

**CBSE Test Paper - 02**  
**Chapter - 21 Political Parties**

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1. The \_\_\_\_ was/were amended to prevent elected MLAs and MPs from changing parties. **(1)**
  - a. All of these
  - b. Constitution
  - c. Power of Attorney
  - d. Affidavit
2. Any \_\_\_\_ system must allow at least two parties to compete in elections. **(1)**
  - a. Autocratic
  - b. Democratic
  - c. Communist
  - d. Monarchy
3. Which out of the following is a 'state party'? **(1)**
  - a. BSP
  - b. NCP
  - c. BJP
  - d. Rashtriya Janata Dal

4. Match the following with respect to functions of political parties. **(1)**

Column A	Column B
1. Policies and programmes	a. Parties play a decisive role, Debates and pass the legislature
2. Making laws for a country.	b. Criticising government for its failures.
3. Role of opposition	c. Parties select their candidates in different ways.
4. Parties contest elections.	d. Each of us may have different opinions and views on what policies are suitable for the society.

- a. 1 - a, 2 - d, 3 - b, 4 - c
- b. 1 - d, 2 - a, 3 - b, 4 - c

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c. 1 - c, 2 - a, 3 - b, 4 - d

d. 1 - d, 2 - b, 3 - a, 4 - c

5. Which of the following is True? **(1)**
  - a. Opposing parties is equal to political parties.
  - b. Democracy is equal to political parties.
  - c. Democracy is not equal to political parties.
  - d. Democracy is equal to Ruling parties.
6. Who takes a direct part in the elections? **(1)**
7. Name the alliance formed by the Congress Party. **(1)**
8. Name the political party which is a result of social reform movement. **(1)**
9. Name any two regional parties and the states where they are active. **(1)**
10. Explain the requirements fulfilled by a political party to become a national political party. **(3)**
11. "Nearly every one of the state parties wants to get an opportunity to be a part of one or the other national level coalition." Support the statement with arguments. **(3)**
12. Explain the constitutional measures to counter challenges faced by political parties. **(3)**
13. When was the Communist Party of India (Marxist) formed? Mention the ideologies of the party. **(3)**
14. 'The political scene is the mass of many parties.' How do politicians manage these coalitions? Give your opinion. **(5)**
15. What is dominant party system? Is it same with one-party system? **(5)**

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**Answers**

1. b. Constitution

**Explanation:** The Constitution was amended to prevent elected MLAs and MPs from changing parties. This was done because many elected representatives were indulging in DEFECTION in order to become ministers or for cash rewards.

2. b. Democratic

**Explanation:** Any democratic system must allow at least two parties to compete in elections and provide a fair chance for the competing parties to come to power.

3. d. Rashtriya Janata Dal

**Explanation:** Parties like the Samajwadi Party, Samata Party and Rashtriya Janata Dal have national level political organisation with units in several states

4. b. 1 - d, 2 - a, 3 - b, 4 - c

**Explanation:** A. Parties put forward different policies and programmes and the voters choose from them. Each of us may have different opinions and views on what policies are suitable for the society.

- i. Parties play a decisive role in making laws for a country. Formally, laws are debated and passed in the legislature
- ii. Those parties that lose in the elections play the role of opposition to the parties in power, by voicing different views and criticising government for its failures or wrong policies.
- iii. Parties contest elections. In most democracies, elections are fought mainly among the candidates put up by political parties. Parties select their candidates in different ways

5. b. Democracy is equal to political parties.

**Explanation:** For most ordinary citizens, democracy is equal to political parties.

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6. Political parties take a direct part in election.
  7. The alliance formed by the Congress party is United Progressive Alliance (UPA).
  8. The parties like the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and DMK are the results of a long-drawn social reform movement.
  9. DMK (Dravida Munnetra Kazham) and National Conference are the two regional parties and have strong support in their regions. DMK is active in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry and National Conference is active in Jammu and Kashmir.
  10.
    - i. The party has to secure at least six percent of the total votes in the Lok Sabha elections.
    - ii. Six percent of the total votes in the state Assembly elections and win at least four seats in the Lok Sabha protected against the marketing of goods and delivery of services that are hazardous to life and property.
  11. **State parties seeking national-level coalition:** Over the last three decades, the number and strength of these parties have expanded. This made the parliament of India politically more and more diverse. No one national party was able to secure on its own a majority in Lok Sabha. Before General Election of 2014, in three general elections, no one national party was able to secure on its own a majority in Lok Sabha. With the result, the national parties were compelled to form alliances with state or regional parties. Since 1996, nearly every one of the state parties has got an opportunity to be a part of one or the other national level coalition government. This has contributed to the strengthening of federalism and democracy.
  12. The constitutional measures to counter challenges faced by political parties include
    - i. The constitution was amended to prevent elected MLAs and MPs from changing parties. This is called anti defection law.
    - ii. The Supreme Court made it mandatory for every candidate to file an affidavit giving details of his property and criminal cases pending against him.
    - iii. The Election Commission made it necessary for political parties to hold elections and file their Income Tax Returns.
    - iv. A law is passed to regulate the internal affairs of political parties.

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13. The Communist Party of India (Marxist) Party was formed in 1964.

Ideologies of Communist Party of India (Marxist) are mentioned below:

- i. Its aim is socialism and communism through the establishment of the state of the dictatorship of the proletariat.
- ii. In all its activities the Party is guided by the philosophy and principles of Marxism–Leninism
- iii. It supports socialism, secularism and democracy and opposes imperialism and communalism.
- iv. The party accepts democratic elections as a useful and helpful means for securing the objective of socio-economic justice in India.
- v. The party is critical of the new economic policies that allow free flow of foreign capital and goods into the country.

14. It is true that presently political scene is dominated by many parties.

The politicians do manage these coalitions by giving proportional representation to all the emerging political parties and their members.

With the mushrooming of political parties, it has now become difficult in the Indian political scenario, for any particular party to garner majority of seats to form the government.

In such a case, several political parties with almost similar agenda come together to form a government and if voted to power, all such parties as a coalition form the government

Generally, all the major decision making is done by the biggest party in the coalition, like that of BJP in the general elections of 2014.

If we take it in positive sense we see that this signifies:

- i. The concept of **popular participation**.
- ii. **Equal representation** to all the sections of the society.
- iii. This system **has strengthened federal system** of democracy.
- iv. It is helpful to get **equal share in the power**.
- v. Ministries are allotted keeping in mind all the members of the coalition.

Such a system may face problems if one of more than one political parties, opts out of the coalition leading to instability.

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Though at times difficult to manage, such system allows a assortment of interests and opinions for political representation.

15. The dominant party system is the system in which one party is so dominant that other parties are, for practical purposes, irrelevant. For example, for two decades after independence, the Indian National Congress was the single dominant party. No, it is not the same as the one-party system. It is nearly same to the one-party system but differs in that, there exists a number of parties. In India until 1990, the Congress Party maintained its predominant position, barring 3 years as the ruling party at the national level. It occupied the central space in politics because of its immense organizational strength and its capability to get a large number of seats in the Parliament and the state legislatures.

In Japan, also the Liberal Democratic Party, until 1993, has been the sole governing party of the country for more than three decades through a number of parties are represented in the Diet. This system also existed in East Germany, Poland and Czechoslovakia, where one-party forced other parties into an electoral pact that voters had no other choice but to vote for the candidates of the coalition or to abstain.