

Chapter 6 Democratic Rights

1. Which of the following is not an instance of an exercise of a fundamental right?

- (a) Workers from Bihar go to the Punjab to work on the farms
- (b) Christian missions set up a chain of missionary schools
- (c) Men and women government employees get the same salary
- (d) Parents' property is inherited by their children

Answer:

- (d) Parents' property is inherited by their children

2. Which of the following freedoms is not available to an Indian citizen?

- (a) Freedom to criticise the government
- (b) Freedom to participate in armed revolution
- (c) Freedom to start a movement to change the government
- (d) Freedom to oppose the central values of the Constitution

Answer:

- (b) Freedom to participate in armed revolution

3. Which of the following rights is available under the Indian Constitution?

- (a) Right to work
- (b) Right to adequate livelihood
- (c) Right to protect one's culture
- (d) Right to privacy

Answer:

- (c) Right to protect one's culture

4. Name the Fundamental Right under which each of the following rights falls:

- 1. Freedom to propagate one's religion
- 2. Right to life
- 3. Abolition of untouchability
- 4. Ban on bonded labour

Answer:

- 1. Right to freedom of religion
- 2. Right to freedom
- 3. Right to equality
- 4. Right against exploitation

5. Which of these statements about the relationship between democracy and rights is more valid? Give reasons for your preference.

- (a) Every country that is a democracy gives rights to its citizens.
- (b) Every country that gives rights to its citizens is a democracy.
- (c) Giving rights is good, but it is not necessary for a democracy.

Answer:

The most valid statement is (a).

This is because every country that is democratic is a system wherein the government is elected by the people. Therefore, it is essential for it to provide rights to its citizens.

6. Are these restrictions on the right to freedom justified? Give reasons for your answer.

- 1. Indian citizens need permission to visit some border areas of the country for reasons of security.*
- 2. Outsiders are not allowed to buy property in some areas to protect the interest of the local population.*
- 3. The government bans the publication of a book that can go against the ruling party in the next elections.*

Answer:

- 1. This statement is justified as the citizens are protected from loss of life or property.*
- 2. This statement is not justified as it infringes on the right to freedom of citizens from other parts of the country.*
- 3. This statement is not justified as it violates the right to freedom of speech and expression.*

7. Manoj went to a college to apply for admission into an MBA course. The clerk refused to take his application and said *You, the son of a sweeper, wish to be a manager! Has anyone done this job in your community? Go to the municipality office and apply for a sweeper's position. Which of Manoj's fundamental rights is being violated in this instance? Spell these out in a letter from Manoj to the district collector.*

Answer:

In this case, the Right to Freedom and Right to Equality is being violated.

Letter

*To,
The District Collector,
ABC District*

Sub: Redressal required for a violation of my Right to Equality

Dear Sir/Madam,

I, XYZ wished to inform you that my admission for pursuing a course leading to an MBA degree in a college in your district has been refused. It was done by a clerk of the college who remarked that "You, the son of a sweeper, wish to be a manager! Has anyone done this job in your community? Go to the municipality office and apply for a sweeper's position". This is a total violation of my rights and it is unfair. I am fully qualified to apply for the course having

completed my graduation.

Kindly look into the matter at the earliest.

Thanking You,

*Sincerely,
XYZ*

Page No: 112

8. When Madhurima went to the property registration office, the Registrar told her. “You can’t write your name as Madhurima Banerjee d/o A. K. Banerjee. You are married, so you must give your husband’s name. Your husband’s surname is Rao. So your name should be changed to Madhurima Rao.” She did not agree. She said “If my husband’s name has not changed after marriage, why should mine?” In your opinion who is right in this dispute? And why?

Answer:

In this dispute, Madhurima’s opinion is correct as Madhurima has got all the right to retain her maiden name to ensure gender equality. In a democratic country like India, every citizen enjoys the right to equality. Therefore, whether it is the marital status or unmarried a girl has all the right to retain her father’s name.

9. Thousands of tribals and other forest dwellers gathered at Piparia in the Hoshangabad district in Madhya Pradesh to protest against their proposed displacement from the Satpura National Park, Bori Wildlife Sanctuary, and Panchmarhi Wildlife Sanctuary. They argue that such a displacement is an attack on their livelihood and beliefs. The government claims that their displacement is essential for the development of the area and for protection of wildlife. Write a petition on behalf of the forest dwellers to the NHRC, a response from the government, and a report of the NHRC on this matter.

Answer:

As the answers may vary, please attempt this question on your own with the help of your subject teacher or elders.