

CBSE Class –VI Social Science
NCERT Solutions
Political Science Chapter 4
Key Elements of a Democratic Government

Question 1. How would Maya's life be different in south Africa today?

Answer. A policy of 'Aparthied' was practiced in South Africa between 1948 and 1994. Under this system, people were segregated on the basis of the colour of their skin and race. The Blacks did not have the right to vote or participate in the activities of the government. Aparthied ended in the early 1990's due to the efforts of the African National Congress and its leaders like Nelson Mandela and established equality between Whites and Non-Whites. If Maya lived in South Africa today she will enjoy equal rights to participate in the affairs of the government, she will have equal benefits and she will be protected by law. No injustice will be done to her.

Question 2. What were various ways in which people participate in the process of government?

Answer. The people in a democracy participate in the process of government in the following ways:

- (1) The people elect their leaders by voting in the elections, who represent them. They take decisions on behalf of the people.
 - (2) Beside voting, people participate by taking an interest in the working of the government by asking questions, seeking explanations and criticising it, when required.
 - (3) There are ways in which people express their views and make government understand what actions they should take. These include dharnas, rallies, signature campaigns. Things that are unjust and unfair are also brought forward.
 - (4) People show an active interest in the functioning of the government by expressing public opinion through the mass media. Newspapers, magazines, TV also play a role in discussing government issues and responsibilities.
 - (5) People organise themselves in social groups that seek to challenge the government and its functioning. Members of unprivileged groups like Dalits, Adivasis, women and others participate in this manner.
-

Question 3. Why do you think we need the government to find solutions to many disputes or conflicts?

Answer. Conflicts appear when people of different cultures, religions, regions of economic backgrounds, do not get along with each other or when they feel are being discriminated against. people may use violent means to settle their differences. This leads to fear and tension among them. It is at this time that the Government has to step in to resolve the conflict. The government is can try to resolve such conflicts amicably through dialogue and negotiation and according to the laws of the nation..

Question 4. What actions does the government take to ensure that all people are treated equally?

Answer. One of the important principles of democracy is equality and justice. Equality and justice are inseparable, they go hand in hand. Our Constitution provides Fundamental Rights and one of them is Rights to Equality and according to it untouchability is banned by law. The government make special provisions for the underprivileged people. The government takes steps to provide justice by providing special provisions to girl child. e.g, the girl child suffers injustice at the hands of the parents and society. In order to overcome this injustice, fees of the girl in the school may be waived or lowered in government schools or colleges. Empowerment of women is central to the growth and development of India

Question 5. Read through the chapter and discuss some of the key ideas of a democratic government. Make a list. For example, all people are equal.

Answer. The key ideas of a democratic government are following:

- (1) Right of the people to vote in the elections.
- (2) Re-election of the government, after a fixed period.
- (3) The people carry out campaigns and rallies.
- (4) Responsible government.
- (5) Justice and equality to all.
- (6) Abolition of discriminations.
- (7) Opportunities of equal education to all.