

# CIVICS

## Chapter 1: Constitutional Designs



# Important Questions

## Multiple Choice questions-

Question 1. What does a Republic mean?

- (a) King has the power to decide
- (b) The head of the state is hereditary
- (c) Dictatorship
- (d) The head of the state is an elected person and not a hereditary positions.

Question 2. Who framed Indian Constitution?

- (a) Ordinary Citizens
- (b) Governor General of India
- (c) British Parliament
- (d) Constituent Assembly

Question 3. When were elections of Constituent Assembly held?

- (a) June 1946
- (b) July, 1946
- (c) August 1946
- (d) September 1946

Question 4. President of constituent Assembly was .....

- (a) B.R. Ambedkar
- (b) B.N. Rao
- (c) K.M. Munshi
- (d) Rajendra Prasad

Question 5. Who was the Chairman of Drafting Committee?

- (a) B.R. Ambedkar
- (b) Rajendra Prasad
- (c) K.M. Munshi
- (d) B.N. Rao

Question 6. The first meeting of the Constituent Assembly was held on .....

- (a) September 1946
- (b) October 1946
- (c) November 1946

(d) December 1946

Question 7. How much time did framing of constitution took?

(a) 3 years, 11 months, 18 days

(b) 2 years, 11 months, 18 days

(c) 1 years, 11 months, 18 days

(d) 1 year, 11 months, 16 days

Question 8. When was Indian Constitution adopted?

(a) 26 November 1949

(b) 26 December 1949

(c) 26 January 1950

(d) 26 February 1950

Question 9. Which article of the Indian Constitution, the procedure of amendment of constitution is mentioned?

(a) Article 366

(b) Article 367

(c) Article 368

(d) Article 369

Question 10. When was the first amendment to the Indian Constituent made?

(a) In 1950

(b) In 1951

(c) In 1952

(d) In 1953

Question 11. To which country does Nelson Mandela belong?

(a) Namibia

(b) Uganda

(c) South Africa

(d) Zimbabwe

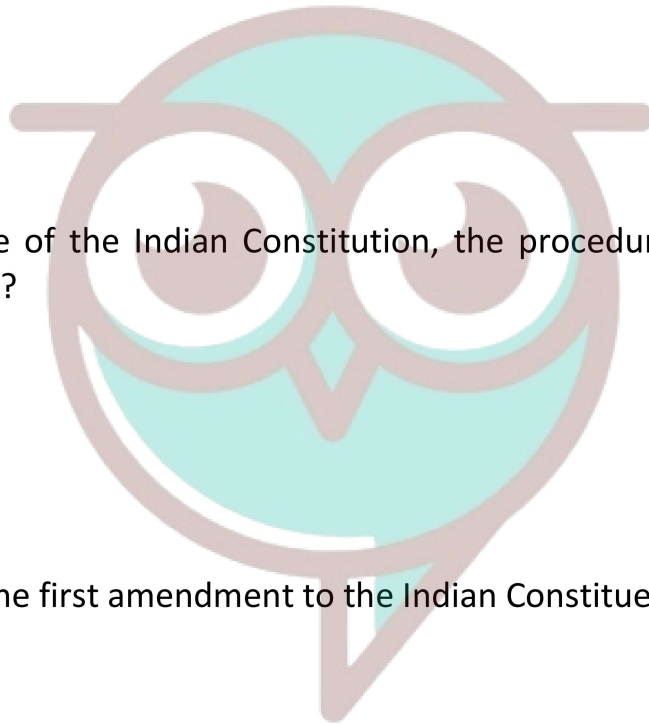
Question 12. System of 'Apartheid' was prevalent in which country?

(a) Ghana

(b) India

(c) Gold Coast

(d) South Africa



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Question 13. What is the full form of A.N.C.?

- (a) Asian National Congress
- (b) African National Congress
- (c) African National Contest
- (d) American National Congress

Question 14. Who was the president of Constituent Assembly?

- (a) Dr. Rajendra Prasad
- (b) Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar
- (c) Sh. B.N. Rao
- (d) Mahatma Gandhi

Question 15. Who framed Indian constitution?

- (a) Governor General
- (b) Ordinary Citizens
- (c) Constituent Assembly
- (d) British Parliament

### Very Short Questions:

1. Mention the number of states in the Union of India.
2. Mention the number of union territories in India.
3. Give the date when the Constitution of India was Enforced.
4. Who was elected as the President of the Constituent Assembly ?
5. Name the chairman of the drafting committee who drafted the constitution.
6. Name the three states which Originated in 2001..
7. What is meant by the union territory?
8. For how many days did the Constituent Assembly meet?
9. What time was taken in the making of the constitution?
10. Why the Constitution is called a living document?

### Short Questions:

1. How were the number of seats allocated to the states?
2. What is Constitution?
3. Explain in your own words the difference you find between the political maps of India, in 1947 and in 2002.
4. Why the Constituent Assembly is called the miniature India?

5. Give a brief description of the Constituent Assembly.
6. Make a table of the languages which have been included in the Constitution.
7. Name the states which were carved out of in view of the popular demand much after 1956.

### Long Questions:

1. What is the basic structure of the T Constitution?
2. Explain terms such as “sovereign’, ‘democratic’, and republic
3. Compare the grant of the democratic rights as it came in the European countries and in India.
4. Write a brief note on the Directive Principles of State Policy.
5. Who proposed the Objectives Resolution? For what did it stand?

### Assertion Reason Questions:

1. In the following questions, a statement of Assertion (A) followed by a statement of Reason (R) is given. Choose the correct option out of the choices given below each question.

**Assertion (A) :** The white rulers treated all non-whites as inferiors.

**Reason (R) :** The white rulers divided the people and labeled them on the basis of their skin colour.

- A) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A
  - B) Both A and R are correct, but R is not the correct explanation of A
  - C) A is true, but R is false
  - D) A is false, but R is true
2. In the following questions, a statement of Assertion (A) followed by a statement of Reason (R) is given. Choose the correct option out of the choices given below each question.

**Assertion (A) :** The Constitution of a country is a set of written rules that are accepted by all the people living in a country.

**Reason (R) :** It generates a degree of trust and coordination among people that is necessary for different kinds of people living together.

- A) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A
- B) Both A and R are correct, but R is not the correct explanation of A
- C) A is true, but R is false
- D) A is false, but R is true

## Case Study Based Question:

1. Read the source and answer the following questions.

Finally, the manner in which the Constituent Assembly worked gives sanctity to the Constitution. 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**. When printed, these debates are 12 bulky volumes! These debates provide the rationale behind every provision of the Constitution. These are used to interpret the meaning of the Constitution.

(1) The Constitution of India was passed and adopted by the Constituent Assembly which of the following days?

- A) 24th January, 1949
- B) 26th January, 1950
- C) 26th November, 1949
- D) 26th November, 1950

(2) The members of the Constituent Assembly were

- A) Nominated by the Governor-General.
- B) Directly elected by the people.
- C) Nominated by the Congress.
- D) Elected by the Legislatures of various provinces and nominated by the rulers of princely states.

(3) Which of the following statements are true regarding the Composition of the Constituent Assembly after partition?

- A) The total strength of the Constituent Assembly was 299.
- B) The Drafting Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. BR Ambedkar consisted of Eight members.
- C) The Chairman of the Union Constituent Committee was Sardar Vallabhbai Patel.
- D) The representatives were to be elected from the four Constituents Hindu, Muslim, Sikh and Christian.

(4) Every document presented and every word spoken in the Constituent Assembly has been recorded and preserved. These are known as.....

- A) Constitutional Debates
- B) Constituent Assembly Agenda
- C) Constitutional Assembly Debates
- D) Constituent Assembly Minutes

2. Read the given passage and answer the following questions.

On the 26th of January, 1950 we are going to enter a life of contradictions. In politics we will have equality and in social and economic life we will have inequality. In politics we will be recognising the principle of one man one vote and one vote one value. In our social and economic life, we shall, by reason of our social and economic structure, continue to deny the principle of one man one value. How long shall we continue to live this life of contradictions? How long shall we continue to deny equality in our social and economic life? If we continue to deny it for long, we will do so only by putting our political democracy in peril.

(1) The speaker of the given lines is

- A) Jawaharlal Nehru
- B) Mahatma Gandhi
- C) Shyama Prasad Mukherjee
- D) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

(2) Which of the following statement is/ are true about the speaker?

- A) He was one of the main architects of the Indian Constitution.
- B) He worked towards eradicating untouchability and other social inequalities.
- C) He had complete faith in democracy.
- D) All of the above

(3) The speaker in the above lines is a bitter critic of.....

- A) Mahatma Gandhi
- B) Dr. Rajendra Prasad
- C) Jawaharlal Nehru
- D) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad

(4) Which of the following days is celebrated to mark the enforcement of the constitution?

- A) Independence day
- B) Republic day
- C) Constitution Enforcement day
- D) Gandhi Jayanti

## Answer Key:

### MCQ

1. (d) The head of the state is an elected person and not a hereditary positions.
2. (d) Constituent Assembly
3. (b) July, 1946
4. (d) Rajendra Prasad
5. (a) B.R. Ambedkar
6. (d) December, 1946
7. (b) 2 years, 11 months, 18 days
8. (a) 26 November, 1949
9. (c) Article 368
- 10.(b) In 1951
- 11.(c) South Africa
- 12.(d) South Africa
- 13.(b) African National Congress
- 14.(a) Dr. Rajendra Prasad
- 15.(a) Governor General

### Very Short Answer:

1. Twenty eight (2006).
2. Seven (2006).
3. January 26, 1950, also called the Republic Day.
4. Dr. Rajendra Prasad.
5. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.
6.
  - 1.Chattisgarh,
  - 2.Uttranchal,
  - 3.Jharkhand.
7. Union territory is the region where the government is under the direct control of the Centre.
8. 114 days.



9. 2 years 11 months and 18 days.

10. The Constitution is called a living document because it has the scope of continuous development according to the needs, aspirations and the expectations of the people.

### Short Answer:

**Ans: 1.** Each of the states was allocated the number of seats in such a manner that the ratio between the number of seats and the population remain practical.

**Ans: 2.** Constitution is a set of rules according to which the government of a country runs. The constitution also defines the composition and powers of the three organs of the government- the Executive, the Legislative and the Judiciary.

The constitution also explains the relations between the government and the citizens. The constitution defines the powers of the government so clearly that in order to make sure the government does not misuse its powers. The constitution protects the right of the citizens. In fact, every independent country prepares a constitution of its own as it signifies independence.

**Ans: 3.** The political map of India in 1947:

In 1947, when India got its freedom; it had provinces and several princely states. Many of its parts were still: under the foreign possession like Pondicherry, Yanam, Mahe, and Chandernagore were under the French rule while Goa, Daman and Diu were under the rule of Portugal, This also shows nearly 562 princely states independence. The political map of India in 2002: This map shows the present political condition of India. having 28 states and 7 union territories. In the present map of India, there is no foreign territory.

**Ans: 4.** The Constituent Assembly is called the miniature India because the members of the Constituent Assembly were from all of the parts and communities of the country. In fact, the Constituent Assembly did not only have the members from different communities and regions but also had the members representing different political parties. Hence, it was a miniature India in a very true sense.

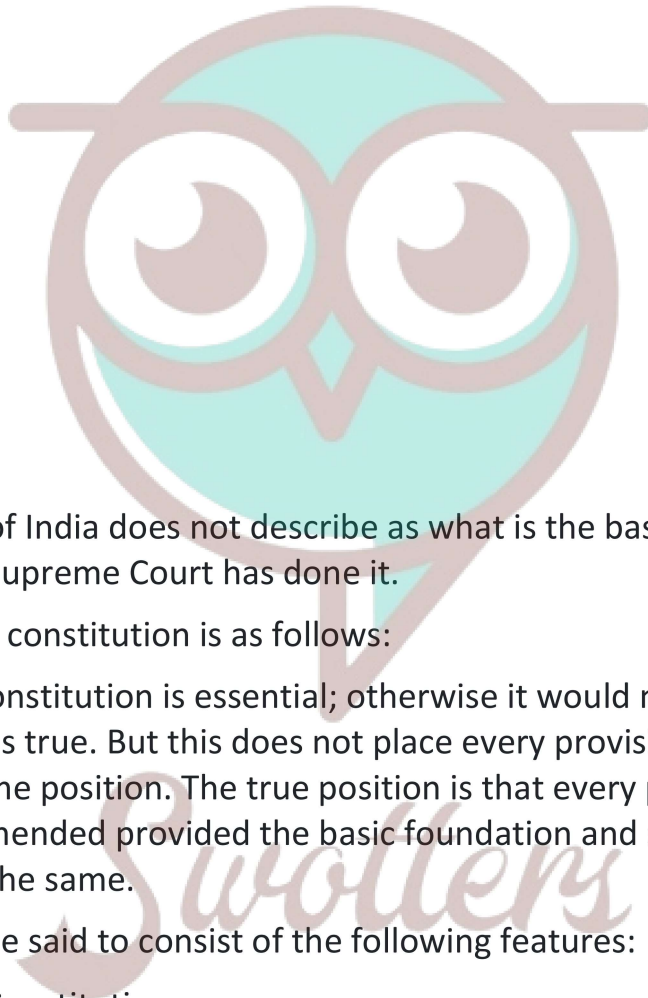
**Ans: 5.** The Constituent Assembly had the great leaders like Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Ballabhbhai Patel, Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad, Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukerji, Sardar Baldev Singh. Dr. Rajendra Prasad was the President of the Constituent Assembly. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee. In fact, the Constituent Assembly had its members from different regions and sections of India. More than 30 members were from scheduled castes. The Anglo Indian community was being represented by Frank Anthony while H. P. Modi was representing the Parsi community.

**Ans: 6.** Assamese Bengali Gujarati' Hindi Dogri Kannada Kashmiri Konkani Malayalam  
Manipuri Marathi Nepali Orissa Santhali  
Punjabi Sanskrit Sindhi Tamil Maithali  
Telugu Urdu Bodo

**Ans: 7.** In 1956 the states of India were reorganized for the first. But several states were carved out in view of the popular demands.

These states are

- Gujarat,
- Nagaland,
- Haryana,
- Mizoram,
- Himachal Pradesh,
- Manipur,
- Meghalaya,
- Arunachal Pradesh,
- Tripura,
- Goa,
- Chhattisgarh,
- Jharkhand,
- Uttaranchal.



### Long Answer:

**Ans: 1.** The Constitution of India does not describe as what is the basic structure of the Constitution. But the Supreme Court has done it.

The basic structure of the constitution is as follows:

“every provision of the Constitution is essential; otherwise it would not have been put in the Constitution. This is true. But this does not place every provision of the Constitution in the same position. The true position is that every provision of the Constitution can be amended provided the basic foundation and structure of the Constitution remains the same.

The basic structure may be said to consist of the following features:

- Supremacy of the Constitution;
- Republican and Democratic form of Government;
- Secular character of the Constitution;
- Separation of powers between the legislature, the executive and the judiciary;
- Federal character of the Constitution.”

“The above structure is built on the basic foundation, i.e., the dignity and freedom of the individual. This is of supreme importance. This cannot, by any form of amendment, be destroyed,” The Supreme Court said this in its judgement on the Kesavananda Bharati case.

**Ans: 2.** The Constitution proclaimed India to be a sovereign democratic republic. This three words-sovereign, democratic and republic are significant. Sovereignty means supreme power. It means the right of people to take decisions on internal matters as well as policies determining our relations with other countries. As the authority of the government rests upon the support of the people, people are sovereign. Democracy means people enjoy equal political rights.

They include right to form associations, right to criticise and oppose policies of government, right to contest elections and hold public offices. People have a right to elect a government through periodical, free and fair elections. Government is responsible to people and exercises powers only as defined in the Constitution.

No government can continue in power without the support of majority of people's representatives in the legislature. People can change the government in elections. Republic means that the head of the State (President) is an elected person. He/ she wields power for a fixed term. India is a Union of States.

**Ans: 3.** European countries had developed industrially before they became full-fledged democracies. But in India democracy came before any such substantial industrial development. At the time of its Independence, India was predominantly an agrarian economy. Illiteracy was widespread. Poverty was rampant. This was an unusual experiment in establishing democracy in conditions of mass poverty. European countries had become strong nations by the time they became democratic.

The situation was different in our country. The task of building the nation in real sense started after we became a democracy. In Europe and America expansion of democracy took place by limiting the powers of government. People there believed that freedom is possible if there is no unnecessary interference of government in private affairs of the individual.

So they fought for freedoms against absolutist governments. But in India, government was assigned a larger role from the beginning: We wanted the state to bring about all-around development. So the expansion of democracy in India has been bound with the expansion of government.

Thus in the history of the Western nations, expansion of democracy was associated with industrialisation, emergence of strong nations, militant struggles for voting rights and limiting the governmental powers. Those countries went through these stages one after the other, over a period of nearly 200 years. But in India democracy had to address these issues all at the same time.

The country has to industrially develop, build a nation and national government, transform social relations, and meet the basic needs of the people. The Indian state had to simultaneously pursue these, goals in a democratic framework.

**Ans: 4.** The Constitution prescribed certain guidelines for governments in making policies. These are called "Directive Policies of State Policy". Their objective is to secure a social order, which promotes the welfare of the people. For example, the State should

take steps for securing an adequate means of livelihood to all citizens.

The ownership and control of the material resources of the nation are to be distributed in such a way as to secure the common good. The economic system of the country is to be operated in a manner so as to prevent concentration of wealth.

Men and women shall receive equal pay for equal work. Free and compulsory education, shall be provided to all children. Child labour shall be eliminated. The principles of socialism and Gandhian ideals are incorporated in these Directive Principles.

**Ans: 5.** The Objectives Resolution was proposed by Pt Jawaharlal Nehru on 13th December 1946. It was passed on 22 January 1947. Objective Resolution was in fact a document which contained the main objectives of the framing of the new constitution for India.

The Objectives Resolution stood for the following objectives-

- The Objectives Resolution dealt with fundamentals which were commonly held and had been accepted by the people.
- The Resolution states that it is our firm and solemn resolve to have a sovereign republic.
- It stands for a free India that can be nothing but a republic.
- It declared that the Union would be an “independent Sovereign Republic” and it would be comprised of the autonomous units of the British and the princely states with residuary powers.
- It ensures that the ideas of social, political and economic democracy would be guaranteed to all the sections of the people.
- It also ensures that an adequate safeguard would be provided for minorities and the backward communities and the areas.
- It also guaranteed that the people of India would be given the freedom of thought, vocation, association, expression, belief, faith, worship and in law and morality.

### Assertion Reason Answer:

1. A) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A
2. A) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A

### Case Study Answer:

#### 1. Answer:

(1) C) 26th November, 1949

(2) D) Elected by the Legislatures of various provinces and nominated by the rulers of princely states.

(3) A) The total strength of the Constituent Assembly was 299.

(4) C) Constitutional Assembly Debates

**2. Answer:**

(1) D) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

(2) D) All of the above

(3) A) Mahatma Gandhi

(4) B) Republic day



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