

CHAPTER -6 POLITICAL PARTIES

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Chapter 6 Political Parties

Q1. What is a political party?

Ans.

- A Political party is a group of people who come together to contest elections and hold power in government.
- They agree on some policies and programs for the society with a view to promote the collective good.
- Parties reflect fundamental political divisions in a society.

Q2. What is a coalition government?

Ans.

When none of the political parties get majority of seats in the elections, the government is formed by various parties coming together. It is called coalition government.

Q3. What is front or alliance?

Ans.

- When several parties in a multi-party system join hands for the purpose of contesting elections and winning power, it is called an alliance or front.
- For example: In India there were 3 major alliances in 2004 elections- The national democratic alliance (NDA), the United progressive Alliance (UPA) and the left front.

Q4. What do you understand by a 'recognized party'?

Ans.

A party that gets some privileges such as unique party symbol and another special facility is called 'recognized' party by the election commission.

Q5. Which party is recognized as a national party?

Ans.

- A party that secures at least 6% of the total votes in Lok Sabha elections or assembly elections in 4 states and wins at least 4 seats in the Lok Sabha is recognized as a national party.

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- For example: Bhartiya Janata Party, Indian National Congress.

Q6. Which party is recognized a state party?

Ans.

- A party that secures at least 6% of the total votes in an election to the legislative assembly of a state and wins at least 2 seats is recognized as a state party.
- For example: Telegu Desam Party, Samajwadi party.

Q7. Which are seven national political parties in India?

Ans.

1. Indian National Congress (INC)
2. Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP)
3. Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP)
4. Communist Party of India (CPI)
5. Communist Party of India- Marxist (CPI-M)
6. Nationalist Congress Party (NCP)
7. All India Trinamool Congress (AITC)

Q8. What is defection? What is anti-defection law?

Ans.

Defection implies changing party Allegiance from the party on which person got elected to a legislature to a different party.

Anti-defection law says that if any MLA or MP changes parties, he or she will lose the seat in the legislature.

Q9. What is one party system? Why one-party system is not good in a democracy? Name the country in which it exists.

Ans.

1. In countries where only one party is allowed to control and run the government, it is called one party system.
2. One party system is not good because there is no free competition for power.
3. One party system exists in China.

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Q10. What is bi-party system? Name the countries where bi-party system exists. What is the advantage?

Ans.

1. Under bi-party system power usually changes between 2 main parties.
2. Several other parties may exist, contest elections and win a few seats in the national legislature. But only two main parties have a serious chance of winning majority of seats to form government.
3. The USA and United Kingdom are examples of two-party systems.
4. Bi- party system gives stability to the government as one party gets majority and forms the governments.

Q11. What is multiparty system? Give one example. what are its advantages?

Ans.

1. When many parties compete for power and more then to parties have a reasonable chance of coming to power either on their own strength or in alliance with others, it is called multiparty system.
2. For example: India
3. The main advantages of this system is that it allows a variety of interests and opinions to enjoy political representation

Q12. Why modern democracies canton exists without political parties?

Ans.

1. If political parties are not there every candidate in the election will be independent.
2. No one will be able to make long term promises to the people.
3. Elected members will be accountable to their constituency and no one will be responsible for the country.

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4. In modern societies representative democracies are necessary. political parties gather different views on various issues.
5. Political parties provide a system to support or restrict the government, make policies, etc.

Q13. What are the challenges faced by political parties?

Ans.

1. **Lack of internal democracy:** In political parties, there is a concentration of power in few hands. In such cases, some members become too powerful and take all decisions, while no importance is given to other members of the parties.
2. **Dynastic Succession:** Generally, very easy entry is given to the families of the members of the political parties. Under such circumstances, inexperienced members become the members of the party while the deserving are left out.
3. **Money and muscle power:** Since the main aim of political parties is to capture power and form the government, parties focus only on winning the elections. Many business houses influence the decisions of the party and government by providing funds to the parties.
4. **Lack of meaningful choices:** Due to the decline of ideological differences, voters do not have many options during elections.

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