

Chapter-4 Understanding Laws

1. Write in your own words what do you understand by the term 'rule of law'?

Rule of law is the state where the written law and customs are followed and all governmental officials and all common people abide by this law.

2. State two reasons why historians refute the claim that the British introduced the Rule of Law in India?

Two reasons because of which many historians refute the Rule of Law was introduced by the British in India due to the following reasons:-

- i. *first they think that colonial law was very arbitrary.*
 - ii. *second is that many Indians were a prominent figure in the development of the legal sphere in British India.*
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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.

The need for a new law started when few women went to women's organisation to complain. Then there were public hearings and gatherings were organised to demand a new law. Then meetings with several women's organisation were held and then the case was taken to Lok Sabha. A bill was passed but it was not as demanded by the women's. So they held a meeting with the Parliamentary standing community. The bill was reintroduced in both the houses and a new bill was passed meeting most of the suggestions of various women organisation.

4. Write in your own words what you understand by the following sentence on page 44-45: 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

People of the above sentence means that people of India began protesting and demanding for greater equality from the British. They wanted to reform the law that was seen as a set of rules that they were enforced to a law that was ideal of justice.

- Extra Questions:-

1. *State one reason why do you think the sedition act of 1870 was arbitrary? In what ways does the sedition act of 1870 contradict the rule of law?*

The sedition Act of 1870 was arbitrary as under this law any Indian could be jailed without a trial or anything in court. The reason for the arrest of people under this law was criticizing or protesting against the British government. It contradicts the rule of law as in this act there was a clear ban on speaking against the law whether right or wrong.

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

Domestic violence is physical, verbal, economical, sexual, and emotional abuse to a woman or girl. Two rights that surviving women get were:-

- i. provide relief, to millions including daughters, women, wives, etc.*
 - ii. It also gave women monetary relief to survivors.*
 - iii. It gives rights to women to live in a shared household.*
 - iv. Protection against any harassment.*
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3. *Can you list one process that was used to make people aware of the need for this law?*

One process that was used to make people aware of the law was the events of public meetings held in various parts of the country and some NGO's.

4. What do you understand by the phrase 'Equal relationship is a violence free'?

This phrase means that when both husband and wife have an equal status and equal power in their relationship there are almost no chances where one can dominate other or abuse other, verbally or physically.

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

The two different ways in which people lobbied the Parliament were:-

- i. When they wanted a bill against the domestic violence.*
 - ii. When the bill passed was not good enough, they protested against the bill and demanded a new bill to be passed which was strong and effective.*
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6. Give example of some law?

Some examples of law are:

- i. Sedition Act of 1870.*
 - ii. Hindu Succession Amendmend Act 2005.*
 - iii. Protection of women from Domestic Violence Act 2005.*
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7. Which government body makes law in India?

In India, the members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha make the law in India. This is called the executive body.

8. What was the most important provision of the constitution to establish the rule of the law?

The most important provision of the constitution to establish the rule of law was to make everyone equal in country, so that no one is

discriminated on the basis of gender, religion, caste, etc and all laws apply equally to all the citizens of the country and none is above it.

9. *What does the rule of law mean?*

The rule of law that everyone in the country is equal before the law and no one can be above it. A government official, a wealthy man or even the President of the country is above the law. Any violation of law or crime has a specific punishment as well as a process through which the guilt of the person has to be established.

10. *What does the violation of law lead to?*

Violation of the law leads to the arrest of the accused, his trial in a court and if proved guilty punishment as per the constitution.

11. *Can law be discriminated?*

The law cannot be discriminated and each and everyone of the country has to follow it. Including the Prime Minister.

12. *Give short notes:-*

Criticise:

To find fault with or disagree of a person or thing. In the context of the chapter it refers to find the fault within the government.

Evolution:

Process of development from a simple to a complex form and is often used to discuss the development of plants and animals. In this chapter it refers to the development of the protection of women from an urgently felt need to a new law that can be enforced throughout the country.

Sedition:

This applies to anything that the government might consider as a stirring or a revolt. In such cases the government does not need to collect evidence in order to arrest person. Sedition Act of 1870 is such an example.

Repressive:

To control severely in order to prevent free and natural development of expression. In the context of this chapter it refers to laws that brutally control person and often prevent them from exercising their fundamental