

GOVERNMENT-: A Government is necessary in every country for

- A) Making decisions and getting things done.
- B) The decisions involve issues like building of roads and school,
- C) Checking inflation of essential goods like onions, potatoes, supply of water, electricity etc.

#### FUNCTIONS OF A GOVERNMENT

Some functions of a government are as follow

- A) Handling issues like running the railway service, postal services,
- B) Protects the countries boundaries and resolve disputes with other countries.
- C) Responsible for the health of the people and ensures that citizens have enough food to eat.
- D) If natural disasters like earthquake or tsunami take place, then the government has to organize and assist camps for affected people.
- E) The Government makes laws for citizens of the country. If there is a dispute or someone committed a crime found, that person is tried in the court of law.
- F) Courts are also a part of the government.

Government performs all the above functions on behalf of its citizens through leadership, decisions and implementing programmes among all the people living in their territory.

#### LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT

Government is responsible for many things and it works at different levels, these are

\*NATIONAL LEVEL-: It is related to the entire country.

\*STATE LEVEL -: It covers an entire state like Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra

\*Local level -: It is related to the village administration, town or locality.

#### TYPES OF GOVERNMENT

There are two types of Government;

1) DEMOCRACY – In democracy, people elect the government through elections in which they vote for particular persons and elect them. Once elected, these people form the government. In a democracy the Government has to explain each of its actions and has to defend its decisions.

2) MONARCHY-It is another form of government where the king or Queen has the power to make decisions and run the government. The King or queen may discuss some matters with his/her feudal /subordinates, but the final decision –making power remains with the monarch. The King or queen does not explain anything to the people and does not explain his/her actions and also have not defend his/her decision.

#### DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS-

In India there is a democracy. This achievement is the result of long and action packed struggle of the Indian people. There are many other places where people have also struggled to have democracies. Main features of the democracy are that the people have the power to elect their leader. The basic idea is that people rule themselves by participating in the making of rules.

UNIVERSAL ADULT FRANCHISE-: After a long struggle the right to vote, which is called franchise or suffrage, was slowly and steadily extended to all. The franchise or right to vote

was not extended to women, the struggle continued and ultimately the women also got the right to vote like men. When the right to vote is given to every adult in a country, it is called UNIVERSAL ADULT FRANCHISE.

RATIONALE BEHIND THE UNIVERSAL ADULT FRANCHISE OR MERIT OF THE UNIVERSAL FRANCHISE.

- 1) IT IS BASED ON POLITICAL EQUALITY-One person –one vote is now the accepted principle in all democratic countries. Everybody, whether he is rich or poor, man or woman should have equal voice in a democratic country.
- 2) IT ESTABLISHES A TRUE DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT -: If by democracy we mean the government OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE AND FOR THE PEOPLE. Universal adult franchise establishes a true democratic government.
- 3) IT MAKES THE GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE TO ALL-: This is only possible if the right to vote is given to all and all are given a say in choosing the government of the country.

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