

Chapter-8

Challenges to Democracy

1 marks Questions

1. The challenge of deepening of democracy involves –

- (a) Applying basic principal of democracy govt. across all the regions.**
- (b) Strengthening of the institutions and practices of democracy.**
- (c) Inclusion of women and minority groups indecision making.**
- (d) Challenge of expansion.**

Ans. (b) Strengthening of the institutions and practices of democracy.

2. The challenge of expansion of a democracy required –

- (a) Keeping military a way from the govt.**
- (b) Less decisions should remain outside the democratic control.**
- (c) Bringing clown the influence of the rich.**
- (d) Establishing a functional state.**

Ans. (b) Less decisions should remain outside the democratic control.

3. Name of law which empowers people to carry out democratic reforms—

- (a) Right to information Act.**
- (b) Companies Act.**
- (c) MRTP Act**
- (d) None of these.**

Ans. (a) Right to information Act.

4. Which kind of lows are considered the best for democratic reforms?

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- (a) Laws that seek to bar something.**
 - (b) Laws that seek to promote the benefit of a particular section of society.**
 - (c) Laws that empower people to carry out democratic reforms.**
 - (d) None of these.**

Ans. (c) Laws that empower people to carry out democratic reforms.

5. Which of the following countries disregards the UN and takes unilateral decisions in the world affairs?

- (a) France**
- (b) India**
- (c) U.K.**
- (d) U.S.**

Ans. (d) U.S.

6. Which country was facing the ethnic tension between Serbs and Albanians?

Ans. Yugoslavia

7. Name the country where Suu Kyi spent more than 15 years in house arrest.

Ans. Myanmar

8. How much part of the globe is still not under the democratic governments?

Ans. At least one fourth of the globe is still not under democratic government.

9. Name the person who became Prime Minister after Bolivia's water war and was a big supporter of water struggle.

Ans. Morales

10. "Women are not allowed to take part in public activities, no freedom of religion for

minorities” This statement shows which type of challenge to democracy?

Ans. Deepening of democracy

11. Which reform proposal can reduce the rise of money power in politics?

Ans. There should be state funding of elections

12. What are the suggestions about overcoming various challenges to democracy called?

Ans. Political Reform

13. Give any one example of a challenge of expansion that democracy faces.

Ans. Applying the basic principles of democratic government across all regions, social groups and various institutions.

14. Write one challenge of expansion faced by all established democracies.

Ans. Ensuring greater power to local governments.

15. Strengthening of institutions to increase people’s participation and control is an example of which type of challenge of democracy?

Ans. Challenges of deepening of democracy

16. What is the best way to bring political reform?

Ans. Through democratic political practice

17. What is the main focus of any political reform taken?

Ans. The main focus of any political reform should be on ways to strengthen democratic practice.

18. Name the country where Communist party adopts economic reforms but maintain monopoly over political power?

Ans. China

19. Name the country where women are not allowed to take part in public activities and no freedom for religion for minorities?

Ans. Saudi Arabia

20. In which country one round of constitutional change taken place, but the Dutch speakers not satisfied and they want more autonomy?

Ans. Belgium

21. What is challenge?

Ans. A significant difficulty that can be overcome

22. What are the basic rights of citizens for exercising voting rights?

Ans. 1. (i) The rulers elected by the people must take all the major decisions.

(ii) Elections must offer a choice and fair opportunity to the people to change the current rulers.

(iii) The choice and opportunity should be available to all the people on an equal basis.

(iv) The exercise of this choice must lead to a govt. limited by basic rules of the constitution and citizens right. fundamental challenge of establishing democracy in the country.

2. Challenge of Expansion.—Countries having democratic setup face the challenge of expansion.

3. Deepening of Democracy – This challenge is faced by almost all the democracies. This involves strengthening of the institutions and practices of democracies.

3 marks Questions

1. How is the challenge of deepening of democracy faced by every democracy?

Ans. 1. This involves string tuning of the institutions and practices of democracy.

2. This should happen in such a way that people can realize their expectations of democracy.

3. In general terms, it usually means string tuning those institutions that help people's participation and control.

4. This requires an attempt to bring down the control and influence of the rich and powerful people in making governmental decisions.

2. Enumerate the challenges which democracies in the world face today.

Ans. 1. Fundamental challenge — Those countries which do not have democratic form of govt. face the fundamental challenge of establishing democracy in the country.

2. Challenge of Expansion.—Countries having democratic setup face the challenge of expansion.

3. Deepening of Democracy – This challenge is faced by almost all the democracies. This involves strengthening of the institutions and practices of democracies.

3. What does fundamental challenge to democracy mean? Which two aspects are included in this challenge?

Ans. Those countries which do not have democratic form of govt. face the foundational challenge of establishing democracy in the country. This involves bringing down the existing non-democratic govt. to keep the military away from capturing power and establishing a

sovereign democratic state.

4. “Challenge of expansion is a very common which is mostly faced by established democracies.” Comment.

Ans. Challenge of expansion is a very common which is mostly faced by established democracies. Even this challenge is faced by the United States of America, the most stable democracy of the world. This challenge believes in the expansion of political and democratic rights among the citizens. This challenge includes:

1. Extension of democratic power to local governments.
 2. Expansion of federal principals to the federal units.
 3. Political empowerment to women and minorities
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5. Explain any three measures to deepen democracy in a country?

Ans. 1. The most important step to deepening the democracy in a country is spreading the education among the citizens of the country. The literate population is the most important human capital of the country. Education brings qualitative changes in the citizens and enables them to use better tools and knowledge for the better governance.

2. Press should have full freedom to form the public opinion. Press makes the public aware about the happenings in the country and keeps them informed. So people should know the strength of the press.

3. For the deepening of democracy each and every person should be aware about his/her fundamental rights. He should be political aware. Government should take some steps to be spread awareness about their fundamental rights

6. “Laws that give political actors incentives to do good things have more chances of working”. Explain.

Ans. Yes, I am agreeing with this statement. Any legal change must carefully look at what results it will have on politics. Sometimes the results may be counter-productive. For

example, many states have banned people who have more than two children from contesting panchayat elections. This has resulted in denial of democratic opportunity to many poor and women, which was not instead. Generally, laws that seek to ban something are not very successful in politics. Laws that give political actors incentives to do good things have more chances of working. The best laws are those which empower people to carry out democratic reforms.

7. What are the things included in the challenges of expansion to modern democracy?

Ans. 1. Applying the basic principles of democratic government across all over the regions.

2. Different social groups and various institutions and ensuring greater power to local governments.

3. Extension of federal principle to all the units of the federation, inclusion of women and minority groups.

8. “At least one fourth of the globe is still not under democratic government”. Explain the statement in contest of the challenge of democracy.

Ans. In about one fourth of the globe there are challenges for democracy and countries are still not under democratic government.

1. The challenges for democracy in these parts of the world are very stark.

2. These countries face foundational challenge of making the transition to democracy so as to institute democratic government.

3. This involves bringing down existing non-democratic regime, keeping military away and establishing sovereign and functional state.

9. How can democratic reforms are brought about. Explain any three ways.

Ans. 1. The main focus of political reforms can be by strengthening democratic practices.

2. By increasing and improving the quality of political participation by ordinary citizens. It is very difficult to implement the reforms through legal ways.

3. The challenges to democracy require some forms of reforms.

10. Read the case and context of the following countries and write in your word the description of the challenges for the democracy in the given situation.

Chile: General Pinochet's government defeated, but military still in control of many institutions.

Poland: After the first success of solidarity, the government imposed martial law and banned solidarity

Ans. Chile: According to the description this country is facing the challenge of Expansion. Establishing civilian control over all governmental institution, holding the first party elections, recalling all political leaders from exile.

Poland: Country is facing foundational challenge.

1. To bring down the existing non democratic regime.
2. To remove martial law.

Government freed to form Associations

11. Read the passage given below and answer the given questions.

“The Right to Information Act is a good example of a law that empowers the people to find out what is happening in the government and act as a watchdog of democracy”.

Can you explain how RTI act, acts as a watchdog of democracy. Does RTI act possible in china? Give two reasons.

Ans. 1. The Right to Information Act is a good example of a law that empowers the people to find out what is happening in government and act as a watch dog of democracy. Such a law helps to control corruption and supplements the existing laws that banned corruption and imposed strict penalties.

2. RTI is not possible in China because of following reasons. Communist party maintains monopoly over political power.

12. Highlight any three challenges that democracy faces in contemporary India.

Ans. 1. The control and influence of the rich and powerful people in making government and government decisions.

2. Expectations of ordinary or common people from different societies are not being fulfilled.

3. Use of caste and religion factor by political parties to gather votes to win.

4. A challenge of deepening of democracy is also faced by Indian Democracy.

13. What is democratic reform? Mention a few broad guidelines for devising political reforms in India.

Ans. All suggestion or proposals about overcoming various challenges to democracy are called democratic reform or political reform. Following are broad guidelines for devising political reforms in India are:

1. Legal ways of reforming politics.

2. Strong Right to information Act.

3. Reforms through political practices.

4. Implementation of reforms in proper way

14. How would you like to expand the definition of democracy? Explain.

Ans. Definition of democracy shall be expanded by adding following features:

1. The rulers elected by the people must take all the decisions.

2. Election must offer a choice and fair opportunity to the people to change the current rulers.

3. The choice and opportunity should be available to all the people on an equal basis.

4. The exercise of this choice must lead to a government limited by the basic rules of the

constitution and citizen's rights.

15. "The challenge of deepening of democracy is faced by every democracy in one form or another." Explain.

Ans. 1. The challenge of deepening of democracy is faced by every democracy in one form or the other. This involves strengthening of the institutions and practices of democracy. This should happen in such a way that people can realize their expectations out of democracy.

2. But ordinary people have different expectations from democracy in different societies. Therefore, challenge takes different meaning and paths in different parts of the world. In general terms, it usually means strengthening those institutions that help people's participation and control.

3. This requires an attempt to bring down the control and influence of the rich and powerful people in making governmental decisions.

16. Mention any three broad guidelines that can be kept in mind while devising ways and means for political reforms in India.

Ans. 1. Main focus should be on way to strengthen democratic practices.

2. Efforts should be made to increase and improve the quality of political participation by ordinary citizens.

3. Any proposal for political reforms should also think their implementation as to who will do it and how.

4. Reforms should be based on measures that rely on democratic movements citizens' organizations and the media.

17. Explain the challenge faced by countries which do not have a democratic form of government.

Ans. 1. These countries face the foundational challenge of making the transition to democracy and then instituting democratic government.

2. They also face the challenge of bringing down the existing non-democratic regimes and keeping military away from controlling the government.

3. Such countries have to make great efforts to establish a sovereign and functional state.

18. How is Myanmar facing the foundational challenge of making a transition to democracy? Explain.

Ans. There is absence of democracy in Myanmar as the legitimately elected leader Aung Mye Thaw has been under house arrest for more than 15 years. She has been released recently.

1. The army is in power in Myanmar and a democratic elected government is not allowed to function.
 2. The country faces the challenge of making a transition to democracy and then instituting a democratic government.
 3. The people of Myanmar need to bring down the military regime and keep it away while they set up a sovereign and democratic government.
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19. How is Iraq facing the foundational challenge of making a transition to democracy? Explain.

Ans. Iraq was under a ruler Saddam Hussain, who was dictator. After the death of dictator there was widespread sectarian violence as the new government fails to establish its authority.

1. The country is facing the foundational challenge of democracy.
 2. To set up democratic government on the basis of free and fair election.
 3. The country faces the challenge of making a transition to democracy and then instituting a democratic government.
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20. How is Belgium facing the challenge of deepening of democracy? Explain.

Ans. In Belgium one round of constitutional change took place, but the Dutch speakers not

satisfied and they want more autonomy.

1. The country is facing the challenge of deepening of democracy.
 2. To strengthen the institutions of democracy to realize the expectations of the people.
 3. More powers should be given to local bodies.
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21. Which challenge is faced by United Nations? Explain.

- Ans.** 1. This international organization is facing the challenge of expansion.
2. US as the only super power disregard the UN and takes unilateral actions.
 3. To ensure equal powers and cooperation among members to solve international problems.
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22. How the challenge of Dynastic succession harmful for the democracy?

- Ans.** 1. This challenge is not giving opportunity to other eligible persons to contest elections and become representatives of the people.
2. Centrality of the politics comes in the hands of only one family.
 3. It is against the democratic principles of democracy.
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23. Why do the established democratic countries of the world face the challenge of expansion?

- Ans.** 1. Extension of democratic power to local governments.
2. Expansion of federal principles to the federal units.
 3. Political empowerment to women and minorities.
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24. Why the challenge of deepening of democracy does have different meanings and paths in different democracies of the world? Explain with the examples.

- Ans.** 1. The challenge of deepening of democracy is faced by every democracy in one form or

the other. This involves strengthening of the institutions and practices of democracy. This should happen in such a way that people can realize their expectations out of democracy.

2. But ordinary people have different expectations from democracy in different societies. Therefore, challenge takes different meaning and paths in different parts of the world. In general terms, it usually means strengthening those institutions that help people's participation and control.

3. This requires an attempt to bring down the control and influence of the rich and powerful people in making governmental decisions.

25. 'Legal reforms may sometimes be counterproductive'. Support the statement with suitable arguments.

Ans. 1. Any legal change must carefully look at the results it will have on politics. Sometimes the results can be Counter-productive. For example, many states have banned people who have more than two children from contesting panchayat elections.

2. This has resulted in the denial of democratic opportunities to many poor men and women, which was not intended. Generally, laws that seek to ban something are not very successful in politics.

3. The best laws are those which empower people to carry out democratic reform. Example is Right to Information Act.

26. Suggest any three reform proposals to check the sale of drugs in the society.

Ans. 1. Ban on the sale of drugs.

2. Government should follow some strict rules and regulations.

3. Moral education should be given to the people.

4. Twenty four hour helpline no should be fixed by the government, so that people can inform the government about the drug paddlers.

27. Suggest any three reform proposal to check doctor's absentees in government

hospitals.

Ans. 1. The government should make it compulsory should make it compulsory for doctors to live in the village where they are posted; otherwise their service should be terminated.

2. District administrative and police should carry out surprise raids to check the attendance of the doctors.

3. Village panchayat should be given the power to write the annual report of the doctor which should be read out in the Gram Sabha meetings.

28. Describe the major challenges to democracy in India.

Ans. Following can be described as the major challenges to democracy in India.—

1. Social and economic inequality.

2. Poverty

3. Illiteracy

4. Casteism

5. Communalism

6. Regional imbalances.

7. Problem of language

8. Violence

29. How is communalism become big challenge to Indian democracy?

Ans. India is a land of many religions which sum of differ from each other but all have a fundamental unity. All religions proclaim the fatherhood of God and Brotherhood of man. All of them lay great stress on truth, honesty and advise their followers to serve God by serving men.

At the other hand the mixture of politics and religion has hampered the growth of progress and national unity. This creates religious intolerance which is the major hindrance in political stability and culture unity. In this way communalism becomes a challenge to Indian democracy.

5 marks Questions

1. How would you explain that an ordinary citizen can play a very constructive role in the deepening of democracy?

Ans. 1. A democracy is a type of government and it cannot function in the absence of enlightened and aware citizens because they are the pillars of democracy.

2. Well informed citizens maintain a balance between government and social issues.

3. Well informed citizens form a healthy public opinion which puts a check on irresponsible behavior of the government.

4. Socially responsible citizens also help in the regulation of social reforms and put a check on the rash and unsocial conduct of political parties and public also.

5. The strength of democracy lies in respecting its citizens and in creating atmosphere of fair and frank interaction of thoughts, approaches and perspectives for solving collective problems and building a polity of free and equal beings.

2. What is the nature and scope of Democracy in the modern world?

Ans. 1. There is a due respect for democracy in the modern world. It is a better form of government as comparison to its alternatives.

2. It may be slow and less efficient but it is an accountable, legitimate and responsible form of government.

3. There is an overwhelming support for the Democracies all over the world because Democratic Governments are people's own Government.

4. Countries of the modern world which are ruled by dictators and military rulers are trying

to establish democracies in their own countries.

5. The hide and seek of democracy in Pakistan shows that the natives are expecting democracy in the country.

6. The establishment of democracy in Nepal also shows the dominant position of democracy in the world.

3. Can you explain any five challenges and problems faced by Indian Democracy?

Ans. 1. Challenge of expansion: Indian democracy is facing the challenge of expansion. This challenge of Indian democracy involves the practical aspects like ensuring greater power to local governments, extension of federal principles to all the units of the federation, inclusion of women and minority groups.

2. Problem of Casteism: Casteism playing a major role in the Indian politics. There are many caste based pressure groups and interest groups. All these influence those who are in power. Casteism is also harmful for the unity of the country.

3. Problem of Communalism: Communalism has also a negative implication in Indian Politics. It leads to intolerance, suspicion and fear towards members of the other communities. Besides this there are various types of communal violence in the society.

4. Problem of Corruption: This problem of Indian democracy is related to the criminal record and personal possession of politicians. Corruption is an obstacle in the development of Indian economy.

5. Problem of Criminalization: Money and muscle power is used during elections. There is a lack of electoral ethics and insufficient representation of various sections of society like minorities and women.

4. Describe the expanded scope of democracy in the modern world.

Ans. 1. There is one respect in which democratic government is certainly better than its alternatives: Democratic government is a legitimate government. But it may be slow less efficient, not always very responsive or clean.

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2. A democratic government is people's people own government. That is why; there is an overwhelming support for the idea of democracy all over the world.
 3. As the accompanying evidences from South Asia shows, the support exists in countries with democratic regimes as well as countries without democratic regimes.
 4. People wish to be ruled by representatives elected by them. They also believe that democracy is suitable for their country.
 5. Democracy's ability to generate its own support is itself an outcome that cannot be ignored.
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5. Do you have any source to get the information about the working of government? Explain.

Ans. RTI is a source to get the information about the working of government in India. The Right to information is a good example of a law that empowers the people to find out what is happening in government.

1. The Right to Information Act was implemented on 12 October 2005.
 2. This act enabled people to know about every detail of any programs from the levels of planning to implementations. By this they can know lapses, misappropriation, etc. if any officials and file a complaint and corruption and impose strict penalties.
 3. This law helps to know who has taken the decision, was the decision taken as per the established norms and procedures. So the executive have to think twice before taking any biased decisions.
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6. What is foundational Challenge? Explain with the suitable example of those countries who are trying to establish a democratic set up.

Ans. 1. The challenge for democracy in these parts of the world is very stark. These countries face the foundational challenge of making the transition to democracy and then instituting democracy government. This involves bringing down the existing non-democratic regime, keeping military away from controlling government and establishing a sovereign and

functional state.

2. Example: Iraq is facing the foundational challenge. Widespread sectarian violence as the new government fails to establish its authority.

7. Suggest some reform proposals to overcome the challenge of Political Funding.

Ans. 1. Role of money in elections in India has been increasing for the last few years. It is necessary to curb the role of money to make democracy more successful.

2. Auditing of account of the political parties and state funding are good reform proposals. These reforms will bring transparency in the finances of the political parties.

3. State funding will reduce the expenditure on elections. Role of money will be less and poor people may also be able to contest elections.

4. Election Commission should work honestly while checking the income taxes filed by the political parties.

8. Describe the expanded form of democracy in the modern world?

Ans. 1. A democratic Government is people's own Government. In Democracy rights are not limited to the right to vote, it also provides some social rights and economic rights.

2. It is accountable, responsive and legitimate government. It give respect to the voice of minority groups.

3. People wish to be ruled by representatives elected by them. They also believe that democracy is suitable for their country.

4. Democracy's ability to generate its own support is itself an outcome that cannot be ignored.

MCQ

Q.1: - The challenge of deepening of democracy involves –

- (a) Applying basic principal of democracy govt. across all the regions.**
- (b) Strengthening of the institutions and practices of democracy.**
- (c) Inclusion of women and minority groups indecision making.**
- (d) Challenge of expansion.**

Ans.(b) Strengthening of the institutions and practices of democracy.

Q.2: - The challenge of expansion of a democracy required –

- (a) Keeping military a way from the govt.**
- (b) Less decisions should remain outside the democratic control.**
- (c) Bringing clown the influence of the rich.**
- (d) Establishing a functional state.**

Ans.(b) Less decisions should remain outside the democratic control.

Q3: - Name of law which empowers people to carry out democratic reforms—

- (a) Right to information Act. (b) Companies Act.**
- (c) MRTP Act (d) None of these.**

Ans.(a) Right to information Act.

Q.4: - which kind of lows are considered the best for democratic reforms?

- (a) Laws that seek to bar something.**
- (b) Lows that seek to promote the benefit of a particular section of society.**

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- (c) Laws that empower people to carry out democratic reforms.**
- (d) None of these.**

Ans.(c) Laws that empower people to carry out democratic reforms.

Q.5: - Which of the following countries disregards the UN and takes unilateral decisions in the world affairs?

- (a) France (b) India (c) U.K. (d) U.S.**

Ans.(d) U.S.

Short Answers Type Questions

Q.1: - What are the basic rights of citizens for exercising voting rights?

Ans.:- 1. The rulers elected by the people must take all the major decisions.
2. Elections must offer a choice and fair opportunity to the people to change the current rulers. |
3. The choice and opportunity should be available to all the people on an equal basis.
4. The exercise of this choice must lead to a govt. limited by basic rules of the constitution and citizens right.

Q.2: - How is the challenge of deepening of democracy faced by every democracy?

Ans.:- 1. This involves string tuning of the institutions and practices of democracy.
2. This should happen in such a way that people can realize their expectations of democracy.
3. In general terms, it usually means string tuning those institutions that help people's participation and control.
4. This requires an attempt to bring down the control and influence of the rich and powerful people in making governmental decisions.

Q.3: - Enumerate the challenges which democracies in the world face today.

Ans.:- 1. Fundamental challenge — Those countries which do not have democratic form of govt. face the fundamental challenge of establishing democracy in the country.

2. Challenge of Expansion.—Countries having democratic setup face the challenge of expansion.

3. Deepening of Democracy – This challenge is faced by almost all the democracies. This involves strengthening of the institutions and practices of democracies.

Q.4: - What does fundamental challenge to democracy mean? Which two aspects are included in this challenge?

Ans.: - Those countries which do not have democratic form of govt. face the foundational challenge of establishing democracy in the country. This involves bringing down the existing non-democratic govt. to keep the military away from capturing power and establishing a sovereign democratic state.

Long Answers Type Questions

Q.1: - Describe the major challenges to democracy in India.

Ans.:-Following can be described as the major challenges to democracy in India.—

1. Social and economic inequality. 2. Poverty 3. Illiteracy
4. Casteism 5. Communalism 6. Regional imbalances.
7. Problem of language 8. Violence

Q.2: - How is communalism become big challenge to Indian democracy?

Ans.:-India is a land of many religions which sum of differ from each other but all have a fundamental unity.

All religions proclaim the fatherhood of god and Brotherhood of man. All of them lay great stress on truth, honesty and advice their followers to serve god by serving men.

At the other hand the mixture of politics and religion has hampered the growth of progress and national unity. This creates religious intolerance which is the major hindrance in political stability and culture unity. In this way communalism become a challenge to Indian democracy