

# 3

# CONSTITUTIONAL DESIGN

## 3.1 INTRODUCTION

In the previous chapter we have studied that in a democracy the rulers are not free to do what they like. There are certain rules that the citizens and the rulers have to follow. All these rules together are called Constitution.

Now in this chapter we are going to study how constitutions were drawn in different democratic countries by taking examples of South Africa and India.

### Knowledge Based Questions

- Who framed the constitution of our country?  
(A) National Assembly (B) Provincial assembly  
(C) Constituent assembly (D) None of these
- Who was the chairman of constituent assembly?  
(A) Dr. Rajendra Prasad (B) Baldev singh  
(C) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (D) Jawahar Lal Nehru
- Who was the head of the drafting committee?  
(A) Motilal Nehru (B) B. R. Ambedkar (C) C. R. Das (D) Mahatma Gandhi
- When was the constitution of our country enforced?  
(A) 26 April 1950 (B) 15 Aug 1047 (C) 26 Jan 1950 (D) 20 Aug 1949
- A rule of law according to which the country is governed.  
(A) Constitution (B) Civil law (C) Preamble (D) Criminal law
- Law is that portion of the established thought and habit which has gained distinct and formal recognition in the shape of uniform rules backed by the authority and power of the government? Who said this?  
(A) Woodrow Wilson (B) Roosevelt (C) Winston Churchill (D) Mahatma Gandhi
- A nation which is free in its internal and external affairs?  
(A) Sovereign (B) Socialist (C) Secular (D) Republic
- The word socialism was added to the constitution by  
(A) 48th amendment (B) 35th amendment (C) 42th amendment (D) 55th amendment

9. Fraternity means  
(A) Liberty (B) Brotherhood (C) Equality (D) All of these
10. A state where all religions give due respect is called  
(A) Socialist (B) Monarchy (C) Secular (D) None of these

### • IMPORTANT TERMS

- » **Apartheid:** The official policy of racial separation and ill-treatment of blacks followed by the government of South Africa between 1948 and 1989.
- » **Atrocity:** A very wicked or cruel act.
- » **Basic structure:** Foundation on which the constitution's fabric rests
- » **Colonialism:** A practice by which a powerful country controls another country or other countries.
- » **Consensus:** An opinion that all members of a group agree with.
- » **Constitutional status:** A legal position provided by the constitution.
- » **Contradiction:** The action of disagreement, conflict, clash or disputing.
- » **Drafting committee:** Committee constituted by the Constituent Assembly for drafting the Constitution of India on the basis of reports by different committees.
- » **Fundamental rights:** These are those basic conditions which are quite essential for the all round development of personality of citizens. They have been guaranteed in the constitution itself.
- » **Federalism:** It refers to a system of government in which several states form a unity but remain independent in internal affairs.
- » **Ideology:** A set of ideas and ideals forming the basic of an economic or political theory.
- » **Monarch:** A sovereign head of state, especially a king queen or emperor.
- » **Parameter:** Something that decides or limits the way in which something can be done.
- » **Patronage:** The support and encouragement given by a patron (e.g., a person who gives money or support to a person, an organisation.)
- » **Posterity:** All future generations of people.
- » **Rationale:** The principles or reasons on which something is based.
- » **Rejuvenate:** To make somebody / something look or feeling younger or more lively.
- » **Suppression:** The act of suppressing an activity that is behaved to threaten authority.
- » **Traumatic:** Experience causing distress.
- » **Treason:** The offence of attempting to overthrow the government of the state to which the offender

owes allegiance.

- » **Tryst:** A meeting or meeting place that has been agreed upon.
- » **World forum:** A place where people of the world can exchange opinions and ideas on a particular issue.

## 3.2 DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTION IN SOUTH AFRICA

Nelson Mandela, being tried for treason by the white South African government. He and seven other leaders were sentenced to life imprisonment in 1964 for daring to oppose the apartheid regime in his country. He spent the next 28 years in South Africa's most dreaded prison, Robben Island.

Apartheid was the name of a system of racial discrimination unique to South Africa. The white Europeans imposed this system on South Africa. A large number of 'whites' had settled in South Africa and became the local rulers. The system of apartheid divided the people and labelled them on the basis of their skin colour. The native people of South Africa are black in colour. They made up about three-fourth of the population and were called 'blacks'. Besides these two groups, there were people of mixed races who were called 'coloured' and people who migrated from India. The white rulers treated all non-whites as inferiors. The non-whites did not have voting rights.

They were forbidden from living in white areas. They could work in white areas only if they had a permit. Trains, buses, taxis, hotels, hospitals, schools and colleges, libraries, cinema halls, theatres, beaches, swimming pools, public toilets, were all separate for the whites and blacks. This was called **segregation**. They could not even visit the churches where the whites worshipped. Blacks could not form associations or protest against the terrible treatment.

The African National Congress (ANC) was the umbrella organisation that led the struggle against the policies of segregation. This included many workers' unions and the Communist Party. Many sensitive whites. But the white racist government continued to rule by detaining, torturing and killing thousands of black and coloured people.

## 3.3 TOWARDS A NEW CONSTITUTION

As protests and struggles against apartheid had increased, the white regime changed its policies. Discriminatory laws were repealed. Ban on political parties and restrictions on the media were lifted. After 28 years of imprisonment, Nelson Mandela walked out of the jail as a free man. Finally, at the midnight of 26 April 1994, the new national flag of the Republic of South Africa was unfurled. The apartheid government came to an end, paving the way for the formation of a multi-racial government.

After the emergence of the new democratic South Africa, black leaders appealed to fellow blacks to forgive the whites for the atrocities they had committed while in power. The party that ruled through oppression and brutal killings and the party that led the freedom struggle sat together to draw up a common constitution.

After two years of discussion and debate they came out with one of the finest constitutions the world has ever had. This constitution gave to its citizens the most extensive rights available in any country.

### ***Illustration 1***

***(a) Who imposed Apartheid and why?***

***(b) When was the new republic of South Africa come into existence? Who was its first President?***

### ***Solution***

- (a) The white Europeans imposed Apartheid on South Africa. Unlike India, many Whites had settled down in South Africa and become the local rulers. They divided and labelled the people on the basis of colour.
- (b) On the night of 26 April 1994, South Africa became a republic. Nelson Mandela was the its first President.

### ***Try yourself***

1. Name the organization which led the struggle against Apartheid.
2. In what way is the South African Constitution unique

## **3.4 WHY DO WE NEED A CONSTITUTION?**

The South African example is a good way to understand why we need a constitution and what do constitutions do. The oppressor and the oppressed in this new democracy were planning to live together as equals. It was not going to be easy for them to trust each other. They had their fears.

After long negotiations both parties agreed to a compromise. The whites agreed to the principle of majority rule and that of one person one vote. They also agreed to accept some basic rights for the poor and the workers. The blacks agreed that majority rule would not be absolute. They agreed that the majority would not take away the property of the white minority.

The only way to build and maintain trust in such a situation is to write down some rules of the game that everyone would abide by.

Thus, the constitution of a country is a set of written rules that are accepted by all people living together in a country. Constitution is the supreme law that determines the relationship among people living in a territory (called citizens) and also the relationship between the people and government. A constitution does many things:

- (i) First, it generates a degree of trust and coordination that is necessary for different kind of people to live together;
- (ii) Second, it specifies how the government will be constituted, who will have power to take which decisions;
- (iii) Third, it lays down limits on the powers of the government and tells us what the rights of the citizens are; and
- (iv) Fourth, it expresses the aspirations of the people about creating a good society.

### 3.5 MAKING OF THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION

India's Constitution was also drawn up under very difficult circumstances. The making of the constitution for a huge and diverse country like India was not an easy affair. At that time the people of India were emerging from the status of subjects to that of citizens. The country was born | through a partition on the basis of religious differences.

There was another problem. The British had left it to the rulers of the princely states to decide whether they wanted to merge with India or with Pakistan or remain independent. The merger of these princely states was a difficult and uncertain task.

### 3.6 THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

The drafting of the document called the constitution was done by an assembly of elected representatives called the Constituent Assembly. Elections to the Constituent Assembly were held in **July 1946**. Its first meeting was held in December 1946. Soon after the country was divided into India and Pakistan. The Constituent Assembly was also divided into the Constituent Assembly of India and that of Pakistan. The Constituent Assembly that wrote the Indian constitution had **299** members. The Assembly adopted the Constitution on 26 November 1949 but it came into effect on **January 26, 1950**.

- (i) The Constitution does not reflect the views of its members alone. It expresses a broad consensus of its time. Many countries of the world have had to rewrite their Constitution afresh because the basic rules were not accepted to all major social groups or political parties. In some other countries, the Constitution exists as a mere piece of paper. No one actually follows it. The experience of our Constitution is different.

Over the last half a century, several groups have questioned some provisions of the Constitution. But no large social group or political party has ever questioned the legitimacy of the Constitution itself. This is an unusual achievement for any constitution

- (ii) The second reason for accepting the Constitution is that the Constituent Assembly represented the people of India. It was elected mainly by the members of the existing Provincial Legislatures. This ensured a fair geographical share of members from all the regions of the country. The

Assembly had many members who did not agree with the Congress. In social terms too, the Assembly represented members from different language groups, castes, classes, religions and occupations.

The Constituent Assembly worked in a systematic, open and consensual manner. First some basic principles were decided and agreed upon. Then a Drafting Committee chaired by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar prepared a draft constitution for discussion. Several rounds of thorough discussion took place on the Draft Constitution, clause by clause. More than two thousand amendments were considered. The members deliberated for 114 days spread over three years. Every document presented and every word spoken in the Constituent Assembly has been recorded and preserved. These are called Constituent Assembly Debates’.

### **Illustration 2**

*When were the elections to the Constituent Assembly held and when was its first meeting held?*

### **Solution**

Elections were held in July 1946. The first meeting was held on December 1946

### **Try yourself**

3. Give two reasons for people accepting a constitution made more than fifty years ago?
4. Name the chairman of the Drafting Committee.

## **3.7 PHILOSOPHY OF THE CONSTITUTION**

Values that inspired and guided the freedom struggle and are embedded in that Preamble of the Indian Constitution guide all the articles of Indian Constitution. The Constitution begins with a short statement of its basic values. This is called the Preamble to the constitution.

It contains the philosophy on which the entire Constitution has been built. It provides a standard to examine and evaluate any law and action of government, to find out whether it is good or bad. It is the soul of the Indian Constitution.

## **3.8 INSTITUTIONAL DESIGN**

A constitution is mainly about embodying these values into institutional arrangements. Much of the document called Constitution of India is about these arrangements. It is a very long and detailed document. Therefore it needs to be amended quite regularly to keep it updated.

Those who drafted the Indian Constitution felt that it has to be in accordance with people’s aspirations and changes in society. They did not see it as a sacred, static and unalterable law. So, they made provisions to incorporate changes from time to time. These changes are called constitutional amendments. The Indian Constitution lays down a procedure for choosing persons to govern the country.

It defines who will have how much power to take which decisions. And it puts limits to what the government can do by providing some rights to the citizen that cannot be violated.

**Illustration 3**

(a) **What is 'Preamble'?**

(c) **Define Republic.**

**Solution**

(a) It is an introduction to a constitution which states the guiding values and reasons of the constitution.

(b) People have supreme right to make decisions on internal as well as external matters. No external power can dictate the Government of India.

(c) The head of the state is an elected person and not a hereditary position.

**Try yourself**

5. What do you understand by the term 'Sovereign'?
6. Which three values inspired our struggle for independence and have now become the foundation of our Constitution?
7. Define Liberty.
8. Define Equality.

**SOLVED EXAMPLES**

**Example 1** *When and why Nelson Mandela was imprisoned by the South African Government?*

**Solution** Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for life in 1964 for opposing the Apartheid regime in his country.

**Example 2** *Explain the term 'Apartheid'*

**Solution** It is an official policy of racial separation and ill treatment of Blacks followed by the government of South Africa between 1948 and 1989.

**Example 3** *What is constitution?*

**Solution** The constitution of a country is a set of written rules that are accepted by all its people. It is the supreme law that determines the relationship among people living in a territory.

**Example 4** *Who drafted a constitution for India in 1928?*

**Solution** Motilal Nehru and eight other Congress leaders.

**Example 5** *Name three countries which influenced the making of our constitution?*

**Solution** The French Revolution, the practice of parliamentary democracy in Britain and the Bill of Rights of the US.

**Example 6** *In what way Dr. Ambedkar differed from Gandhiji?*

**Solution** Dr. Ambedkar felt there was a contradiction in the kind of life led by Indians. The Constitution gave political equality but denied it in economic and social life.

**Example 7** *What kind of justice is promised to the people of India by the Constitution?*

**Solution** Social, economic and political.

**Example 8** *Which type of tactics did the white racist government of South Africa use to continue to rule?*

**ASSIGNMENT - I**

**Q.1** Here are some false statements. Identity the mistake in each case and rewrite these correctly based on what you have read in this chapter.

- (a) Leaders of the freedom movement had an open mind about whether the country should be democratic or not after independence.
- (b) Members of the Constituent Assembly of India held the same views on all provisions of the Constitution.
- (c) A country that has a constitution must be a democracy.
- (d) Constitution cannot be amended because it is the supreme law of country.

- Ans.**
- (a) This is a false statement. The leaders of the Freedom Movement were of the clear view that their country should be democracy.
  - (b) No, this is also a false statement. The different members had different views on different points, but ultimately they resolved their differences.
  - (c) This statement is not a true statement. It is not essential that only a democratic country has a constitution.
  - (d) No, it is a false statement. The Constitution is amended by two-third majority of the members of the Parliament if any change is required with the changing in time.

**Q.2** Read again the extracts from Nehru's speech 'Tryst with Destiny' and answer the following:

- (a) Why did Nehru use the expression "not wholly or in full measure" in the first sentence?
- (b) What pledge did he want the makers of the Indian Constitution to take?
- (c) "The ambition of the greatest man of our generation has been to wipe every tear from every eye." Who was he referring to?

- Ans.**
- (a) Nehru used this expression because he wanted to say that all the pledges could not be fulfilled completely, but they will be fulfilled to a great extent.
  - (b) He wanted the pledge of dedication to the service of India and her people and to the still larger course of humanity.
  - (c) He refers here Mahatma Gandhiji.



**Q.3 Why should we accept the constitution made by the Constituent Assembly more than 50 years ago?**

- Ans.**
- **Constituent Assembly a galaxy of Indians:** The constituent assembly represented the people of India. There was no universal adult franchise at that time, so it was elected mainly by the members of the existing Provincial Legislatures. This ensured a fair geographical share of members from all the regions of the country. The Assembly was dominated by the Indian National Congress but with leaders having different opinions. In social terms too, the Assembly represented members from different language groups, castes, classes, religions and occupations.
  - **Elected members:** The drafting of the document called the Constitution was done by an assembly of elected representatives called the Constituent Assembly.
  - **Working pattern of the Assembly:**
    - (i) The Constituent Assembly worked in a systematic, open and consensual manner.
    - (ii) First some basic principles were decided, and agreed upon.
    - (iii) Then a Drafting Committee chaired by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar prepared a Draft Constitution for discussion.
    - (iv) Several rounds of thorough discussions took place on the Draft Constitutions, clause by clause.

**Q.4 Explain the four ideals on which the Preamble to the Indian Constitution lays emphasis.**

- Ans.**
- **Justice:** Citizens cannot be discriminated on the grounds of caste, religion and gender. Social inequalities have to be reduced. Government should work for the welfare of all especially of the disadvantaged groups.
  - **Liberty:** There are no unreasonable restrictions on the citizens in what they think, how they wish to express their thoughts and the ways they wish to express their thoughts and the way they wish to follow up their thoughts in action.
  - **Equality:** All are equal before the law. The traditional social inequalities have to be ended. The Government should ensure equal opportunity for all.
  - **Fraternity:** All of us should behave as if we are members of the same family. No, one should treat a fellow citizen as inferior.

**Q.5** Here are different opinions about what made India a democracy. How much importance would you give to each of these factors?

- (a) **Democracy in India is a gift of the British rulers. We received training to work with representative legislative institutions under the British rule.**
- (b) **Freedom Struggle challenged the colonial exploitation and denial of different freedoms to Indians. Free India could not be anything but democratic.**
- (c) **We were lucky to have leaders who had democratic convictions. The denial of democracy in several other newly independent countries shows the important role of these leaders.**

**Ans.** (a) It is not correct that democracy is gift of the Britishers to Indian people. This is because, we realised the pinch and started struggle to gain freedom.

(b) It is correct that freedom struggle challenged the colonial exploitation and the denial of different freedoms to Indians encouraged the Indians to come together and to fight for democracy.

(c) Of course, we had the leaders who had democratic attitudes and foresightedness.

**Q.6** Read the following extract from a conduct book for ‘married women’ published in 1912. “God has made the female species delicate and fragile both physically and emotionally, pitifully incapable of self defence. They are destined thus by God to remain in male protection-or father, husband and sons-all their lives. Women should, therefore, not despair, but feel obliged that they can dedicate themselves to the service of men”. Do you think the values expressed in this para reflected the values underlying our constitution? Or does this go against the constitutional values?

**Ans.** The values expressed in this para totally go against our constitutional values. Our constitution gives equal rights to both men and women. It does not differentiate between them.

**Q.7** Read the following statements about a constitution. Give reasons why each of these is true or not true.

- (a) **The authority of the rules of the constitution is the same as that of any other law.**
- (b) **Constitution lays down how different organs of the government will be formed.**
- (c) **Rights of citizens and limits on the power of the government are laid down in the constitution.**
- (d) **A constitution is about institutions, not about values.**

**Ans.** (a) No, this statement is not true because the authority of the rules of the constitution is much more than that of any other law.

(b) Yes, this statement is true because our constitution lays down that three different organs of the government will be formed in India i.e., Legislative, Executive and Judiciary.

(c) This statement is also true because a constitution lays down the rights of citizens and the limits on the power of the government.

(d) No, this statement is not true because a constitution is also about values. It provides great importance to the values.

## ASSIGNMENT - II

**Q.1 What do you understand by apartheid ? How were the Blacks treated under the system of apartheid in South Africa ?**

- Ans.** (1) Apartheid refers to the official policy of racial separation and ill-treatment of blacks followed by the government of South Africa between 1948 and 1989.
- (2) (i) Under the system of apartheid in South Africa, the white rulers treated all the 'blacks' and 'coloured' as inferiors. The system was particularly oppressive for the blacks.
- (ii) The non-whites did not have voting rights.
- (iii) They were forbidden from living in white areas.
- (iv) They could work in white areas only if they had a permit.
- (v) Blacks could not form associations or protest against the terrible treatment.

**Q.2 Define segregation.**

- Ans.** (i) Under this Blacks of South Africa were discriminated from the whites.
- (ii) Under this policy, Blacks were forbidden from living in white areas. Trains, buses, taxis, hotels, hospitals, schools, cinema halls, public toilets were all separate for the Whites and the Blacks.

**Q.3 'A Constitution is a living document.' Justify.**

- Ans.** A constitution is a living document because
- (i) It is not a mere document.
- (ii) It is constantly growing and evolving according to the needs, requirements and aspirations of the functioning institutions.
- (iii) It can be amended according to the needs and aspirations of the society.

**Q.4 'The South African Constitution inspires democrats all over the world'. Justify the statement.**  
**or**

**"The South African constitution inspires democrats all over the world. Comment.**

- Ans.** (1) It gave the citizens the most extensive rights available in any country.
- (2) All communities sat down in an atmosphere of reconciliation and became a part of the solution.
- (3) The Constitution was based on equality of sexes, democracy and social justice.

**Q.5 'Like South Africa, India's Constitution was also drawn up under very difficult circumstances.' Explain.**

- Ans.** (i) The making of the constitution for a huge and diverse country like India was not an easy affair.
- (ii) At that time, the people of India were emerging from the status of subjects to that of citizens.
- (iii) The country was born through a partition on the basis of religious differences.
- (iv) The British had left it to the rulers of the princely states to decide whether they wanted to merge with India or with Pakistan or remain independent. The merger of these princely states was a difficult and uncertain task. When the Constitution was being written, the future of the country did not look as secure as it does today.

**Q.6 How did the white minority and the black majority agree to draw up a common constitution for South ?**

**Or**

**Explain the efforts made to form a new Constitution after 'attaining democracy' in South Africa.**

**Ans.** The white minority and the black majority agreed to draw up a common constitution in the following ways :

(1) At the time of independence in 1994, the people of South Africa were divided into two groups: the white oppressors and the black oppressed.

(2) It was not an easy task for these two divergent people to draw up a common constitution for the country. But both sides showed maturity and mutual understanding and agreed on many compromises as given :

(i) The whites agreed to the democratic principle of majority rule and that of one person, one vote.

(ii) The whites also agreed to accept some basic rights for the poor and the workers.

(iii) The blacks agreed that the majority rule would not be absolute and discriminatory towards the minority in the country.

(iv) The blacks also agreed that the majority (blacks) would not take away the property of the white minority.

(v) This compromise was not easy. It was necessary to trust each other. To maintain the trust in such a situation, they agreed on some basic rules which would be supreme.

(vi) This set of basic rules formed the Constitution of democratic South Africa. It is one of the finest. Constitutions the world has ever had. This Constitution gave to its citizens the most extensive rights available in any country.

**Q.7 What is a Constitution ? Why do we need a Constitution ? Give my five reasons.**

**Or**

**Why do we need a Constitution in a democracy ? Explain any three reasons.**

**Or**

**Why do we need a Constitution and what do Constitutions do ? Explain.**

**Ans.** (1) Constitution is the supreme law that determines the relationship among people living in a territory (called citizens) and also the relationship between the people and government.

(2) Need for the Constitution:

(i) The Constitution generates a degree of trust and coordination that is necessary for different kinds of people to live together.

(ii) It specifies how the government will be constituted. It defines who will have power to take which decision.

(iii) It lays down limits on power of the government and tells what the rights of the citizen are.

(iv) It expresses the aspirations of the people about creating a good society.

- (v) Our Constitution secures the interests of minority, OBC, poor and weaker section of our society. It gives Universal Adult Franchise to all.
- (vi) It establishes equality. All are equal before the law.

**Q.16** Why should the Constitution of India formulated in 1960 be acceptable even after more than years. Give five suitable arguments.

Or

Why should we accept the Constitution made by the Constituent Assembly more than fifty years ago ? Explain any three reasons.

Or

Why should we accept the Constitution made by the Constituent Assembly more than 62 years ago ? Give three reasons.

Or

Why all the citizens of our country must accept the Constitution that was framed more than fifty years ago ? Give any five reasons.

Or

Why should the Indian Constitution formulated in 1950 be applicable in 21st century? Write any five reasons.

- Ans.**
- (1) The drafting of the Indian Constitution was done by an assembly of elected representatives who represented the people of India. The members represented all the regions of the country.
  - (2) The makers of our Constitution comprised illustrious personalities, belonging to different communities, regions and political parties of India.
  - (3) The Constituent Assembly represented all different social groups, irrespective of class, creed, status, gender and occupations.
  - (4) The experience of our Constitution is different. Over the last six decades, several groups have questioned some provisions of the Constitution. But no large social group or political party has ever questioned the legitimacy of the Constitution itself, This is an unusual achievement for any Constitution.
  - (5) Finally, the manner in which the Constituent Assembly worked, gives credence to the Constitution. It worked in a systematic, open and consensual manner. All the clauses of the Draft Constitution were thoroughly discussed and accepted. The making of the Indian Constitution took two years eleven months and eighteen days.

**ASSIGNMENT - III****SECTION-A****• Fill in the blanks**

1. Nelson Mandela spent 28 years in Africa's most dreaded prison\_\_\_\_\_.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ was the umbrella organization that led the struggle against Apartheid.
3. A drafting committee chaired by \_\_\_\_\_ prepared a draft constitution for discussion.
4. The constitution begins with a short statement of the basic values it is called \_\_\_\_\_
5. A new flag of South Africa was unfurled on \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION-B****• Multiple choice question with one correct answers**

1. Which of these was the most salient underlying conflict in the making of a democratic constitution in South Africa:  
(A) Between South Africa and its neighbours  
(B) Between men and women  
(C) Between the white majority and the black minority  
(D) Between the coloured minority and the black majority
2. Which of these is a provision that a democratic constitution does not have?  
(A) Powers of the head of the state (B) Name of the head of the state  
(C) Powers of the legislature (D) Name of the country
3. Who was the national leader who tried to draft the Constitution of India as far back in 1928?  
(A) Mahatma Gandhi (B) Jawaharlal Nehru (C) Motilal Nehru (D) C.R. Das
4. When were the elections for the Constituent Assembly held?  
(A) July 1946 (B) June 1945 (C) Aug. 1950 (D) Jan 1954
5. The Constituent Assembly that wrote the Indian Constitution had how many members?  
(A) 399 (B) 155 (C) 299 (D) 245
6. The Constituent Assembly adopted the Indian Constitution on which date?  
(A) 15 Aug. 1947 (B) 26 Nov. 1930 (C) 26 Nov. 1949 (D) 2 Jan 1950
7. Who was the Chairman (or President) of the Constituent Assembly?  
(A) Dr. Rajendra Prasad (B) B.R. Ambedkar  
(C) Jaipal Singh (D) Baldev Sing
8. Who was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee?  
(A) Sardar Patel (B) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar  
(C) Abdul Kalam Azad (D) H.C. Mukharjee

## SECTION-C

• **Multiple choice question with one or more than one correct answers**

- Which two racial group lived in South Africa?  
(A) Blacks (B) Browns (C) Coloured (D) Whites
- Which countries inspired our constitution makers?  
(A) US (B) UK (C) France (D) Pakistan
- The values which guide our constitution are  
(A) Fraternity (B) Equality (C) Secularism (D) Socialism
- Who were the members of the constituent assembly?  
(A) Jawahar Lal Nehru (B) Dr. Rajendra Prasad  
(C) B. R. Ambedkar (D) Baldev Singh

## SECTION-D

• **Match the following (one to one)**

**Column-I** and **column-II** contains **four** entries each. Entries of column-I are to be matched with some entries of column-II. Only One entries of column-I may have the matching with the some entries of column-II and one entry of column-II Only one matching with entries of column-I

- Match the following leaders with their roles in the making of the Constitution and choose the correct option:

**Column I**

- (A) Motilal Nehru  
(B) B.R. Ambedkar  
(C) Rajendra Prasad  
(D) Sarojini Naidu

**Column II**

- (P) President of the Constituent Assembly  
(Q) Member of the Constituent Assembly  
(R) Chairman of the Drafting Committee  
(S) Prepared a Constitution for India in 1928.

- Here are some of the guiding values of the Constitution and their meaning. Rewrite them by matching them correctly. Mark the correct option.

**Column I**

- (A) Sovereign  
(B) Republic  
(C) Fraternity  
(D) Secular

**Column II**

- (P) Government will not favour any religion  
(Q) People have the supreme right to make decisions.  
(R) Head of the state is an elected person.  
(S) People should live like brothers and sisters.

## SECTION-E

● **Comprehension**

Nelson Mandela, being tried for treason by the white South African government. He and seven other leaders were sentenced to life imprisonment in 1964 for daring to oppose the apartheid regime in his country. He spent the next 28 years in South Africa's most dreaded prison, Robben Island.

Apartheid was the name of a system of racial discrimination unique to South Africa. The white Europeans imposed this system on South Africa. A large number of 'whites' had settled in South Africa and became the local rulers. The system of apartheid divided the people and labelled them on the basis of their skin colour. The native people of South Africa are black in colour. They made up about three-fourth of the population and were called 'blacks'. Besides these two groups, there were people of mixed races who were called 'coloured' and people who migrated from India. The white rulers treated all non-whites as inferiors. The non-whites did not have voting rights.

They were forbidden from living in white areas. They could work in white areas only if they had a permit. Trains, buses, taxis, hotels, hospitals, schools and colleges, libraries, cinema halls, theatres, beaches, swimming pools, public toilets, were all separate for the whites and blacks. This was called **segregation**. They could not even visit the churches where the whites worshipped. Blacks could not form associations or protest against the terrible treatment.

The African National Congress (ANC) was the umbrella organisation that led the struggle against the policies of segregation. This included many workers' unions and the Communist Party. Many sensitive whites. But the white racist government continued to rule by detaining, torturing and killing thousands of black and coloured people.

- How many years did Nelson Mandela spend in Prison?  
(A) 28 yrs                      (B) 30 yrs                      (C) 40 yrs                      (D) 35 yrs
- Who led the struggle against Apartheid?  
(A) AFC                      (B) ABC                      (C) ANC                      (D) AMC
- How many other leaders were sent to life imprisonment?  
(A) Four                      (B) Five                      (C) Six                      (D) seven

## SECTION-F

● **Match the following (one to many)**

**Column-I** and **column-II** contains **four** entries each. Entries of column-I are to be matched with some entries of column-II. One or more than one entries of column-I may have the matching with the same entries of column-II and one entry of column-II may have one or more than one matching with entries of column-I

- |                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1. Column I</b><br>(A) Vallabhabhai Patel<br>(B) Rajendra Prasad<br>(C) Abul Kalam Azad<br>(D) H. C. Mukherjee | <b>Column II</b><br>(P) Education Minister<br>(Q) Member of constituent assembly<br>(R) Lawyer<br>(S) Governor of west Bengal |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



# ANSWER KEY

## Knowledge base questions

1. (C) 2. (A) 3. (B) 4. (C) 5. (A) 6. (A) 7. (A)  
8. (C) 9. (B) 10. (C)

## Try Yourself

- The African National Congress (ANC).
- It is one of the finest constitutions which inspire democrats all over the world. The most undemocratic state in the world has become a model of democracy. The S. African constitution has given to its citizens the most extensive rights available in any country.
- (i) The constituent Assembly fully represented the people of India. Though there was universal adult franchise, but the assembly was elected mainly by the members of existing Provincial Legislatures.  
(ii) The Assembly worked in a systematic, open and consensual manner. Several rounds of discussions took place on the draft clause by clause. The members deliberated for 114 days spread over three years.
- Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar
- It means that no outside power can dictate to the people or government of India. The people have the supreme right to make decisions on external and internal matters.
- (i) Social equality (ii) Freedom of the individual and (iii) Secularism
- There are no unreasonable restrictions on the citizens in what they think, how they wish to express their thoughts and the way they wish to follow up their thoughts in action.
- All are equal before the law. The traditional social inequalities have to be ended. The government should ensure equal opportunity for all.

## ASSIGNMENT - III

### SECTION-A

1. Robben Island 2. African National Congress 3. B. R. Ambedkar  
4. Preamble 5. 26th April 1994

### SECTION-B

1. (C) 2. (B) 3. (C) 4. (A) 5. (C) 6. (C) 7. (A)  
8. (B)

### SECTION-C

1. (A,C,D) 2. (A,B,C) 3. (A,B,C,D) 4. (B,C,D)

### SECTION-D

1. (A)-(S), (B)-(R), (C)-(P), (D)-(Q) 2. (A)-(Q), (B)-(R), (C)-(S), (D)-(P)

### SECTION-E

1. (A) 2. (C) 3. (D)

### SECTION-F

1. (A)-(Q,R), (B)-(Q,R), (C)-(Q,P), (D)-(Q,S)

**ASSIGNMENT - IV****MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS**

- Q.1 The supreme law of a country containing fundamental rules governing the politics and society in a country is its  
(A) assembly (B) election commission (C) constitution (D) none of the above
- Q.2 An introductory statement in a constitution which states the reasons and guiding values of the constitution is  
(A) Preamble (B) treason (C) clause (D) none of the above
- Q.3 If any change is required in the constitution, it is amended by two-third majority of the  
(A) constitutional assembly (B) election commission  
(C) member of the parliament (D) none of the above
- Q.4 'Republic' in consent to our constitution means  
(A) head of the state is an elected person (B) government will not favour any religion  
(C) both (a) and (b) (D) none of the above
- Q.5 All of us should behave as if we are members of the same family. No one should treat a fellow citizen as inferior. This defines a word given in preamble of our constitution that is  
(A) Republic (B) Fraternity (C) Secular (D) Sovereign
- Q.6 Famous book written by Nehru is  
(A) Full Measure (B) Married Women (C) Tryst with Destiny (D) none of the above
- Q.7 What is the importance of the constitution.
- Q.8 Explain the new African Constitution which was admired by the world.
- Q.9 Why was making of the Indian Constitution difficult?
- Q.10 Why do we still respect and follow the Constitution although it was made 60 years ago?

[illegible]

[illegible]