

Section - A

Q-2 Examine Charles De Montesquieu's theory of *Trias politica*. Why has he been called the Aristotle of eighteenth century? Discuss: theory of separation of powers:

Charles De Montesquieu, a French philosopher proposed the famous theory of *Trias politica* (separation of powers) in his famous book "Spirit of the Law". He believed that in order to safeguard rights and liberties of individuals, power must be divided into three different divisions, that is, in executive, judiciary and legislature in such a manner that each organ should exercise its own power and must not interfere in the powers of other two organs. In order to prevent any of

the organs of the state becoming tyrant, he proposed a system of checks and balances.

Main features of Separation of Powers:

Following are the main features of the separation of powers.

- 1) Division of powers in three organs of the state:

Montesquieu divided the various functions of a state in three organs. The three organs are the executive, the judiciary and the legislature.

According to this division of power, executive branch is responsible to run the government within the framework of constitution.

Function of the legislature was to legislate and make

constitution. And similarly, judicial powers are vested in judiciary.

ii) System of checks and Balances.

Another important feature of separation of Powers is the system of checks and Balances. Checks and Balances are intended to all legitimate power to govern and good ideas to be implemented, while abuse of powers, corruptions and oppression are minimized.

According to checks and Balances, each branch of government can check and actions of other two branches. In order to balance the powers among the branches of government, other two branches, in response to the

check of one branch, have counterchecks or balances.

Some of the main points of checks and Balances are as under:

- i) The legislative branch makes laws, but the president in the executive branch can veto those laws.
- ii) The legislative branch can override that law veto with enough votes
- iii) The legislative branch has the power to approve presidential nominations, control the budget, and can impeach the president.
- iv) Judicial branch interpret laws, but the Senate confirms the president's nomination for judicial positions and Congress can impeach any of those judges and remove them from office.

Montesquieu, The Aristotle of 18th century.

Montesquieu is rightly called the Aristotle of 18th century. He, like Aristotle did, followed the inductive and historical methods of reasoning. He divided the basic types of governments into Republic, Monarchy and despotic. Like Aristotle, Montesquieu too paid attention to the influence of physical environment on the life and social institutions. For these reasons, he is called Aristotle of 18th century.

Q-3: Write note on the following.

(P) Rousseau's theory of General will

Theory of General will is a central concept in Rousseau's political philosophy.

According to Rousseau, the General Will is the collective will of a society. It represents the common good and the collective interests of all members of a society. He believed that the general will was the basis for a legitimate and just society. The only way for a society to be free and just was to be guided by General Will.

General Will is — what is best for the society.

According to Rousseau, the General Will is not the same as the will of the majority or sum of individual wills. Rather, it is a distinct entity that emerges from the collective deliberation of the people. It is a result of reasoning and discussion in which individuals set aside

their own selfish interests and consider what is best for the community as a whole.

General Will: The ultimate source of sovereignty

Rousseau argued that the General Will is the ultimate source of sovereignty in a society. It is the foundation upon which the laws and policies are based. In this sense, the General Will represents the common good and the common interest of all members of society. But it is not easy to determine the General Will. It's the responsibility of the government to represent the general will and ensure that it is followed.

8-3(ii) **Marxism:**

Marxism or equally known as communism is a political

philosophy which emerged in 19th century as a revolt against capitalism, free market, private ownership and class-distinction. It is an advanced form of socialism. Karl Marx, the founding father of Marxism, believed that capitalism is responsible for all the grievances of working class.

Salient Features of Marxism

(a) Communal ownership of means of production :-

In 1848, Marx, along with German economist Friedrich Engels, wrote the communist Manifesto, in which they concluded that the problems of poverty, disease and shortened lives could be resolved only by replacing capitalism under communism. The major means of industrial production would be publicly owned for the benefit of all.

(b) Distribution of work and goods.

Marx predicted that a fully realized form of communism following the overthrow of capitalism would result in a communal society, in which the production and distribution of goods would be based upon the principle "From each according to his ability, to each according to his needs".

(c) Centrally planned Economy:

In a marxist political system there would be no free market, rather a central authority, like government in communist states would control the economy. All the decisions regarding the manufacturing and the distribution of products, are made by governments.

(d) Elimination of income inequality:

In theory, by compensating each

individual according to their need, gaps in income are eliminated. By abolishing revenue, interest income, profit, income inequality, and socioeconomic class friction is eliminated, and the distribution of wealth is accomplished on a just and fair basis.

Repression:

In keeping with the principle of democratic centralism, political opposition and economic freedom are prohibited or repressed. Other basic individual rights and freedoms may also be repressed.

Section - B

Q.6 **Interest Groups:**

An interest group is a group of people with common interests, an organized group, with the goal of influencing policy making of government.

Types of Interest Groups:

i) Economic Interest Groups:

Such types of interest groups are the most prominent types of interest groups. These are focused on economic gain via influencing policymaking. The different kind of (interest groups) economic interest groups include business groups, labour groups, farmers associations, and professional groups like Bar Associations.

ii) Cause groups:-

Cause groups are those whose primary purpose is noneconomic and usually focused on promoting a particular cause or value. These groups usually represent a segment of society. This category is wide ranging and includes religious organizations, groups supporting the rights of disabled

persons, women's rights associations etc. These groups focus mainly on a cause-

(iii) Public interest groups:-

These groups operate in a single country but also could be working on international level. Public interest groups focus on and promote issues of general public concern, for example human rights groups, environmental protection groups etc. Many public interest groups work on international level, like Amnesty international.

Functions of Interest Groups:

Interest groups carry out a range of functions including representation, political participation, education, policy formation & implementation.

i) Representation:

Interest groups provide representation for those that are not adequately represented through electoral process. Interest groups unlike political parties are concerned with specific rather than general.

ii) Political participation:

Interest groups seek to exert influence precisely by mobilising popular support and arrange marches, protest, and demonstrations. These groups have become an important agent of political participation.

iii) Education:-

Much of what public knows about politics it finds out through pressure groups. These groups raise political awareness among public.

iv) Policy Formation:

Interest groups aim at influencing policy making and hence these groups indirectly participate in

Policy-making process.

Difference of effectiveness of Interest groups from that of pressure groups.

Interest groups include many pressure groups. Interest groups are more effective than the pressure groups because former is concerned with a specific aim while later is concerned with tactics of exerting pressure on policy making process.

pressure groups are political in nature while interest groups promote their interest within their group or their greater community.

Interest groups are more effective as they use soft, persuasive and emotional tactics whereas pressure groups use coercion tactics.

Interest groups which do not take part in lobbying

or do not raise funds need not register. While for pressure groups getting registered is necessary. Thus interest groups are much effective as it is free from regulations.

Q. No. 8 (ii) Merits of confederation:

Confederation:

Confederation is a union of sovereign states without compromising their sovereignty. In a confederation, the constitution allows any of the member to secede at any time if desired so. A confederation has less power as compared to federation. Unlike federation a confederation is not sovereign rather the states or political bodies forming confederation are sovereign. The first government of United States of America was a confederation.

Merits of Confederation:-

1) Local Government can prevent Centre from authoritarianism.

A confederation is a weak union of states. In a confederation the member states are sovereign and powerful and thus they can prevent centre from becoming authoritarianist.

2) Citizens are sovereign.

In a confederation, the members states are sovereign and do not compromise their power. Thus citizens of member states are sovereign in a confederation.

3) Better cooperation among States:

In a confederation member states can cooperate having equal status which is otherwise not possible. All the member states have equal status in a confederation.

4) Decentralization of power
 In a confederation, powers are vested in member states. Thus with a weak centre they can enjoy advantages of unity without compromising their rights or power.

5) Separate identities
 In a confederation member states could have their own separate identities. A good example is that of European Union. All the members therein are sovereign, have their own separate identity, and even they have their own currency and army.

Q-8. ① Principles of ultra-nationalism.
ultra-nationalism:

ultra-nationalism is an extreme level of nationalism, that promotes the interest of one state or people above all others. It's extreme devotion

Towards ones own nation. In its most extreme form. it resembles fascism. marked by disdain for other nations, supports authoritarian rule.

Principles of ultra-nationalism:

1. No Theoretical basis

ultra-nationalists have not doctrine before hand rather they believe in action as what is needed. It was born of the need for action and was practical from beginning rather than theoretical. They do not want to enter any discussion regarding any theory.

2. Believe in Dictatorship

ultra-nationalists do not believe in democracy, nor do they accept fundamentals of democracy, that is liberty, equality. Mussolini, the ultra-nationalist ruler of Italy believed that freedom is not the right of the people. Rather

than launching struggle for their rights, public should focus on their duties.

(iii) Negation of individualism:

Ultra-nationalists oppose individualism, rather they believe that individual is a means and state is a ~~means~~ to the end. According to them the state is a spiritual organ.

(iv) Believe in totalitarianism:

According to ultranationalist, state has the right to control all spheres of the state. The state is supreme in social, economic and political fields. They interfere in all spheres of life.

(v) Belief in the National State:

ultra-nationalists believe that sovereignty lay with the national state and not with the individual

(vi) Opposition of socialism and Communism:-

ultra-nationalism is bitter opponent of socialism and marxism. Rather they emphasize that capitalists and workers should give up their selfish desires and work together for national interest. They want the profit of capitalists be controlled and wages of workers be fixed by the state.

(vii) No respect for other nations and international bodies.

ultra-Nationalists have no love for other national states and international bodies. They rather hate others.
