

Ch: OUTCOMES OF DEMOCRACY

IMPORTANT QUESTION:

Question 17.

How is democracy a better form of government in comparison with other forms of governments? Explain. (2016 D, 2014 D)

Or, "There is an overwhelming support for the idea of democracy all over the world." Support the statement. (2015 OD)

Answer:

Over a hundred countries of the world today claim and practice some kind of democratic politics.

- They have formal constitutions, hold elections, have parties and they guarantee rights of citizens. Thus, in most countries, the democracy produces a government that is accountable to the citizens and responsive to the needs and expectations of the citizens.
- No society can fully and permanently resolve conflict among different groups. But we can learn to respect these differences and evolve mechanisms to negotiate them. Democracy is best suited as it develops a procedure to conduct competitions. Belgium is a successful example of negotiating difference among ethnic population.
- Passion for respect and freedom is the basis of democracy and has been achieved in various degrees in various democracies.
- The support for democracy is overwhelming all over the world and is evident from South Asia, where the support exists in countries with democratic as well as undemocratic regimes.
- People wish to be ruled by representatives elected by them as a democratic government is people's own government and makes them believe that it is suitable for their country as it is a legitimate government.

Question 18.

"Most destructive feature of democracy is that its examination never gets over." Support the statement with appropriate arguments. (2011 D)

Answer:

Suitable arguments:

1. As people get some benefits of democracy, they ask for more.
2. People always come up with more expectations from the democratic set up.
3. They also have complaints against democracy.
4. More and more suggestions and complaints by the people is also a testimony to the success of democracy.
5. A public expression of dissatisfaction with democracy shows the success of the democratic project.

Question 19.

“Democracy is seen to be good in principle but felt to be not so good in practice.”
Justify the statement. (2013 D)

Answer:

If we look at some of the democratic policies being implemented in more than one hundred countries of the world, democracy seems to be good. For example, having a formal Constitution, holding regular elections, guaranteeing the citizens certain rights, working for the welfare of the people etc. make us advocate that democracy is good.

But if we look in terms of social situations, their economic achievements and varied cultures, we find a very big difference in most of the democracies. The vast economic disparities, social injustice based on discrimination, standard of life, sex discrimination, etc. create many doubts about the merits of democracy. Whenever some of our expectations are not met, we start blaming the idea of democracy. Since democracy is a form of government, it can only create conditions for achieving our goals if they are reasonable.