

CLASS:--12TH

History

**Important Questions
Chapter 15**

Framing the Constitution

2 Marks Questions

1. Who did move the crucial 'Objectives Resolution'?

Ans. The Crucial Resolution was moved by Jawaharlal Nehru.

2. Why was the new constitution of Independent India introduced on 26 January 1950?

Ans. Because it was the 20th anniversary of the historical day on which the Congress had declared Complete Independence as its final goal.

3. Which were the two main dissents of the Indian Constitution?

Ans. i) Its being written primarily in English.

ii) Requirement of no educational qualification for any of the post enshrined in it.

4. When was the Drafting Committee formed? Who was its chairman?

Ans. The Drafting Committee was formed on 29 August 1947. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was its chairman.

5. When and under which scheme the Constituent Assembly was formed?

Ans. The Constituent Assembly was formed in October 1946 as per the Cabinet Mission Scheme.

6. When and under whose Presidentship the first session of all India States People's Conference was held?

Ans. The first session of all India States People's Conference was held in 1927 under the presidentship of Diwan Bahadur, M. Ramchan Rai the renowned leader of Ellore.

4 Mark Questions

1. Why did Mahatma Gandhi think Hindustani should be the National language?

Ans. By the 1950s, the Congress had accepted that Hindustani ought to be the national language. Mahatma Gandhi felt that everyone should speak in a language that common people could easily understand. Hindustani – a blend of Hindi and Urdu – was a popular language of a large section of the people of India, and it was a composite language enriched by the interaction of diverse cultures. Over the years it had incorporated words and terms from very many different sources, and was therefore understood by people from various regions. This multi – cultural language, Mahatma Gandhi thought would be the ideal language of communication between diverse communities: it could unify Hindus and Muslims, and people of the north and south.

2. Why is the Indian constitution acceptable to the Indian people even today?

Ans. a) The Indian Constitution is acceptable to all because it was based on a broad consensus and did not reflect the views of the drafting committee alone.

b) Even though there was no universal adult Franchise at that time. The constituent assembly consisted of people of all regions and communities making it a miniature India.

c) Eminent people like Maulana Azad and women like Sarojini Naidu played an important part in the constituent assembly as did people of all casts and creeds.

d) Furthermore, the constituent assembly worked in a systematic and open manner.

e) The basic principles were agreed upon, then a draft constitution was prepared for discussion.

f) The draft constitution was discussed thoroughly clause by clause for nearly 3 years before being finalized.

g) Every individual is free to follow. Preach, or profess his/her own religion.

3. How was the term minority defined by different groups?

Ans. The term minority was defined by different groups in the following ways:

i. Ambedkar demanded separate group for the minority races.

ii. Hindus and Sikhs, live in so-called Pakistan were not considered as minority race.

iii. Members demanded the representation on behalf of the minority in the Constitution.

iv. Nagappa demanded minority status for the Harijans.

v. Ambedkar demanded separate Constitution for the minorities.

7 Marks Questions

1. Read the given passage carefully and answer the Questions that follow –

“Govind Ballabh Pant argued that in order to become a loyal citizen. People had focusing only on the community and the self. For the success of Democracy one must train himself in the art of self-discipline. In democracies one should care less for himself and more for others. There cannot be any divided loyalty. All loyalties must exclusively be centred round the State. If in a democracy, you create rival loyalties, or you create a system in which any individual or group, instead of suppressing his extravagance, cares nought for larger or other interests, then democracy is doomed.”

(a). Give three attributes of a loyal citizen in a democracy according to G. B. Pant.

Ans. i) He must train himself in the art of self-discipline.

ii) He should care less for himself and more for others.

(b). What do you understand by 'Separate Electorate'?

Ans. Under provisions of the government of India Act, 1909. Separate electorates were made for the Muslims. Only Muslims could be elected from these constituencies. According to the British Administrators it was done in order to safe guard the interests of the Muslims minority.

(c). Why was the demand for Separate Electorate made during the drafting of the Constitution?

Ans. Some members of the Constituent Assembly felt that a meaningful participation of the minorities in the governance could be ascertained only by the system of separate electorates. They made a strong plea to continue this system.

(d). Why was G. B. Pant against this demand? Give two reason.

Ans. Govind Ballabh Pant felt that –

i) If, by the system of the Separate Electorate, the minorities are isolated forever, they can never be able to convert themselves into a majority.

ii) The minorities, if they are returned by Separate Electorates, can never have any effective voice in the governance.

8 Marks Questions

1. What was the 'language controversy, before the Constitution Assembly and how did it seek to resolve the controversy?

Ans. (i) Language Controversy: became politicized for communal identity.

(ii) R.V. Dhulkar supported Hindi to be made language of the Constitution.

(iii) It created a furor (debate) in the Constituent Assembly which was mediated by Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru.

Solutions:

- Proceeded slow to make Hindi as the National Language.

- Some supported official work to be continued for 15 years in English.
- After implementation of the Constitution and Provinces to choose regional language for daily work.

Constituent Assembly:

i. Hindi – Not National Language.

ii. But not Rajbhasha

2. What was the Objectives Resolution? What were the ideals expressed in the Objectives Resolution?

Ans. It was Jawaharlal Nehru, who presented Objectives Resolution in the Constituent Assembly on 13th December, 1946. He proposed that the National Flag of India be a 'horizontal tricolour of saffron, white and dark green in equal proportion', with a wheel in navy blue at the centre. It outlined and defined the ideals and objectives of the Constitution which are as follows:

- (a). India was declared as independent sovereign Republic.
- (b). It assured justice, equality, liberty and fraternity to all its citizens.
- (c). It provided adequate safeguards to minorities.
- (d). It referred to the well-being of the backward and depressed classes.
- (e). India would combine the liberal ideas of democracy with socialist idea of economic Justice.

(f). India would adopt that form of government which would be acceptable to its people. No imposition from the British would be accepted by the Indian people.

(g). India would be a federation.

(h). India would work for world peace and human welfare.

3. What were the arguments in favour of great power to the provinces?

Ans. In the Constituent Assembly, the rights of the states were mostly defended by K.Santhanam, a member from Madras. He emphasized the need to strengthen the states. K.Santhanam was opposed to the centre being vested with more powers.

He felt that an over-burdened centre would not be able to fulfill its responsibilities in an effective manner. The centre would become strong if all the states are made stronger.

He advocated that the centre should be given less powers and the states should be given more powers. K.Santhanam was not happy with the proposed allocation of powers between the centre and the states. He felt that such a distribution of power would cripple the states.

4. How was the centre made more powerful and strong by the Constituent Assembly?

Ans. Most of the members of the Constituent Assembly were in favour of a strong central government of India. Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru wanted a strong central government as he felt, writing a letter to the President of the Constituent Assembly, that, "it would be injurious to the interests of the country to provide for a weak authority." He was, in fact, convinced that only a strong central government could ensure peace and stability.

The Union List contained more subjects than the state list. Regarding the concurrent list, the centre and the state shared the responsibility. But in case of any disputes, the centre's decision is recommended. Key industries.

