

# NTSE

NCERT Solutions for Class 10 Social Science  
CIVICS – Outcomes of Democracy



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**1. When do people start blaming democracy?**

**Ans. 1.** Our interest in and fascination for democracy often pushes us into taking a position that democracy can address all socio-economic and political problems.

2. If some of our expectations are not met, we start blaming the idea of democracy. Or, we start doubting, if we are living in a democracy.

**2. Why do some people think that democratic Governments are less effective?**

**Ans.** It is true that democratic rulers have to bother about deliberation in assemblies or worry about majorities and public opinion. So, they cannot be very quick and efficient in decision making and implementation. So people think that democratic Governments are less effective.

**3. The cost of time that democracy pays is perhaps worth it. Justify.**

**Ans.** Imagine a government that may take decisions very fast. But it may take decisions that are not accepted by the people and may therefore face problems. In contrast, the democratic government will take more time to follow procedures before arriving at a decision. However, because it has followed procedures, its decisions may be both more acceptable to the people and more effective. So, the cost of time that democracy pays is perhaps worth it.

**4. What is transparency in democracy?**

**Ans.** Democracy ensures that decision-making will be based on norms and procedures. Therefore, a citizen who wants to know if a decision was taken through the correct procedures can find this out. He has the right and the means to examine the process of decision-making. This is known as transparency.

**5. What do you expect from democracy when we try to find the outcomes of democracy?**

**Ans.** When we are trying to find out the outcomes of democracy, it is right to expect democracy to produce a government that follows procedures and is accountable to the people. We can also expect that the democratic governments develop mechanisms for citizens to hold the governments accountable and mechanisms for citizens to take part in decision making whenever they think fit.

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**6. What are the practices and institutions to measure democracies on the basis of the expected outcome?**

**Ans.** Regular, free and fair elections, open public debate on major policies and legislations, and citizens' right to information about the government and its functioning are the practices and institutions to measure democracies on the basis of the expected outcome.

**7. What is the significant difference in the rate of economic development between countries under dictatorship and democracy?**

**Ans.** If we consider all democracies and all dictatorships for the fifty years between 1950 and 2000, dictatorships have slightly higher rate of economic growth. The inability of democracy to achieve higher economic development worries us.

**8. How does democracy help reduce inequality and poverty? Explain with reference to India.**

**Ans. 1.** Economic inequality and poverty are the twin problems of India. Different political parties are committed to remove these since it is included in their election manifesto. They are responsive to the needs of the people. The elected Government from time to time started a number of poverty alleviation programmes to reduce poverty in India.

**2.** More over many employment schemes like Rural Works Programme, National Rural Employment Programme etc. are started by democratic Government in India.

**9. What are the conditions under which democracies accommodate social diversities?**

**Ans. 1.** It is necessary to understand that democracy is not simply a rule by majority opinion. The majority always needs to work with the minority so that governments function to represent the general view. Majority and minority opinions are not permanent.

**2.** It is also necessary that rule of majority does not become rule by majority community in terms of religion or race or linguistic group, etc. Rule by majority means that in case of every decision or in case of every election, different persons and groups may and can form a majority. Democracy remains democracy only as long as every citizen has a chance of being in majority at some point of time. If someone is barred from being in majority on the basis of birth, then the democratic rule ceases to be accommodative for that person or group.

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*M. Pareek*

An  
**NTSE Scholar**  
IIT-JEE (Adv.) AIR-3  
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**10. How are social diversities accommodated in democracies?**

**Ans. 1.** No society can fully and permanently resolve conflicts among different groups. However, we can certainly learn to respect these differences and we can also evolve mechanisms to negotiate the differences. Democracy is best suited to produce this outcome.

**2.** Non-democratic regimes often turn a blind eye to or suppress internal social differences. Ability to handle social differences, divisions and conflicts is thus a definite plus point of democratic Government.

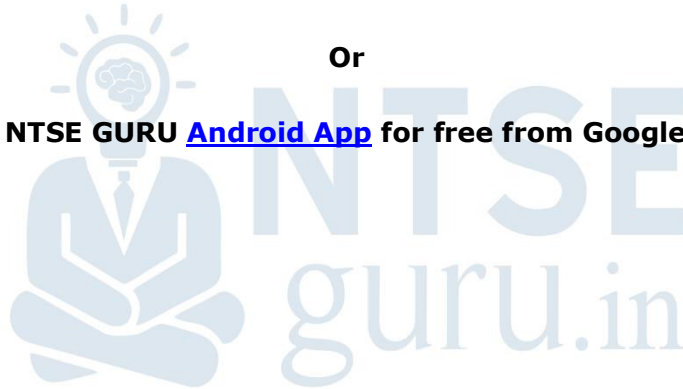
**3.** Social diversities can be accommodated by deliberation, negotiation, and mutual understanding.

**4.** It can be accommodated by power sharing as in the case of Belgium.

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