

CBSE Test Paper - 03
Chapter - 21 Political Parties

1. The main base of BSP is in: **(1)**
 - a. Haryana
 - b. Delhi
 - c. Uttar Pradesh
 - d. Punjab

2. Which party wants full territorial and political integration of Jammu and Kashmir with India? **(1)**
 - a. Indian National Congress
 - b. Bahujan Samaj Party
 - c. Communist Party of India
 - d. Bharatiya Janata Party

3. What is an 'alliance'? **(1)**
 - a. None of these
 - b. One party contests elections
 - c. Several parties join hands for contesting elections
 - d. Two parties contest elections

4. Which Party/Parties have national level political organisation with units in several states? **(1)**
 - i. Samata Party, Nationalist Congress Party and Communist Party of India - Marxist
 - ii. Samajwadi Party, Samata Party and Rashtriya Janata Dal
 - iii. Samajwadi Party, Nationalist Congress Party and Communist Party of India - Marxist
 - iv. Rashtriya Janata Dal, Nationalist Congress Party and Communist Party of India - Marxist

5. How many parties are registered with the Election Commission of India? **(1)**

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- a. 650
 - b. 750
 - c. 700
 - d. 500

6. When was Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) founded? **(1)**
7. Name any one political party that has national level political organization but not recognized as the national political party. **(1)**
8. Which is the most visible institutions in a democracy? **(1)**
9. Name the National Political Party who is against the conversion of religion? **(1)**
10. What is meant by defection in democracy? Explain. **(3)**
11. Name a country that has a one-party system. **(3)**
12. Describe the main features of the Two-Party system. **(3)**
13. "Political parties are necessary for a democracy". In the light of this statement, explain any four characteristics of the political parties in India. **(3)**
14. How do political parties help in shaping public opinion? Explain. **(5)**
15. How can the quality of democracy be improved in a country like India? **(5)**

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Answers

1. c. Uttar Pradesh

Explanation: BSP has its main base in the state of Uttar Pradesh and substantial presence in neighbouring states like Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Delhi and Punjab.

2. d. Bharatiya Janata Party

Explanation: Bharatiya Janata Party party wants full territorial and political integration of Jammu and Kashmir with India.

3. c. Several parties join hands for contesting elections

Explanation: 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 a front. For example, in India there were three such major alliances in 2004 parliamentary elections – the National Democratic Alliance, the United Progressive Alliance and the Left Front.

4. b. Samajwadi Party, Samata Party and 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.

5. b. 750

Explanation: In a democracy any group of citizens is free to form a political party. In this formal sense there are a large number of political parties in each country. More than 750 parties are registered with the Election Commission of India.

6. Bharatiya Janata Party was founded in 1980 by reviving the erstwhile Bhartiya Jana Sangh, formed by Syama Prasad Mukherjee in 1951.

7. Samajwadi Party.

8. Political parties are one of the most visible institutions in a democracy to promote

collective good for society. For most ordinary citizens democracy is equal to political parties.

9. Bharatiya Janta Party
10. Defection in politics means changing political party to another party for some personal benefits. It means changing party allegiance from the party on which a person got elected to a different party. It happens when a legislature, after having been elected from a particular party leaves it and joins in other party. To prevent this custom of changing party legislature of India made a law that is anti-defection law. The constitution was amended to prevent elected MLAs and MPs from changing parties. Now the law says that if any MLA and MP changes parties, he or she will lose seat in the legislature. The new law has brought defection down and has made dissent even more difficult.
11. China has a one-party system.
12. Main features of the two-party system:
 - i. Power usually changes between two parties, several other parties may exist.
 - ii. In the two-party system, the opposition will be very strong and effective as one party forms the opposition.
 - iii. This system provides for strong opposition to keep a check on the government.
 - iv. It provides the voter with a clear choice of the candidates.
 - v. It is easy to obtain a clear majority that provides stability to the government.
13. Political parties are necessary for the very existence of democracy. The characteristics of a political party are:
 - i. Political parties contest elections, form government and share power. Parties other than ruling party play the role of watchdog.
 - ii. They agree on some policies and programmes for society to promote collective good.
 - iii. Sometimes a political party is unable to win a majority, then it makes an alliance with other parties to form a Coalition Government.
 - iv. Political parties try to persuade people that their policies are better than others.

14. Political parties in a populated country like India helped in forming the government and have become omnipresent in democracies all over the world.

- i. They raise and **highlight issues**.
- ii. They form pressure groups as **extended arms**.
- iii. They launch movements for the **resolution of problems** faced by the people.
- iv. They **have lakhs of members** and activists.
- v. They restrain the government and make policies.
- vi. Parties sometimes launch movements, and often opinions in the society develop on the basis of the standpoint taken by the political parties.
- vii. They justify the government or oppose it.

15. The quality of the democracy can be improved by overcoming the challenges of foundation, expansion and deepening.

- i. Quality of democracy depends on active public participation, instead of criticism of the government.
- ii. Not only political parties but ordinary citizens, pressure groups and movements and the media, all must work towards improving democracy.
- iii. Values such as honesty must be included at an early age so that people learn to be corruption free.
- iv. There should be no dictatorship from those who rule, everyone should taste the concept of the rights mentioned in the very constitution of the country.
- v. The law and order should be maintained properly. The corruption should be curbed.