

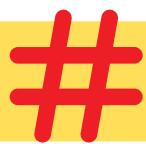
**CLASS 10 NOTES**

# **POLITICAL SCIENCE**

## **Outcomes of Democracy**

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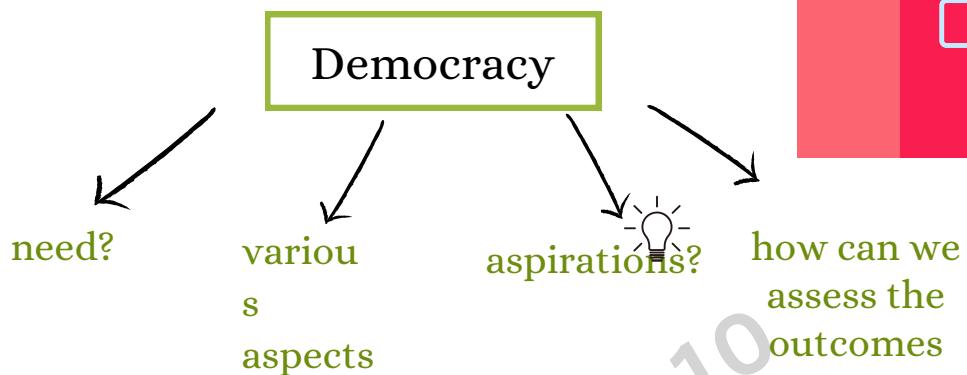




# OUTCOMES OF DEMOCRACY

## Introduction

- \* Transitioning from particular topics to a broad set of questions



- \* What we gonna study in this chapter?

- ↳ Democracy and its related issues
- ↳ Growth and the issues related to it.
- ↳ Accountable, responsive and legitimate government.
- ↳ Social diversity, dignity and freedom



## Assesing Democracy's Outcomes

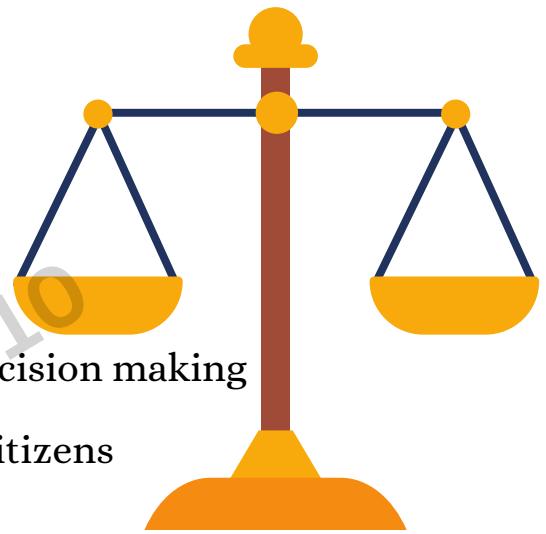
← Exam me aayega

- \* Democracy is seen to be good in principle, but in reality, its execution often falls short of the ideal.

- ↳ So, do we prefer democracy only on moral grounds or are there some practical reasons also?
- \* Democracy creates chances for achieving something and citizens have to take the advantage of those conditions and complete their targets.

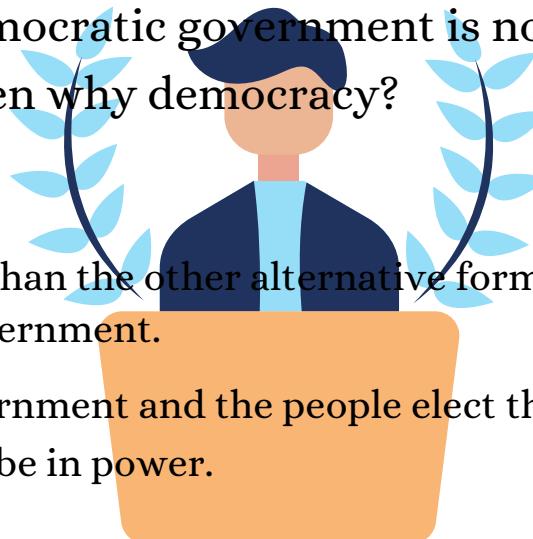
## Accountability, Responsiveness and Legitimacy of Government

E.M.A



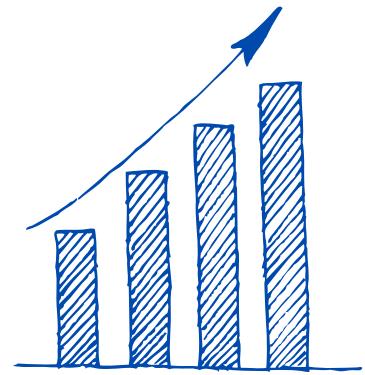
- \* Our expectations to Democracy?
  - ↳ right to choose the rulers
  - ↳ active participation and transparency in decision making
  - ↳ government should be accountable to the citizens
  - ↳ free and fair elections in the country
  - ↳ no corruption and freedom of speech
- \* In a democracy, choices are made through discussion and compromise, emphasizing thoughtful consideration and reaching agreements through dialogue.

Performance of democratic government is not satisfying on many grounds, then why democracy?

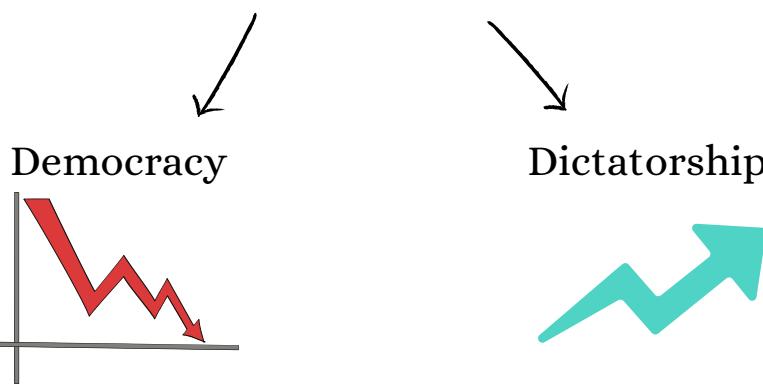


- ↳ Because it is better than the other alternative forms of governments as it is a legitimate government.
- ↳ Its people own government and the people elect their representatives whom they want to be in power.

## Development and Economic Growth



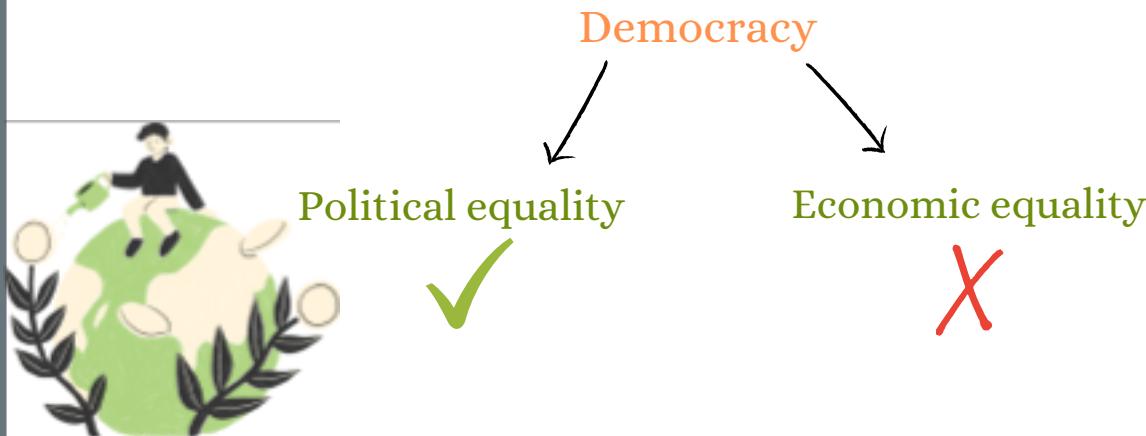
Growth Rate (1950-2000)



### \* Still Democracy?

- ↳ Development isn't guaranteed in democracy but democracy competes neck to neck with dictatorships over economic growth.
- ↳ Also economic development depends on several factors such as [Population size, etc.]
- ↳ In case of less developed countries, the growth rate in democracies is equal to dictatorships.

## Reduction of inequality and poverty



## \* Developing and Developed countries

- ↳ The poor constitute a larger population and no party wants to lose their vote share.
- ↳ But no democratically elected government appears much interested to address the poor and their poverty

## Accommodation of Social Diversity

E.M.A

### \* Conditions for achieving Social Diversity

- ↳ Majority needs to work with the minority community, the rule should not by majority community alone.
- ↳ Rule by the majority community should not become the rule of the majority community in terms of religion or race or linguistic group.

- \* We can't reduce the social differences within communities but we can accommodate them and democracy gives us the ability to handle social divisions, differences, and conflicts.

## Dignity and Freedom of the Citizens

### \* Examination of Democracy

- ↳ The examination of democracy never gets over and this is one of the standout features of democracy.

- People will always come up with new expectations and complaints in a democracy.
- Complaining people are itself a testimony to the success of democracy.
- It makes the democratic governments accountable to the people.
- There might be some topics that have been built for a long on the basis of subordination and domination. Ex: the dignity of women in our society. In such cases, equality can be demanded with moral and legal foundations in a democracy.



## Top 7 previous year questions

### Short questions

1. "Democratic government is a legitimate government." Explain.

A legitimate government is a government under which law and action of the government are revealed to the people and the government function in a transparent manner.

The following features of a democratic government make it a legitimate government

- (i) The laws apply to all the citizens whether rich or poor.
- (ii) In a democracy, there is political equality i.e. every vote counts equally.
- (iii) People have the right to challenge the government policies and actions. If the people are not satisfied with the working of the government they have the right to change it.

## 2. When is democracy considered successful?

The democracy is considered successful in the following conditions

- (i) When the rulers are elected by the people and make all major decisions in favor of all people.
- (ii) When elections offer a free choice and opportunity to the people.
- (iii) When choice is available to all the people is based on political equality.

## 3. How is democratic government known as responsive government? Explain with example.

Democratic government is accountable and responsive government in the following ways

- (i) In a democracy, people have the right to choose their rulers and people have control over the rulers.
- (ii) In a democracy, citizens have the right and the means to examine the process of decision-making. They have the right to participate in decision-making which affects them all.
- (iii) Democracy is based on the idea of deliberation and negotiation.
- (iv) Decision-making in democracy is based on norms and procedures.

## 4. "Non-democratic rulers can be very quick and efficient in decision-making and implementation." Do you think with this feature of non-democratic government is a better government than other government? Explain.

Non-democratic government is not a better government than other governments, although it can make quick decisions. It can be explained in the following ways

- (i) A democratic government can take more time to decide as compared to other forms of government. The non-democratic governments can make decisions quickly. But there is a possibility that it is not accepted by all, as no procedure has been followed here.

(ii) In democracy 'transparency' is very necessary. Here, the citizens have the right to know the process of decision-making. This is known as 'transparency'. This factor would often be missing from a non-democratic government. Thus, a non-democratic government is not regarded as a better government than others.

## 5. "Democracies have had greater success in setting regular free and fair elections." Analyse the Statement.

This statement can be explained in the following ways

- (i) Every democracy holds elections and it has different political parties and guarantees the voting rights of its citizens.
- (ii) Every citizen in a democracy has the right to elect his leader and has control over the rulers.
- (iii) In democracy whenever possible and necessary citizens participate in decision-making that affects them.
- (iv) Democracy should practice regular, free, and fair elections. This differentiates democracy from other forms of government.

## Long questions

### 6. Why is democracy not considered simply a rule of majority?

Due to the following reasons, democracy is not considered simply a rule of the majority

- (i) In a democratic set-up, the majority always needs to work with the minority, so that governments represent the general view.
- (ii) Majority and minority opinions are not permanent in democracy.
- iii) The rule by the majority does not become rule by the majority community in terms of religion, race, linguistic groups, etc.
- (iv) Democracy remains democracy only when every citizen of a country has a chance of being majority at some point in time.
- (v) If someone is barred from being in the majority based on birth, i.e. based on caste and religion then the democratic rules are not applicable for that person or group.

7. "In actual life, democracies do not appear to be very successful in reducing economic inequalities." Explain the statement giving an example.

In actual life, democracies do not appear to be very successful in reducing economic inequalities. This can be justified in the following ways

- (1) The democracy does not guarantee economic development. In most of the democracies, a small number of ultra-rich enjoy a highly disproportionate share of wealth and income. For example, in Countries like South Africa and Brazil, the top 20% of people take away more than 60% of the national income. Unfortunately, those who are at the bottom of society have very little share (less than 3 %) to depend upon.
- (ii) In India, the elected government looks reluctant to take necessary steps for the upliftment of the large section of the poor in our society.
- (iii) In Bangladesh, more than half of its population lives in poverty. People in several poor countries are now dependent on the rich countries even for food supplies.