

28th May

Democratic Politics

Date:

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Chapter - 2 Federalism ..

Q. What is federalism ?

- * Federalism is a system of government in which power is divided between a central authority and various constituent units of the country.
- * Generally there is one government at the centre for the entire country responsible for subject of common national interest.
- * The other level of government looks after the day-to-day administering of their state or province both state and centre enjoy their powers independent of each other.
Ex → India, Brazil, Germany

Q. What do you understand by unitary type of government?

- * Under unitary system either there is only unit of government or the central government is superior to other sub-units of govt.
- * The central government can pass order to state & provincial government.

Ex → Sri Lanka, France, Italy, Japan

Q. What are the various routes of forming federation?

- 1. coming together federation
- * This involves independent states coming together on their own to form a bigger unit so that by pooling sovereignty and citizens identity they can increase their security.

in this system states have equal power and are strong in comparison to central government.
USA, Australia, Switzerland

Uniting together federation -

In a large ~~number~~ country decides to divide his powers between state and the national government
Under this system the central government tends to be more powerful in comparison to state government
India, Spain, Belgium

Are legislative powers divided in India?

In order to ~~divide~~ divide legislative powers between centre and state government there are three list -

Union list - These include subject of national importance where union government alone can make laws relating to subjects mentioned in union list. It includes defence, foreign affairs, banking etc.

State list - The state government alone can make laws relating to subjects mentioned in state list. It includes police, trade, commerce, agriculture etc.

Concurrent list - Some units of the Indian

includes subjects of common interest to the both union and state government. Eg education, forest, trade union etc. Union and state govt. can make laws on these subjects. In case of a conflict the law made by union govt. will prevail.

What are union territories?

Units of the Indian union are smaller in size in comparison to other state and cannot be merged with the other units. They do not have powers of a state.

Is federalism practiced in India? OR
Policies have strengthened federalism?

~~State Policies~~: * In 1947 several new states were formed and states disappeared.

done to create state recognised on the basis of culture and geography.

It was feared that creation of states on linguistic basis would disunite the country but experience has shown that such creation has been successful.

~~Language Policies~~: * India is believed to have 1500 mother tongues and 22 officially recognised languages including English.

State Relations: When the same government is present at the centre as well as the state. The state government can exercise powers and rights as independent federal unit when the parties that rule the centre and state are different. The central government misuses the power to dismiss state ~~one~~ different government controlled by rival parties.

is a coalition government ?
no single party gets a majority in the lok sabha. The national party have to enter an alliance with many others to form a government at the centre. Such a govt is called coalition government.

What do you understand by the term decentralization ?
Decentralization means taking power from the central authorities and giving it to the local level authorities

What is the need of decentralization ?

There are a large number of problems and issues that are solved at lower levels as people have better knowledge about problems. They also have better ideas to spend money and change things efficiently.

Local government is the best example of decentralization in India.

When was decentralization introduced in India ?

In 1992 a major step was taken by constitution of India to make local level powerful and effective.

It is compulsory to hold regular elections for local govt.

Reservations are reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs in various institutions.
One third of the seats are reserved for women.

An independent body called state election commission has been set up to conduct panchayat and municipal elections.

The state government are required to share power with the local bodies.

Explain the structure of local self government in India?

- * Rural local government is known as Panchayati Raj
- * Each village or a group of villagers has a gram panchayat
- * Several ward men are members elected as panch and a president called sarpanch.

* It is directly elected by its adult population

All panchayat submits and together contribute Zila Parishad

The members of Lok Sabha and MLA of that region are its members.

* The chair person is the political head of Zila Parishad