

Long Answer Type Questions

1. Discuss the position of the citizens of Saudi Arabia with regard to their government.

- Ans.** (a) Saudi Arabia is ruled by a hereditary king and the people have no role in electing or changing their rulers,
- (b) The king appoints the members of legislature as well as the executive. He appoints the judges and can change any of their decisions.
- (c) Citizens are not allowed to form political parties or political organizations. Media cannot report anything that the monarch does not like.
- (d) There is no freedom of religion. Every citizen is required to be Muslim. Non-Muslim residents can follow their religion in private but not in public.
- (e) Women are subjected to many public restrictions. The testimony of one man is considered equal to that of two women.

2. Why do we need rights in a democracy?

- Ans.** (a) Rights are necessary for the sustenance of a democracy.
- (b) Rights perform a very special role in a democracy.
- (c) Rights protect minorities from the oppression of majority. They insure that the majority cannot do whatever they like.
- (d) Rights are the guarantees which can be used when things go wrong. Things may go wrong when some citizens may wish to take away the rights of others.

3. “India is a secular state.” Justify the statement.

- Ans.** (a) In India every person has a right to profess, practice and propagate the religion he or she believes in. Every religious sect is free to manage its religious affairs.
- (b) In India, government does not confer any privilege or favor on any particular religion. Nor does it punish or discriminate against the people on the basis of religion they follow.
- (c) The government does not compel any person to pay any taxes for the promotion or maintenance of any particular religion or religious institution.
- (d) In India, there is no religious instruction in the government educational institution.
- So, we can say that India is a secular state which keeps equidistant from all religions and respects them all.

4. Discuss the international covenant on economic, social and cultural rights.

Ans. The international covenant recognizes the following rights:

- (a) Right to work, opportunity to everyone to earn livelihood by working.
- (b) Right to safe and healthy working conditions and fair wages.
- (c) Right to adequate standard of living including adequate food, clothing and housing.
- (d) Right to social security and insurance.
- (e) Right to health.
- (f) Right to free and compulsory primary education and equal access to higher education.