

## INSTITUTIONAL REPRESENTATION OF DEMOCRACY

### A. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words.

1. Universal Adult Franchise
2. 1950
3. Lok Sabha
4. Electronic Voting Machine
5. manifesto

### B. Match the rows.

- 1 (c)
2. (d);
3. (a)
4. (e)
5. (b)

### C. Write true or false. Correct the false sentences in your notebook.

1. False. All citizens of India above the age of 18 can cast their vote.
2. False. The members of the Lok Sabha are directly elected by the people.
3. False. The total number of seats in the Lok Sabha is 550.
4. False. The members of the Lok Sabha are elected for a term of five years.
5. True

### D. Choose the correct answer.

1. (b)
2. (c);
3. (c)
4. (c)
5. (b)
6. (a)

### E. Answer the following questions in one or two sentences.

1. Define the term Universal Adult Franchise.

Ans: In India, all citizens above the age of 18 years, irrespective of their caste, creed, religion or gender, have the right to vote. This principle is called universal adult franchise.

2. What is the composition of Election Commission?

Ans: The Election Commission is a three member body headed by the Election Commissioner. All the three members are appointed by the President of India.

3. What is a constituency?

Ans: For the purpose of elections, the country is divided into various units called constituencies. Constituencies generally have the same number of voters and one representative is elected from each constituency.

4. Name the two houses of the Parliament.

Ans: The two houses of Parliament are the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha.

5. What do you understand by the term Manifesto?

Ans: Every political party issues a document containing its programmes and policies. This is called a manifesto.

### F. Give reasons for the following

1. Why do candidates campaign before elections?

Ans: Campaigns help inform voters about the candidates' platforms, policies, and positions on various issues. This allows voters to make informed decisions at the polls.

2. Why is it a challenging task for the Election Commission to organize and conduct elections in India?

Ans: 1. India is a vast country with huge population. Ensuring that all eligible voters can participate in the electoral process is a significant challenge.

2. Some people live in remote regions of the country, while some do not have proper means of travel to reach the polling booths.

3. People living in the interior regions are mostly illiterate and are not aware of their political rights.

4. Require large number of staff and infrastructure to organize and conduct election.

Hence, it is a challenging task for the Election Commission to organize and conduct elections in India.

**G. Answer the following questions in four or five sentences.**

1. What are the functions of the Election Commission of India?

Ans: a. The Election Commission of India is responsible for conducting free and fair elections in the country.

b. It announces the date of the elections, the code of conduct to be followed by all political parties

c. The Election Commission prepares the voters' list before the elections take place.

d. It also issues the Electoral Photo Identity Card to all eligible voters.

e. At the end of the elections, the Election Commission declares the results and submits a list of the successful candidates

2. Briefly explain the electoral process followed in our country.

Ans: a. The electoral process in our country begins as soon as the Election Commission announces the date for the elections.

b. All parties must be registered with the Election Commission.

c. Political parties select candidates who contest elections on behalf of the party.

d. The candidates file their nomination papers which are scrutinized and then accepted or rejected.

e. The parties begin campaigning after the final list of candidates is announced.

f. Campaigning stops 48 hours before polling takes place

g. casting of votes by the people

h. counting of votes

i. Declaration of election results

3. What are political parties? Differentiate between a National political party and Regional political party?

Ans: A political party is an organization that has a common ideology and aims to form the government.

i. **National Political Party:** National political parties have a large national presence, like the Congress or the BJP.

ii. **Regional Political Parties** - The political parties whose influence is limited to a certain region or state are called regional parties, like the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam or the Asom Gana Parishad.

4. What do you understand by the term opposition party? What is its function in a democracy?

Ans: The parties that do not win majority of seats in the elections, come together to form the Opposition. The opposition keeps a check on the working of the government by questioning its policies and the working of various departments.

5. When is a coalition government formed? Give suitable examples.

Ans: When no political party secures an absolute majority, which is at least 51 per cent(272), a group of political parties comes together and form the government. This is called a coalition government. An example of a coalition government is the National Democratic Alliance that was formed after the general elections of 2024.