

ST. ANDREWS SCOTS SCHOOL

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Session: 2025-2026

CLASS: VIII

SUB: SOCIAL SCIENCE

TOPIC: Civics

CH-8

Law and Social Justice

A. Multiple Choice Type Questions

1. What does MIC stand for ? **Methyl – isocyanate**
2. What do the loopholes in the Consumer Protection Act lead to ? **All of these .**
3. What is the primary motive of a private enterprise? **Maximization of profit.**
4. Safety measures for workers include? **Proper lighting**
5. What is the Right against Exploitation State? **Children below the age of 14 years should not be employed in any hazardous job.**

B. Fill in the blanks

1. **Minimum wages Act** ensures that the workers are not poorly paid.
2. If the commodity Purchased fails to meet the expected standards the consumer can go to the **consumer court.**
3. Article 21 of the constitution guarantees **Right to life.**
4. Developed countries are dumping their hazardous waste in **developing** countries.
5. Around **10,000** people died in the Bhopal gas tragedy.

C. Write “T” for true or “F” for false statements

1. A democratic government is responsible for establishing a welfare state. **T**
2. The workers of factories always work in good working conditions. **F**
3. The government amended the child labour act in September 2006. **F**
4. 74% of child domestic workers are being employed below the age of 14 years. **T**
5. The Bhopal gas leak disaster act was passed in 1985. **T**

D. Short Answer Questions

1. **What issues did the Bhopal gas tragedy bring to the forefront?**

The Bhopal gas tragedy brought the issue of need to protect the environment to the forefront. Environmentalists became active and began to pressurise the government to pass new laws that would take action against those responsible for pollution.

2. **What are the safety requirements for the workers working in industries?**

The safety requirements for the workers working in industries are proper lighting, monitoring systems, protective clothing, fire fighting systems, alarms, emergency exits etc.

3. How can the workers express the problem faced by them in industries?

The workers express the problems faced by them in the industries by forming unions which constantly work to highlight the grievances of the workers.

4. What steps are taken by the government to control pollution?

The government ordered all public transports to shift from diesel to Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and this has led to a considerable decline in the pollution level.

5. What is waste colonialism?

Waste colonialism is the unfair practice where wealthy, developed countries export their huge amounts of waste—like plastic, old electronics (e-waste), and used clothing—to poorer, developing nations that do not have the proper facilities to process or recycle it.

E. Long Answer Questions.

1. What are the sources of environmental pollution? How does it affect people?

Pollution is mainly categorized by where it originates. The primary sources include:

- **Air Pollution:** Smoke from factories, exhaust from vehicles (cars, buses), burning of fossil fuels (coal, petroleum), and forest fires.
- **Water Pollution:** Discharge of untreated industrial waste into rivers, leakage from sewage pipes, and runoff of chemical fertilizers and pesticides from farms.
- **Soil (Land) Pollution:** Dumping of non-biodegradable waste like plastics and electronics (e-waste), and excessive use of chemical weedicides in agriculture.
- **Noise Pollution:** Loud sounds from heavy machinery, construction activities, and constant honking in traffic. Environmental pollution has direct and long-term impacts on human health:
- **Respiratory Problems:** Polluted air causes diseases like asthma, bronchitis, and lung cancer. Fine dust particles can enter the bloodstream and damage the heart.
- **Water-borne Diseases:** Drinking contaminated water leads to serious illnesses such as cholera, typhoid, and dysentery.
- **Skin and Eye Irritation:** Chemicals in the air and water can cause rashes, allergies, and burning sensations in the eyes.
- **Toxic Food Chain:** When soil is polluted, harmful chemicals enter the crops we eat. This can lead to long-term health issues like organ damage or birth defects.

2. Write a short note on the Bhopal gas tragedy.

- The Bhopal Gas Tragedy was the world's worst industrial accident. It happened on the night of December 2, 1984, at a factory owned by a company called Union Carbide in Bhopal. A very poisonous gas called Methyl Isocyanate (MIC) leaked from the factory and spread into the nearby houses while people were sleeping.
- This disaster happened because the company ignored safety rules and had broken machinery to save money. The effects were terrible: thousands of people died immediately from breathing the gas, and many others went blind or developed serious lung diseases. Even today, many people in Bhopal suffer from health problems because of that leak. After this tragedy, the government made much stricter laws to make sure factories follow safety rules to protect people and the environment.

3. Briefly explain the laws made by the government against the exploitation of children below the age of 14 years.

i. Article 24 of the Constitution

This is a Fundamental Right. It clearly states that no child below the age of 14 years shall be employed to work in any factory, mine, or any other hazardous (dangerous) occupation.

ii. Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986

It prohibits children under 14 from working in any occupation , It also protects “adolescents” (aged 14–18) by banning them from working in dangerous places like mines or chemical factories.

iii. Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009

The government realized that if children are in school, they cannot be exploited at work. Under Article 21A, the government must provide free and compulsory education to all children between the ages of 6 and 14. It ensures that every child has the right to study in a nearby school without paying any fees.