

5 POPULAR STRUGGLES AND MOVEMENTS

CONCEPT

MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRACY IN NEPAL

CAUSE

- The movement began in 2006. It was a movement to restore democracy which was established in 1990.
- The king had become the head of the state then — but the real power was in the hands of the elected representatives.
- King Birendra, who had accepted Constitutional Monarchy, was killed in a mysterious massacre of the royal family in 2001.
- The new king, Gyanendra, refused to accept democratic rule. He dismissed the democratically elected government, dissolved the Parliament and seized power in February 2005. A movement began in April 2006 to take away power from the king.

MOVEMENT

- All major political parties formed a Seven Party Alliance (SPA).
- They called for a 'four day strike' in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal.
- Maoist insurgents joined the strike along with other groups and turned it into an indefinite strike. People defied the curfew and took to streets. The security forces could not cope with more than a lakh people demanding democracy every day. On 21 April, they served an ultimatum to the king.

Their demands were : A new Constituent Assembly, restoration of Parliament and an All-Party Government.

Result : The king had to bow down on 24 April, 2006. The king agreed to all the three demands and lost most of his powers. The Maoists and SPA agreed to have a new Constituent Assembly. G.P. Koirala became the new Prime Minister of Nepal.

From an absolute monarchy, Nepal became a democracy, after a second movement for democracy.

BOLIVIA'S WATER WAR

Establishing democracy is not enough (as in Poland or Nepal). Popular struggles combine even after establishment of democracy, as in Bolivia.

Bolivia, a poor country in Latin America, sold its municipal water supply rights to a multinational company (MNC). This she was forced to do by the World Bank. The city chosen was Cochabamba. The company raised the price of water four times. People who earned only Rs 5000 a month had to pay Rs 1000 a month for water.

People rose as one man joined by labour human rights and community leaders in January 2000. Strikes after strikes occurred which the Government suppressed brutally. It even imposed martial law in April.

Result : The officials of the MNC fled from the city. The government bowed to the people's power and the water supply was restored to the Municipality. This event was known as Bolivia's water war.

Differences and Similarities between the Two Countries

Nepal	Bolivia
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Struggle to establish democracy. ● Struggle was a foundational challenge. ● Successful political struggle, mass mobilisation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Struggle against an elected democratic government. ● Struggle was against a specific policy. ● Same as Nepal. Both involved political organisations.

CONCLUSION

- Democracy evolves through political struggles.
- Conflict in a democracy between those who exercise power, and those who want a share in it.
- These conflicts happen when : (i) a country goes through a transition to democracy; (ii) expansion of democracy and (iii) deepening of democracy.
- The conflict in a democracy is solved through **mass mobilisation** or institutions like the **parliament** or the **judiciary**.
- Agencies of **organised politics** help these movements.
- Agencies : Political parties, Pressure groups and Movement groups.

MOBILISATION AND ORGANISATION

Important Features of Struggle in Nepal

- Call for indefinite strike was given by the Seven Party Alliance. The alliance had some members of the Parliament and members of some other big parties.
- SPA was not the only organisation supporting the mass upsurge. Nepalese Communist Party (Maoist) was also a part of it. It did not believe in parliamentary democracy. It had opposed the Nepali government and controlled large parts of Nepal. The others who supported were :
 - (i) All major labour unions and their federations
 - (ii) Organisations like those of teachers, lawyers, human rights groups.

Important Features of Struggle in Bolivia

- No political party led the struggle.
- An organisation comprising local professionals, engineers and environmentalists, supported by farmers who supported irrigation, confederation of factory workers' unions, middle class students from the University of Cochabamba and street children who had no homes to go to, all of them together formed the **FEDECOR**.
- Later, they were supported by the party which came to power in Bolivia in 2006.

Conclusion

- (i) In democracy, any big struggle has many different organisations behind it.

- (ii) Their role has two features :
- To influence decisions, **direct participation** in competitive politics. How? By creating parties, contesting elections and forming governments.
 - Indirect participation by people.** This is done by promoting organisations, called **interest groups or pressure groups.**

PRESSURE GROUPS AND MOVEMENTS

Pressure Groups	Political Parties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● They attempt to influence government policies without seeking control or political power. ● Pressure groups are formed when people of the common occupation, interests, aspirations come together to achieve an objective. ● Pressure groups influence policies, but do not take part in direct electoral competition. ● Examples are : Narmada Bachao Movement, Anti-Liquor Movement, Women's Movements. ● Decision making flexible and informal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● They aim to control or share political power. ● Political parties mobilise voters to support the common sets of interests, concerns and goals, they fix political agenda and policies and conduct election campaigns. ● Examples : Congress Party, BJP, Janata Party, AIADMK etc.

SECTIONAL INTEREST GROUPS AND PUBLIC INTEREST GROUPS

- 1. Interest Groups :** They seek to promote interest of a particular section or group of society.

Examples : Trade unions, business associations, and professionals (lawyers, doctors, teachers, etc.). They represent a section of society.

Aim : To seek betterment and well-being of their members, not society in general.

Important : Sometimes other organisations join them as they represent some common or general interests. In Nepal — the human rights organisations joined the struggle for democracy. In Bolivia, FEDECOR is another example. Opposing water privatisation was of general interest to all.
- 2. Public Interest Groups :** They promote **collective good** as opposed to **selective good.**

 - They support or help groups other than their own members. **Example :** A group fighting **bonded labour** fights for everyone who is suffering under such bondage. BAMCEF (Backward and Minorities Community Employees Federation) campaigns against caste distinctions or discrimination. Its principal concern is with social justice and social equality for the whole society.

KINDS OF MOVEMENT GROUPS

1. There are some who fight for a specific issue and have a single objective which they want to achieve in a specific, limited period of time.
2. There are some who have a general or broad goal to fight for a long term. **Example :** Narmada Bachao Andolan.
 1. **Specific Issue :** People were displaced by the creation of this dam on the Narmada river. **Objective :** To stop the dam from being built. Later, it took up the issues of all big dams and the model of development that requires such dams. Their active life is short. The Nepal movement had also one issue — restoration of democracy.
 2. There are movements that are long-term and involve more than one issue. **Examples :** Women's issues, Environmental movements. No single organisation controls them or guides them.

Environmental movements are organised by a number of organisations or groups and each has a specific issue to deal with. National Alliance for People's Movements (NAPM) is one such organisation. It coordinates a large number of people's movements in our country.

HOW DO THESE PRESSURE GROUPS AND MOVEMENTS INFLUENCE POLITICS?

- They try to gain public support and sympathy for their goals.
- Organise meetings, file petitions, carry out information campaigns by making the media take interest in the issues raised by them.
- They organise protests, strikes and other disruptive movements to prevent the government programmes.
- Business groups often sponsor expensive advertisements or employ professional lobbyists. Sometimes they join official bodies or committees that advise the government.
- Interest groups influence political parties. They have political ideologies and political positions on major issues.
- Sometimes the pressure groups are offshoots of political parties, either formed or led by political leaders.
- Political parties sometimes are a result of movements. The reform movements of the 1930's and 1940's led to the birth of parties like AIADMK and DMK in Tamil Nadu.
- It is not necessary that political parties and interest groups agree on issues. They often take positions, opposing each other. Political parties have to face people during elections, but pressure groups are not accountable.

Positive Influence of Pressure Groups	Adverse Influence of Pressure Groups
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Public interest groups and movements—the influence of small but rich and powerful groups. ● If different groups work actively, no one single group can achieve dominance. ● The government comes to know what various sections of the society want. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It is not good to put pressure on rulers; it counters democracy. ● All groups must have the same opportunity. ● When one group starts dominating and dictating the government, other pressure groups have to bring counter pressure.

I. SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT

A. NCERT TEXTBOOK QUESTIONS

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

Ans. The pressure groups and movements influence politics in various ways. They conduct information campaigns to make the public aware of certain public issues. They hold meetings, use the media to draw the attention to their issue. Their main aim is to get public support, mobilise public opinion in their favour. They organise strikes, dharnas and obstruct government from functioning normally. They show their anger and dissatisfaction with the government policies in this way. Business groups often employ professionals to promote their interests. They sponsor expensive advertisements. They sometimes become members of official bodies and committees and tender advice to the government.

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

Ans. Pressure groups do not participate directly in party politics. They can have the same ideology as a political party and can take a political position on important issues and can support a political party without standing for elections, etc. The relationship between political parties and pressure groups is both direct and indirect.

Examples :

- In Assam, a movement was led by students against 'foreigners' (Non-Assamese people). When the Assam movement ended, a new political party was formed called 'Asom Gana Parishad'. In Tamil Nadu, DMK and AIADMK were formed in this way.
- Trade unions and students organisations in India are affiliated or established by one or another major political party. The leaders of pressure groups are usually leaders of these parties and party activists (direct relationship).

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

Ans. Pressure groups help in the deepening of democracy. As long as everyone gets the opportunity, putting pressure on the rulers is not an unhealthy activity in a democracy. Governments can often come under undue pressure from a small group of rich and powerful people. Pressure groups perform a useful role of countering this undue influence of reminding the government of the needs and concerns of ordinary citizens.

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

OR

Mention three main features of pressure groups.

[2011 (T-2)]

Ans. Pressure groups are organisations that attempt to influence government policies. They do not aim to share power, they only promote their interests within a society. These organisations are formed by people of common interests, occupations or work. They work for a common objective.

Examples : Narmada Bachao Andolan, Movements for the Right to Information, Anti-liquor movements, etc.

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

OR

State any three distinctions between pressure groups and political parties. [2011 (T-2)]

Ans. A **pressure group** is an organised or an unorganised body that tries to promote its interests. These groups are formed, when people who follow the same profession or occupation, have the same interests, share same opinions on issues and have same objectives. They fight and try to achieve a common objective. They do not have any aim or desire to share political power.

Political parties contest elections because their aim is to achieve political power. They have more than one interests, they have their own ideology. They represent various interests and have their own way of achieving their aims.

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. Sectional interest.

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

- (a) Political parties take political stances, while pressure groups do not bother about political parties.
- (b) Pressure groups are confined to a few people, while parties involve a 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 mobilise people, while political 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 List I.

List I	List II
(1) Organisations that seek to promote the interests of a particular section or group.	A. Movements
(2) Organisations that seek to promote common interest.	B. Political Parties
(3) Struggles launched for the resolution of a social problem with or within 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) CDAB

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 Movement
(2) Long-term movement	B. Asom Gana Parishad
(3) Single issue movement	C. Women's Movement
(4) Political movement	D. Fertiliser 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) DCAB

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

- (a) Pressure groups are organised expression of the interests and views of specific social sections.
 (b) Pressure groups take positions on social issues.
 (c) All pressure groups are political parties.

- (a) A, B and C (b) A and B (c) B and C (d) A and C

Ans. (b) A and B

OTHER IMPORTANT QUESTIONS (AS PER CCE PATTERN)

B. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (1 MARK)

Q1. King Birendra was killed in a mysterious massacre of the royal family in

- (a) 2000 (b) 2001
 (c) 2002 (d) 2003

Ans. (b)

Q.2. When did King Gyanendra dismiss the then prime minister and dissolve the Parliament?

- (a) In February 2005
 (b) In February 2006
 (c) In March 2006 (d) In April 2006

Ans. (a)

Q.3. The people of Bolivia led a successful struggle against

- (a) limited franchise
- (b) government's apathy towards public facilities
- (c) privatisation of water
- (d) lack of educational facilities

Ans. (c)

Q.4. Which financial agency/organisation pressurised the government to give up its control of municipal water supply?

- (a) International Monetary Fund
- (b) World Bank
- (c) Central Bank of Bolivia
- (d) None of these

Ans. (b)

Q.5. Choose the incorrect statement.

- (a) The MNC raised the price of water by four times.
- (b) Many people received monthly water bills of Rs 1000.
- (c) This huge hike in water bill led to a popular protest.
- (d) None of these

Ans. (d)

Q.6. Who won Bolivia's water war ?

- (a) People
- (b) Government
- (c) MNC
- (d) None of the above

Ans. (a)

Q.7. Most of the time democracy evolves through :

- (a) consensus
- (b) popular struggles
- (c) both the above
- (d) none of the above

Ans. (b)

Q.8. 'Defining moments' of democracy usually involve a conflict between

- (a) Two most powerful groups
- (b) Those groups who have exercised power and those who aspire for a share in power

- (c) Two powerless groups
- (d) People and people's representatives

Ans. (b)

Q.9. Outstanding democratic conflicts are usually resolved through

- (a) mass mobilisation
- (b) institutions like the Parliament or the Judiciary
- (c) both the above
- (d) none the above

Ans. (a)

Q.10. Which of these is not one of the agencies of organised politics?

- (a) Political parties
- (b) Pressure groups
- (c) Movement groups
- (d) None of above

Ans. (d)

Q.11. The movement Kittiko-Hachchiko started in Karnataka in 1987, was based on

- (a) non-violent protest by farmers
- (b) violent protest by farmers
- (c) violent protest by workers of Karnataka Pulpwood Limited
- (d) none of these

Ans. (a)

Q.12. Which party spearheaded the mass upsurge in Nepal?

- (a) Seven-Party Alliance (SPA)
- (b) Nepalese Communist Party (Maoist)
- (c) Nepalese Communist Party
- (d) Nepalese Congress Party

Ans. (a)

Q.13. Which party did not believe in parliamentary democracy and was involved in an armed struggle but joined the popular protest?

- (a) Nepalese Congress Party
- (b) Nepalese Communist Party
- (c) Nepalese Communist Party (Maoist)
- (d) None of above

Ans. (c)

Q.14. Which of the following organisations/ institutions did not join the protest movement?

- (a) Labour unions and their federations
- (b) Organisation of indigenous people
- (c) Organisation of teachers, lawyers and human rights groups
- (d) Army

Ans. (d)

Q.15. The protest against water privatisation in Bolivia was led by

- (a) Socialist Party
- (b) An organisation called FEDECOR, Confederation of factory workers' unions
- (c) Federation of farmers
- (d) Confederation of Factory Workers' Unions

Ans. (b)

Q.16. Which political party that supported the protest in Bolivia, came to power in Bolivia in 2006?

- (a) Socialist Party
- (b) Communist Party
- (c) Congress Party of Bolivia
- (d) None of above

Ans. (a)

Q.17. Which of the roles is not played by political parties?

- (a) Direct participation in competitive politics
- (b) Contesting elections
- (c) Forming governments
- (d) None of these

Ans. (d)

Q.18. Which of the following is not a movement?

- (a) Narmada Bachao Andolan
- (b) Struggle in Nepal for democracy
- (c) Women's movement
- (d) All India Trade Union Congress

Ans. (d)

Q.19. Choose the incorrect statement.

- (a) Like an interest group, a movement does not take part in electoral competition
- (b) Like an interest group, a movement attempts to influence politics
- (c) Unlike the interest groups, movements have a loose organisation
- (d) Like the interest groups, movements have a loose organisation

Ans. (d)

Q.20. Which of the following is a movement?

- (a) CII
- (b) AITUC
- (c) NGOs
- (d) Environmental movement

Ans. (d)

Q.21. Usually sectional interest groups seek to promote

- (a) the interests of a particular section of group of society
- (b) the interests of the society in general
- (c) the well-being and betterment of their members
- (d) both (a) and (c)

Ans. (d)

Q.22. Which of the following is not a sectional interest group?

- (a) Trade unions
- (b) Business associations
- (c) Professional groups
- (d) Bolivian organisation, FEDECOR

Ans. (d)

Q.23. What is not true regarding public interest groups?

- (a) They represent some common or general interest
- (b) Members of the organisation may not benefit from the cause that the organisation represents
- (c) They promote collective rather than selective good
- (d) They aim to help their own members

Ans. (d)

Q.24. 'A group fighting against bonded labour' is an example of

- (a) sectional interest group
- (b) promotional group
- (c) public interest group
- (d) either (b) or (c)

Ans. (d)

Q.25. Which of the following is not a type of movement group?

- (a) Single-issue movements
- (b) Generic movements
- (c) Multiple movements
- (d) None of these

Ans. (c)

Q.26. What is not true regarding single-issue movements?

- (a) These movements seek to achieve a single objective within a limited time frame.

- (b) These movements tend to have a clear leadership.
- (c) These have some kind of organisation but their active life is usually short.
- (d) None of these

Ans. (d)

Q.27. Which of the following is not a single-issue movement?

- (a) Movement for democracy in Nepal
- (b) Narmada Bachao Andolan
- (c) Women's movement
- (d) None of these

Ans. (c)

Q.28. Which of the following is not a generic movement?

- (a) Environment movement
- (b) Women's movement
- (c) Narmada Bachao Andolan
- (d) None of these

Ans. (c)

PREVIOUS YEARS' QUESTIONS

Q.1. Which of the following is a pressure group ? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Narmada Bachao Movement
- (b) Anti-Liquor Movement
- (c) Women's Movement
- (d) Worker's Trade Union

Ans. (d)

Q.2. In a democracy which of the following is not a direct way of influencing the decisions by the people ? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Formation of interest groups
- (b) Formation of Government
- (c) Formation of political parties
- (d) Contesting Elections

Ans. (a)

Q.3. Which one of the following is not true regarding the outcome of the April 2006 Movement in Nepal ? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Girija Prasad Koirala became the new Prime Minister.
- (b) The Maoists came to power with a clear majority.

- (c) The Parliament was restored.
- (d) The new laws reduced the power of the king.

Ans. (b)

Q.4. Which one of the following is not true regarding Bolivia's Water War?

[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) The struggle involved mass mobilisation.
- (b) A political conflict led to popular struggle.
- (c) It resulted in the restoration of the water supply at the old rates
- (d) It lacked spontaneous public participation.

Ans. (b)

Q.5. Which one of the following is not true regarding the influence of pressure groups on politics ? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) They influence the media and gain public support to influence policies.

- (b) They organise protest activities like strikes and disrupt government programmes.
- (c) They are sometimes formed or led by members of political parties.
- (d) They do not enter into dialogue or discussion with political parties.

Ans. (d)

Q.6. Which one of the following is NOT the way to resolve a conflict in a democracy ? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Mass Mobilisation
- (b) Using Parliament
- (c) Using Judiciary
- (d) Armed Revolution

Ans. (d)

Q.7. Which one of the following is an example of public interest groups ? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Trade Unions
- (b) Business Associations
- (c) BAMCEF
- (d) FEDECOR

Ans. (c)

Q.8. Which one of the following statements is NOT true about the public interest groups ? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) They promote collective rather than selective good.
- (b) They aim to help groups other than their own members.
- (c) They undertake activity that benefits them as well as others too.
- (d) Their Principal concern is the betterment and well being of their members.

Ans. (d)

Q.9. Which one of the following features is NOT common in most of the democracies of the world? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) They hold elections
- (b) They have formal constitution
- (c) They are efficient and effective

- (d) They guarantee rights to the citizens

Ans. (c)

Q.10. FEDECOR comprised of : [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) professionals like engineers and environmentalists
- (b) leaders of political parties
- (c) federation of farmers who did not rely on irrigation.
- (d) confederation of household workers unions.

Ans. (a)

Q.11. Which one of the following political parties was founded by reviving the Bharatiya Jana Sangha ? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Samajwadi Party
- (b) Rashtriya Janata Dal
- (c) Bharatiya Janata Party
- (d) Bahujan Samaj Party

Ans. (c)

Q.12. Who amongst the following Nepalese Kings was killed in a mysterious massacre ? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) King Gyanendra
- (b) King Birendra
- (c) King Mahendra
- (d) None of them

Ans. (b)

Q.13. The interest groups like trade unions, business associations and professional bodies etc. are referred to as :

[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Public Interest group
- (b) Sectional Interest group
- (c) Movement group
- (d) Pressure group

Ans. (b)

Q.14. Who plays a decisive role in making laws for a country ? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Leaders
- (b) Parties
- (c) Voters
- (d) Constituencies

Ans. (b)

Q.15. The city of Cochamamba is related to which issue? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Nepal's popular struggle
- (b) Bolivia's water war
- (c) Environmental Movement
- (d) Narmada Bachao Movement

Ans. (b)

Q.16. Which one of the following distinctions between pressure groups and political parties is false ? [2011 (T-2)]

- (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 a large number of people.
- (c) Pressure groups do not seek to get into power, while political parties do.
- (d) Pressure groups are least concerned with the people while parties fully depend on the people.

Ans. (d)

Q.17. Which pressure groups seek to promote collective good ? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Sectional interest group
- (b) Public interest group
- (c) Movement group
- (d) People's group

Ans. (b)

Q.18. Which amongst the following was an organisation of Bolivia comprising local professionals, engineers and environmentalists? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) BAMCEF
- (b) FEDECOR
- (c) SPA
- (d) NAPM

Ans. (b)

Q.19. In which year did Nepal witness an extraordinary political movement ? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) 1990
- (b) 1998
- (c) 2001
- (d) 2006

Ans. (d)

Q.20. Which of the following statements is not true about Nepal ? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) King Gyanendra, the new king of Nepal, was not prepared to accept democratic rule.
- (b) Nepal witnessed an extraordinary popular movement in April 2001.
- (c) On 24th April, king Gyanendra conceded to all the demands of SPA.
- (d) Girija Prasad Koirala was chosen as the new prime minister of the interim government.

Ans. (b)

Q.21. An organised group which seeks to influence the government's decision is called a/an : [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Pressure group
- (b) Interest group
- (c) Sectional interest group
- (d) Political party

Ans. (a)

Q.22. Which one of the following is true regarding sectional interest groups ? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) They promote collective rather than selective good.
- (b) Their principal concern is the betterment and well-being of their members, not society in general.
- (c) They aim to help groups other than their own members.
- (d) They do not seek to promote the interest of a particular sector or group of society.

Ans. (b)

Q.23. Which one of the following is true regarding the extraordinary popular movement that emerged in Nepal in 2006 ? [2010 (T-2)]

- (a) Consolidation of monarchy
- (b) Abolition of democracy
- (c) Restoration of democracy
- (d) Establishment of dictatorship

Ans. (c)

Q.24. Which one of the following is true regarding public interest groups?

[2010 (T-2)]

- (a) Betterment and well being of members of a particular group
- (b) Suppression of some general interest
- (c) Representation of interests of one section in society
- (d) Promotion of collective good

Ans. (d)

Q.25. Which one of the following political parties came to power in Bolivia in 2006?

[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) The Socialist Party
- (b) The Republican Party
- (c) The Conservative Party
- (d) The Communist Party

Ans. (a)

Q.26. FEDCOR is the example of :

[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Public interest group
- (b) Sectional interest group
- (c) Movement group
- (d) Pressure group

Ans. (b)

Q.27. What was the aim of the popular movement of Nepal in April 2006 ?

[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Restoration of monarchy
- (b) Dissolution of Parliament
- (c) Restoration of democracy
- (d) Restoration of peace

Ans. (c)

Q.28. The aim of a public interest group is to promote:

[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Collective good
- (b) Selective good
- (c) The interest of its own members
- (d) The interest of a particular groups of society.

Ans. (a)

Q.29. Which one of the following is not a characteristic of people movement ?

[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) They try to influence government policies
- (b) Pressure groups are formed when people with a common occupation come together.
- (c) Pressure groups have a common objective to achieve.
- (d) Pressure groups contest election to hold power in the government

Ans. (d)

Q.30. Which king of Nepal refused to accept democratic rule ?

[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) King Birendra
- (b) Girija Prasad Koirala
- (c) King Gyanendra
- (d) King Mahendra

Ans. (c)

Q.31. Which pressure group seeks to promote collective good ?

[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Sectional Interest Groups
- (b) Public Interest Group
- (c) Movement Group
- (d) Loose organisation

Ans. (b)

Q.32. What type of government was adopted in Nepal in the year 1990 ?

[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Monarchy
- (b) Dictatorship
- (c) Colonial
- (d) Democratic

Ans. (d)

Q.33. Democracy evolves through

[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Popular struggles
- (b) Elections and political parties
- (c) Pressure groups
- (d) Social differences

Ans. (a)

Q.34. Identify the element which is not shared both by the movement of Nepal and struggle in Bolivia :

[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) A political conflict that led to popular struggle
- (b) The struggle involved mass mobilisation

- (c) It was about the foundation of the country's politics
- (d) It involved critical role of political organisation

Ans. (d)

Q.35. Which one of the following promotes the interest of a particular group ?
[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) Public interest groups
- (b) Political parties
- (c) Sectional interest groups
- (d) Government

Ans. (c)

Q.36. A democratic government is :
[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) an accountable government.
- (b) a responsive government.
- (c) a legitimate government
- (d) all the above

Ans. (d)

Q.37. Which of these is NOT a good argument in favour of democracy ? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) People feel free and equal in democracy.
- (b) Democracies resolve conflicts in a better way than others.
- (c) Democratic government is more accountable to the people.
- (d) Democracies are more prosperous than others.

Ans. (d)

Q.38. When did Nepal first win democracy ?
[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) 1985
- (b) 1995
- (c) 1990
- (d) 1965

Ans. (c)

Q.39. Which one of the following was not a demand of the Seven-Party Alliance during the strike in Kathmandu ?
[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) To restore the Parliament
- (b) To fight against the Maoist insurgents
- (c) To give power to an all-party government
- (d) To form a new Constituent Assembly

Ans. (b)

Q.40. Which one of the following is not true about the pressure groups ? [2011 (T-2)]

- (a) They are directly engaged in party politics
- (b) They take a political stance
- (c) They organise protests
- (d) They try to gain public support

Ans. (a)

Q.41. What was common in both the struggles held in Nepal and Bolivia?
[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) In both the case the struggle involved mass mobilisation
- (b) In both the cases people used violence
- (c) In both the cases the demands of people were not fulfilled
- (d) In both the cases government ignored the people

Ans. (a)

Q.42. What was the result of Bolivia water war?
[2011 (T-2)]

- (a) People were forced to pay the increased water rates
- (b) People lost the war
- (c) Government of Bolivia resisted
- (d) The water contract with the MNC was cancelled and water supply was restored to the municipality at old rates.

Ans. (d)

C. SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS (3 Marks)

Q.1. Who were the MNCs? Why were people in Bolivia protesting against them?

Ans. The MNCs were the multinational companies in Bolivia. Bolivia was pressurised by the World Bank to give up its control of municipal water. They sold these rights to a multinational company (MNC). The company increased the price of water by four times and people had to pay huge amounts. This led to a spontaneous popular protest.

Q.2. Explain the difference between the two protests in Nepal and Bolivia.

Ans. The movement in Nepal was for establishing a democracy in the country, it was about the foundation of the country's politics. In Bolivia, people were demanding their rights from an elected government; it was about one specific policy.

Q.3. Describe the Maoist party.

Ans. It is a Communist Party which believed in the ideology of Mao, the leader of the Communist revolution in China. They believe in overthrowing the government through an armed revolution to establish the rule of peasants and workers. The Maoists were already involved in an armed struggle against the Nepalese Government. They controlled large parts of Nepal.

Q.4. Why and when did the movement start in Nepal?

Ans. King Gyanendra, in February 2005, dissolved the Parliament, dismissed the democratically elected government and seized power. This led to a movement in 2006, to take away the power from the king.

Q.5. In what way was the movement different in Bolivia?

Ans. In Bolivia, no political party led the movement which was against the government's move to privatise water. An organisation called FEDECOR was formed comprising various interest groups or pressure groups. These groups were local professionals, engineers, environmentalists, federations of farmers, factory workers' unions, middle class students of the University of Cochabamba and the homeless street children of the city. Only in 2006, when the Socialist Party gained power, a political party supported the movement.

Q.6. What conclusions do we draw from popular struggles in Nepal and Bolivia?

Ans. (i) Democracy evolves through popular struggles. It is possible that some significant decision may take place through consensus and may not involve any conflict at all.
(ii) Democratic conflict is resolved through mass mobilisation.
(iii) These conflicts and mobilisations are based on new political organisations.

Q.7. Differentiate between a pressure group and a people's movement.

Ans. Both pressure groups and movements attempt to influence the government's policies rather than directly take part in electoral competition. But unlike the pressure groups, movements have a loose organisation. They depend much more on spontaneous mass participation than an interest group.

Q.8. What is the difference between a sectional interest group and public interest group?

Ans. Sectional interest groups seek to promote the interests of a particular section or group of society. Their principal concern is the betterment and well-being of their members, not of society in general.

Public interest groups aim to help groups other than their own members. They promote collective rather than selective good.

Q.9. Is the influence of mobilisation and movement groups healthy? [HOTS]

Ans. It may initially appear that it is not healthy for groups that promote interest of one section to have influence in democracy. However, pressure groups and movements have deepened democracy. Putting pressure on the rulers is not an unhealthy activity in a democracy as long as everyone gets this opportunity. The government gets to hear about what different sections of the population want. This leads to a rough balance of power and accommodation of conflicting interests.

PREVIOUS YEARS' QUESTIONS

Q.1. What are public interest groups? How do they look after the public interests? Explain. [2009]

Ans. Public interest groups promote collective rather than selective good. They aim to help groups other than their own members or may undertake activity that benefits them as well as others. For example, a group fighting against bonded labour fights not for itself but for those suffering under such bondage.

Q.2. What is a single-issue movement? How does it differ from a long-term movement? Explain with examples. [2009]

Ans. A single-issue movement is issue-specific and seeks to achieve a single objective within a limited time frame. On the other hand, a long-term movement is a general or generic movement that seeks to achieve a broad goal in the very long term.

For example, the Nepalese movement arose with the specific objective of reversing the king's orders of suspension of democracy.

Narmada Bachao Andolan started with the specific issue of the people displaced by the creation of Sardar Sarovar dam on the Narmada river.

Q.3. Distinguish between public interest groups and sectional interest groups. [2011 (T-2)]

Ans. Sectional interest groups represent a section of society such as workers, employees, business persons, industrialists, followers of a religion, caste group, etc. On the other hand, public interest groups promote collective rather than selective good. They aim to help groups other than their own members. For example, a group fighting against bonded labour fights not for itself but for those who are suffering under such bondage. The principal concern of sectional interest groups is the betterment and well-being of their members, not society in general.

Q.4. In what three ways can the pressure groups influence the government policies ? Explain. [2011 (T-2)]

Ans. (i) They try to gain public support and sympathy for their goals and their activity by carrying out information campaigns, organising meetings, file petitions, etc. Most of these groups try to influence the media into giving more attention to these issues.

(ii) They often organise protest activity like strikes or disrupting government programmes. Worker's organisations, employees, associations and most of the movement groups often resort to these tactics to force the government to take note of their demand.

(iii) Business groups often employ professional lobbyists or sponsor expensive advertisements. Some persons from pressure groups or movement groups may participate in official bodies and committees that offer advice to the government.

Q.5. Mention examples of single issue and long-term movements and distinguish between the two. [2011 (T-2)]

Ans. Most of the movements are issue-specific movements that seek to achieve a single objective within a limited time frame. For example, the Nepalese movement for democracy arose with the specific objective of reversing the king's orders that led to suspension of democracy. Narmada Bachao Andolan started with the specific issue of the people displaced by the construction of Sardar Sarovar dam on the Narmada river.

Long-term movements involve more than one issue. The environmental movement and the women's movement are examples of such movements. There is no single organisation that controls or guides such movements. Environmental movement is a label for a large number of organisations and issue-specific movements. The National Alliance for People's Movement (NAPM) is an organisation of organisations. Various movement groups struggling on specific issues are constituents of this loose organisation which coordinates the activities of a large number of people's movements in our country.

Q.6. Justify with three points that democracy evolves through popular struggles. [2011 (T-2)]

- Ans.** (i) In Poland, Lech Walesa led the mass movement under the banner of 'Solidarity' party. Eventually the party mobilised a successful popular struggle which overthrew the existing dictatorial regime.
- (ii) In Nepal, the movement for democracy was aimed at regaining popular control over the government from the king.
- (iii) In Bolivia, the World Bank pressurised the government to give up its control of municipal water supply. The government sold these rights for the city of Cochabamba to a multinational company (MNC). After the struggle of Bolivians, the contract with the MNC was cancelled and water supply was restored to the municipality at old rates.

Q.7. "The relationship between political parties and pressure groups can take different forms." Support the statement with three points. [2011 (T-2)]

- Ans.** (i) In some cases the pressure groups are either formed or led by the leaders of political parties or act as extended arms of political parties. For examples, most trade unions and students organisations in India are either established by or affiliated to one or another major political party.
- (ii) In many cases political parties have grown out of movements. For instance, students movement against the 'foreigners' in Assam led to the formation of Asom Gana Parishad (AGP). The DMK and the AIADMK in Tamil Nadu arose out of a long-drawn social reform movement during the 1930 and 1940s.
- (iii) Most of the time, the relationship between parties and pressure groups is not so direct. They often take positions that are opposed to each other. Yet, they are in dialogue and negotiation.

Q.8. Explain how the activities of pressure groups are useful in the functioning of a democratic government ? [2011 (T-2)]

Ans. Pressure groups have deepened democracy. Putting pressure on the government is not an unhealthy activity in a democracy as long as everyone gets this opportunity. Governments in a democracy can often come under undue pressure from a group of rich and powerful people. Pressure groups remind the government of the needs and concerns of ordinary citizens. The

government gets to hear about what different sections of the population want. This leads to accommodation of conflicting interests.

Q.9. Explain any three common features of the popular struggle in Nepal and Bolivia.

[2011 (T-2)]

Ans. (i) Both these are instances of political conflict that led to popular struggles.

(ii) In both cases, the struggle involved mass mobilisation.

(iii) Public demonstration of mass support clinched the dispute. Both instances involved critical role of political organisations.

Q.10. State any three points of distinction between movements and interest groups. [2011 (T-2)]

Ans. Movement – There are some people or group concentrated on a single objective and having a specific issue. They want to achieve their target in a limited period of time.

Second type of movement is that the people or group have a general or wider target for a long period of time.

Third type of movements that focuses on more than one issue for a long term.

Interest groups – These kinds of groups concentrate on a particular/specific section or group of society.

Secondly, they represent a section of the society.

Thirdly, they seek the betterment and well-being of their own member not of the whole society.

Q.11. What are the techniques adopted by the pressure groups and interest groups to influence politics ?

[2011 (T-2)]

Ans. Pressure groups are able to influence government policies without having direct political participation. Example : Narmada Bachao Andolan. They fight for those people who were displaced by the construction of a dam on Narmada river.

Interest groups are the promoters of the issues that concern a specific section of the society. Example : an interest group working for human rights joined the struggle for democracy in Nepal.

In Bolivia, an interest group known by the name of FEDECOR fought against the privatisation of water in Bolivia.

D. LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS (3 MARKS)

Q.1. Give the reasons, events and results of the Movement of April 2006 in Nepal.

Ans. Causes : King Birendra of Nepal had accepted to be the constitutional head instead of an absolute monarch. But he was mysteriously killed in 2001 and the new king, Gyanendra, did not accept democracy. He dissolved the Parliament and sacked the Prime Minister. The movement of April 2006 was against the actions of King Gyanendra, and to seize power from him.

Events. All major political parties formed a Seven-Party Alliance and they called for a four-day strike in Kathmandu (the capital of Nepal). They were joined by Maoist insurgents and various organisations. People poured into the streets of Kathmandu, defying the curfew and the police found it impossible to deal with more than a lakh people involved in it. On April 24, 2006, the king finally gave in and he was forced to concede all three of their demands. Girija Prasad Koirala was chosen as the new Prime Minister.

Results : Most of the powers of the king were taken away. The SPA and the Maoists agreed about the new Constituent Assembly, and how to elect it.

Q.2. What is a Movement? Explain the difference between a Movement and a Pressure Group.

Ans. A Movement is a form of collective action which also tries to influence government policies or politics. Like a Pressure Group, it also does not seek power and does not take part in elections. But unlike the pressure groups, it does not have a strong organisation. They have a loose organisation which is both informal and not rigid. They depend on spontaneous mass participation rather than interest groups supporting them. Examples : Women's Movement, Narmada Bachao Movement, etc.

Q.3. How have Pressure Groups and Movements deepened democracy?

Ans. In a democracy, sometimes politics is influenced by a small but rich and powerful group. Public interest groups and movements play a very important role in exerting such an influence. They make the government aware that it should think of the needs and concerns of ordinary citizens and not of a few rich groups.

Pressure groups also help the government in getting the views of different sections of the population. They do not allow the government to listen and follow the views of one single group and allow it to dominate the policies. In this way a rough balance of power is achieved and many conflicting views are heard and accommodated.

Q.4. Describe Bolivia's water war.

OR

Mention any three features of the Bolivia Water War.

[2011 (T-2)]

Ans. The government of Bolivia sold the right of municipal water supply of the city of Cochabamba to a multinational company. The company immediately raised the price of water by four times. This led to a popular protest and in January 2000, an alliance of labour, human rights and community leaders organised a successful four-day general strike in the city. The government agreed to negotiate and the strike was called off. Instead of resolving the issue, the police resorted to brutal repression and the government imposed martial law. But the power of the people forced the officials of the MNC to flee the city and made the government concede to all the demands of the protestors. The contract with the MNC was cancelled and water supply was restored to the municipality at old rates. This came to be known as Bolivia's water war.

Q.5. Compare and contrast single-issue movements with general or long-term movements.

Ans. Single-issue movements are issue-specific movements that seek to achieve a single objective within a limited time frame. These movements have a clear leadership and supporting some organisations. But their active life is very short. The Nepalese movement for democracy and Narmada Bachao Andolan are good examples of single-issue movements.

Long-term movements are general or generic movements that seek to achieve a broad goal in the long terms and involve more than one issue. There is no single organisation that controls or guides such movements. The environmental movement and the women's movement are examples of such movements. Environmental movement is a label for a large number of organisations and issue-specific movements. All of these have separate organisations, independent leadership and often different views on policy related matters. Yet all of these share a broad objective and have a similar approach.

Q.6. 'Pressure groups and movements have deepened democracy.' Discuss.

Ans. In democracy, putting pressure on the rulers is not regarded as an unhealthy practice as long as everyone gets this opportunity. Public interest groups and movements perform a useful role of countering the undue influence of a small group of rich and powerful people, reminding the government of the needs and concerns of the ordinary citizens.

Even the sectional interest groups play a valuable role. Where different groups function actively, no one single group can achieve dominance over society. If one group brings pressure on government to make policies in its favour, another will counter pressure not to make policies in the way the first group desires. The government, thus, gets to hear about what different sections of the population want. This leads to the accommodation of conflicting interests and thus deepening of democracy.

Q.7. Describe any two features each of sectional and promotional or public interest groups in India.

OR

What are sectional interest groups? How do they watch their interests? Explain. [2009]

OR

What are public interest groups? How do they look after the public interests? Explain. [2009]

Ans. Sectional interest groups

- (i) They represent a section of society : Workers, employees, business persons, industrialists, followers of a religion, caste group, trade unions, business associations and professional bodies (lawyers, doctors, teachers, etc.) are some examples of sectional interest groups.
- (ii) Their principal concern is the betterment and well being of their members, not society in general.

Promotional or public interest groups

- (i) They represent some common or general interest that needs to be defended. The Bolivian organisation, FEDECOR is an example of this kind of group.
- (ii) In some instances, the members of a public interest group may undertake activity that benefits them as well others. For example, BAMCEF (Backward and Minorities Community Employees Federation) is an organisation largely made up of government employees that campaigns against caste discrimination. It addresses the problems of its members who suffer discrimination. But its principal concern is with social justice and social equality for the entire society.

Q.8. Keeping in mind some of the social and economic problems existing in our country, think about an 'interest group' you would like to set up. Give the reasons to justify your decision. [HOTS]

Ans. Self Attempt.

[Hints : You can take the issue of child labour.]

PREVIOUS YEARS' QUESTIONS

Q.1. State the similarities and levels of popular mass struggles of Nepal and Bolivia. [2008]

Ans. There were similarities in the mass struggles of Nepal and Bolivia. They were both struggles

for establishing or restoring democracy. There was mass mobilisation in both countries, and the resolution to struggle had come from the people.

- (i) Both the struggles were against the people who exercised power. In Nepal, it was the monarchy, in Bolivia, it was against the elected government.
- (ii) In both cases, public demonstrations of mass support clinched the dispute. Finally, in both cases, it involved a critical role of political organisations.

In Bolivia, the power of the mass uprising and the people forced the government to concede all their demands. In Nepal, the king had to step down. From an absolute monarchy, Nepal became a republic.

In Nepal, the call was given by the SPA or the Seven-Party Alliance. It had members of big parties and some members of the Parliament. The Nepalese Communist Party (Maoist) also joined, though they did not believe in parliamentary democracy. Non-political groups like all the major labour unions, their federations, teachers, lawyers and human rights movements also supported the movement. The protest against water privatisation in Bolivia was **not** led by any political party. It was led by an organisation called FEDECOR. It comprised professionals, engineers, environmentalists, federations of farmers, factory worker unions, students from the university of Cochabamba and city's growing population of homeless children. The movement was supported by the Socialist Party, which came into power in Bolivia in 2006.

Q.2. How do pressure groups and movements influence politics? Explain with examples.

[2009, 2011 (T-2)]

- Ans.**
- (i) They try to gain public support and sympathy for their goals and their activity by carrying out information campaigns, organising meetings, filing petitions, etc.
 - (ii) They often organise protest activity like strikes or disrupting government programmes. Workers' organisations, employees' associations and most of the movement groups often resort to these tactics to force the government to pay heed to their demands.
 - (iii) Business groups often employ professional lobbyists or sponsor expensive advertisements. Some people from the pressure groups or movements may participate in bodies that offer advice to the government.
 - (iv) In some instances the pressure groups are either formed or led by the leaders of political parties or act as extended arms of political parties. For example, most trade unions and students' organisations in India are either established by or affiliated to one or the other major political party.

Q.3. How are popular struggles an integral part of the working of democracy? Explain by giving an example of Bolivia's struggle for water.

(2009)

- Ans.**
- (i) Democracy evolves through popular struggles. Significant decisions in democracy usually involve conflict between those groups who have exercised power and those who aspire for share in power.
 - (ii) Democratic conflict is resolved through mass mobilisation. Sometimes it is possible that institutions like Parliament or judiciary, which are set up to solve the disputes, themselves get involved in disputes. Then the solution has to come from outside — from the people, which happens in the form of popular struggles.

[For second part of the answer, please refer to : Long Answer Question–Answer 4]

II. FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

A. PROJECT

Topic covered (1) : Movement for democracy in Nepal

Objective : To understand how democracy evolves through popular struggles and how a democratic conflict is resolved through mass mobilisation.

Skills developed : Analytical understanding of democracy and movements.

Time required : 1-2 days

Method :

- (a) Collect information on Nepalese movement for democracy from Internet, newspapers, books and other sources.
- (b) Trace the history of democratic movement in Nepal from the year 2004 onwards.
- (c) Focus on the movement in 2006, the role of SPA and Maoists in the struggle.
- (d) Describe the aftermath of the struggle, consequent restoration of democratic government and the current political scenario in Nepal.
- (e) In conclusion, give your own views about the future of democracy in Nepal.

Topic covered (2) : Narmada Bachao Andolan

Objective : To understand the distinction between pressure groups, movements and political organisations.

Skills developed : Analytical understanding of various forms of social and political movements/organisations.

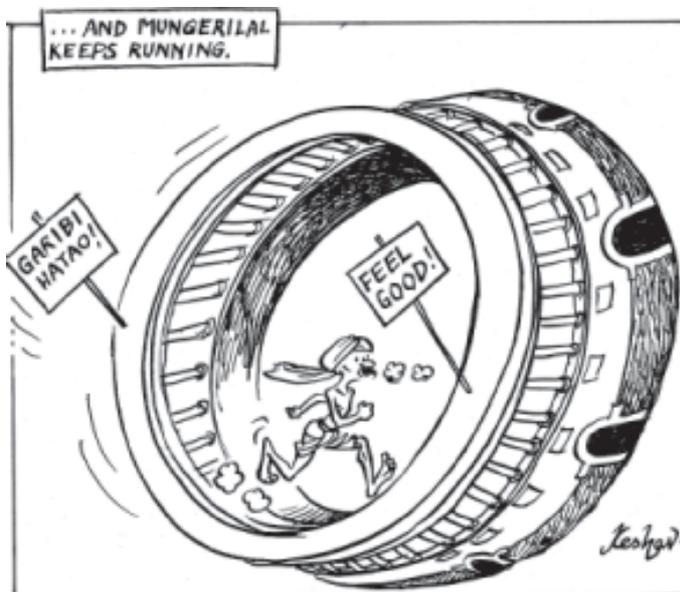
Time required : 2-3 days

Method :

- (a) Trace the history of Narmada Bachao Andolan from its beginning to its present status.
- (b) Specify the basic objective of the movement, its leadership, various environmental issues involved.
- (c) Explain how the issue involves conflict with the model of developments being pursued by our government.
- (d) Distinguish how this movement is different from a pressure group/ Interest group and political organisation.
- (e) In conclusion, give your personal views about whether dams should be built at the cost of environmental degradation and displacement of people.

B. ACTIVITIES

- (1) You might have viewed the TV serial 'Mungerilal Ke Hasin Sapne'. The chief protagonist Mungerilal is a quintessential dreamer. Likewise the 'common man' keeps on dreaming about better times but their dreams remain unfulfilled despite promises by political parties and governments. Though the governments initiate schemes and programmes to alleviate the suffering of the poor, yet poverty remains in our country. The following cartoon explains this situation. Study the cartoon. Talk about its theme to your teacher, fellow students, your parents and the MLA/MP of your locality. Explain the causes and effects of poverty in India. Why do the dreams of common men remain merely dreams and are never fulfilled?



- (2) Collect newspaper clippings, photographs, drawings and cartoons about various pressure groups/interest groups in India.
- (3) Identify the pressure groups functioning in the news clippings given here. Write briefly about their organisations, demands and functioning.



- (4) Follow the news on Aaj Tak TV news channel for one week. Make a note of news related to pressure groups or movements representing the following sectors or sections : farmers, traders, labour, industry, environment and women. Which of these

are mentioned most on television news? Which sections or interests get mentioned the least?

C. ASSIGNMENTS

- (1) Describe the social movements listed in these news clippings. What are their goals? Write about their efforts and sections of people they are trying to mobilise.



- (2) The Right to Information Act was passed in the year 2005 by Parliament. Study the cartoon and explain various positive and negative effects of this legislation on people, bureaucracy, government. Should the matter related to defence, foreign affairs and nuclear technology be included in its scope?
- (3) Read the given passage. What relationship do you see between democracy and social movements? How should this movement respond to the government? The Green Belt Movement has planted 30 million trees across Kenya. Its leader, Wangari Maathai, is very disappointed with the response of government officials and politicians : “In the 1970s and 1980s, as I was encouraging farmers to plant trees on their land, I also discovered that corrupt government agents were responsible for much of the deforestation by illegally

selling off land and trees to well-connected developers. In the early 1990's, the livelihoods, the rights and even the lives of many Kenyans in the Rift Valley were lost when elements in President Daniel Arap Moi's government encouraged ethnic communities to attack one another over land. Supporters of the ruling party got the land, while those in the pro-democracy movement were displaced. This was one of the government's ways of retaining power; if communities were kept busy fighting over land, they would have less opportunity to demand democracy."

- (4) Read the given passage. What is the relationship you observe among movements, political parties and the government? Explain. Mewat is one of the most backward areas in Haryana. It used to be a part of districts Gurgaon and Faridabad. The people of Mewat felt that the area would 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.

D. GROUP DISCUSSION

- (1) Divide the class in groups of five students. Organise a group discussion on the topic 'Democracy evolves through popular struggles and not through consensus.'
- (2) In Bolivia, the government initially sold the right of water supply for a particular city to a multinational company (MNC) but later on rolled back the order restoring the work to municipality. Do you think responsibility of fulfilling the basic needs of people rests with the Government? Hold a group discussion on the topic 'Basic needs like water and electricity should only be entrusted to local bodies and not to a private company.'

E. SEMINAR

Organise a seminar in the school auditorium on the topic 'How do the Pressure Groups and Movements exert influence on politics'? Invite an MLA/MP to speak and enlighten the students on the subject. Ten students of the class should be selected to speak at the seminar.

