

Chapter 5

Popular Struggles and Movements

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

Ans.: Pressure groups and movements exert influence in a variety of ways:

- a) They mostly carry out information campaigns, organizing meeting, filling petitions, etc. to gain the support of public
- b) By organizing strikes and protest they seek to make the government take care of their demands
- c) They also influence decisions making by lobbying
- d) Sometimes political parties grow out of movements. So the pressure groups raise the issues and influence the various political parties

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

Ans.: The relationship between political parties and pressure group can take different forms:

- a) Sometimes political parties grow out of movements and in that case, the pressure groups raise the issues and influence the various political parties
- b) They often take positions that are opposed to each other
- c) Most of the times they raise new issues by pressure or movement which leads to change in the policies of the political parties

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

Ans.: Some of the activities of pressure groups are useful in the functioning of a democratic government are as follows:

(i) We know that the pressure groups are those organisations that influence government policies. They do not have their direct control or share on political power

(ii) Pressure groups are formed when people with common occupation or interest come together to achieve a common objective

(iii) Pressure groups influence the government to complete the needs and concerns of ordinary citizens. They also raise voice of common people of our society

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

Ans.: A pressure group is an organization which influences the government to complete the needs and concerns of ordinary citizens. They also raise voice of common people of our society These groups influence the government policies through protests and demonstrations. Pressure groups are formed when people with similar opinions get together for similar objectives.

e.g.: FEDECOR and BAMCEF

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

Ans.: Difference between a pressure group and a political party is as follows:

a) Pressure groups contains those people who have same interest and aspirations and have a common objective or goal to achieve whereas

political parties contains those people who come together to win the elections and hold the government

b) Pressure groups are not accountable to the citizens of our society whereas political parties are accountable to them

c) Pressure groups do not have direct power in their hands whereas political parties have directly control over the power

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.: The groups which promote the interests of various social sections such as workers, teachers, lawyers etc are called Sectional interest groups.

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

A. Parties take political stances, while pressure groups do not bother about political issues.

B. Pressure groups are confined to a few people, while parties involve larger number of people.

C. Pressure groups do not seek to get into power, while political parties do.

D. Pressure groups do not seek to mobilise people, while parties do.

Ans.: One of the main difference between pressure groups and political parties is that pressure groups do not seek to get into power while political parties seek to get into power by winning election

Therefore, option (c) is correct

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

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

A. 1-C, 2-D, 3-B, 4-A

B. 1-C, 2-D, 3-A, 4-B

C. 1-D, 2-C, 3-B, 4-A

D. 1-B, 2-C, 3-D, 4-A

Ans.: Correct match of above given statements is as follows:

Organisations that seek to promote the interests of a particular section or group: Sectional interest groups

Organisations that seek to promote common interest: Public interest groups

Struggles launched for the resolution of a social problem with or without an organizational structure: Movement

Organisations that mobilise people with a view to win political power: Political parties

Hence, option (b) is correct.

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

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

A. 1-D, 2-C, 3-A, 4-B

B. 1-B, 2-A, 3-D, 4-C

C. 1-C, 2-D, 3-B, 4-A

D. 1-B, 2-D, 3-C, 4-A

Ans.: Correct match of the above list is as follows:

Pressure group: Fertilizer dealers' association

Long-term Movement: Women's Movement

Single issue movement: Narmada Bachao Andolan

Political party: Asom Gana Parishad

Therefore, option (a) is correct

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

A) pressure groups are the organized expression of the interests and views of specific social sections.

B) Pressure groups take positions on political issues.

C) All pressure groups are political parties.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

A. A, B and C

B. A and B

C. B and C

D. A and C

Ans.: The pressure groups are the organized expression of the interests and views of specific social sections and also take positions on political parties

Hence statement A and B are correct. Therefore option (b) is correct.

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

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

Ans.: There are many movement which take up issues and are ignored by political parties and these all things can be easily concluded from the example of Mewat, The six- year long Assam movement (1979-1985), led by the All Assam Students' Union (AASU), was aimed against the infiltration of foreigners from Bangladesh into Assam. At the end of this movement, the State Assembly was dissolved, the government was dismissed, and fresh elections were held. The Asom Gana Parishad, formed out of The AASU, contested and won the elections, forming the Government of Assam. This is the best example in which we can easily see that that how a pressure group came up to form government