



## CHAPTER – 19

### DEMOCRACY

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#### NOTES:

- Democracy is a form of government in which the rulers are elected by the people.
- Abraham Lincoln defined democracy as “a government of the people, by the people and for the people”.
- Rule of Law- A country should be ruled by laws and not by the whims of a king or a monarch or a military general.
- Democracy has two kinds: Direct and Indirect.
- Direct democracy is where citizens themselves vote for or against specific proposals or laws. Some city states in Ancient Greece had this system. In modern countries direct democracy is impossible because of the vastness of the size of the territory and largeness of population
- **Indirect democracy**, or representative democracy, is when citizens elect representatives to make laws for them. This is what most modern countries have today.
- **Monarchy or Dictatorship** are non-democratic governments.
- **Manipur State Constitution Act** was drafted and adopted in **1947** .
- All democratic countries have formal constitutions, hold elections at regular intervals, have political parties, guarantee rights of citizens.
- Equality is a key feature of democracy and influences all aspects of its functioning.
- **Universal Adult Franchise** –all adults above 18 years of age have the right to vote irrespective of their social or economic backgrounds.
- **Election** is important in a democracy.
- There are three types of elections- **General Election, By Election and MidTerm Election.**
- Election has certain procedures.
- It is almost impossible to run democracy without political parties.

- Three types of party systems are commonly found – **Single party, Bi-party and Multi-party systems.**
- In India we find two types of political parties – **National Parties and Regional Parties .**
- Constitution of India was adopted on 26<sup>th</sup> November, 1949 and came into force from 26<sup>th</sup> January, 1950.
- The Indian Constitution is the supreme law of the country.
- A **constitution** is a set of rules that guides how a country, state, or other political organization works. The **constitution** may tell what the branches of the government are, what powers they have, and how they work. It may also state the rights of citizens.
- **THE PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA :**
- **WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA,** having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a **SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC** and to secure to all its citizens  
**JUSTICE**, social, economic and political;  
**LIBERTY** of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship;  
**EQUALITY** of status and of opportunity;  
and to promote among them all **FRATERNITY**  
assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the Nation;  
**IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY** this 26th day of November 1949,  
do **HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS**  
**CONSTITUTION.**
- **The Preamble is the soul of the Indian Constitution.**

