relatively rich and powerful. This was resented by the Dutch-speaking community who got the benefit of economic development and education much later. This led to tension between the Dutch speaking and French-speaking communities during the 1950s and 1960s

3. Describe the ethnic diversity of the people in Sri Lanka.

- Ans.** (i) The major social groups in Sri Lanka are the Sinhala-speakers (74 per cent) and the Tamil-speakers (18 per cent). Among Tamils, there are two subgroups. Tamil natives of the country are called 'Sri Lankan Tamils'. The rest, whose forefathers came from India as plantation workers during colonial period, are called 'Indian Tamils'.
(ii) Most of the Sinhala-speaking people are Buddhist, while most of the Tamils are Hindus or Muslims. There are about 7 per cent Christians, who are both Tamil and Sinhala.

4. State the basic reasons for the tension (Civil War) between Sinhala and Tamil speaking people in Sri Lanka.

- Ans.** (i) In Sri Lanka, the Sinhala community enjoyed a bigger majority and could impose its will on the entire country. As a result, the democratically elected government adopted a series of majoritarian measures to establish Sinhala supremacy.
(ii) In 1956, an Act was passed to recognize Sinhala as the only official language, disregarding Tamil.

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(iii) The governments followed preferential policies that favored Sinhala applicants for university positions and government jobs.

(iv) A new constitution stipulated that the state should protect and foster Buddhism. All these government measures, coming one after the other, gradually increased the feeling of alienation among the Sri Lankan Tamils.

(v) Tamils felt that none of the major political parties led by the Buddhist Sinhala leaders was sensitive to their language and culture. They felt that the Constitution and government policies denied them equal political rights, discriminated against them in getting jobs and other opportunities and ignored their interests.

(vi) The Sri Lankan Tamils launched parties and struggles for- the recognition of Tamil as an official language, for regional autonomy and- equality of opportunity in securing education and jobs. But their demand for more autonomy to provinces populated by the Tamils was repeatedly denied.

5. State the two sets of reasons in favour of power sharing.

Ans. (i) Prudential Reasons

Power sharing is good because it helps to reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups. Since social conflict often leads to violence and political instability, power sharing is a good way to ensure the stability of political order.

(ii) Moral Reasons:

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 effects. People have a right to be consulted on how they are to be governed. A legitimate government is one where citizens, through participation, acquire a chance in the system.

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Here are some objective type questions and answers for your reference:

1. The Principle of majoritarianism led to a Civil War in.....
(A) Sri Lanka (B) India (C) Belgium (D) Britain

Ans: (A)

2. The Community government in Belgium is elected by.....
(A) People belonging to one language community-Dutch, French and German
(B) All the citizens
(C) All the community leaders
(D) All the leaders

Ans: (A)

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STORY**

I still wonder how one man has such a deep understanding of an examination. It becomes the truth what ever Vipin Sir says about NTSE.

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3. Power sharing is good because
- (A) It increases the conflict between social groups.
 - (B) It ensures the instability of political order.
 - (C) It reduces the possibility of conflict between social groups.
 - (D) It leads to violence

Ans: (C)

4. Which two languages are generally spoken in Belgium?
- (A) French and English
 - (B) Dutch and English
 - (C) French and Dutch
 - (D) Dutch and Sinhala

Ans: (C)

5. Which of the following is an example of horizontal sharing of power?
- (A) Power sharing between different states.
 - (B) Power sharing between different organs of the government.
 - (C) Power sharing between different levels of the government.
 - (D) Power sharing between different political parties.

Ans: (B)

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