

Report on Working of Indian Democracy : An overview

A special lecture was organized on 23rd October 2020. Prof B.T Raghu, VVFGC was invited to speak on “Working of Indian Democracy- An overview”.



It was a wonderful session, which mainly focused on our present working of Indian democracy. One of the tenets of democracy is that all members of the society must be equal. For it to function, this equality must be present in the individual vote. Denying groups the right to vote is contrary to the function of a democracy, a system of government where each individual's vote has equal weight. The U.S. system of government is a republic, a type of democracy in which elected officials carry out the will of the people.

India is the world's largest democracy. India became a democratic nation, post its independence in the year 1947. Thereafter, the citizens of India were given the right to vote and elect their leader. In India, it gives its citizens the right to vote irrespective of their caste, color, creed, religion, and gender. It has five democratic principles – sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic and republic.

Though the Indian Constitution of 1950 made India a democratic republic with universal adult franchise, the country's deeply unequal society based on caste hierarchy, low levels of economic development, and a large rural population mired in poverty and illiteracy suggested that this was inhospitable soil for democracy to take root. Nevertheless, over the last six decades and more, Indian democracy has proved to be resilient and enduring (unlike its neighbors, which gained independence at the same time). It has witnessed the holding of regular, free, and fair elections in which the rural and unlettered poor actively participate, as also social movements and a vibrant civil society that make demands on the political system that political parties may not. Above all, the idea of democracy has strikingly captured the popular imagination.

It is clear Indian democracy faces serious challenges yet successful. Framers of Indian Constitution were very much aware of these issues and thus number of constitutional provisions

to address. There is need of collaboration among governmental agencies, political parties, civil society and citizens in general.

Speaking on Political Democracy he said, Elections are being done regularly and so transfer of power has been considerably smooth. Conducting elections in a fair manner free from money power has not been fully achieved. Functioning of the local bodies Panchayat / Municipalities needs considerable improvement. India has done wonderful in terms of realizing in the essence of democracy and still needs to work on the same to realize its full potential. Concluding his observation on the topic he said, the day is not far when India will not only be known as the largest democracy of the world but the best democracy in the world. The programme concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by the coordinator Dr. R Gangandhar.

