**GREENWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL, ADITYAPURAM**

**OUR MOTTO-DEVELOPMENT WITH DELIGHT**

**CLASS-VIII SUBJECT- SOCIAL SCIENCE**

**TERM-1 SYLLABUS**

**CIVICS**

**CHAPTER -2**

**WHY DO WE NEED PARLIAMENT**

**+**

**SECULARISM**

**Key terms:-**

1.Parliament**-** It is a highest law making body of the country .It is also known as Sansad

2.Ruling party –party that rules the country

3.Representative-the person who is an elected by the people is known as people’s representative

4.Criticise- The term refers to citizens who find faults with the functioning of the government

5.Rule of Law-That all laws apply equally to all citizens of the country and no one can be above the law

**Difficult Words:-**

1.Parliament

2.Nationalist

3.Opposition

4.Approval

5.Candidates

6.Election

7.Political

8.Commission

9.Nutrition

10.Ministry

**Very Short Answers:-**

**Q1.Name the two houses of the parliament?**

**Ans**.The Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha.

**Q2.What is the controversial law?**

**Ans**.The law that favours one group and disregards the other is known as controversial law.

**Q3.What is polling booth?**

**Ans**. It is a small enclosed area in which a person stands while casting a vote.

**Q4.What is political party?**

**Ans**. A group of people with similar political goals and opinions.

**Q5.What does term ’Secularism’ refer to?**

**Ans**.The term secularism refers to the separation of the power of religion from the power of the state.

**Q6.What do you mean by a secular state ?**

**Ans**. A secular state does not promote any one religion as the state religion?

**Short Answers:-**

**Q1.What are the objectives of a secular state?**

**Ans. The three objectives of a secular state are:-**

1. One religious community does not dominate another.

3.Some members do not dominate other members of the same religious community.

3.The state does not enforce any particular religion , nor does it take away the religious freedom of individuals.

**Q2. How is the national government formed?**

Ans. After the Lok Sabha elections are declared, a list is prepared showing how many MPs belong to each political party. For a political party to form the government , they must have a majority of elected MPs. The total membership of the Lok Sabha is 545 ,in which 543 are elected members while 2 are nominated .Thus , a party should have at least half the number, 272 members or more to have a majority in order to form the national government.

**Long Answers:-**

**Q1.Discuss the roles and functions of the Parliament?**

**Ans.The Parliament is the most important institution in a democracy .It performs the following role and functions:**

i) It consist of two houses –the Lok Sabha (the lower house of the parliament)and the Rajya Sabha (the upper house of the parliament).

ii) In all matters dealing with finances, the parliament’s approval is crucial for the government .This is one of the several ways in which the parliament controls, guides and informs the government.

iii) The parliament makes new laws for the entire country .It amends or repeals them, if necessary.

iv) It passes the budget of the Union Government .Also it is empowered to vote a reduction in the budget or reject it altogether.

v) The parliament can remove the president of India through impeachment .It can also impeach the judges of the Supreme Court of the High Court, in case they are found violating the Constitution or misusing their status .

**Q2. What do you mean by following laws?**

1. The Sedition Act, 1870
2. Maternity Act,1961
3. The Civil Right Act, 1964
4. Hindu Succession Amendment act,2005
5. Right to information Act, 2005

**1.Sedition Act of 1870:** It presented an example of the arbitrariness of the British law. Under this Act , any person protesting or criticizing the British Government could be arrested without due trial.

**2. Maternity Benefit Act, 1961:** It grants benefit to women workers employed in registered factories only. It protects them from exploitation .

**3.The Civil Right Act, 1964:** It prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, religion or national origin in the USA.

**4.Hindu Succession Amendment Act,2005:** According to law, sons, daughters and their mothers can get an equal share of family property .

**5.** **Right to Information Act, 2005:** Laws are based on the understanding, that they are the needs of the people to find out what is happening in the government and watchdog of democracy.