

CHAPTER 3 ANSWERS :

1A. A defector is basically a person in politics who gives up his own Political party and join other alliance for benefit. This term is also applied, Often pejoratively, to anyone who switches loyalty to another religion, Sports team, political party, or other rival faction. In that sense, the defector is often considered a traitor by his original side.

2A. The power of superintendence, direction, and control of all elections to The local government bodies vest with the State Election Commissions as Envisaged in Article 243K of the Constitution of India. The Constitutional

(73rd Amendment) Act, passed in 1992 by the Narasimha Rao government, Came into force on April 24, 1993. It was meant to provide constitutional Sanction to establish democracy at the grassroots level as it is at the state Level or national level. The State Election Commissioner has several unique Powers pertaining to the elections to Local Bodies.

3A. In India, people follow different religions. Therefore, India remained Neutral in matters of religion and chose to be a secular country. A secular State or a country is one that does not establish any one religion as official Religion.

Following constitutional provisions declare India to be a secular state:

- (i) The Constitution provides to all its citizens the freedom to profess, Practice and propagate any religion of their choice.
- (ii) There is no official religion for India. Unlike Sri Lanka where Buddhism is The state religion, Islam in Pakistan and Christianity in England, our Constitution does not provide any special status to any religion.
- (iii) The Constitution prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion.

4A. In the context of the Election Commission of India, the analogy Mentioned in the question is true due to following reasons :

The Election Commission of India takes decisions on every aspect of Conduct and control of elections. It implements the model code of conduct and punishes any candidate or Party that violates it. During the election period, the EC can order the government to follow Some guidelines, to prevent the 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.

5A. Part XV of the Constitution of India consists of Articles on Elections. Article 324 of the Constitution provides that the power of superintendence, Direction and control of elections to parliament, state legislatures, the Office of president of India and the office of vice-president of India shall be Vested in the election commission. Under the supervision of the commission, free and fair elections have been Held in India at regular intervals as per the principles enshrined in the Constitution.

6A. Election Commission has officially banned wall writing by parties During election times. Most political parties argue that was the cheapest Way for their campaign. These election times were used to create amazing Graffiti on the walls.

7A. By-elections are elections used to fill elected offices that have become Vacant between general elections. These offices become vacant because The incumbent becomes ineligible to continue in office or dies or resigns.

8A. This happened on June 12, 1975, when the Allahabad High Court gave a Verdict of convicting then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. She was convicted Of electoral malpractices and consequently, debarred from holding any Elected post falling in the category where she has previously won the seat

9A. The Election Commission of India is a constitutional body responsible For administering and conducting elections at Parliament, State legislature, Offices of President and Vice President in India. It has the power to Supervise, direct and control all elections, prepare electoral rolls an Register qualifying voters, make the code of conduct and recognize political Parties. It also hears the disputes and complaints regarding elections

10A. Important feature of democracy is elections at regular intervals. The Election Commission is regarded as the guardian of elections within our Country. It conducts elections of Lok Sabha, Raja Sabha, state legislative Assemblies and the offices of President, Vice President. The Election Commission lays down guidelines for the conduct of political Parties and candidates during elections.

11A. The Election Commission of India is an autonomous Constitutional Body that regulates the elections in India. Not only it supervises and Controls the election process but also other matters related to elections Such as hearing grievances related to election members, providing model Code of conduct, allotting symbols to the political parties and giving Recognition to the political parties on the national and regional basis Provided that they fulfil the essential criteria laid down by the Election Commission in this regard.

12A. Elections are important for the betterment of citizens, Because of Elections Voters can choose their representative who will make laws for Them, Voters can choose their representative who will form the government And take major decisions, Voters can choose the party whose policies will Guide the government and law making. Elections provide a way for the Citizens of India to choose their leaders. They do so by casting their vote in Favour of the

candidate or party whose views appeal to them. This ensures That the will of the people is reflected in the elected candidates.

13A. It may prove dangerous if political parties and candidates are given Freedom to conduct their election campaigns the way they want to. So, it is Essential to regulate campaigns to ensure that every political party and Candidate gets a fair and equal chance to compete. According to our Election law, no party or candidate can

- (i) Bribe or threaten voters;
- (ii) Appeal to them in the name of caste or religion;
- (iii) Use government resources for election campaign; and
- (iv) Spend more than 25 lakh in a constituency for a Lok Sabha election or 10 lakh in a constituency in an Assembly election. If they do so, their election can be rejected by the court even after they have been declared elected.

14A. In order to be a candidate in general lok sabha elections the minimum Age is 25 years, while it is only 18 years for being a voter.

15A. Regular electoral competition provides incentives to political parties And leaders. They know that if they raise issues that people want to be raised, their Popularity and chances of victory will increase in the next elections.