
Class -X POLITICAL SCIENCE

Outcomes of Democracy

Answer1: Democracy produces an accountable, responsive and legitimate government by giving the citizen the right to examine the process by which decisions are made. These decisions are made according to norms and procedures which make the decisions more acceptable to the people. Added to this is the basic fact that in a democracy, the people have a right to elect their own government, and the candidate which is elected is thought to be capable enough to fulfil the demands of the people.

Answer2: Democracies accommodate social diversities when it is well understood that democracy is not just the rule of the majority, and that the rule of the majority is not just the rule of a single religious or social community.

Answer3:

- (a) Industrialised countries can afford democracy but the poor need dictatorship to become rich. This statement is incorrect as can be seen from the examples of India and Zimbabwe. In 1947, India was included in the Third World nations, but now, it is one of the fast-growing economies in the world. On the other hand, Zimbabwe, which was a fairly prosperous nation, has run into huge international debt with the progression of Robert Mugabe's regime.
- (b) Democracy can't reduce inequality of incomes between different citizens. This statement is incorrect. The Minimum Wages Act enacted by the government and other policies which regulate the basic price at which agricultural producers and small industries sell their goods, have helped increase the per capita income of the country, thereby making its citizens more prosperous.
- (c) Government in poor countries should spend less on poverty reduction, health, education and spend more on industries and infrastructure. This is not a wise option as in poor countries, the people cannot afford health and education services
- (d) In democracy all citizens have one vote, which means that there is absence of any domination and conflict. This is not true as conflict can be eliminated only in an ideal situation. In real democracies, though every person has one vote, there are divisions among the people. These divisions lead to conflict

Answer4: The challenge to democracy in the first statement is to provide equal status to all its citizens in spite of their caste. The challenge to democracy in the second instance is providing farmers with subsidies which will help them to earn profits and have a satisfactory level of livelihood. The challenge to democracy is to preserve the people's trust in government arms like the police.

Answer5: D. the idea of political inequality

Answer6: C. majority rule

Answer7: B. inequalities exist in democracies

Answer8: Nannu's example shows that in a democracy, poor, helpless and common people can take the help of number of Acts and laws that have been implemented by the government for their benefit. In this case, Nannu after visiting a governmental organisation several times, filed the Right to Information Act for enquiring about the progress that has been made by the officials in his case. As soon as he filed this Act, a ration card was immediately issued to him and he was also treated properly by the officials.

Experience of many people has not been pleasant when it comes to visiting any governmental organisation for getting work done. Mostly, the attitude of officials is not very friendly and most of the time their work is done only after paying several visits to them.
