

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Chapter 10: Grassroots Democracy - Part 1 (Governance and Democracy)

Case Study Based Questions

Set 1

Name: _____ Section: _____
Roll No.: _____ Date: _____

Case Study Questions

Read each case study carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Case Study 1

Rohan's uncle received a message claiming to be from his bank, asking him to share his OTP to 'verify' his account. He shared the OTP and lost a large sum of money from his account within minutes. He filed a complaint, and the cyber police traced the criminals and arrested them. The court later found them guilty and sentenced them to jail along with a fine.

1. Which organ of government made the laws that helped punish the cybercriminals?

2. Which organ of government arrested the criminals? Name this specific agency.

3. Which organ of government decided the punishment for the criminals?

Case Study 2

At Green Valley School, students noticed that the playground was unsafe after some equipment broke down. The class representative collected everyone's concerns and presented them to the Principal. The school management discussed the issue and decided to repair the playground within a month, updating the school's safety rules.

1. Why did the students choose to send a class representative instead of everyone going to the principal?

2. What does this situation show about how rules can be changed over time?

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3. Name one way this situation is similar to how citizens have a say in the laws that govern society.

Case Study 3

Following continuous rainfall, a flood struck a district. Initially, it affected only two villages, and the local authorities managed relief work. However, when the flood spread to cover half the State, the State Government sent in rescue teams. As waters kept rising and reached emergency proportions across several States, the Central Government stepped in with the army and relief supplies.

1. Identify the three levels of government mentioned in this passage.

2. Why did the Central Government step in only at the last stage?

3. What does this example show about how the three tiers of government function?

Case Study 4

Class 6B was deciding between two places for their annual picnic. After discussing distance, cost, and facilities, the teacher asked all students in favour of Place A to raise their hands, followed by those in favour of Place B. Place A received more votes and was selected.

1. What kind of democracy is shown in this passage? Give a reason.

2. How would this decision have been different if it were based on representative democracy?

3. Why is direct democracy practical in a classroom but not always practical at the State or national level?

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Case Study 5

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam served as the 11th President of India from 2002 to 2007. Though his position was nominal, he was deeply loved by the people, especially the youth, for his humility and encouragement to dream big. He often said that failure was just the 'First Attempt In Learning.'

1. What does the term 'nominal head' mean in the context of the President of India?

2. Even though the President's role is nominal, how did Dr. Kalam still make an impact?

3. Name one quality of Dr. Kalam mentioned in the passage that inspired people.

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ANSWER KEY - Set 1

Case Study Answers

Case Study 1

1. The legislature made the laws against cybercrime that helped punish the criminals.
2. The executive arrested the criminals; the specific agency is the cyber police.
3. The judiciary, through the court, decided the punishment for the criminals.

Case Study 2

1. It was more practical and orderly for one representative to present everyone's concerns together, similar to how citizens elect representatives instead of everyone approaching the government individually.
2. It shows that rules and safety guidelines are not permanent; they can be reviewed and updated when problems are pointed out.
3. Just as citizens can have a say in the laws and rules that govern society through their representatives, students had a say in school rules through their class representative.

Case Study 3

1. The three levels of government mentioned are the local government, the State Government, and the Central Government.
2. The Central Government stepped in only when the problem became too large for the local or State authorities to handle on their own, affecting several States.
3. It shows that each level of government handles problems at an appropriate scale, and higher levels step in only when a problem grows beyond the capacity of the lower level.

Case Study 4

1. This is an example of direct democracy because every student's opinion was directly taken through a show of hands to reach the decision.
2. In representative democracy, the class would first elect one or a few representatives, who would then discuss and decide the picnic spot on behalf of everyone.
3. Direct democracy is practical in a small group like a classroom because everyone can be consulted easily, but at the State or national level there are far too many citizens for everyone to be directly involved in every decision.

Case Study 5

1. A nominal head means that the President holds the position mostly in name and does not normally interfere in the day-to-day running of the government.

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2. Dr. Kalam made an impact through his personal humility, his connection with the youth, and his inspiring messages about learning and hard work, rather than through direct executive power.
3. Any one of: his humility, his encouragement to dream big, or his positive attitude towards failure as an opportunity to learn.

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Case Study Based Questions

Set 2

Name: _____ Section: _____
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Case Study Questions

Read each case study carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Case Study 1

Many accidents were occurring at a busy crossing due to overspeeding. The State Assembly passed a new law imposing stricter fines for overspeeding. Traffic police began strictly checking vehicle speeds at the crossing. A driver who was caught breaking the new rule was taken to court, where he was fined as per the new law.

1. Which organ of government passed the new traffic law?

2. Which organ of government enforced the new law at the crossing?

3. Which organ of government fined the driver, and what was its role?

Case Study 2

Residents of a small village complained about the irregular water supply. The Gram Panchayat, the local government, looked into the issue and arranged for repair of the water pipeline within their village, without needing to involve the State or Central Government.

1. Which level of government resolved this issue?

2. Why wasn't the State or Central Government involved in this case?

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3. Give one more example of a matter usually handled by the local government.

Case Study 3

A new highway connecting two States was being planned, and at the same time, the State government was working on improving public health services and school education within its own boundaries.

1. Which government, State or Central, is likely to handle the inter-State highway project, and why?

2. Which government generally handles public health and education matters?

3. Name one more function each of the Central and State government, apart from those mentioned.

Case Study 4

In a village, the Panchayat wanted to decide the location of a new community well. Every adult member of the village was invited to a meeting to voice their opinion and vote directly on the location.

1. What form of democracy does this passage describe?

2. How is this similar to the picnic example given in the textbook?

3. Why might this method be more difficult to use for a decision affecting an entire State?

Case Study 5

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In 2024, India conducted one of the largest general elections in the world, with around 970 million registered voters. Citizens above the age of 18 cast their votes to elect their MPs, who would represent them in Parliament.

1. What type of democracy does India follow, based on this passage?

2. What is the minimum age for Indian citizens to vote, according to the passage?

3. What do the elected MPs do on behalf of the citizens who voted for them?

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ANSWER KEY - Set 2

Case Study Answers

Case Study 1

1. The legislature (State Assembly) passed the new traffic law.
2. The executive (traffic police) enforced the new law at the crossing.
3. The judiciary (the court) fined the driver; its role was to decide the punishment for breaking the law.

Case Study 2

1. The local government (Gram Panchayat) resolved this issue.
2. The problem was limited to one village and could be solved at the local level, so there was no need to involve the higher levels of government.
3. Any reasonable local matter, such as street cleaning, local roads, or streetlights, is acceptable.

Case Study 3

1. The Central Government is likely to handle the inter-State highway project because it connects two States and falls under matters affecting more than one State, similar to interstate commerce.
2. The State Government generally handles public health and education matters.
3. Central Government: defence, foreign affairs, atomic energy, communications, or currency.
State Government: agriculture, irrigation, police and law and order, or local government.

Case Study 4

1. This passage describes direct democracy, since every villager's opinion was directly taken to decide the location.
2. In both cases, everyone in the group was consulted directly and the decision was made based on the majority's opinion, similar to the show of hands used to choose the picnic spot.
3. It would be difficult at the State level because there are far too many citizens for everyone to be gathered and consulted directly, so elected representatives are needed instead.

Case Study 5

1. India follows a representative democracy, as citizens elect MPs to represent them.
2. The minimum age for Indian citizens to vote, in principle, is 18 years.
3. The elected MPs represent citizens in Parliament and take part in discussing and making laws and decisions on their behalf.

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Set 3

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Case Study Questions

Read each case study carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Case Study 1

Concerned about rising air pollution, the Parliament passed a law banning certain harmful firecrackers. The executive ordered strict checks before festivals, and shopkeepers who sold the banned firecrackers were taken to court and penalised as per the new law.

1. Identify the three organs of government at work in this passage, along with their specific actions.

2. Why do you think a new law was needed to address this problem?

3. What was the judiciary's role in this case?

Case Study 2

Every year, students of Class 6 elect a Head Boy and a Head Girl by voting. All students cast their vote for their preferred candidates, and the two candidates with the most votes are declared winners. These students then represent Class 6 in school council meetings.

1. Is this an example of direct or representative democracy? Explain.

2. What is the role of the Head Boy/Head Girl once elected, based on the concept of representative democracy?

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3. How is this similar to how MLAs and MPs are elected in India?

Case Study 3

A fire broke out in a small residential building. The local fire department and municipal authorities managed the situation efficiently and the matter did not need to be escalated further.

1. Which level of government responded to the emergency?

2. Compare this to the flood example in the textbook: when would the State or Central Government need to step in?

3. Why is it useful to have different levels of government to handle problems of different scale?

Case Study 4

The Governor of a State usually does not interfere in the daily functioning of the State Government, which is run by the Chief Minister and the Council of Ministers. However, under special circumstances mentioned in the Constitution, the Governor may use certain powers.

1. What does it mean to say the Governor is a 'nominal head'?

2. Who actually runs the day-to-day administration of the State?

3. Name another 'nominal head' mentioned in the chapter, and where they function.

Case Study 5

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In a small town, residents were invited to a public meeting to share their views before a new park was built in their locality. Their suggestions about the park's design were taken into account by the local government before finalising the plan.

1. What concept from the chapter does this passage best illustrate?

2. Why is it valuable for ordinary citizens to be involved in such decisions?

3. How is this different from representative democracy at the State or national level?

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ANSWER KEY - Set 3

Case Study Answers

Case Study 1

1. The legislature (Parliament) passed the ban; the executive carried out checks before festivals; the judiciary (the court) penalised the shopkeepers who broke the law.
2. A new law was needed because rising air pollution was a growing problem that required a formal rule to control the sale of harmful firecrackers.
3. The judiciary's role was to decide whether the shopkeepers had broken the law and to award the appropriate penalty.

Case Study 2

1. This is representative democracy for the school council, because students elect the Head Boy and Head Girl to represent them, rather than every student attending the council meetings directly.
2. Once elected, the Head Boy/Head Girl represents the views and concerns of the students of Class 6 in school council meetings, similar to how elected representatives act on behalf of citizens.
3. This is similar to how MLAs and MPs are elected in India, as citizens vote for candidates who then represent them and take decisions on their behalf in the assembly or Parliament.

Case Study 3

1. The local government (local fire department and municipal authorities) responded to the emergency.
2. The State or Central Government would need to step in only if the problem grew larger, such as if the fire spread across many buildings or areas, similar to how the flood needed State or Central help once it affected wider regions.
3. Having different levels of government allows small, local problems to be solved quickly at the local level, while bigger problems that need more resources and coordination can be handled by the State or Central Government.

Case Study 4

1. It means that the Governor holds the position mostly in name and does not normally get involved in the daily running of the State government, except in special circumstances.
2. The Chief Minister, along with the Council of Ministers, actually runs the day-to-day administration of the State.
3. The President of India is another nominal head mentioned in the chapter, and functions at the national (Central) level.

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Case Study 5

1. This passage best illustrates the concept of grassroots democracy, where ordinary citizens participate in decisions that affect their daily lives.
2. It is valuable because it allows the government to understand the real needs and preferences of local citizens, leading to better and more suitable decisions.
3. At the State or national level, citizens usually take part through elected representatives (MLAs and MPs), whereas here, ordinary citizens directly shared their views on a local matter without going through representatives.