

Class X - Social Science

Democratic Politics

Political Parties

# CBSE NOTES

## Political Parties - Challenge Worksheet

*Strengthen your foundation with key concepts and basic applications.*



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Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

## 1. Evaluate the role of political parties in shaping public opinion in India. How effective are they in this role?

**Hint:** Consider the methods parties use to influence public opinion and the challenges they face in maintaining credibility.

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## 2. Analyze the challenges posed by dynastic succession in Indian political parties. How does it affect democracy?

**Hint:** Think about the balance between continuity and meritocracy in political leadership.

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Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

### 3. Discuss the implications of the multiparty system in India. How does it compare to the two-party system in the USA?

**Hint:** Consider the trade-offs between diversity and stability in party systems.

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### 4. Examine the role of money and muscle power in Indian elections. What measures can be taken to curb their influence?

**Hint:** Reflect on the balance between regulation and political freedom.

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Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

## 5. Critically assess the necessity of political parties in a democracy. Can a democracy function without them?

**Hint:** Consider the functions parties perform and alternatives to their existence.

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Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

**6. Regional parties like the DMK and TDP advocate for state-specific issues, strengthening federalism. They ensure regional voices are heard in national politics, as seen in coalition governments. However, they can also lead to fragmented mandates.**

**Hint:** Think about the balance between regional representation and national cohesion.

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Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

## 7. Evaluate the effectiveness of the Election Commission's regulations on political parties in India.

**Hint:** Consider the gap between regulation and actual practice.

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## 8. Discuss the ideological differences between the BJP and the CPI(M). How do these differences impact Indian politics?

**Hint:** Reflect on how ideology influences policy and governance.

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Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

## 9. Analyze the role of women in Indian political parties. What reforms are needed to enhance their participation?

**Hint:** Consider the barriers to women's participation and potential solutions.

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## 10. Critically examine the statement: 'Political parties are the most visible face of democracy, yet the least trusted.'

**Hint:** Think about the paradox of necessity and distrust in political parties.

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Check your answers with the solutions below.

### 1. Evaluate the role of political parties in shaping public opinion in India. How effective are they in this role?

**Solution:** Political parties play a crucial role in shaping public opinion by highlighting issues, launching movements, and crystallizing opinions. However, their effectiveness is often questioned due to biases and the influence of money and muscle power. Examples include the anti-corruption movement led by AAP and the BJP's campaigns on cultural nationalism.

### 2. Analyze the challenges posed by dynastic succession in Indian political parties. How does it affect democracy?

**Solution:** Dynastic succession concentrates power within families, limiting opportunities for ordinary members and undermining meritocracy. This practice can lead to inexperienced leaders holding power, as seen in parties like the Congress and Samajwadi Party. Counterpoints argue that familial ties ensure continuity and stability.

### 3. Discuss the implications of the multiparty system in India. How does it compare to the two-party system in the USA?

**Solution:** India's multiparty system accommodates diverse interests but can lead to political instability and coalition governments. In contrast, the USA's two-party system ensures stability but limits ideological diversity. Examples include the NDA and UPA alliances in India versus the Democrat-Republican divide in the USA.

### 4. Examine the role of money and muscle power in Indian elections. What measures can be taken to curb their influence?

**Solution:** Money and muscle power undermine fair elections by favoring wealthy candidates and criminals. Measures like state funding of elections and stricter enforcement of affidavits can help, as seen in the Supreme Court's interventions. However, implementation remains a challenge.



Check your answers with the solutions below.

## 5. Critically assess the necessity of political parties in a democracy. Can a democracy function without them?

**Solution:** Political parties are essential for organizing elections, forming governments, and representing diverse interests. Without them, governance would be chaotic, as seen in non-party panchayat elections where factions still emerge. However, parties must reform to address corruption and inefficiency.

## 6. Regional parties like the DMK and TDP advocate for state-specific issues, strengthening federalism. They ensure regional voices are heard in national politics, as seen in coalition governments. However, they can also lead to fragmented mandates.

**Solution:**

## 7. Evaluate the effectiveness of the Election Commission's regulations on political parties in India.

**Solution:** The Election Commission's regulations, like mandatory internal elections and affidavits, aim to enhance transparency. However, compliance is often superficial, and enforcement is weak. Examples include parties delaying organizational elections or providing incomplete affidavits.

## 8. Discuss the ideological differences between the BJP and the CPI(M). How do these differences impact Indian politics?

**Solution:** The BJP's focus on cultural nationalism contrasts with the CPI(M)'s Marxist-Leninist ideology. These differences shape policies on economic reforms, secularism, and social justice, as seen in their respective governance in states like Gujarat and West Bengal.



Check your answers with the solutions below.

## 9. Analyze the role of women in Indian political parties. What reforms are needed to enhance their participation?

**Solution:** Women are underrepresented in party leadership and candidacy. Reforms like quotas for women in party positions and tickets, as suggested by the Election Commission, could enhance participation. Examples include the Women's Reservation Bill and parties like AAP fielding more women candidates.

## 10. Critically examine the statement: 'Political parties are the most visible face of democracy, yet the least trusted.'

**Solution:** While parties are essential for democracy, their unpopularity stems from corruption, lack of internal democracy, and unfulfilled promises. Surveys show low trust in parties globally, yet high participation in India. Reforms like transparency and accountability could rebuild trust.



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