

# ***CHAPTER-22***

## ***DEMOCRACY AND*** ***GOVERNMENT***

### ***CLASS VI***

***(27.7.20 TO 31.7.20)***

# INTRODUCTION

- *You have read in the previous chapter that ‘We, the People of India’. Come from different races, regions , castes and speak different languages. In such a diverse society, different demands arise which are often in conflict with one another. Some people think that their problems are more important. So, they should be solved first whereas others may think that their problems should be given top priority. In such a conflicting situations, the positive attitude of “live and let live” is the best course to amicably settle the disputes and solve the problems. The democratic way of life based on equality, fraternity and justice paves the way and prepares the citizens to mutually resolve the disputes arising out the vested or varied interests.*

# **DEMOCRACY...**

- *Let us remember that **Democracy** is just not a form of government but it is a way of life. It teaches us to provide equal opportunities to everyone without any discrimination . It makes us conscious about protection of the old , infirm and children. It expects involvement of all members of the family or society in decision making. In democracy , everyone can share equal freedom in social , economic and political field . In case of conflicting interests, issues and extreme approaches, the harmony can be brought through and self-discipline. In this way , it strikes a **balance** in society.*



# **GOALS OF DEMOCRACY...**

- *To solve all problems through discussion , persuasion and compromise . There is no place for coercion and advice in democracy.*
- *Democracy maintains harmony and balance in the society.*
- *Democracy aims at social , economic and political equality.*
- *It helps in maintaining peace.*
- *Democracy stands for gradual changes in society in the social, economic and political fields.*

# **GOALS OF DEMOCRACY**

- *Democracy inculcates the habit of obeying the rules and regulations of the state.*
- *It helps to solve the problems of poverty , hunger , illiteracy and unemployment , the main cause of inequality in India.*
- *The ultimate goal of democracy is the well being of each individual as a distinct and significant human being.*

# **REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY.**

- *In a vast country like India, it is difficult to devise a method for the participation of the people in the governance of the country. Therefore, democracy has been adopted in India. Under this system, people elect their representatives who govern on their behalf. This means, India is indirectly governed by the people through their elected representatives Panchs, Municipal Councillors, Members of Legislative or Members of Parliament. India is the largest democracy of the world governed by a democratic government. A **democratic government** is a government of the people, for the people and by the people.*



# **PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION...**

- *Participation of the people in the election process of the country at various level is based on **Universal Adult Franchise** , which means all the citizens of India, who are 18 years of age and above are eligible to cast their votes , irrespective of caste , colour , creed , religion or languages. Right to vote and to elect representatives is given to all the adults without any discrimination. This right forms the very basis of democratic governments at various levels in India. People's participation does not end even after the elections. It is also be seen when the government is formed by the elected representatives.*

- *When the term of government at any level expires, which is five years in India. General elections are held. At this stage again, it is the people who decide whether to elect the same political party or candidate to rule or replace them by some others in the elections. Considering all the aspects, the duty of the voters in a democratic set up is by no means easy and simple. Therefore, it is essential to think carefully before one casts one's vote. It is our moral duty that we use our right to vote judiciously.*



# **HOW DO WE GOVERN**

## **OURSELVES...**

- *In our daily life, we observe that many activities are always going on throughout the country. These are building of roads, generation of electricity running of hospitals and dispensaries, imparting education, transportation of goods and passengers etc. Who organizes controls all this? Who makes laws to regulate such activities? It is the government at different levels that organize , supervise and control the activities around us. The government not only makes laws for all of us but executed them as well. In case , some people break these laws, they are punished also.*

# ***LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT...***

*The responsibilities of the government have been divided into government at three levels. They are:*

- *Government at the **national level** works for the whole country and is called the **central or Union government**.*
- *Government at the **state level** works within its own state territory. For example, the government of Haryana works only in the state of Haryana. The government of Kerala looks after Kerala state only and likewise.*
- *The **lowest level** of government is at the **village level** which is also called the **government at the grass root level**.*

Thank  
You!