

Challenges in front of Indian Democracy

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India is recognized as the largest democracy in the world. It first became a democratic country post-independence, in 1947. After this, every citizen of India was given the mere right for electing and voting their leaders. India gives every citizen the right to vote, irrespective of their colour, caste, religion, creed, and even gender. It consists of five democratic principles. These include- socialist, secular, sovereign, democratic, and even republic. Thus, in Indian, democracy is all about offering every citizen the right to vote for running the country.

Although evidence of democracy is found in the Vedic period of ancient India by the presence of organizations like Sabha, Samiti and some republics. But the role of four revolutions, England's Bloodless Revolution of 1688, the American Revolution of 1776, the French Revolution of 1789, and the Industrial Revolution of the 19th century prevailed in stabilizing the present form of democracy. The glorious revolution of England ensured that Parliament should be approved against the backdrop of administrative policy and state laws. After years of colonial rule, India has also accepted parliamentary democracy.

Meaning of Democracy

The word democracy is originated from the Greek root word 'Demos' and Crescia Demos means 'common people' and Cressey means 'rule', thus democracy means the rule of people .About the meaning of Democracy a Thinkers Opinion :

- 1) Herodotus: "Democracy is a type of government in which the whole power is with people".
- 2) Abraham Linkan: "Democracy is government of the people, by the people and for the people."

What is Indian Democracy?

"India is parliamentary Secular democratic republic in which the president of India is the need of the state and first citizens of India and the prime minister of India is the head of government, although the word is not used in the constitution itself."

The journey of democracy in India:

According to Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, one of the founders of the Indian Constitution, 'Democracy means a way of life which consists of the basic principles of freedom, equality, and fraternity.' To achieve the principles mentioned above on 26 January 1950 Democracy was duly established in India. It is one of the oldest civilizations in the world with unity in diversity and rich cultural heritage. Indian culture is different from other cultures in that it still cherishes its oldest traditions and brings newness to it. After attaining independence, India has made multifaceted social and economic progress. India is the only nation in the world to establish political justice by giving every adult citizen the right to vote from the very first day after independence. Many democracies like America, Britain, which have taken years to establish political justice. Fair and transparent Mechanism of election is the key to the establishment of a good democracy because elections are the process by which the public transfers their sovereignty. India can certainly be proud of its election system. The efficiency of the Fair Election Commission led to the timely and uninterrupted transfer of power to India, while dictatorship and military rule also came into force in many independent countries along with India.

Till date, only one emergency was used in India, in which people felt that democracy was being weakened by the government, then this people of India responded to the emergency and the ruling party sat in opposition for the first time. The Court of India has several times kept parliamentary laws and executive orders invalid to protect the rights of the people and protect the individual liberty in the country, keeping the democratic element alive.

Challenges in front of Indian democracy:

There are many challenges facing democracy in India as follows.

1. For political democracy to succeed, its alliance with economic democracy and social democracy is necessary. Economic democracy means that every member of society should get equal physical facilities for his development. There should not be much economic disparity between people and one person cannot exploit another person. It is not possible to build a democratic nation on the one hand in an environment of extreme poverty and on the other hand, social democracy means that there is a lack of privileges at the social level. But both of these have still not been established in India. Our nation's 1% of the rich have more than 85% of the country's wealth, the total wealth of the country's 63 billionaires is equal to the national budget. Along with this inequality, gender, ethnic, religious discrimination prevents the country from establishing genuine democracy.
2. Criminalization of politics and use of money power in elections has been a major problem of Indian elections. There are more than 200 MPs in the current Lok Sabha who have criminal cases against them. Along with this, poverty, corruption tricks in the country have affected the election system, spreading despair in the daily life of the people. The

increasing importance of muscle power, money power, the effects of casteism, communalism, and corruption in political life have made the political scenario toxic!

3. India's difficult, far-reaching and lengthy judicial process has brought a state of justice in the country. At times, due to misrule, the fairness of justice itself has come into the dock. Delay in justice is often equated with injustice. Many more cases pending in our judiciary.
4. Civil service and police service from colonial heritage consider themselves as masters while in democracy both of them are considered service providers.
5. Perhaps the greatest challenge democracy faces in India is that it has failed to deliver the kind of sustained economic development enjoyed by neighbors like China over the last four decades. It has also failed to eliminate extreme poverty.

Future of democracy in India:

The trajectory of Indian democracy is more uncertain after two terms of BJP rule, as key democratic institutions have proven themselves to be brittle. Opponents and critical journalists have been harassed, prosecuted, investigated for tax irregularities or put under surveillance, restricting critical voices.

Election campaign finance laws have become more opaque, making it easier for individuals to make unlimited anonymous donations, undermining the integrity of elections. Worst of all, religious division and resentment has intensified, challenging the constitutional right to religious freedom and undermining the rule of law.

Conclusion:

It is true that India has achieved great democratic achievements, but after independence, the high ideals that we should have established in this country and society, we are going in exactly the opposite direction today and corruption, dowry, human hatred, Problems such as violence, obscenity, and rape are now becoming a part of life. But our country is advancing many problems since ancient times, present India is the most populous country, in such a way, youth will have to democratize the country, society, and family by increasing their participation.

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