



ST. MARY'S CO-ED SCHOOL, HARDA

CLASS IX (2020-2021)

DEMOCRATIC POLITICS

CHAPTER – 4

ELECTORAL POLITICS

IMPORTANT POINTS OF THE CHAPTER

- 1) Booth Capturing – Supporters or hired musclemen of party or a candidate gain physical control of a polling booth and cast false votes by threatening people from reaching the polling booth.
- 2) Code of Conduct – A set and guidelines to be followed by political parties and contesting candidates during election time.
- 3) Constituency – Voters in a geographical area who elect a representative to the legislative parties.
- 4) Incumbent – The current holder of a political office. Usually the choice for the voters in election is between the incumbent party or candidate and those who oppose them.
- 5) Level playing field – Condition in which all parties and candidates contesting in an election have equal opportunities to appeal for votes and to carry out election campaigns.
- 6) Rigging – Fraud and malpractices indulged by a party or candidate to increase its votes. It includes stuffing ballot boxes by a few persons using the votes of others ; recording multiple votes.

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS :

Q.1 What makes elections in India democratic? Explain.

Answer: An Independent Election Commission: In our country, elections are conducted by an independent and a very powerful Election Commission (EC). It enjoys the same kind of independence that the judiciary enjoys. The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) is appointed by the President Of India. But once appointed, the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) is not answerable to the President or the government. Even if the ruling party or the government does not like what the Commission does, it is virtually impossible for it to remove the CEC.

Popular Participation: In India, the poor, illiterate and underprivileged people vote in larger proportion as compared to the rich and the privileged sections. This is in contrast to western democracies. For example, in the United States of America, poor people, African-Americans and Hispanics vote much less than the rich and the white people.

Acceptance of election outcome: The outcome of India's elections speaks for itself. The ruling parties routinely lose elections in India, both at the national and the state levels. In fact, in every two out of the three, elections held in the last fifteen years, the ruling party lost the power.

Q.2 Mention any three provisions which makes Election Commission an independent body.

Ans –

- * The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) is appointed by the President of India. But once appointed, the Chief Election Commissioner is not answerable to the President or the government.
- * During the election period, the EC can order the government to follow some guidelines, to prevent use and misuse of governmental power to enhance its chances to win elections, or to transfer some government officials.
- * When on election duty, government officers work under the control of the EC and not the government.

Q.3 What is the difference between a voter and a candidate?

Voter: A person who elects the candidates is a voter. All the citizens, who attain the age of 18 years become voters.

Candidate: A person who contests the election is known as a candidate. In order to be a candidate, the minimum age is 25 years.

Q.4 What is ballot paper? Name the machine by which these papers have been replaced.

A ballot paper is a sheet of paper on which the names of the contesting candidates along with the party name and symbols are listed. These are being replaced by the electronic voting machines.

Q.5 Why are the candidates required to give a detailed statement of their property and other details?

This provides an opportunity to the voters to make their decisions and to choose the right candidate. The candidates also provide details of the assets and liabilities. Through this, the voters can judge how much the candidate has earned from one election to another.

Q.6 What is an EVM?

Ans - It is an Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) which is used to record votes. The machine shows the names of the candidates and the symbols.

QUESTIONS FOR SELF ASSESMENT

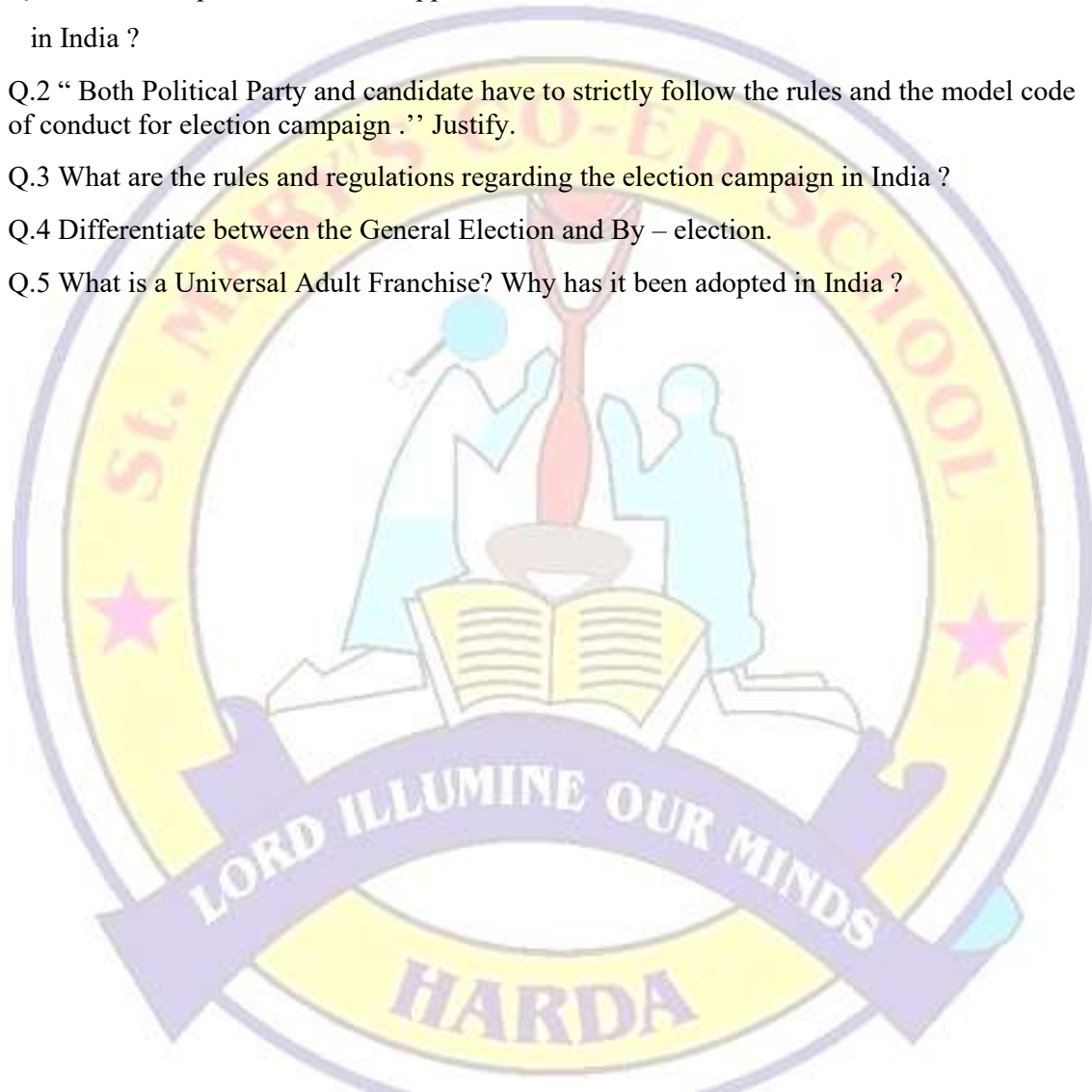
Q.1 What is the procedure for the appointment of the Chief Election Commissioners in India ?

Q.2 “ Both Political Party and candidate have to strictly follow the rules and the model code of conduct for election campaign .” Justify.

Q.3 What are the rules and regulations regarding the election campaign in India ?

Q.4 Differentiate between the General Election and By – election.

Q.5 What is a Universal Adult Franchise? Why has it been adopted in India ?



NEAR RAILWAY STATION, HARDA- 461331 [M.P.] INDIA

Page no.3

PH. 07577-222731, 222167

Website: www.stmarysharda.com

