

# Equality in Democracy

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## III. Short Answer Type Questions:

Ans. 1:- Universal Adult Franchise is important in a democracy because:

- (i) It is based on the principle of equality.
- (ii) It authorizes every adult citizen in a country to cast ones vote irrespective of his/her wealth and the community he/she belongs to.
- (iii) No government can claim itself to be a democratic government without allowing all eligible adults to vote.

Ans. 2:- Article 15 of our Constitution addresses inequality among citizens in following ways:

- (i) The state shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or only of them.
- (ii) No citizen shall on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or only of them be subject to any disability, liability, restriction or condition with regard to:
  - (a) Access to shops, public restaurants, hotels and places of public entertainment.

OR

- (b) The use of wells, tanks, bathing ghats, roads and places of public resort maintained wholly or partly out of state funds or dedicated to the use of the general public.

Ans. 3:- The government initiatives to reduce the inequality in our daily life work very slowly because of the following reasons:

- (i) The attitude of the people to accept all men as equal, changes very slowly.
- (ii) Even though the people are aware of the law they continue to treat people unequally on the basis of their caste, religion, economic status, gender, etc.

Ans. 4:- inequality is a world phenomenon because in many democratic countries of the world this has been an important issue of concern. For example:-

- (i) In the United State of America, African-Americans were treated unequally.
- (ii) They were denied equality before the law especially before the Civil Rights Movement.
- (iii) This was a movement that began in USA in 1950s in which African-American people demanded equal right and an end to racial discrimination.