

5. Popular Struggles and Movements

EXERCISE

Q.1. In what ways do pressure groups and movements exert influence on politics?

OR

How do the pressure groups and movements exert influence on politics? Explain any three ways to do so.

Ans. (i) Pressure Groups and Politics: Pressure groups are usually formed of varied ways and varied groups of people as per their occupation, interests, organisations or opinion. These groups raise their demands before the ruling government through obtaining articles published in newspapers, representations, appeals, applications, peaceful processions, demonstrations, debates, seminars etc.

(ii) Movements and Politics: Movements are the largest form of manifestation of public-fury. Like SPA (Seven Party Alliance) in Nepal, many interest groups/pressure groups establish inter connections by debates, rally and reconciliation of demands, setting up strategy with common consensus and hence, this accumulated in ocean of people capable to bring about, tsunami on roads, emergency in administration, normal conditions and the cause of life, in and around the region.

Outcomes of it are observed in breakdown, deadlock, killing, arsoning and gruesome tumult. Both these exert pressure upon government to run in the interests of all citizens that manifests in internal peace, commotion free roads and people start to live in mentality calm and composed.

The ways pressure groups and movements exert influence on politics:

- (i) Usually the pressure groups promote only the interest of their section and ignore the entire society in general.
- (ii) The pressure groups are not accountable to the people in general. They are not answerable to the general public for their actions and decisions. They can also influence public opinion through spending a lot of money on advertising their idea.
- (iii) They mostly organise protest activities.
- (iv) They employ professional lobbyists or sponsor expensive advertisements.

Q.2. Describe the forms of relationship between pressure groups and political parties.

OR

What are sectional groups? How do they watch their interests?

OR

What are public interest groups? How do they look after the public interest? Explain.

Ans. Forms of Relationship Between Pressure groups and Political Parties: Political parties either make government or sit on opposition benches, to oppose the wrong and anti-people laws/policies made drafted and implemented by the party ruling in the centre and the states. A public interest group is a group which promotes the interest of the people of the society. Whereas sectional pressure groups are those that shows the interest of a particular group like teachers, doctors or lawyers etc.

Sometimes pressure groups are formed on led by the leaders of political parties or act as extended arms of political parties. It is called direct relationship. The relationship between pressure groups, movements and political parties is sometimes not direct. While they remain in contact with each other.

Pressure groups (sectional and public interest) exhibit their grievances to political party through opposition at the maternal time. Members to that party gather, evaluate and conclude upon varied demands, pile up; discussions and debates on the topics-carried out thoroughly and at different levels and-then parliament questions as also Assembly questions are drafted or nothing is done.

Q.3. Explain how the activities of pressure groups are useful in the functioning of a democratic government.

Ans. The activities of pressure groups in functioning of a democratic government: They exert influence on the politics of a democratic country in a variety of ways:

- (i) Being theirs small size and formed by mostly many sections of society, their support with political party (opposition) gives effect to-carrying out information, campaigns, organising meetings, file

petitions etc. Most of such groups obtain their opinion, outlook and viewpoints published through media.

- (ii) They mostly organise protest like strikes to disrupt government programmes. Workers' organisations form pressure groups or movement groups and these may also take part in official bodies and committees that offer advice to the government.
- (iii) Pressure groups and most of their movements, usually have deepened democracy. Putting pressure on the rulers is not an unhealthy activity in a democracy if it is in good for all.
- (iv) Even the sectional interest groups play a valuable role. Where several groups function actively, no single group can attain dominance over society. If one group brings pressure on government to make policies in its favour, another will bring counter pressure, not to form policies in the way the first group desires. The government have to hear about what different sections of the population want. This requires to a tough balance of power and accommodation of conflicting interests.

Q.4. What is a pressure group? Give a few examples.

Ans. The interest groups that try to influence the decision-making process in a state through pressure, are known as pressure groups.

Examples:

- (i) **Farmers, Organizations:** Bhartiya Kisan Union, etc.
- (ii) **Trade Unions:** All India Trade Union Congress, Indian National Trade Union Congress and Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh, etc.
- (iii) **Business Groups:** FICCI, ASSOCHAM, CII, etc.
- (iv) **Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh:** (RSS), etc.

Q.5. What is the difference between a pressure group and a political party?

Ans.

- (i) A pressure group attempts to influence policy and programme of political parties while these are political parties who directly control or share the political power.
- (ii) Pressure groups have domain confined to departments, association, union etc., while

a political party has ideology that influences a state and even the entire country.

- (iii) The tenure or life of activities of a political party can continue for many years but the activities of some of the pressure groups ended with the end of their movements.

Q.6. Organisations that undertake activities to promote the interests of specific social sections such as workers, employees, teachers, and lawyers are called groups.

Ans. Interest.

Q.7. Which among the following is the special feature that distinguishes a pressure group from a political party?

- (a) Parties take political stances, while pressure groups do not bother about political issues.
- (b) Pressure groups are confined to a few people, while parties involve larger number of people.
- (c) Pressure groups do not seek to get into power, while political parties do.
- (d) Pressure groups do not seek to mobilize people, while parties do.

Ans. (c) Pressure, groups do not seek to get into power, while political parties do.

Q.8. Match List I (organisations and Struggles) with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists:

List I	List II
1. Organisations that seek to promote the interests of a particular section or group.	A. Movement
2. Organisations that seek to promote common interest.	B. Political parties
3. Struggles launched for the resolution of a social problem with or without an organisational structure.	C. Sectional interest groups
4. Organisations that mobilise people with a view to win political power.	D. Public interest groups

	1	2	3	4
(a)	C	D	B	A
(b)	C	D	A	B
(c)	D	C	B	A
(d)	B	C	D	A

Ans. (b) C D A B

Q.9. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists:

List I	List II
1. Pressure group	A. Narmada Bachao Andolan
2. Long term movement	B. Asom Gana Parishad
3. Single issue movement	C. Women's movement
4. Political party	D. Fertilizer dealers' association

	1	2	3	4
(a)	D	C	A	B
(b)	B	A	D	C
(c)	C	D	B	A
(d)	B	D	C	A

Ans. (a) D C A B

Q.10. Consider the following statements about pressure groups and parties.

- Pressure groups are organized expression of the interests and views of specific social sections.
- Pressure groups take positions on political issues.
- All pressure groups are political parties.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) A, B and C

(b) A and B

(c) B and C

(d) A and C

Ans. (b) A and B

Q.11. Mewat is one of the most backward areas in Haryana. It used to be a part of district Gurgaon and Faridabad. The people of Mewat felt that the area will get better attention if it were to become a separate district. But political parties were indifferent to this sentiment. The demand for a separate district was raised by Mewat Educational and Social Organisation and Mewat Saksharta Samiti in 1996. Later Mewat Vikas Sabha was founded in 2000 and carried out a series of public awareness campaigns. This forced both the major parties, Congress and the Indian National Lok Dal to announce their support for the new district before the assembly elections held in February 2005. The new district came into existence in July 2005.

In this example what is the relationship that you observe among movement, political parties and the government? Can you think of an example that shows a relationship different from this one?

Ans. Potentials of some district felt sectional interest groups (Mewat Educational and Social Organisation and Mewat Saksharta Samiti) formed-consolidated in public interest group (Mewat Vikas Sabha). Public awareness campaigns (by media, demonstration, sloganeering, procession etc)—Political parties Congress and (NLD)—New district formed.

Yes, in other movements such as Narmada Bachao Andolan, several organisations were against the policy of the government regarding construction of huge dams. In such a movement, the government is not a party to the movement.

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Choose the correct options:

- Nepal witnessed an extraordinary famous movement in April 2006. The movement was aimed

- At restoring democracy
- To protect environment
- To restore Marxist rule
- To dismiss the King

- SPA was a

- Seven Party Alliance of India

- Seven Party Alliance in Nepal

- Separate Party Alliance of Nepal

- Socialist Party Alliance of Nepal

- Identify the element that is not shared both by the movement in Nepal and the struggle in Bolivia.

- A political conflict that led to famous struggle

- The struggle involved mass mobilisation

- (c) It was about the foundations of the country's politics.
(d) It consisted critical role of political organisations
4. Which of these kings was killed in the mysterious massacre of royal family in 2001?
(a) King Raj Bahadur
(b) King Gyanendra
(c) King Birendra
(d) None of them
5. When was democracy restored in Nepal?
(a) April 2003
(b) April 2004
(c) April 2007
(d) April 2006
6. Who was the last king of Nepal?
(a) King Raj Bahadur
(b) King Gyanendra
(c) King Birendra
(d) None of them
7. What was the reason of Bolivia's water war?
(a) Decrease in water supply by the MNC
(b) Increase in the cost of water by the government
(c) Privatisation of water
(d) Pressure of World bank to privatise municipal water
8. What was the conclusion of Bolivia's water war?
(a) Water prices remained unchanged
(b) Imposition of Martial Law
(c) Cancellation of MNC contract and restoration of water supply to the municipality
(d) All of them
9. "Third wave" country is used for which country in this chapter.
(a) India (b) Poland
(c) Nepal (d) Bolivia
10. The word MNC is associated to which issue?
(a) Nepal's popular struggle
(b) Bolivia water war
(c) Environmental movement
(d) Narmada Bachao Andolan
11. The main cause of Bolivia's water war was
(a) Water was not fit for consumption
(b) There was shortage of water
(c) The government sold water rights for the city of Cochabamba to a MNC.
(d) Restoration of the democracy.
12. Where is Bolivia located?
(a) Latin America
(b) North America
(c) Europe
(d) Africa
13. Democracy can be evolved through....
(a) Famous struggle
(b) Mass mobilisation
(c) New political organisations
(d) All of them
14. Those organisations which are formed to promote their interests are called
(a) Sectional groups
(b) Movement groups
(c) Interest groups
(d) Movements