

The Indian Constitution

Q1. Why does a democratic country need a Constitution?

Answer: A democratic country needs a constitution for various reasons:

1. The basic ideas on which we aspire to live in our country are mentioned in the constitution.
2. It explains the fundamental nature of society
3. To define the nature of the country's political system
4. It has a set of rules based on people belonging to different religions and communities can co-exist with each other in peace.

Q2. Look at the wordings of the two documents given below. The first column is from the 1990 Nepal Constitution. The second column is from the more recent Constitution of Nepal.

1990 Constitution of Nepal Part 7: Executive	2015 Constitution of Nepal Part 7: Federal executive
Article 35: Executive Power: The executive power of the Kingdom of Nepal shall be vested in his Majesty and the Council of Ministers	Article 75: Executive Power: The Executive Power of Nepal shall, pursuant to this Constitution and law, be vested in the Council of Ministers

What is the difference in who exercises 'Executive Power' in the above two Constitutions of Nepal?

Answer: The difference between the two regions of Nepal exercising "executive power" is that in the 1990 constitution, this power was vested in the king, whereas in the interim constitution of Nepal in 2007, "executive power" was only given to be vested was changed to the Council of Ministers, which made Nepal a democracy by being a monarchy. Nepal today needs a new constitution because it is no longer a monarchy. The old constitution vested power in the king, but when the country is now a democracy, a new constitution is needed to reflect Nepal's "democratic" ideals, for which the people's movement desired and struggled for it. To achieve this, all its constitutional rules have to be changed. Easy transition to democratic environment.

Q3. What would happen if there were no restrictions on the power of elected representatives?

Answer: In a democracy, the citizens of the country are responsible for electing their leaders. However, there is always the possibility that leaders can abuse their authority and use it for wrong purposes. Therefore the Constitution has provided measures to safeguard against such misuse of powers.

Q4. In each of the following situations, identify the minority. Write one reason why you think it is important to respect the views of the minority in each of these situations.

(a) In a school with 30 teachers, 20 of them are male.

Answer: Female teachers are in the minority. Women teachers should be allowed space to give their opinions so that their efforts in teaching would not be hindered by their minority status.

(b) In a city, 5 per cent of the population are Buddhists.

Answer: The minority city here has 5 percent Buddhist population. They should have their thoughts Honored because they have some religious beliefs that should not be insulted because they are in a minority. Any decision should be taken keeping in mind the religious sentiments Buddhist population.

(c) In a factory mess for all employees, 80 per cent are vegetarians.

Answer: Minorities here are 20 percent non-vegetarians, which contain dirt in the factory. This is The important thing is that the food prepared in the factory mess should be prepared for both vegetarian and non-vegetarian.

(d) In a class of 50 students, 40 belong to more well-off families.

Answer: In this case, there are 10 students in the minority who do not belong to well-off families. It is important to keep their views in mind as they may not be able to contribute to the various expenses asked at school and they should not feel insulted for it.

Q5. The column on the left lists some of the key features of the Indian Constitution. In the other columns write two sentences, in your own words, on why you think this feature is important:

Key Feature	Significance
Federalism	This ensures national unity and allows individual progress at the same time. A federal government allows the center to grant supreme power but its constituent states have some power, so that states can decide for the irrational.
Separation of Powers	According to the constitution, the legislature, executive and judiciary are three separate powers. This serves two purposes: First, the tyrannical use of power is avoided because power is not exercised in any one authority. Secondly, the three parts of Shakti also perform a check on each other, thereby maintaining a good balance of power.
Fundamental Rights	These rights are important because they correspond to a human society. They also protect citizens from arbitrary and absolute use of electricity by the state. They protect minorities against abuse of power. Every citizen should be in a position to claim those rights. These rights should be binding on every right who has the power to make laws.
Parliamentary Form of Government	It extends to a universal adult franchise. This emphasizes the fact that the people of the country play a direct role in electing their representatives to run the state as well as the nation. Every citizen can contest elections irrespective of race, religion, gender or social background.