

*Q) What are the dimensions of justice?*

*Ans: The term justice broadly refers to the fulfilment of the legitimate expectation of the individual under laws. It denotes the quality of being right, just or reasonable and is opposed to unjust, wrong unreasonable. It is a dynamic idea and an ethical concept closely related with morality. As a dynamic idea, it has changed with the changes in society from time to time. Primarily it is a problem of moral philosophy, but since it has to be implemented by a political order, it also becomes a problem of political philosophy.*

*The word Justice has been derived from the Latin word 'Jungere' meaning to 'bind or to tie together'. The word 'Jus' means to 'Tie or 'Bond'. In this way, justice can be defined as a system in which men are tied or joined in a close relationship. It is considered as the most important objective of the state and society. In political theory, it is of special importance. In defending or opposing laws, policies, decisions, actions of government, appeals are all made in the name of justice.*

*Dimensions of justice:*

*The modern concept of justice is different from the traditional concept. The traditional concept of justice put emphasis on the just man. It was basically concerned with the virtues which enhance the moral worth of a man. But when the modern idea of justice is applied to the various aspects of social life, several dimensions of justice emerge. Thus there are various types of justice such as legal, political, economic and social.*

*Legal justice:*

*Legal justice is related to the process of law making and the judicial system of society. It implies justice given according to law which again implies equality before law. It means that no one can be above the law and everybody should be punished for equal crimes. There should be equal protection of laws. The judicial process should be simple. The court should be independent and impartial. Barker says that law ought to have both validity and value. Validity stands for sanction of law and law draws its value from justice. The courts of law can give legal justice.*

*The term 'legal justice' is broadly applied in two contexts: 1) justice according to law and, 2) law according to justice. According to the first context, the validity of law is not questioned but focus on the principle of administration of justice on the basis of prevalent law.. The second case examines the*

*substance of law to ensure that it conforms to the requirements of justice. Alf Ross in his On Law and Justice, argued that justice consists in an efficient administration of law and it should not be tested on some imaginary moral values. Justice is conformity with the existing law. It is solely concerned with the efficacy of law.*

*Political Justice:*

*Political justice prevails in a society where everyone has a share in the political process. It is sometimes used in a comprehensive sense so as to embrace the restructuring of the entire fabric of social, economic and political relations. It also involves the transformation of political institutions, political process and political rights based on current conceptions of justice. This means establishment of democratic institutions in political life of the people. There should be scope for exercising political rights on the principle of universal adult franchise, rule of law, full guarantee of the liberty of thought and expression, right to criticize the government, freedom of forming associations etc.*

*Social justice:*

*Social justice may be regarded as an important factor of social transformation. It is the offspring of political justice. A politically unjust society can never be socially just. Social justice demands equality along with liberty. There is social justice in a community if there are means available for equal social opportunities for development of personality of the people. The issue of social justice is closely linked with social equality and social rights. Social justice implies absence of discrimination on the basis of caste, colour, religion etc, protection and improvement of the downtrodden sections of the people, equitable distribution of necessities of life etc.*

*Economic justice:*

*The term economic justice is a corollary of social justice. But it may be used in the restricted sense of reordering economic sphere such as relations between employer and workers, trader and consumer landlord and tenant etc. Economic justice is viewed from two angles by two schools of thought. The Liberals refer to the satisfaction of economic needs of the people. The Marxist view is that economic justice prevails only after the abolition of private property. In fact, no other form of justice is realisable without being associated with economic justice. The very concept of economic justice involves the idea of a socialistic pattern of society.*

