

Democratic Politics

for all ser - Power sharing ①
done in

me among the ethnic composition of Belgium.
total population

city of dutch speaking - Flemish
french speaking wallonia region
roman speaking - Belgium region.

ace in However in the capital region (city) - Brussels
generere french speaking while 20% were Dutch speaking
prote

nd write the ethnic composition of Sri Lanka.
Sinhala speakers - 74%.

Tamil speakers 18%.

Southern Tamils (North & East of the country) 13%.

Sinhalese Tamils - 5%.

Majority - Hindus and Muslims

rest Christians

Sinhalese Christians both Tamils and Sinhalese

What was the reason of conflict in Belgium?

What was the conflict in Belgium?

The minority French speaking community was rich

and powerful

This was resented by Dutch who got the benefit of education

and employment much later

This led to tension between two communities

The conditions was crucial in Brussels, as Dutch who were

majority in the country but minority in the capital city.

4 How did Belgium solved its ethnic problem IMP
 Between 1970-1993 Belgium amended their constitution several times so that people may live together peacefully in the same country.

The following amendments were made -

Members of French and Dutch speaking community shall

be equal in the central government

The state government shall not be sub-ordinate to central

as they both had nearly equal powers.

Brussels had a separate govt. in which both communities

had equal ~~power~~ representation

A 5th kind of govt. called community govt. is elected by

the people belonging one language community Dutch,

French and German, no matter where they live

5 What led to conflict in Sri Lanka? IMP

In 1956 an act was passed to recognise Sinhala as the

official language disregarding Tamil

The government favoured Sinhalas for university

positions and government jobs.

The new constitution stipulated that the state shall protect

and foster Buddhism (declared)

Sri Lankan Tamils felt that Sinhala political parties were

not sensitive to the Tamil language and culture

They also felt that govt. denied them equal political

rights discriminated in jobs and other opportunities.

The strained relation between the two led to a civil

Result of civil war: death

Ques 6 How is power shared in a democracy? (Horizontal) ↓
Power is shared among different organs of government

↓ legislature, executive and Judiciary; this is known as horizontal distribution of power. It ensures that no organ can exercise unlimited powers.

* Ministers and govt. exercise power but they are responsible to parliament and state assemblies

* The judges are appointed by the executive but they can check the functioning of executive and legislature

This system arrangement is called system of checks and balance.

↓ Vertical Power sharing -

* Power is shared among government at different levels. This involves a general government for the whole country referred to as central or union govt.

* The government at the regional level is called state government

* The govt constitution clearly lays down the powers of central and state govt.

* At some places there is a third level lower than the state govt. such as municipality and panchayat (local government)

This is called federal division of govt:

Power is shared among different social groups

↓ In some countries there are constitutional and legal arrangements whereby weaker sections of the society are represented in the administration.

This is done so that the weaker section of the society may not feel alienated from the government.
Power is shared among political parties, pressure groups and movements.

The democracy freedom to choose a leader often leads to competition among different parties as they represent different ideology and social group.

We find interest group such as traders, businessmen, industrialists, farmers etc. They share power either by participating in government communities or bringing influents on decision making powers.

Q-7 why is power sharing desirable?

Power sharing is desirable for two reasons -

Prudential Reason → Power sharing is good because it helps to reduce the possibility of conflict between social groups.

Since conflict leads to violence and political instability, power sharing is a good way to ensure stability of political order.

Moral Reason → Power sharing is the very spirit of democracy. A democratic rule involves sharing power with those affected by its exercise and who has to live with its effects. People have a right to be consulted on how they are to be governed.