

# Political Parties

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## Practice Questions

### Q. 1. What are partisan and partisanship?

**Answer:** Partisan-A person who strongly supporting a person, group of ideas and committed to a party without considering it carefully. Partisanship- a term used when a politician supports their official party policies and refuses to be engage with the opposition policies.

### Q. 2. Do political parties educate people?

**Answer:** Yes, political parties educate people by organising public rallies, meetings, press conference on important issues. Common people are made aware of the economic, social and political condition of the country.

### Q. 3. How do political parties shape public opinion?

**Answer: a.** Political parties raise and highlight issues related to people.

**b.** Sometimes they launch movements for the solution of problems faced by the people.

**c.** Parties have lakhs of members and activists, spread all over the country.

### Q. 4. Which party can be referred to as a recognised party?

**Answer:** The party which is recognised and registered by the government and election commission and given a unique symbol to contest the election.

### Q. 5. Define mono-party system.

**Answer:** Mono party system is a one party system in which one party is allowed to run the country or government. Example China

### Q. 6. Discuss two merits and one demerit of one-party or mono-party system.

**Answer:** Merits of mono-party system-

**a.** Political Stability –since there is no opposition party so government is strong and cannot be removed out of power.

**b.** Less Expensive-There is only one party and one candidate of the party, not so much money is spent on the election.

**Demerit of one party system-**

- a. No political competition- it gives no choice to the voters.
- b. Leads to dictatorship-Undemocratic government can become dictatorial.

**Q. 7. What is the advantage of multi-party system?**

**Answer:** Advantages of multi-party system-

- a. It allows smaller parties to flourish.
- b. It allows variety of interest and opinions to enjoy political representation.
- c. It strengthen and deepens democracy.

**Q. 8. What is meant by a national political party? State the condition required to be a national political party.**

**Answer:** A national party which function at the national level is called a national party.

A political party is able to get the status of National Party when-

- a) It secures at least 6% of the valid votes polled in any four or more states in Lok Sabah or legislative assembly.
- b) Party has to win at least 4seats in the Lok Sabah from any state or states.

**Q. 9. Why is there of internal democracy within the political parties in India? Explain with examples.**

**Answer:** There is a lack of democracy with in the political parties in India due to the following reasons-

- a) There is a tendency in political parties that concentration of powers is in the hands of one or few top leaders.
- b) Parties don't hold an organisational meeting and don't conduct internal elections regularly.
- c) Parties don't have the means which required to influence the decisions.
- d) Parties don't keep membership register.
- e) All these features are found in India's parties like Indian National Congress, BSP, SP and BJP etc.

**Q. 10. What are the various challenges faced by political parties?**

**Answer:** The various challenges faced by political parties are-

**Lack of internal democracy-**

- a. Concentration of power in one or few leaders at the top.
- b. Parties don't keep membership registers, don't hold internal elections regularly.
- c. They don't have the means or the connections needed to influence the decision.

**Challenges of Dynastic Succession-**

- a. The top positions are always controlled by members of one family.
- b. This is unfair to other members of respective party.
- c. People who don't have adequate experience or popular support come to or occupy position of power. This is not good for democracy.

**Money and Muscle power-**

- a. They tend to nominate those candidates who have or can raise lots of money.
- b. Rich people and companies who give funds to the parties tend to have an influence on the policies and decisions.
- c. In some cases, parties support criminals who can win elections.

**Absences of meaningful choice-**

- a. In recent years there has been a decline in the ideological differences almost all parties in the world.
- b. In our country also there has been a difference among all the major parties on the economic policies.
- c. Sometimes people re-elect the same leader because they keep shifting from one party to another.

**No material choice for the workers-**

- a. The people are left with no choice.
- b. Almost all the parties have more or less the same policies and programmes.

**Q. 11. Why do parties not give enough tickets to women? Which values lack in the above statements?**

**Answer:** Parties don't give enough tickets to women because-

- a.** Politics is mainly male-dominated.
- b.** Parties don't find women capable enough to run the government.
- c.** They don't find that women have a leadership quality.
- d.** There is no quota for women in the decision making bodies in the party.
- e.** They believe that if women get the ticket then steadily the powers will go in the hands of women.
- f.** It reflects the patriarchal mentality of the Indian society.

Internal democracy, gender-inequality are the values which lack in the above statements.