



Points to Remember:

- **Objectives of Indian constitution**
 - to establish a secular democratic republic
 - to ensure justice and freedom of it's citizens.
- **Constitution come into force** - 26th January 1950
- **Indicators of India's successful democracy**
 - direct representation in Parliament, State Legislatures and local self governments
 - increasing participation of the people in political process and competition
 - holding free and fair elections at regular intervals
- **Voting age was further reduced from 21 to 18** - to increase participation of the young generation
- **Decentralisation of democracy** - controls misuse of power and creates opportunities of political participation for common people.
- **Directive Principles of State Policy**
 - includes provision of - democratic
 - empowering of local self governing institutions
- **73rd and 74th Amendent Acts** - gave constitutional status to local self-governing institutions and increased their power.
- **Right to Information (R.T.I. - 2005)**
 - ensures transparency and accountability in governance
 - reduces the element of secrecy in working of the government
- **Democratic Reforms** - Right to Information, education and food security
- **Policy of Reservation of Seats** - For Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Backward Classes in government services and educational institutions
- **The Schedule Caste and Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities Act)** - Any act of atrocity committed against SC and ST is liable for punishment
- **Protection of Minorities**
 - education and employment opportunities for minorities
 - prohibition of discrimination against them on the basis of caste, religion, race, language and region
 - protection of their rights to equality, freedom, right against exploitation, cultural and educational rights.
- **Laws relating to women and provision for their representation**
 - Efforts to remove illiteracy among women and make available the opportunities for their development
 - Right to have equal share in property of father and husband, Dowry Prohibition Act, Act against sexual harassment, **Domestic Violence Prohibition Act**
 - 73rd and 74th Amendment Act reserved 33% seats in local self government. This percentage is raised to 50% in Maharashtra

- A national Commission for women has been established, similar commission at state level, act of protection of women against domestic violence.
- **The basic framework of the Constitution** - Parliament can not alter the basic structure of the constitution while amending it.
- **Significant judicial decisions** - Protection of environment, human rights, children's rights and tribal empowerment

MASTER KEY QUESTION SET – 1

Q.1. (A) Choose the correct option and rewrite the complete statement:

- * (1) The Maharashtra seats are reserved for women in local self-governing institutions.
(a) 25% (b) 30% (c) 40% (d) 50%
- * (2) Which of the following laws created favorable environment for women to secure freedom and self development
(a) Right to Information Act
(b) Dowry Prohibition Act
(c) Food Security Act
(d) None of the above
- * (3) The essence of democracy is
(a) Universal adult franchise
(b) Decentralization of power
(c) Policy of reservation of seats
(d) Judicial decisions
- (4) The Indian constitution has declared its objective to establish
(a) Economic uniformity
(b) Political stability
(c) Foreign relations
(d) Secular democratic Republic
- (5) The voting age of men and women is reduced from 21 to years.
(a) 25 (b) 18 (c) 30 (d) 16
- (6) controls the misuse of power and creates opportunities for political participation for the common people.
(a) Decentralization of democracy
(b) Right to Vote
(c) Right to Information
(d) Social justice and equality
- (7) RTI is necessary to create opportunities for and interaction with the government.
(a) Tax evasion
(b) Public unrest and strikes

- (c) Moral education
(d) Citizen's participation
- (8) Parliament while amending the constitution can not alter
(a) Emergency Provisions
(b) Basic structure of the constitution
(c) GST Laws
(d) Directive Principles of State Policy
- (9) By 73rd and 74th amendment to Indian Constitution in 1992 gave a to local self governing institutions.
(a) three-tier structure (b) constitutional status
(c) code of conduct (d) set of directives
- (10) and are the hallmarks of good governance.
(a) Police and prison
(b) Corruption and bribery
(c) Transparency and accountability
(d) Trustworthiness and credibility
- (11) The includes provisions of democratic decentralisation.
(a) Preamble of the constitution
(b) Indian Penal Code
(c) Directive Principles of State Policy
(d) Fundamental Rights and Duties

Ans. (1) 50% (2) Dowry Prohibition Act (3) Decentralization of power (4) Secular democratic Republic (5) 18 (6) Decentralization of democracy (7) citizen's participation (8) Basic structure of the constitution (9) constitutional status (10) transparency and accountability (11) Directive Principles of State Policy

Q.2. State whether following statement are true or false with reasons:

- * (1) **Indian democracy is considered the largest democracy in the world.**

Ans. True.

- (i) Indian constitution guaranteed adult suffrage by giving the right to vote equally, to both men and women above the age of 21 years.
- (ii) The voting age was further reduced from 21 to 18 which gave opportunity of political participation to the young generation of India.

- (iii) Such provisions have made India the largest democracy in the world.
- (iv) India has the largest number of voters compared to any other democratic nation.

***(2) Secrecy in the working of Government has increased due to Right to information.**

Ans. False.

- (i) The increased communication between citizens and government helps in strengthening democracy and in building trust relationship between them.
- (ii) Citizens have a right to know about the working and activities of the government.
- (iii) The Government of India gave Right to Information to the citizens of India to ensure transparency and accountability which are the hallmarks of good governance.
- (iv) Right to Information has made the government more transparent and has reduced the element of secrecy in the working of government.

(3) Constitution is a living document.

Ans. True.

- (i) Constitution is dynamic and is a living document.
- (ii) Constitution has to change according to changing conditions and Parliament has a power to make those changes.
- (iii) Judiciary accepted this power of Parliament to make changes in the Constitution but at same time specified the limitations on this power.
- (iv) Judiciary took a stand that Parliament while amending the constitution cannot alter the basic structure of the constitution.

(4) The Act for the protection of women against domestic violence is an important step in the direction of democracy.

Ans. True.

- (i) This act underlined the need to protect the prestige and self-esteem of women.
- (ii) This act rejected traditional forms of domination and authoritarianism and expanded the scope of Indian democracy in true sense.

(5) Women participation should be increased in the representative institutions.

Ans. True.

- (i) In our country, from the very beginning, women have inadequate representation in politics and political institutions.
- (ii) Many countries in the world have made efforts to increase representation of women.

- (iii) From this perspective, changes are taking place in India as well.

- (iv) The 73rd and 74th amendment reserved 33% of seats for women in local self-governing institutions.

- (v) This percentage has been raised to 50% in several states including Maharashtra.

Q.3. (A) Explain the concept:

***(1) Right based approach.**

Ans. After 2000, the whole approach towards democratic reforms has been changed. Democratic reforms are considered as 'rights' of citizens. Accordingly, citizens in India have got Right to Information, Education and Food Security. These rights have strengthened democracy in India.

***(2) Right to Information.**

Ans. RTI was introduced in 2005.

- (i) Citizen empowerment is very essential condition of democracy.
- (ii) It creates an opportunity for the citizen's to participate and interact with the Government.
- (iii) The increase communication between citizens and Government helps in strengthening democracy.
- (iv) It helps to build trustful relationship between the Government and the citizens.
- (v) Right to information ensures transparency and accountability which are the hallmarks of governance.
- (vi) Right to information reduces the element of secrecy in the working of government.

(3) What are provisions made for minorities by the Government? Or

***Provision regarding minorities.**

Ans. The Indian constitution has made several provisions for the protection of minorities:

- (i) Different policies about providing opportunities are made for education and employment.
- (ii) Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of caste, religion, race, language and region.
- (iii) Protection of their right to equality, freedom, right against exploitation and cultural and educational rights.

***(4) Policy of reservation of seats.**

Ans. Policy of Reservation of seats are for those sections of society who have been deprived of the opportunities for education and employment for a long period. Following are the efforts have been made to improve their conditions:

- (i) To provide opportunities for education and employment.

- (ii) In order to protect these rights some seats are reserved in the educational institution and in government services for scheduled caste and scheduled tribes.
- (iii) There is also a provision of reservation of seats for other backward classes.

*** (5) Women representation in Loksabha.**

Ans.

- (i) In our country from the very beginning women have less representation in politics and political institutions.
- (ii) But today the perspective changes are taking place in India as well.
- (iii) The 73rd and 74th amendment reserved 33% of seats for women in local self Governing institution.
- (iv) The percentage has been raised to 50% in several states including Maharashtra.
- (v) If we compare the women representation in 1951-52 elections the number of women MPs in Loksabha were 22 i.e. 4.5% and the latest election held in 2014 has 66 no. of women MPs i.e. 12.15%.
- (vi) A gradual change is seen in the women representation in politics.

(6) Which decisions of Judiciary have made constitutional provisions more meaningful?

Ans. The court has given judgements include rights of children; protection of human rights; protection of the honour and dignity of women; individual freedom; and tribal empowerment.

(2) State the features required for good governance.

Ans. Following are the required measures/features of good governance in a democracy:

- (i) Accountability/responsible government.
- (ii) Effective and efficient government.
- (iii) Responsive government.
- (iv) Transparency in working of government.
- (v) Just and all-inclusive development.
- (vi) People's participation in governing and decision-making process.

(7) Which laws/provisions of the Constitution have created favourable social environment for women?

Ans. Right to have equal share in the property of father and husband , Dowry Prohibition Act, act against sexual harassment, Domestic Violence Prohibition Act are some important provision which created favourable environment for protection of freedom of women and securing their development.

(8) What indicates India's democratic success?

Or

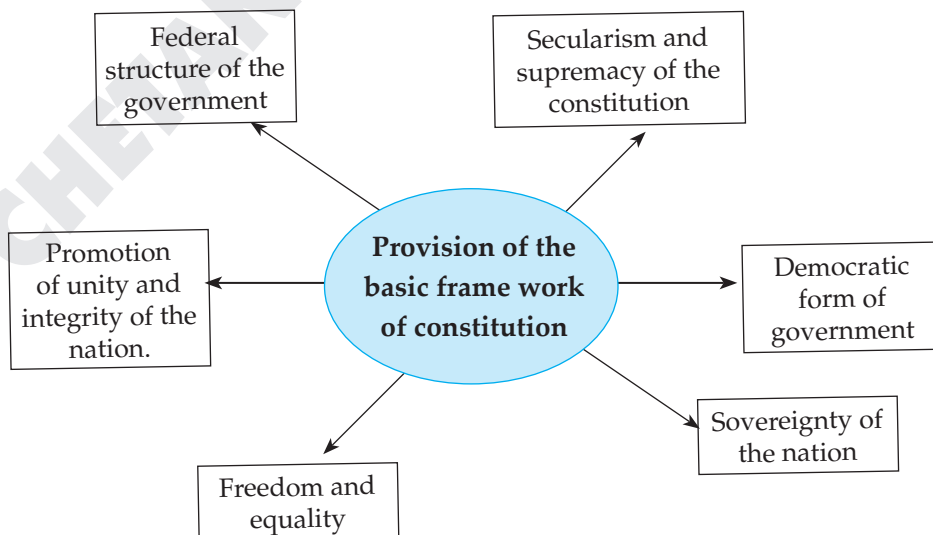
Enlist important indicators of India's successful democracy.

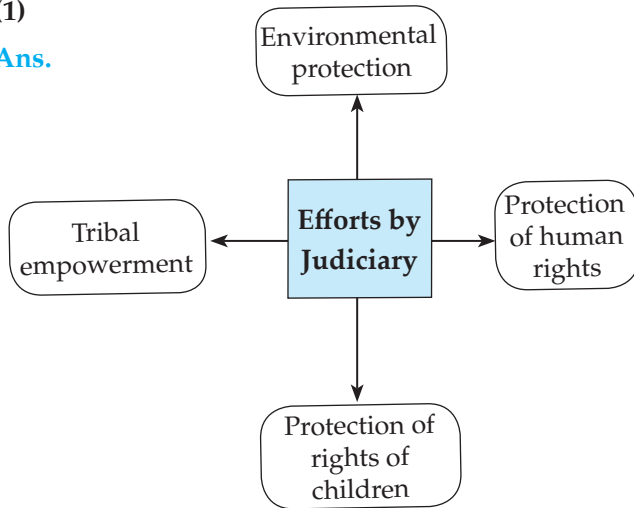
Ans. The Indian people have direct representation in the Parliament, State legislatures and local governments. The increasing participation of the people in the political process and political competition shows that Indian democracy has become successful to a great extent. Holding free and fair elections at regular intervals in an important indicator of India's successful democracy.

Q.3. (B) Do as directed:

(A) 1. Complete the following chart:

Ans.



(A) 2. Complete the web:**(1)****Ans.****Q.4. Answer in brief:**

*** (1) What are the effects of reducing the voting age from 21 years to 18 years.**

Ans. The following are the effects of reducing the voting age from 21 years to 18 years.

- (i) It provides an opportunity of political participation to the younger generation in India.
- (ii) This provision have made India the largest democratic nation in the world.
- (iii) This has increased the number of voter as compared to other democratic nation.
- (iv) This effect has not only brought quantitative but also quantitative participation of young voters.

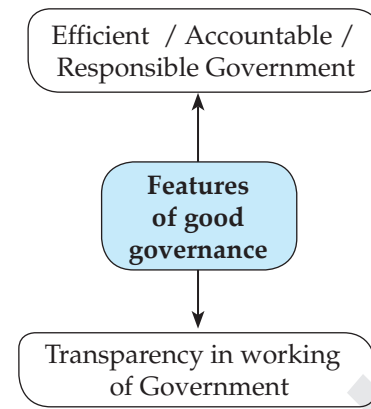
*** (2) What is meant by establishment of social justice and the equality?**

Ans. Our constitution has given the guidelines to establish a new society based on the two important objectives i.e. social justice and equality.

- (i) The principle of justice and equality aims at ending discrimination in social status as superior or inferior on the basis of caste, religion, language and gender, place of birth, race property and giving equal opportunity for the development of every individual.
- (ii) The efforts made by the Government and its policies to strengthens the social justice and equality.

(3) Which decision of the Court has resulted in protection of honour and prestige of women?

Ans. Taking into consideration the problems of women several policies have been adopted at national and international level to remove illiteracy among women and to make available opportunities for their development.

(2)**Ans.**

- (i) Right to have equal share in the property of father and husband, Dowry Prohibition Act against sexual harassments, domestic violence prohibition act are some important provisions which created favourable provision for the protection of freedom of women.
 - (ii) The representation of women is raised to 50% in several states including Maharashtra.
 - (iii) A National Commission for women has been established. Similar commission also exist at state level.
 - (iv) The Act for the protection of women against domestic violence, which protects the prestige and self esteem of women and rejects traditional forms of domination and authoritarianism.
- (4) What provision does the basic structure of the constitution include?**

Ans. The basis structure of the constitution includes following provisions:

- (i) Republican and democratic form of the Government.
- (ii) Federal structure of the constitution.
- (iii) Promotion of unity and Integrity of the nation
- (iv) Sovereignty of the nation.
- (v) Secularism and supremacy of the constitution.

(5) Read the following chart and answer the following question.

No.	Year	No. of women MPs	Percentage
1	1951-52	22	4.50%
2	1957	22	4.45%
3	1962	31	6.28%
4	1967	29	5.58%

5	1971	28	5.41%
6	1977	19	3.51%
7	1980	28	5.29%
8	1984	43	7.95%
9	1989	29	5.48%
10	1991	39	7.30%
11	1996	40	7.37%
12	1998	43	7.92%
13	1999	49	9.02%
14	2004	45	8.29%
15	2009	59	10.87%
16	2014	66	12.15%

(i) In which election year the number of women MPs is minimum?

Ans. In the year 1977 the number of women MPs is minimum.

(ii) In which election year the number of women MPs is maximum?

Ans. In the year 2014 the number of women MPs is maximum

(iii) In which year the percentage of women's representation is recorded the highest?

Ans. In 2014, women's representation is recorded highest - 12.15%.

ASSIGNMENT - 1

Time : 1 Hr.

Marks : 20

Q.1. (A) Choose the correct option and rewrite the complete answers:

(4)

- The Maharashtra seats are reserved for women in local self-governing institution.
(a) 25% (b) 30% (c) 40% (d) 50%
- The essence of democracy is
(a) Universal adult franchise (b) Decentralization of power
(c) Policy of reservation of seats (d) Judicial decisions
- The voting age of men and women is reduced from 21 to years.
(a) 25 (b) 18 (c) 30 (d) 16
- The Indian constitution has declared its objective to established a
(a) Social justice and equality (b) Social justice and equality
(c) Social justice (d) Secular democratic Republic

Q.2. State whether following statement are true or false with reasons:

(4)

- Indian democracy is considered the largest democracy in the world.
- Constitution is a living document.

Q.3. (A) Explain the concept:

(4)

- Right to Information
- Features of Good Governance

Q.3. (B) Write short notes:

(4)

- Policy of reservation of seats.
- Women representation in Lok Sabha

Q.4. Answer in brief:

(4)

- What are the effects of reducing the voting age from 21 years to 18 years.

