

## **CLASS:-11<sup>TH</sup>,POLITICAL SCIENCE, QUESTIONS &ANSWERS, CHAPTER:- 8**

### **Questions 1.**

**Suppose you are entrusted to evolve a local government plan of a State, what powers would you endow to the village panchayats to function as units of self-government? Mention any five powers and the justification in two lines for each of them for giving those powers.**

**Answer:**

- Development works at village level, i.e. irrigation facilities, drinking water, construction of roads, etc.
- Agricultural development to be supervised and implemented by the panchayats only related to agricultural practices in a modern method.
- Social welfare related activities to keep the records of birth and death in the village, family welfare and family planning.
- The Gram Panchayat should be given the powers to open and maintain schools and Libraries in the village to maintain primary education.
- Gram Panchayats should enjoy the powers to ensure better health and life of citizens to provide basic civil amenities.

### **Questions 2.**

**What are the provisions for the reservations for the socially disadvantaged groups as per the 73rd amendment? Explain how these provisions have changed the profile of the leadership at the village level.**

**Answer:**

In 1993, two constitutional amendment Acts, were passed to recognise local self-government at the grass-root level. 73rd amendment made the following provisions:

- The reservation of seats has been made for SCs, STs, OBCs and women.
- Reservation for women at panchayats has ensured the participation of women in local bodies.
- Due to this reservation, a number of women have occupied even the position of Sarpanch and Adhyaksha.
- Hence, more than 80,000 women Sarpanch have been elected so far.

### **Questions 3.**

**What were the main differences between the local governments before 73rd amendment and after that amendment?**

**Answer:**

**Before 73rd Amendment:**

- Local government was a state subject only.
- States were free to make their own kind of laws in local government.

**After 73rd Amendment:**

- Local governments have received the recognition as a separate entity in the constitution.
- Elections at every regular interval of five years have been made mandatory.
- The seats have been reserved in favour of SC's, ST's, OBC's and women.
- State Election Commission has been appointed and made responsible to conduct free and fair elections here.
- After every five years, state finance commission has been set up to review the finances of the panchayats and to make recommendations for grants to panchayats.
- The panchayats have been empowered to collect, levy the appropriate taxes, fees, tools as assigned by state government.

#### Questions 4.

Read the following conversation. Write in two hundred words your opinion about the issues raised in this conversation.

**Alok:** Our Constitution guarantees equality between men and women.

Reservations in local bodies for women ensure their equal share in power.

**Neha:** But it is not enough that women should be in positions of power. It is necessary that the budget of local bodies should have separate provision for women.

**Jayesh:** I don't like this reservations business. A local body must take care of all people in the village and that would automatically take care of women and their interests.

**Answer:**

This conversation is based on the issue of empowerment of women on equal basis:

- The constitution of India guarantees the equality of men and women.
- Under Article 15, no citizen can be discriminated on the grounds of colour, race, language and religion, caste, sex, etc.
- Article 39(1) and (d) ensure an adequate livelihood and equal pay for equal work for both men and women respectively.
- Alok views that our constitution guarantees equality between men and women as well as reservations in local bodies also ensure the equal share of power.
- Neha views to have separate provisions of budget to women to improve women's conditions.
- Jayesh views to provide provisions equally to all people living in village, hence women would automatically be benefited.
- But, if women will be provided to equal access along with men without any reservation, it will not get success at all.
- Without reservation, women will not succeed to the power and to make policies because of male dominant society in India.