



Introduction -

Themes



General Set Questions



- What does democracy do?
- What outcomes can be reasonably expect of democracy?
- Does democracy fulfil these expectations in real life?
- How to assess the outcomes of democracy?
- And many other questions like that.



Introduction -

What we are going to study in this chapter?

- ❖ How do we Assess Democracy's Outcomes?
- ❖ Accountable, Responsive and Legitimate Government
- ❖ Economic Growth and Development
 - Economic Outcomes of Democracy
- ❖ Reduction of Inequality and Poverty
- ❖ Accommodation of Social Diversity
- ❖ Dignity and Freedom of the Citizens



How do we Assess Democracy's Outcomes?

Democracy



Better form of government when compared with other alternatives.



Why?



- Promotes equality amongst citizens.
- Enhance the dignity of the individual.
- Improves the quality of decision making.
- Provides a method to resolve conflicts.
- Allows room to correct mistakes.

Class 10th - Civics - Outcomes of Democracy - Full Chapter Explanation



How do we Assess Democracy's Outcomes?

Expectations



v/s


Reality



Are these expectations realised under democracies?

Most of them support democracy against other alternatives, such as rule by a monarch or military or religious leaders.

But not so many of them would be satisfied with the democracy in practice.

Democracy is seen to be good in principle, but felt to be not so good in its practice. 



How do we Assess Democracy's Outcomes?

Democracies



Is it accepted only because of moral reasons or are there any prudential reasons also.



Democracies



Many democracies



How?



Democracies are very much different from each other in term of their social situations, their economic achievements and their cultures.



Question



But is there something that we can expect from every democracy, just because it is democracy?



How do we Assess Democracy's Outcomes?

We = Democracy = Our expectations



- Democracy can address all socio-economic and political problem.
- If some of our expectations are not met, we start blaming the idea of democracy.
- We start doubting is we are living in a democracy.



Wrong



Democracy



Just a form of government



It can only create conditions for achieving something.



The citizens have to take advantage of those conditions and achieve those goals.



Accountable, Responsive and Legitimate Government -

Democracy and our expectations



- People will have the right to choose their ruler.
- Citizens should be able to participate in decision making.



The most basic outcome of democracy should be that it produces a government that is **accountable** to the citizens and **response** to the needs and expectations of the citizens and this makes up a **legitimate** government.



Accountable, Responsive and Legitimate Government -

Is the democratic government efficient and effective. 🐝

Decision making



Democratic V/S Non-democratic



- Democracy is based on the idea of deliberation and negotiation.
- The democratic government will take more time to follow procedures before arriving at a decision.
- But because it has followed procedures, its decisions may be both more effective.
- **Transparency** 🐝

∴ It is right to expect democracy to produce a government that follows procedures and is accountable to the people.



Accountable, Responsive and Legitimate Government -

If you wanted to measure democracies on the basis of this expected outcome, you would look for the following practices and institutions:



- Regular free and fair elections.
- Open public debate on major policies and legislations.
- Citizens' right to information about the government and its functioning.

Expectations

V/S

Reality



- Most democracies fall short of elections that provide a fair chance to everyone and in subjecting every decision to public debate.
- Democratic government do not have a very good record when it comes to sharing information to citizens.

All one can say in favour of democratic regimes is that they are much better than any non-democratic regime in this report.



Accountable, Responsive and Legitimate Government -

Democracy



Produces responsive form of government.



It maybe a reasonable to expect from democracy a government that is attentive to the needs and demands of the people and is largely free of corruption.



Democratic V/S Non-democratic



Accountable, Responsive and Legitimate Government -

→ *Democratic government is certainly better than its alternatives in one aspect:*



Explain



Legitimate Government



- It maybe slow, less effective, not always very responsive or clean. But a democratic government is people's own government.
- People wish to be ruled by representatives elected by them.
- Democracy's ability to generate its own support is itself an outcome that cannot be ignored.



Economic Growth and Development -

Democracy = Good government, then it would produce development also.



Evidence shows that in practice many democracies did not fulfil this expectation.

Explain



Democracies

v/s

Dictatorship



- Between 1950 and 2000, dictatorship have slightly higher rate of economic growth.
- But this alone cannot be reason to reject democracy.
- Economic development depends on several factors: country's population size, global situation, cooperation from other countries, economic priorities adopted by the countries, etc.



Economic Growth and Development -

Democracy : Development is not guaranteed, but it can compete with dictatorship over economic growth. 🏎️



When we find such significant difference in the rates of economic growth between countries under dictatorship and democracy, it is better to prefer democracy as it has several other positive outcomes.

Class 10th - Civics - Outcomes of Democracy - Full Chapter Explanation



Economic Growth and Development -

Economic outcomes of democracy

Type of regimes and countries	Growth Rate
All democratic regimes	3.95
All dictatorial regimes	4.42
Poor countries under dictatorship	4.34
Poor countries under democracy	4.28

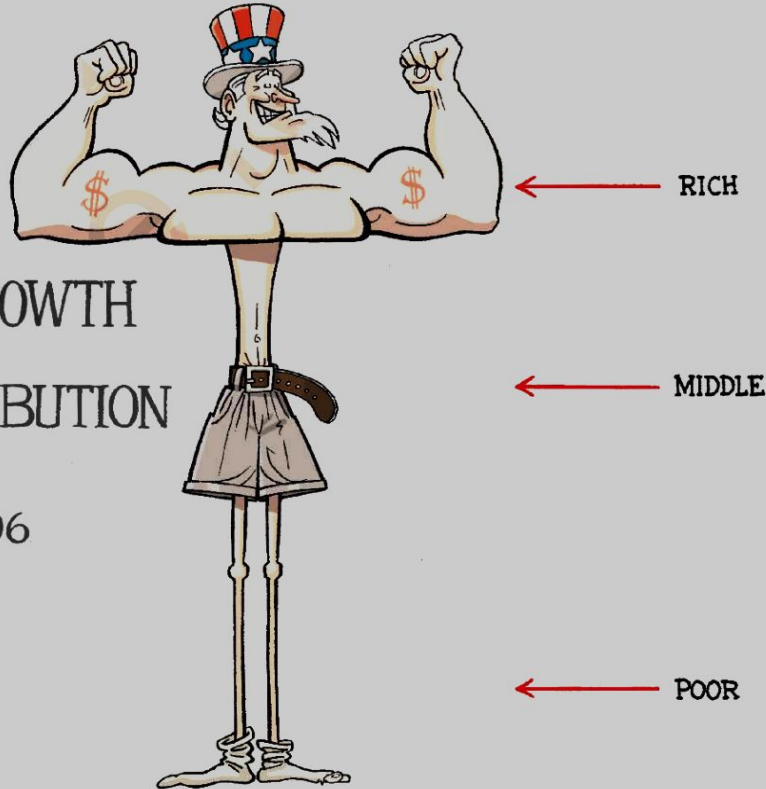
**Rates of economic growth for different countries,
1950-2000**



Economic Growth and Development -

The Rich Get Buff

ECONOMIC GROWTH
AND
INCOME DISTRIBUTION
GAINS
2000-2006

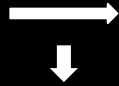


Class 10th - Civics - Outcomes of Democracy - Full Chapter Explanation



Reduction of Inequality and Poverty -

Democracy



Outcome we expect from it 

Perhaps more than development, it is reasonable to expect democracies to **reduce economic disparities**.



Question 



- Will wealth be distributed in such a way that all citizens of the country will have a share and lead a better life?
- Is economic growth in democracies accompanied by increased inequalities among the people?
- Do democracies lead to a just distribution of goods and opportunities?

Class 10th - Civics - Outcomes of Democracy - Full Chapter Explanation



Economic Growth and Development -

Economic outcomes of democracy

Name of the Countries	% share of national income	
	Top 20 %	Bottom 20 %
South Africa	64.8	2.9
Brazil	63.0	2.6
Russia	53.7	4.4
USA	50.0	4.0
United Kingdom	45.0	6.0
Denmark	34.5	9.6
Hungary	34.4	10.0

Inequality of income in selected countries



Reduction of Inequality and Poverty -

→ Democracies are based on political equality. 



But at the same time we find growing economic inequalities.



Explain 



- Economic disparity between rich and poor.
- A small number of ultra-rich enjoy a highly disproportionate share of wealth and incomes.
- Share of rich in the total income of the country has been increasing.
- Those at the bottom of the society have very little to depend upon.
- Sometimes poor find it difficult to meet their basic needs of life, such as food, clothing, house, education and health.



Reduction of Inequality and Poverty -

→ Democracies do not appear to be very successful in reducing economic inequalities.



Democracy



Constitute a large proportion of our voters.



- No party will like to lose their votes.
- Yet democratically elected governments do not appear to be as keen to address the question of poverty.
- The situation is much worse in some other countries. 🇮🇳



Accommodation of Social Diversity -

Democracy



Our expectation from it towards *a harmonious social life*.



- Connect with previous topic. 🐝
- It should accommodate social diversity.
- This reduces the possibility of these tensions becoming explosive or violent.



Accommodation of Social Diversity -

Society



Have different groups



Conflicts



- No society can fully and permanently resolve conflicts among different groups.
- But we can certainly learn to respect these differences and we can also evolve mechanisms to negotiate the differences.



Democracy is best suited to produce this outcome.



Non-democratic regime



∴ Ability to handle social differences, divisions and conflicts is thus a definite plus point of democratic regimes.



Accommodation of Social Diversity -

Question



Why the situation was not same in Sri Lanka? 🇱🇰

→ Democracy must fulfil two conditions in order to achieve this outcome:

1. **Democracy** → Not simply rule by majority opinion.



The majority always needs to work with the minority so that governments function to represent the general view.

2. Rule by majority does not become rule by majority community in terms of religion or race or linguistic group, etc. 🇱🇰



Different persons and groups may and can form a majority, democracy remains democracy only as long as every citizen has a chance of being in majority at some point of time.



Dignity and Freedom of the Citizens -

Democracy



Our expectation from it in regards to the dignity of an individual.




Democracy stands much superior to any other form of government in promoting dignity and freedom of the individual.



Outcome



→ But it is difficult to achieve this in a society which have been built for long on the basis of subordination and domination. 



Example - Dignity of women in a male dominated societies.
- Caste based division.



Dignity and Freedom of the Citizens -

How dignity of women in a male dominated society can be ensured? 🤖



Not-Guaranteed



But once the principle is recognised, it becomes easier for women to wage a struggle against what is now unacceptable legally and morally.

→ Example of caste inequalities in India. 🤖



Democracy in India has strengthened the claims of the disadvantaged and discriminated castes for equal status and equal opportunity.

It is the recognition that makes ordinary citizens value their democratic rights.



Dignity and Freedom of the Citizens -

→ Most distinctive thing about democracy is that its examination never gets over.



- As people get some benefits of democracy, they ask for more and want to make democracy even better.
- People will always come up with more expectations and many complaints in a democracy.
- The fact that people are complaining is itself a testimony to the success of democracy.



It shows that people have developed awareness and the ability to expect and to look critically at power holders and the high and the mighty.



Chapter Completed

STAY CONNECTED

KEEP LEARNING

TOGETHER
WE CAN

