



---

## Situations of Political parties in India

---

**Dr. Anil Kumar Singh**

Assistant Professor, Integral University, Lucknow

**Corresponding Author – Dr. Anil Kumar Singh**

Email – [vns.anilsingh@gmail.com](mailto:vns.anilsingh@gmail.com)

DOI- 10.5281/zenodo.10043028

---

### Abstract:

The Election Commission of India (ECI) registers political parties for electoral purposes and recognizes political parties as national or state parties based on vote results.

The remaining parties are simply referred to as registered unrecognized parties.

Under the National Representation Act 1951, registered political parties may over time be recognized as "state parties" or "people's parties."

**Key notes:** Political parties, Historical background, India and political parties, Political parties in India, Political party status in India, Functions of Political Parties in India, Conclusion.

---

### Political Parties:

Political parties are voluntary associations or organized groups of individuals who share political views and seek power through constitutional means to advance the national interest.

There are four types of political parties in modern democracy

1. Reactionary parties cling to old political-economic-social institutions
2. Conservative parties believe in the status quo
3. Liberal parties want to change and reform existing institutions
4. Radical parties aim to overthrow existing institutions and establish a new order

Political parties are also classified according to ideology. Political scientists place conservative and reactionary parties on the right, liberals in the center, and extremists on the left.

In India, CPI and CPM are examples of left wing party, Congress is an example of center party and BJP is an example of right wing party.

### There are three types of party systems in the world:

- (i) One-party system, in which only one party is in power and there is no place for rival factions. For example, a one-party system like the Soviet Union.
- (ii) Two party system is based on the existence of two major parties. Consider the Democratic Party and the Republican Party in the United States.
- (iii) In a multi-party system, coalition governments are formed, in which there are many political parties. Examples of multiparty systems include Switzerland, France, and India.

Target:

They inform the public about the people who speak for them, both in government and in opposition.

Constitutional Status:

Though unconstitutional, political parties form the backbone of Indian politics.

### Historical Background

From 1952 to 1964, the Congress party ruled Indian politics and the nation's democracy was referred to as the "Congress system" during that time. The 1967 elections and Jawaharlal Nehru's passing put an end to the Congress system's hegemony. The Congress's majority in the Lok Sabha decreased to 54% of the seats as a result of losing the majority in eight states. Regional parties sprang up all throughout the nation.

A new alliance took shape in 1977 under the direction of the Janata Party. As a result, India's multi-party system was created. Several minor parties teamed up to challenge the Congress rather than reaching an ideological consensus. A multi-party system and coalition politics have existed since 1989.

### India and political parties

Numerous political parties have emerged as a result of the various characteristics of political party formation in Indian culture, the adoption of the universal adult franchise, and the unique style of political processes. Political parties are created in western nations based on socioeconomic and political programmes. The policy of obtaining power, which incorporates caste, religion, and class, is the single notion that drives every party, even the so-called intellectual parties. The Indian political system is affected by a number of additional characteristics, including age, geography, and eating preferences. Politics has therefore moved away from being ideological and towards being issue-based,

and devotion to its ideals has been replaced by pragmatism.

#### **Multi-party system:**

India has the most political parties in the world. Also, India has all kinds of political parties. There are left-wing parties, centrist parties, and right-wing parties. As a result, parliamentary hangings, parliamentary hangings and coalition governments have become common phenomena in Indian politics.

#### **One-party system:**

Despite the multi-party system, Indian politics has long been dominated by parliament. Since 1967, the parliament's dominant position has declined with the rise of local and national parties such as the Janata Dal and BJP.

#### **Lack of clear ideology:**

Apart from BJP, CPI and CPI(M), all other political parties do not have a clear ideology. They (that is, all other Aries) are ideologically close. Their strategies and programs have many similarities. Almost all political parties support democracy, secularism, socialism and Gandhism. Moreover, each political party, including the so-called ideological parties, is guided by only one idea - the seizure of power.

#### **Personal worship:**

Political parties are known for their leaders and their ideologies. Political parties are known for their leaders, not their manifestos. It is true that the parliamentary popularity is largely due to the leadership of Nehru, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi. The same applies to his AIADMK in Tamil Nadu and his TDP in Andhra Pradesh, endorsed by MG Ramachandran and his NT Rama Rao respectively.

#### **Based on traditional factors:**

Many political parties in India are formed on the basis of religion, caste, language, culture, etc. For example, Shiv Sena, Muslim League, Hindu Mahasabha. These political parties work to promote community and class. Interests that harm the interests of the general public.

#### **Rise of regional parties:**

Another important feature of the Indian party system is the rise and growing role of numerous regional parties. They are the ruling party in various states such as BJD in Orissa, DMK or AIADMK in Tamil Nadu and Akari Dal in Punjab. These were initially confined to local politics. But then they played an important role in national affairs, as a coalition government was established in the center.

#### **Factions and flaws:**

Factions, secession, splits, mergers, polarization, etc. are important aspects of the functioning of Indian political parties. The greed for power and the materialistic situation force the party to leave and join another. The practice of exile

gained momentum after the fourth general election in 1967. The incident created instability both centrally and stately, leading to its collapse. party.

#### **Lack of Effective Objections:**

For the parliamentary democracy prevailing in India to work well, it is very important to have an effective opposition force. It curbs the ruling party's authoritarian tendencies and provides an alternative government. But over the past 50 years, an effective, strong, organized, visible national opposition has barely emerged. Opposition parties are inconsistent and all too often take contradictory positions against the ruling party. They failed to play a constructive role in the functioning of the state and the process of state formation.

#### **Political parties are in India**

As of 2023, there are hundreds of political parties officially registered in India. However, far fewer parties are actually active and have a significant presence at the federal or state level. According to the Indian Electoral Commission, India currently has 9 charter political parties and 52 charter parties.

#### **The seven national political parties recognized in India are:**

**Indian National Congress (INC)**

**Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)**

**Communist Party of India (CPI)**

**Communist Party of India (Marxist) (CPM)**

**Nationalist Congress Party (NCP)**

**Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP)**

**All India Trinamool Congress (AITC)**

**Aam Adami Party (AAP)**

**National People's Party (NPP)**

In addition to these officially recognized elections, many lesser-known political parties participate in federal, state, and local elections. Some of these parties are based on specific ideologies or regions, while others focus on specific communities or groups.

It is important to remember that India has a multi-party system, which prevents one party from gaining a single majority and coalition governments are often formed after elections.

#### **Functions Of Political Parties In India**

Political parties in India serve several functions, including:

- They propose candidates for election.
- Efforts to increase support for presidential candidates.
- Use a manifesto to present plans and policies to voters.
- Election results determine who forms the government and who formulates and implements policies. Election results determine who forms the government and who formulates and implements policies.
- Opposition parties are formed by people without power and keep the government in check.

- They form an opposition party and, when in the legislative minority, put constant pressure on the executive branch.
- They help shape and shape public opinion by educating the general public.
- They communicate residents' requests to the government.

Moreover, Indian political parties play a key role in shaping public opinion and influencing the country's political discourse. It also serves as a means for citizens to express their opinions and participate in the democratic process. **Conclusion:**

Status Political parties in India are essential for the functioning of democracy. However, there are many issues affecting the country's political system. Time has come to make political parties non-sectarian and give them constitutional status to ensure democracy and financial transparency within the party.

In India's multi-party system, coalition administrations are often established after elections because no single party can command a majority on its own. This element contributes significantly to the democracy of the country.

#### **Bibliography**

1. <https://www.clearias.com/political-parties-in-india/>
2. <https://byjus.com/free-ias-prep/political-parties-in-india/>
3. <https://www.jagranjosh.com/general-knowledge/list-of-all-the-political-parties-in-india-1476786411-1>
4. <https://currentaffairs.adda247.com/election-commission-grants-national-party-status-to-aam-aadmi-party/>
5. <https://eci.gov.in/files/category/261-recognized-national-parties/>
6. <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/full-list-of-national-political-parties-india-election-commission-bjp-congress-aam-aadmi-party-2358255-2023-04-10>