



CLASS NOTES-ANSWERS

1) Use the terms 'constituency' and 'represent' to explain who an MLA is and how the person is elected.

Answer: In accordance with the population, a state is divided into constituencies. For representation in the Legislative Assembly, every constituency elects one representative who shoulders the responsibility of representing his/her constituency at the national level. These representatives are called MLAs or Members of the Legislative Assembly and are elected through a general election. They could be part of a political party or can also be independent candidates. They also have the additional responsibility of presenting the needs and demands of their constituency at the Legislative Assembly.

2) How did some MLAs become Ministers? Explain.

Answer: The party which is elected in the majority for the Legislative Assembly forms the government. As per constitutional provisions, the ruling party elects its leader, who is called the Chief Minister, as the head of the government. In consultation with the Governor, the Chief Minister constitutes a cabinet which includes members of his/her party as ministers. The MLAs who become ministers are allotted a portfolio. Here, the MLAs turned ministers become accountable for the entire particular that particular portfolio.

3) Why should decisions are taken by the Chief Minister and other ministers be debated in the Legislative Assembly?

Answer: The decisions taken by the Chief Minister and other ministers should be debated in the Legislative Assembly because of the following reasons:

- 1) The decisions, it is not necessary, taken by the Chief Ministers and ministers are beneficial to one and all.
- 2) All the MLAs should know about them.



- 3) Important suggestions may be incorporated in the final decisions.
 - 4) Adversely affecting points are deleted after the debate.
 - 5) The decisions so taken are the decisions of all the members and hence the people.
- 4) What was the problem in Patalpuram? What discussions/actions were taken by the following? Fill in the table.

Public meeting	
Legislative Assembly	
Press conference	
Chief Minister	
Public Meeting	Condemned the government, carried out protests and put forth their demand
Legislative Assembly	Discussed the issue and decided the course of action
Press Conference	The health minister presented the plan of action initiated by the Government
Chief Minister	Visited the village of Patalpuram, announced compensation to the affected families, also clarified the future action will be taken to solve the problem

- 5) What is the difference between the work that MLAs do in the Assembly and the work done by government departments?

Answer: The core difference between the work done by MLAs in the assembly and the government departments is that every government department is headed by a minister, who is also an MLA. The minister approves any work done or proposed by the department. The department is responsible for completing the work, while the MLAs coordinate between the Legislative Assembly and the various government machinery that will be involved in the completion of any projects undertaken.