

Class VI
Civics Chapter III
Government

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1. Things to answer after reading the context :
 - a. What kinds of activities does the government do ?
 - b. What if there were no government in the country ?
 - c. How would you think would be the life of people if there were no rules ?

Key Objectives of the Chapter

- a. To make the students understand the importance of a government
- b. To learn and understand about the functioning of the government
- c. To learn about the different types of government
- d. To understand how democracy is the best

Expected Learning Outcomes

By the end of the chapter, the student will have an idea about a democratic government and its functioning. The students will be well informed about the different kinds of government. They will have a shared, different or even a similar opinion about how the functioning of the government takes place.

FOCUS POINT

The entire focus of the chapter is on the **DEMOCRATIC Government and Its Functioning.**

Why Does a Country Need a Government ?

Before you even answer this question, just think how your school's environment would look like if your principal and teachers do not attend the school for one whole day?

Government - A group of people who takes care and governs the country is called a government . Without a government , there would be no one to look after the welfare of the citizens or the problems people are facing . A government is the one who makes the **decisions** and whenever necessary can also enforce a decision . A government , on behalf of the people, takes decisions , actions to protect the country .

You might have understood that your school will be in a state of chaos. Similarly, India being a home to diversity, it is important for a body to supervise and look after the country's needs and wants and maintain peace in the country.

2. Things to answer after reading the context :
 - a. What are the different levels in which the government works ?
 - b. Why if there was only one government for the entire nation ?

Levels of Government

The government has a lot of work to do like maintaining the healthcare infrastructure, maintaining a proper relationship with the other countries, in other words, maintaining its foreign relations, and most importantly, working for the fulfillment of the country;s needs and wants. And India being a huge diverse country with different states having different issues and problems, it becomes difficult to manage everything from the centre and that is why there is a need to have different **levels of government.**

Levels of Government - The Indian government works on three different levels:

The local level means a locality , village.

The state level.

The national level.

3. Things to answer after reading the context :
 - a. What steps can a government take when they see a law is not being followed ?
 - b. Why is it necessary to follow the rules ?
 - c. Give examples of situations when a person needs to take help from the court .

The Way Government Functions

Do you know how much laws and rules are important? They help maintain peace in the society, avoid clashes and help maintain unity in the country.

Laws - The government makes certain laws which the citizens are bound to follow . For example , child marriage is banned in India . If any person is caught doing such type of activities , strict action is to be taken . Also , people are allowed to go to courts to get justice when there arises some kind of injustice or crime against someone .So , the laws and government maintains and protects the country .

4. Things to answer after reading the context :

- a. Which type of government is better according to you ? Give reasons.
- b. Give differences between a democratic government and monarchy .
- c. What did Gandhiji write in his journal about discrimination related to votes ?
- d. When did the people realise that women were also equal to men ?

Power of Choosing The Government

There are **2 types of government** . One in which the people choose the government and the other (king / queen) has power to run the government . The differences occur in the different types of countries we live in .

Democratic Governments - India is a democratic country . The citizens of India have the power to choose their own government . This is the result of all the sacrifices and struggles the people , freedom fighters had gone for . Here, the people elect their respective representatives and the representatives work and make decisions for the entire country .

Monarchy - In this system , the king or the queen has the power . They make the decisions and also run the government . They have a small group of people who make the decisions but the ultimate power is in the hands of the king or queen . Whereas in a democratic country , the government explains it's actions to the people .

Universal Adult Franchise - India is a democratic country now , but before there were only a certain class of people who were allowed to participate in the elections .

Women and the poor people were not allowed to vote . People were shocked at the inequity of such practice and demanded the right to vote for all adults. The best part is, Indian ladies never had to fight for the right of vote.

Gandhiji in his journal stated that it was unbelievable that a man with wealth can vote but a man with character cannot .

Suffrage Movement - During the first world war , men were away fighting so women were called for several works . Women started handling those kinds of works and that's when people started noticing the **unfair stereotypes** that had been going on. So women were seen as equally capable of making decisions as men . Suffrages started demanding the right to vote for all women .

During the first world war , the fight for the participation of the women and poor strengthened. This movement is called the **women's suffrage movement** .

Conclusion - India had to go through a lot of struggles and pain to get independence . After that , India became a democratic country . The different levels of government have different kinds of responsibilities which keeps our country working in a proper manner . So ,it is our responsibility now to become a better citizen for the country by obeying the laws and rules which are stated for the welfare of our own country .

DID YOU KNOW

1. The religions Hinduism , Buddhism , Jainism and Sikhism were born in India.
2. India was one of the richest countries till the early 17th century .
3. Universal Adult Franchise was the greatest experiment in India's democratic country .