

Very Short Answer Questions

Q. 1. What do you mean by rule of law?

Ans. Rule of law means that all laws apply equally to all citizens of the country and no one can be above the law.

Q. 2. Explain the Sedition Act of 1870.

Ans. The Sedition Act of 1870 was a British law. Under this act, any person protesting or criticising the British government should be arrested without due trial.

Q. 3. What does the word criticise mean?

Ans. Criticise means to find fault or disapprove of a person or thing. In other words, it refers to citizens finding fault with the functioning of government.

Q. 4. Describe the status of laws in Ancient India.

Ans. In ancient India, there were innumerable and often overlapping local laws.

Q. 5. What are the different ways to criticise the unpopular laws?

Ans. The different ways to criticise the unpopular laws are—newspapers, TV, protests, meetings, etc.

Short Answer Questions

Q. 1. What is the importance of laws?

Ans. (i) All persons in independent India are equal before the law.

(ii) The law cannot discriminate between persons on the basis of caste, religion or gender.

(iii) Law applies equally to all citizens of the country and no one can be above the law.

Q. 2. Explain the Hindu succession Amendment Act, 2005.

Ans. According to the Hindu Succession Amendment Act 2005, sons, daughters and their mothers can get an equal share of family property after the death of their father.

Q. 3. Why should we obey the laws?

Ans. We should obey the laws for harmony:

(i) Maintenance of law and order, to avoid confusion and chaos.

(ii) Promotion of common welfare.

(iii) Laws help in developing a sense of conforming to the rules of social institution.

Long Answer Questions

Q. 1. Why are laws required?

Ans. Laws are required:

- (i) To prevent people from several unjust social practices.
- (ii) To prohibit the practice of untouchability which was the cause of suffering for millions of people.
- (iii) To ensure equality among the citizens of India.
- (iv) To provide systems to regulate activities, to derive the maximum benefit from all types of resources.

The parliament plays an important role in making laws. For this, it has to be sensitive to the needs of the people.

For example: To protect women from domestic injury and violence by husband, the Parliament enacted a law in 2006, called the Protection of women from Domestic Violence Act 2005.

Q. 2. Describe the Rowlatt Act, an arbitrary law with example.

Ans. The Rowlatt Act, an arbitrary law allowed the British government to imprison people without due trial.

Example:

The Rowlatt Act came into effect on 10 March 1919. In Punjab, protests against this act continued quite actively and on April 10, two leaders of the movement, Dr. Satya Pal and Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew were arrested. To protest their arrests, a public meeting was held on 13 April at Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar. General Dyer entered the park with his troops. They closed the only exit and without giving any warning General Dyer ordered the troops to fire. Several hundreds of people died in this gun fire and many more were wounded including women and children.

Hots (Higher Order Thinking Skills)

Q. 1. How is a new law introduced in Parliament?

Ans. Parliament of India consists of the President and two Houses. The two houses are— the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) and the House of the people or the Lok Sabha. Parliament plays an instrumental role in making laws.

A bill can be introduced in either house of Parliament. Government Bill is introduced by the Minister and Private bill can be introduced by a private member. The procedure for the passage of Bills is similar in both the cases. A Bill has to successfully pass through three stages in each House of Parliament and receive President's approval before it becomes an Act of Parliament. If any deadlock occurs between the two Houses over the issue of a Bill, it is resolved at a joint sitting.