

CIVICS Chapter 3
What is Government?
Notebook Work

1. What do you understand by the word 'government'? List five ways in which you think the government affects your daily life.

Ans.

Government is the group of people which governs and implements decisions in an organised manner, formed under certain written rules.

Five ways in which government affects our daily lives are as follows:

- (i) It protect helps in protecting the boundaries of our nation and maintaining peaceful relations with other countries.
- (ii) It takes action on many social issues and formulates various laws.
- (iii) It ensures welfare of its citizens and provides basic health facilities, education and electricity.
- (iv) It ensures the supply of food and drinking water to its people.
- (v) It helps in running of the postal and railways services.

2. Why do you think the government needs to make rules for everyone in the form of laws?

Ans.

Government needs to make rules for everyone in the form of laws because this helps in ensuring the security of the people, and the successful functioning of the government. It also avoids the misuse of powers by the authorities.

3. Name two essential features of a democratic government.

Ans.

Two essential features of a democratic government are as follows:

- (i) Universal Adult Franchise: People have the right to elect their own government through elections.
- (ii) Government is accountable to its people.

4. What was the suffrage movement? What did it accomplish?

Ans.

Suffrage means right to vote. Women and the poor have had to fight for participation in government all over Europe and USA. During the First World War, it got strengthened and became known as the suffrage movement.

It gave right to vote to the American women in 1920 and equal right for women in the UK in 1928.

5. Gandhiji strongly believed that every adult in India should be given the right to vote.

However, a few people don't share his views. They feel that illiterate people, who are mainly poor, should not be given the right to vote. What do you think? Do you think this would be a form of discrimination? Give five points to support your view and share these with the class.

Ans.

Yes, it would be a form of discrimination on the basis of education. Five points to support my views are as follows:

- (i) People are not illiterate or poor by choice.

- (ii) People from all classes fought for the independence and thus everyone should be treated equally.
 - (iii) It will conflict the idea of right to equality.
 - (iv) Every adult should be given right to vote according to Universal Adult Franchise.
 - (v) If people are neglected like this we cannot call ourselves a democracy.
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