

CHAPTER – 4

Understanding Laws

❖ EXERCISES

Question 1:

Write in your own words what you understand by the term the ‘rule of law’. In your response include a fictitious or real example of a violation of the rule of law.

Answer:

The term ‘Rule of Law’ means that all the laws that are formed should equally be applied to all citizens of the country and no one can be above the law whether a government official, a wealthy person or President of the country. Everyone is equally treated no matter whoever he/she is.

e.g.: Let us take a real example of violation of the rule of law.

Ram is a boy who belong to a middle-class family. He is 15 years old and caught driving without license. In that case his parents should be fined and put in jail.

There is another boy, Rohan who is 16 years old and his father is minister in that case his parents are neither fined nor is he thrown in jail.

Question 2:

State two reasons why historians refute the claim that the British are introduced the rule of law in India.



Answer:

Two reasons for the above statement are as follows:

(a) The colonial rule was arbitrary which means nothing was fixed under British rule and it was instead left to one's choice or judgment.

e.g.: Sedition Act of 1870

(b) For the development of the legal spheres in British India, the Indian nationalists played a prominent role.

Note:

Sedition Act of 1870 - Any person protesting or criticizing the British government could be arrested without due trial.

Question 3:

Re-read the storyboard on how a new law on domestic violence got passed. Describe in your own words the different ways in which women's groups worked to make this happen.

Answer:

Women worked very hard. They also used different kinds of forums like public protests, hearings, press conference etc. for completing their demands. People of India came to know from their own direct experiences and through observations and through mass-media that the Indian women were not treated equally and well at their homes and work-places.

The women of our country wanted protection against being beaten, from all sorts of physical or social violence.



In 1990s the idea of new law for giving protection to women was raised in different forums. After this in 1999, a group of lawyers known as lawyers collective, law students took the lead in drafting the domestic violence bill.

After some time, many NGOs started the women movement. Finally, in 2005 a bill was introduced in the Parliament. And then historically this bill after being passed by the both houses of Parliament and getting approval from the President came into effect in 2006 with the name “The Domestic Violence Act”.

Question 4:

Write in your own words what you understand by the following statement. They also began fighting for greater equality and wanted to change the idea of law from a set of rules that they were forced to obey, to law as including ideas of justice.

Answer:

From the above passage we understand the following things:

- (a) First of all the word ‘They’ that is used in the above passage stands for the Indian nationalists who were participating in freedom.
- (b) During the colonial rule the nationalist wanted the “Rule of Law”.
- (c) These nationalists started protesting against the British government by criticizing them.
- (d) After this the legal rights of all the Indians were defended.



❖ Intext Question Pg-45

Question 1:

The word 'arbitrary' has been used earlier in this book and you've read what the word means in the Glossary of Chapter 1. The word 'sedition' has been included in the Glossary of this chapter. Read the Glossary descriptions of both words and then answer the following questions:

(i) State one reason why you think the Sedition Act of 1870 was arbitrary? In what ways does the Sedition Act of 1870 contradict the rule of law?

Answer:

Sedition Act of 1870 was arbitrary because this included the mood of the British government. This act does not made any justice with the public, it was upon them to whom to arrest and to whom to free.

Sedition Act of 1870 contradict the rule of law in the following ways:

(a) Under this rule, people were arrested without being told the reason for their arrest.

(b) This was an example of use of powers by the British as it authorized them to arrest the person without any evidence who was possibly seen as a rebellion.



❖ Intext Question Pg-48

Question 1:

What do you understand by ‘domestic violence’? List the two rights that the new law helped achieve for women who are survivors of violence.

Answer:

Domestic violence means violent or aggressive behaviour within the home, typically involving the violent abuse of a spouse or partner.

Two rights that the new law helped achieve for women who are survivors of violence are:

- (a) Domestic violence Act, 2005
- (b) The family violence Prevention and services act

Question 2:

Can you list one process that was used to make more people aware of the need for this law?

Answer:

There are many processes that are using in the presently for awaking the society. Women based groups specially by protesting and agitation highlights this with the help of media and newspapers.

Question 3:

From the above storyboard, can you list two different ways in which people lobbied Parliament?

Answer:

Two different ways in which people lobbied Parliament are as follows:

- (a) They convinced the Parliament that there is a need to give the temporary custody of children.
- (b) They tried to persuade the Parliament by suggesting them to change the definition of domestic violence.

Question 4:

In the following poster, what do you understand by the phrase 'Equal Relationships are Violence Free'?

Answer:

From the given phrase, 'Equal Relationships are Violence Free' we understand that if there exist a sort of respect and equality for each other then there won't be any violence issue to fight on which would automatically run the relationship smoothly and in case if w-one is dominant than the other one's wishes will always be suppressed which will arise reasons for conflicts regularly.



❖ Intext Question Pg.– 50

Question 1:

Read the newspapers/watch news on TV for a week and find out if there are any unpopular laws that people in India or around the world are currently protesting.

Answer:

Most recent form of protest in India is by the cloth traders against GST as they want that the GST should not be applied on the cloths.

Question 2:

List the three forms of protest that you see in the above photos.



Answer:

The three forms of protest in these pictures are:

- (a) Sit-in
- (b) Marching
- (c) Boycotting.