Class 8

Social Science (civics)

Chapter-5 Judiciary

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Dated: 10/08/2021

Question/Answer

Question 1.Where is the Supreme Court of India located?

Answer: Supreme Court of India is presently located in New Delhi.

Question 2.What is the full form of PIL? When did the Supreme Court devise the mechanism of PIL?

Answer: Its full form is Public Interest Litigation. The Supreme Court devised the mechanism of Public Interest Litigation in 1980.

Question 3.What is the meaning of integrated judicial system in respect to India?

Answer: It means that the decisions made by higher courts are binding on the lower courts.

Question 4. When was the Supreme Court was established in India?

Answer: The Supreme Court was established on 26th Jan 1950 the day India became a Republic.

Question 5.What is Judicial Review?

Answer: As the final interpreter of the Constitution, the judiciary also has the power to strike down particular laws passed by the Parliament if it believes that these are a violation of the basic structure of the Constitution. This is called Judicial Review.

Questions 6.Briefly explain the working of judiciary in India.

Answer: The work of the judiciary can be divided into the following:

Dispute Resolution: The judicial system provides a mechanism for resolving disputes between citizens, between citizens and the government, between two state governments and between the centre and state governments.

Judicial Review: As final interpreter of the Constitution, the judiciary also has the power to strike down particular laws passed by the Parliament if it believes that these laws are a violation of the basic structure of the Constitution. This is called the Judicial Review.

Upholding the law and Enforcing Fundamental Rights: Every citizen of India can approach the Supreme Court or High Court if they believe that their Fundamental Rights have been violated.

Question 7. Why do you think an independent judiciary is necessary to carry out this important function?

Answer: The independent judiciary is necessary to carry out this function because of the following reasons:

- The Independent judiciary does not work under any pressure from the legislature or the executive. It can protect the Fundamental Rights.
- It works independently to give every citizen, whether rich or poor, equal rights and he/she cannot be discriminated against any other considerations.
- In a situation where a politician or the executive has the power to appoint the judges, the judiciary will not be able to take independent decisions. For example, a judge appointed by a politician will not be able to judge a case against that person on its merit. Rich and powerful might try to influence the judiciary. To prevent such a situation Constitution provides for an independent Judiciary.

Question8. Distinguish between Civil and Criminal Cases?

Answer: on page no 60 in text book.

Question9. Why do you think the introduction of Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in the 1980s is a significant step in ensuring access to justice for all?

Answer The Supreme Court in the early 1980s devised a mechanism of Public Interest Litigation or PIL to increase access to justice. It allowed any individual or organisation to file a PIL in the High Court or the Supreme Court on behalf of those whose rights were being violated. The legal process was greatly simplified and even a letter or telegram addressed to the Supreme Court or the High Court could be treated as a PIL. In the early years, PIL was used to secure justice on a large number of issues such as rescuing bonded labourers from inhuman work conditions; and securing the release of prisoners in Bihar who had been kept in jail, even after their punishment term was complete.

Thus, the introduction of Public Interest Litigation is a significant step in ensuring

access to justice for all.

Question 10. How do you think the Right to Constitutional Remedies connects to the idea of judicial review?

Answer

- The Right to Constitutional Remedies connects to the idea of judicial review in its capacity of protecting the rights of an individual against the working of the State legislature or executive.
- It allows citizens to move the court if they think that their fundamental rights are being violated by the State administration. Judicial review implies invalidation of legislative or executive action if it is seen to violate fundamental rights.
- Hence, judicial review and the Right to Constitutional Remedies are interconnected because the judicial review is practiced when any fundamental Right is violated by the State. In this case, a higher court can repeal the judgments of a lower court based on its own investigation.
