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# **NCERT Civics (Political Science) Class 10th**

## **Chapter 4: Political Parties**

### **Why Do We Need Political Parties?**

#### **1. Political Parties as Key Democratic Institutions:**

- Political parties are among the most visible institutions in a democracy.
- For many citizens, democracy is often equated with the existence of political parties.

#### **2. Awareness About Political Parties:**

- Even in remote areas, less educated citizens may not know about the Constitution or government structure but are aware of political parties.
- This highlights the pervasiveness and influence of political parties.

#### **3. Criticism of Political Parties:**

- Despite their visibility, political parties are not always popular among citizens.
- Many people blame political parties for issues in democracy and political life.

- Political parties are often seen as perpetuating social and political divisions.

#### **4. Necessity of Political Parties:**

- The question arises: **Do we need political parties?**
- A hundred years ago, few countries had political parties; today, almost all democracies have them.
- The omnipresence of political parties suggests their essential role in democratic systems.

#### **5. Understanding Political Parties:**

- Before discussing their necessity, it is important to understand what political parties are and what roles they play in governance and society.

### **Meaning of Political Parties**

#### **1. Definition of a Political Party:**

- A political party is a group of people that comes together to contest elections and hold power in the government.
- They work on agreed policies and programmes aimed at promoting the collective good.

#### **2. Purpose and Role of Political Parties:**

- Political parties reflect fundamental political divisions in society.
- They aim to persuade people that their policies are better than others and seek to implement these policies by winning elections.

### 3. Partisanship and Partisans:

- **Partisanship:** The tendency to strongly support a particular party, group, or faction without taking a balanced view.
- **Partisan:** A person who is strongly committed to a political party or group.

### 4. Identifying Characteristics of Political Parties:

- A party is identified by:
  - a. The **part of society** it represents.
  - b. The **policies** it supports.
  - c. The **interests** it upholds.

### 5. Components of a Political Party:

- **Leaders:** Those who guide the party's direction and policies.
- **Active members:** Individuals involved in party activities and decision-making.
- **Followers:** Supporters who believe in the party's ideology and vote for it.

### 6. Political Division and Partisanship:

- Political parties highlight diverse views within society, as opinions on collective good can vary.
- This creates partisanship, which defines their role in promoting specific ideologies.

## Functions of Political Parties

### 1. Key Functions of Political Parties:

- **Filling Political Offices:** Parties fill political offices and exercise political power.
- **Contesting Elections:**
  - a. Elections are primarily fought among candidates put up by political parties.
- **Candidate Selection:**
  - a. **In the USA:** Party members and supporters select candidates.
  - b. **In India:** Top party leaders choose candidates.

## 2. Formulating Policies and Programmes:

- **Policy Simplification:** Parties consolidate a multitude of opinions into a few basic positions.
- **Policy Direction:** The government formulates policies based on the ruling party's stance.

## 3. Law-Making:

- **Parties play a crucial role in law-making:**
  - a. While laws are debated and passed in legislatures, members often align with their party's directions.

## 4. Government Formation and Administration:

- Parties form and run governments.
- **Recruitment and Training:** They recruit and train leaders who later become ministers.
- **Policy Decisions:** Major policy decisions are taken by the political executive from the ruling party.

## 5. Role of the Opposition:

- **Criticism of Government:** Opposition parties voice alternative views and criticise the government for its failures.
- **Mobilisation:** They mobilise public opinion against the government when necessary.

## 6. Shaping Public Opinion:

- **Raising Issues:** Parties raise and highlight key societal issues.
- **Movements and Pressure Groups:** Many pressure groups function as extensions of political parties.
- **Opinion Formation:** Public opinions often align with the positions taken by parties.

## 7. Public Access to Government:

- **Intermediary Role:**
  - a. Parties act as intermediaries, providing access to government machinery and welfare schemes.
  - b. Citizens often find it easier to approach party leaders than government officials.
- **Responsiveness:** Parties need to address public needs or risk rejection in the next elections.

## 8. Terminology:

- **Ruling Party:** The political party that forms the government.

# Necessity of Political Parties

## 1. Role of Political Parties in Modern Democracies:

- **Essential Functions:** Political parties are necessary because they perform vital functions such as policy-making, forming governments, and shaping public opinion.
- **Imagining a Democracy Without Political Parties:**
  - a. Candidates would be independent, making it difficult to promise or implement major policy changes.
  - b. Government stability and accountability would remain uncertain.
  - c. Elected representatives would focus solely on local issues without responsibility for national governance.

## 2. Example of Non-Party-Based Panchayat Elections:

- **Factionalism in Villages:** Even in non-party-based panchayat elections, villages split into factions that act like informal political parties.
- **Representation Mechanism:** These factions function similarly to political parties by grouping candidates into panels.

## 3. Universality of Political Parties:

- Political parties are present in nearly all countries, irrespective of:
  - a. **Size:** Large or small nations.
  - b. **History:** Old or new democracies.
  - c. **Development Status:** Developed or developing nations.

## 4. Connection Between Political Parties and Representative Democracy:

- **Emergence of Representative Democracy:**
  - a. Political parties emerged as societies grew larger and more complex.

- b.** They serve as an agency to gather diverse views and present them to the government.
- **Facilitating Governance:**
  - a.** Parties bring representatives together to form a responsible government.
  - b.** They provide mechanisms to:
    - I.** Support or restrain the government.
    - II.** Formulate, justify, or oppose policies.

## **5. Political Parties as a Democratic Necessity:**

- Political parties fulfill essential needs of representative governments.
- They are a necessary condition for democracy, ensuring stability, accountability, and policy coherence.

## **MCQs on NCERT Civics Class 10 Chapter 4 Topic**

### **– Why do we need political parties?**

Here are top exam oriented mcq's type questions on "*Why do we need political parties?*" that you should prepare for your CBSE or state board exams:

**Question 1.** Which of the following is one of the most visible institutions in a democracy?

- A) Judiciary
- B) Political Parties
- C) Media
- D) Civil Services

**Answer: B)** Political Parties

**Question 2. What do political parties symbolize in a democracy?**

- A) Economic stability
- B) Social and political divisions
- C) Judicial independence
- D) Cultural uniformity

**Answer: B)** Social and political divisions

**Question 3. A political party is defined as a group of people who come together to:**

- A) Draft laws
- B) Contest elections and hold power
- C) Conduct judicial reviews
- D) Promote regionalism

**Answer: B)** Contest elections and hold power

**Question 4. Which of the following is *not* a component of a political party?**

- A) Leaders
- B) Active members
- C) Military advisors
- D) Followers

**Answer: C)** Military advisors

**Question 5. Partisanship refers to:**



- A) Balanced opinions on political issues
- B) Strong commitment to a party or group
- C) A neutral stance in political matters
- D) Opposition to political ideologies

**Answer: B)** Strong commitment to a party or group

**Question 6. Political parties play a role in contesting elections by:**

- A) Appointing election officers
- B) Selecting candidates
- C) Framing the constitution
- D) Conducting election campaigns independently

**Answer: B)** Selecting candidates

**Question 7. In a democracy, political parties help in formulating:**

- A) Regional policies
- B) Collective views into basic policy positions
- C) Personal opinions on political ideologies
- D) Strict one-sided policies

**Answer: B)** Collective views into basic policy positions

**Question 8. Who makes big policy decisions in a democracy?**

- A) Judiciary
- B) Media
- C) Political executives from political parties
- D) Bureaucrats

**Answer: C)** Political executives from political parties

**Question 9. What role do opposition parties play in a democracy?**

- A) Support the ruling party
- B) Voice different views and criticize the government
- C) Avoid participating in elections
- D) Support government failures

**Answer: B)** Voice different views and criticize the government

**Question 10. How do political parties provide access to government welfare schemes?**

- A) Through local leaders
- B) By bypassing the government
- C) By ignoring citizen demands
- D) By acting as intermediaries between citizens and officials

**Answer: A)** Through local leaders

**Question 11. Why are political parties considered necessary for modern democracies?**

- A) They reduce cultural diversity
- B) They simplify the government structure
- C) They ensure a stable representative democracy
- D) They eliminate electoral competition

**Answer: C)** They ensure a stable representative democracy

**Question 12. What might happen if there were no political parties?**

- A) Better representation in governance
- B) More transparency in elections
- C) Independent candidates without unified policies
- D) An efficient policy-making process

**Answer: C)** Independent candidates without unified policies

**Question 13. The rise of political parties is linked to:**

- A) The Industrial Revolution
- B) The emergence of representative democracies
- C) Economic liberalization
- D) Technological advancements

**Answer: B)** The emergence of representative democracies

**Question 14. What is one major function of political parties in large societies?**

- A) To eliminate dissent
- B) To represent diverse views and interests
- C) To implement autocratic policies
- D) To suppress public opinion

**Answer: B)** To represent diverse views and interests

**Question 15. In a democracy, parties are expected to:**

- A) Create policies in isolation
- B) Mobilize support for the government

- C) Justify and oppose policies
- D) Overrule democratic processes

**Answer: C)** Justify and oppose policies

**Question 16. Political parties serve as a link between:**

- A) Citizens and the Constitution
- B) Political leaders and judiciary
- C) Citizens and government machinery
- D) Bureaucracy and businesses

**Answer: C)** Citizens and government machinery

**Question 17. What happens when political parties launch movements?**

- A) They are dissolved by the government
- B) They raise awareness about societal problems
- C) They lose public trust
- D) They function outside of democracy

**Answer: B)** They raise awareness about societal problems

**Question 18. The ruling party refers to:**

- A) The party controlling the judiciary
- B) The political party that runs the government
- C) The opposition party in power
- D) Any party with more than 10 seats in parliament

**Answer: B)** The political party that runs the government

# How Many Parties Should We Have?

## 1. Formation of Political Parties in Democracies:

- **Freedom to Form Parties:** Any group of citizens can form a political party in a democracy.
- **Number of Parties:** India has over 750 registered political parties, but only a few are serious contenders in elections.

## 2. Types of Party Systems:

- **One-Party System:**
  - a. Only one party controls and runs the government.
  - b. Example: China, where the Communist Party rules without free competition.
  - c. Not Democratic: One-party systems do not allow fair competition, making them undemocratic.
- **Two-Party System:**
  - a. Power alternates between two main parties.
  - b. Other parties may contest but rarely win a majority.
  - c. Examples: United States (Democrats and Republicans), United Kingdom (Labour and Conservative).
- **Multiparty System:**
  - a. Several parties compete for power, and more than two have a reasonable chance of forming a government.
  - b. Governments are often formed through coalitions or alliances.
  - c. Example: India, with alliances like the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), United Progressive Alliance (UPA), and the Left Front.

## 3. Advantages and Disadvantages of Multiparty Systems:

- **Advantages:**
  - a. Provides political representation for diverse interests and opinions.
  - b. Suited for socially and geographically diverse countries like India.
- **Disadvantages:**
  - a. It can appear chaotic and lead to political instability.

#### 4. Evolution of Party Systems:

- **Party systems are shaped by:**
  - a. The nature of society and its social and regional divisions.
  - b. The historical context of politics.
  - c. The electoral system is in place.
- **Not Easily Changed:** Party systems evolve over time and are unique to each country's circumstances.

#### 5. Key Takeaways:

- **No Universal Ideal System:** No party system is perfect for all countries or situations.
- **India's Multiparty System:** Reflects its social and geographical diversity, which cannot be represented by just two or three parties.

**Extra:**

## Popular Participation in Political Parties

### 1. Crisis of Popularity:

- Political parties are often perceived as unpopular, with citizens appearing indifferent to them.

### 2. Trust in Political Parties:

- **Low Trust in South Asia:**
  - a. Surveys reveal that most people in South Asia do not trust political parties.
  - b. The proportion of people with 'not much' or 'no trust at all' is higher than those with 'some' or 'great trust.'
- **Global Trend:** Political parties are among the least trusted institutions worldwide.

### 3. Participation in Political Party Activities:

- Despite low trust, participation in political party activities is high in India.
- **Membership Comparison:** India has a higher proportion of political party members than many advanced countries such as Canada, Japan, Spain, and South Korea.

### 4. Rising Political Engagement in India:

- **Over the last three decades:**
  - a. Membership in political parties has steadily increased in India.
  - b. The proportion of people who feel 'close to a political party' has also risen.

### 5. Key Takeaways:

- While political parties face trust issues globally, India demonstrates relatively high levels of engagement and increasing affinity towards political parties over time.

## National Parties

### 1. Political Parties in Federal Democracies:

- **Democracies with federal systems typically have two types of political parties:**
  - a. Regional Parties:** Present in only one federal unit.
  - b. National Parties:** Present in several or all federal units, following common policies and strategies at the national level.

## 2. Recognition of Political Parties in India:

- **Registration with the Election Commission:** All political parties in India must register with the Election Commission.
- **Recognised Political Parties:** Large and established parties receive special privileges, including unique election symbols.
- **Criteria for Recognition:**
  - a. State Party:**
    - I. Secures at least 6% of votes in a Legislative Assembly election.
    - II. Wins at least 2 seats.
  - b. National Party:**
    - I. Secures at least 6% of votes in Lok Sabha or Assembly elections in four states.
    - II. Wins at least 4 Lok Sabha seats.

## 3. Major National Parties in India (2023):

### 3.1. Aam Aadmi Party (AAP):

- **Formation:** November 26, 2012, inspired by the anti-corruption movement.
- **Ideology:** Accountability, clean administration, transparency, and good governance.
- **Achievements:**
  - a.** Formed governments in Punjab and Delhi.
  - b.** Emerged as a third front in Gujarat politics (2022).
  - c.** Secured one Lok Sabha seat in 2019.



### 3.2. Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP):

- **Formation:** 1984 by Kanshi Ram.
- **Ideology:** Represents Dalits, Adivasis, OBCs, and minorities. Inspired by Babasaheb Ambedkar and others.
- **Presence:** Strong in Uttar Pradesh and nearby states.
- **Achievements:** Formed government in Uttar Pradesh multiple times. Secured 10 Lok Sabha seats in 2019.

### 3.3. Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP):

- **Formation:** 1980, rooted in the Bharatiya Jana Sangh (1951).
- **Ideology:** Cultural nationalism, Hindutva, integral humanism, and Antyodaya.
- **Achievements:**
  - a. Expanded support nationwide.
  - b. Emerged as the largest party in the 2019 Lok Sabha with 303 seats.
  - c. Leads the National Democratic Alliance (NDA).

### 3.4. Communist Party of India – Marxist (CPI-M):

- **Formation:** 1964.
- **Ideology:** Marxism-Leninism, socialism, secularism, and democracy.
- **Achievements:**
  - a. Strong base in West Bengal, Kerala, and Tripura.
  - b. Held uninterrupted power in West Bengal for 34 years.
  - c. Secured 3 Lok Sabha seats in 2019.

### 3.5. Indian National Congress (INC):

- **Formation:** 1885.
- **Ideology:** Secularism, centrist policies, and welfare of weaker sections.

- **Achievements:**
  - a. Played a pivotal role post-independence.
  - b. Leader of the UPA government from 2004–2019.
  - c. Secured 52 Lok Sabha seats in 2019.

### 3.6. National People's Party (NPP):

- **Formation:** July 2013 by P.A. Sangma.
- **Ideology:** Focuses on diversity, education, and employment.
- **Achievements:**
  - a. Formed government in Meghalaya.
  - b. Secured one Lok Sabha seat in 2019.

## 4. Key Insights on Party Systems:

- Party systems in federal democracies evolve based on historical, social, and geographical factors.
- India's multi-party system reflects its social and regional diversity, accommodating a wide range of interests.

## State Parties

### 1. Definition and Nature of State Parties:

- **Classification:** Most major parties in India are classified as State parties by the Election Commission.
- **Common Terminology:** Also referred to as regional parties.
- **Characteristics:**
  - a. Not necessarily regional in ideology or outlook.
  - b. Some function as national-level organizations but succeed in specific states.

### 2. Examples of State Parties:

- **All-India Presence but State Success:**
  - a. *Samajwadi Party (SP)*
  - b. *Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD)*
- **State-Focused Identity:**
  - a. *Biju Janata Dal (BJD): Odisha.*
  - b. *Sikkim Democratic Front (SDF): Sikkim.*
  - c. *Mizo National Front (MNF): Mizoram.*
  - d. *Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS): Telangana.*

### **3. Expansion of State Parties:**

- Over the last three decades:
  - a. Increase in the number and strength of State parties.
  - b. Resulted in greater political diversity in the Indian Parliament.

### **4. Role of State Parties in National Politics:**

- **Before 2014:**
  - a. No single national party could secure a majority in Lok Sabha independently.
  - b. National parties formed alliances with State parties to form governments.
- **Post-1996:**
  - a. Nearly all State parties have participated in coalition governments at the national level.

### **5. Contributions of State Parties:**

- Strengthened the principles of federalism.
- Enhanced the functioning of democracy by increasing representation and diversity in governance.

# MCQs on NCERT Civics Class 10 Chapter 4 Topic – How Many Parties Should We Have?

Here are top exam oriented mcq's type questions on "How Many Parties Should We Have?" that you should prepare for your CBSE or state board exams:

**Question 1.** How many political parties are registered with the Election Commission of India?

- a) 500
- b) 650
- c) 750
- d) 800

**Answer: c)** 750

**Question 2.** What type of political system allows only one party to rule?

- a) Multiparty system
- b) One-party system
- c) Two-party system
- d) Coalition system

**Answer: b)** One-party system

**Question 3.** Which country is an example of a one-party system?

- a) India
- b) China

- c) United States
- d) United Kingdom

**Answer: b)** China

**Question 4. Why is the one-party system not considered a democratic option?**

- a) It allows multiple parties to compete in elections.
- b) It does not permit free competition for power.
- c) It ensures fair representation of all groups.
- d) It allows too many parties to form coalitions.

**Answer: b)** It does not permit free competition for power.

**Question 5. In a two-party system, how does power typically change?**

- a) Among multiple alliances
- b) Between two main parties
- c) Among various regional parties
- d) Through direct democracy

**Answer: b)** Between two main parties

**Question 6. Which of the following countries follows a two-party system?**

- a) India and China
- b) United States and United Kingdom
- c) Canada and Japan
- d) Germany and Italy

**Answer: b)** United States and United Kingdom

**Question 7. What is a defining characteristic of a multiparty system?**

- a) Power changes only between two main parties.
- b) Several parties have a reasonable chance of forming a government.
- c) Only one party is allowed to contest elections.
- d) It eliminates the need for alliances.

**Answer: b)** Several parties have a reasonable chance of forming a government.

**Question 8. What is a coalition in a multiparty system?**

- a) A single-party rule
- b) A group of voters forming a union
- c) Several parties joining hands to contest elections
- d) An independent candidate contesting elections

**Answer: c)** Several parties joining hands to contest elections

**Question 9. Which of the following is an example of an alliance in India?**

- a) National Democratic Alliance
- b) Left Front
- c) United Progressive Alliance
- d) All of the above

**Answer: d)** All of the above

**Question 10. Why does India follow a multiparty system?**

- a) Because of its social and geographical diversity
- b) To ensure a one-party dominance
- c) Due to lack of political competition
- d) To align with global trends

**Answer: a)** Because of its social and geographical diversity

**Question 11. What is the main drawback of a multiparty system?**

- a) Lack of political stability
- b) Limited representation of interests
- c) Lack of regional diversity
- d) Reduced political participation

**Answer: a)** Lack of political stability

**Question 12. What determines the party system in a country?**

- a) The choice of the ruling party
- b) The country's social and historical context
- c) International influences
- d) The size of its population

**Answer: b)** The country's social and historical context

**Question 13. Which of the following statements about political parties in South Asia is true?**

- a) They enjoy high levels of trust among people.
- b) They are one of the least trusted institutions.
- c) They face no participation crisis.
- d) They are highly organized in all countries.

**Answer: b)** They are one of the least trusted institutions.

**Question 14. Which country has shown higher membership in political parties compared to Canada and Japan?**

- a) South Korea
- b) India
- c) Spain
- d) China

**Answer: b)** India

**Question 15. What trend has been observed in India over the last three decades regarding political parties?**

- a) Decrease in membership levels
- b) Decline in trust towards parties
- c) Increase in the proportion of members and closeness to parties
- d) No significant change

**Answer: c)** Increase in the proportion of members and closeness to parties

**Question 16. What distinguishes a national party from a state party in India?**

- a) The presence of only one federal unit
- b) Securing 6% votes in at least four states in Lok Sabha elections
- c) Limited influence in local governance
- d) The ability to form a coalition

**Answer: b)** Securing 6% votes in at least four states in Lok Sabha elections



**Question 17.** Which of these parties was founded on anti-corruption principles in India?

- a) BJP
- b) AAP
- c) INC
- d) BSP

**Answer: b)** AAP

**Question 18.** The BSP primarily represents which group?

- a) Upper-caste elites
- b) Dalits, adivasis, OBCs, and minorities
- c) Industrialists and businessmen
- d) International organizations

**Answer: b)** Dalits, adivasis, OBCs, and minorities

**Question 19.** Which party is known for its principle of 'integral humanism'?

- a) BJP
- b) CPI(M)
- c) INC
- d) BSP

**Answer: a)** BJP

**Question 20.** Which party formed the UPA government from 2004 to 2019?

- a) BJP
- b) INC
- c) CPI(M)
- d) BSP

**Answer: b)** INC

**Question 21. What is the significance of state parties in India's federal democracy?**

- a) They eliminate the need for national parties.
- b) They strengthen federalism by participating in coalition governments.
- c) They ensure single-party dominance.
- d) They reduce political representation.

**Answer: b)** They strengthen federalism by participating in coalition governments.

**Question 22. Which state party is known for its focus on state identity?**

- a) Rashtriya Janata Dal
- b) Biju Janata Dal
- c) Samajwadi Party
- d) Communist Party of India

**Answer: b)** Biju Janata Dal

**Question 23. What percentage of votes must a party secure to be recognized as a state party?**

- a) 4%
- b) 5%

- c) 6%
- d) 7%

**Answer: c) 6%**

## Challenges To Political Parties Class 10

### 1. General Issues with Political Parties:

- Political parties are considered the most visible face of democracy.
- Blame on parties: People often blame political parties for problems in democracy.
- Four key problem areas challenge political parties globally and in India.

### 2. First Challenge: Lack of Internal Democracy:

- **Concentration of power:** Power is centralized in the hands of one or a few leaders at the top.
- **No transparency:** No membership registers, organizational meetings, or regular internal elections.
- **Lack of participation:** Ordinary members are uninformed and lack the means to influence party decisions.
- **Loyalty shift:** Personal loyalty to leaders becomes more important than party principles.
- **Consequences:**
  - a. Leaders dominate decision-making.
  - b. Disagreements lead to members leaving the party.

### 3. Second Challenge: Dynastic Succession:

- **Closed systems:** Ordinary workers have limited opportunities to rise in party ranks.
- **Unfair advantage:** Leaders favour family members or close associates.
- **Impact on democracy:**
  - a. Inexperienced or unpopular individuals occupy key positions.
  - b. Present globally, even in older democracies.

#### 4. Third Challenge: Role of Money and Muscle Power:

- **Election focus:** Parties prioritize winning elections, often using unethical means.
- **Influence of wealth:**
  - a. Parties nominate candidates who can raise significant funds.
  - b. Rich individuals and companies influence party policies.
- **Criminal candidates:** Some parties support candidates with criminal backgrounds for electoral success.
- **Global concern:** Growing role of wealthy individuals and corporations in politics.

#### 5. Fourth Challenge: Decline in Meaningful Choice:

- **Limited ideological differences:**
  - a. Political parties have fewer distinct ideologies.
  - b. Example: Labour and Conservative Parties in Britain differ only on policy details.
- **Reduced options:**
  - a. Major parties in India show minimal differences in economic policies.
  - b. Voters often cannot choose distinct leaders as the same individuals switch parties.

## 6. Conclusion:

- Political parties must address these challenges to remain effective instruments of democracy.
- Focus areas include internal democracy, reducing dynastic control, limiting money and muscle power, and offering distinct ideological choices.

## MCQs on NCERT Civics Class 10 Chapter 4 Topic – Challenges To Political Parties

Here are top exam oriented mcq's type questions on "*Challenges To Political Parties*" that you should prepare for your CBSE or state board exams:

**Question 1. Why are political parties considered crucial for democracy?**

- a) They are the sole source of funding for elections
- b) They are the most visible face of democracy
- c) They prevent criticism of government policies
- d) They eliminate the need for elections

**Answer: b)** They are the most visible face of democracy

**Question 2. Which of the following is NOT one of the challenges political parties face?**

- a) Lack of internal democracy
- b) Dynastic succession
- c) The rise of independent candidates
- d) Growing role of money and muscle power

**Answer: c)** The rise of independent candidates

**Question 3. What does a lack of internal democracy in political parties result in?**

- a) Greater transparency within the party
- b) Concentration of power in a few leaders
- c) Easier decision-making processes
- d) Equal opportunities for all members

**Answer: b)** Concentration of power in a few leaders

**Question 4. Why do political parties fail to hold internal elections regularly?**

- a) To maintain transparency
- b) To encourage grassroots participation
- c) To concentrate power in a few leaders
- d) To comply with legal requirements

**Answer: c)** To concentrate power in a few leaders

**Question 5. What is a common consequence of dynastic succession in political parties?**

- a) Increased grassroots participation
- b) Unfair advantage for family members of leaders
- c) Reduced influence of family members
- d) Increased ideological differences within the party

**Answer: b)** Unfair advantage for family members of leaders

**Question 6. How does dynastic succession negatively impact democracy?**

- a) By promoting transparency
- b) By allowing inexperienced individuals to hold power
- c) By encouraging internal elections
- d) By ensuring fair representation of all members

**Answer: b)** By allowing inexperienced individuals to hold power

**Question 7. What is one major issue caused by the growing role of money in politics?**

- a) Political parties become less competitive
- b) Rich individuals and companies influence policies
- c) Election processes become more transparent
- d) It reduces the need for political campaigns

**Answer: b)** Rich individuals and companies influence policies

**Question 8. Why do political parties support candidates with money or muscle power?**

- a) To comply with election laws
- b) To reduce campaign expenses
- c) To increase their chances of winning elections
- d) To promote ideological diversity

**Answer: c)** To increase their chances of winning elections

**Question 9. What does the lack of meaningful choice in political parties lead to?**

- a) Increased ideological diversity
- b) Reduced voter turnout
- c) Voters electing similar leaders or policies
- d) Elimination of smaller political parties

**Answer: c)** Voters electing similar leaders or policies

**Question 10. What is the result of reduced ideological differences among political parties?**

- a) Easier decision-making processes for voters
- b) Limited options for voters seeking different policies
- c) Increased political stability
- d) Elimination of smaller parties

**Answer: b)** Limited options for voters seeking different policies

**Question 11. What is the primary reason for voters being unable to elect different leaders?**

- a) Leaders shifting from one party to another
- b) Frequent internal elections in parties
- c) Limited funding for campaigns
- d) Lack of media coverage

**Answer: a)** Leaders shifting from one party to another

**Question 12. Which country is mentioned as an example of reduced ideological differences among parties?**

- a) India
- b) Britain



- c) United States
- d) France

**Answer: b)** Britain

**Question 13. What is an example of the concentration of power within political parties?**

- a) Leaders making decisions on behalf of the party
- b) Regular internal elections
- c) Open and transparent decision-making processes
- d) Frequent consultations with party members

**Answer: a)** Leaders making decisions on behalf of the party

**Question 14. What is the focus of criticism regarding political parties worldwide?**

- a) Their ability to maintain ideological diversity
- b) Their failure to perform their functions well
- c) Their emphasis on grassroots-level participation
- d) Their commitment to internal democracy

**Answer: b)** Their failure to perform their functions well

**Question 15. What challenge arises when leaders prioritize personal loyalty over party principles?**

- a) Increased grassroots participation
- b) Concentration of power in one leader
- c) Promotion of ideological differences
- d) Enhanced transparency within the party

**Answer: b)** Concentration of power in one leader

**Question 16. What drives political parties to nominate candidates with money and muscle power?**

- a) The desire to maintain ideological diversity
- b) The focus on winning elections
- c) The aim to reduce election costs
- d) The requirement of the Election Commission

**Answer: b)** The focus on winning elections

**Question 17. What do critics fear about the influence of big companies in politics?**

- a) Companies will reduce political competition
- b) Companies will dictate public policy decisions
- c) Companies will promote greater internal democracy
- d) Companies will improve grassroots participation

**Answer: b)** Companies will dictate public policy decisions

**Question 18. What has contributed to the lack of meaningful choice in Indian politics?**

- a) Frequent ideological debates
- b) Reduced differences in economic policies of major parties
- c) Strict laws against party-switching
- d) Decline in voter turnout

**Answer: b)** Reduced differences in economic policies of major parties

**Question 19. What is one solution to address the challenges faced by political parties?**

- a) Increase funding for election campaigns
- b) Promote open and transparent party functioning
- c) Eliminate party-based democracy
- d) Discourage public participation in politics

**Answer: b)** Promote open and transparent party functioning

**Question 20. What is the role of internal elections in political parties?**

- a) Concentrating power in a single leader
- b) Encouraging transparent decision-making processes
- c) Reducing ideological differences among members
- d) Strengthening dynastic succession

**Answer: b)** Encouraging transparent decision-making processes

**Question 21. What are the challenges to political parties class 10?**

- A. Lack of organizational structure
- B. Influence of money and muscle power
- C. Lack of internal democracy
- D. All of the above

**Answer: d)** All of the above

**How Can Parties Be Reformed Class 10 Notes?**

## 1. Challenges to Reforming Political Parties:

- Reforming political parties is essential to address their challenges.
- Key questions:
  - a. Are parties willing to reform?
  - b. What prevents them from reforming?
  - c. Can reforms be enforced upon unwilling parties?
- In democracies, leaders representing political parties make the final decisions.

## 2. Efforts to Reform Political Parties in India:

### **Anti-Defection Law** (Constitutional Amendment):

- a. Prevents elected MLAs and MPs from switching parties.
- b. Law mandates loss of legislative seat if a member defects.
- c. Result: Reduced defections but restricted internal dissent within parties.

### **Supreme Court's Order on Candidate Transparency:**

- a. Mandatory affidavits: Candidates must disclose property details and pending criminal cases.
- b. Result: Public access to information improved.
- c. Limitation: No mechanism to verify the authenticity of disclosed information.

### **Election Commission's Order on Internal Elections and Tax Returns:**

- a. Political parties must conduct organisational elections and file income tax returns.
- b. Result: Compliance exists but is often treated as a mere formality.

## 3. Suggestions for Further Reforms:

- **Regulation of Internal Party Affairs:**
  - a. Compulsory maintenance of membership registers.

- b.** Adherence to party constitutions.
  - c.** Establishment of independent authorities for resolving disputes.
  - d.** Open elections for key party posts.
- **Women's Representation:**
  - a.** One-third of party tickets to women candidates.
  - b.** Quota for women in decision-making bodies of parties.
- **State Funding of Elections:**
  - a.** Government funding to support party election expenses.
  - b.** Support in kind (e.g., fuel, stationery) or cash based on votes secured in the last election.

#### **4. Concerns with Legal Reforms:**

- Over-regulation may lead to parties finding ways to evade the law.
- Political parties are unlikely to support laws they find unfavourable.

#### **5. Alternative Approaches to Reform:**

- **Public Pressure:**
  - a.** Pressure through petitions, media publicity, and agitations.
  - b.** Public disapproval can compel parties to adopt reforms.
- **Active Citizen Participation:**
  - a.** Citizens should join parties to influence and improve them from within.
  - b.** Quality of democracy depends on public involvement, not just criticism.

#### **6. Definitions of Key Terms:**

- **Affidavit:** A sworn document submitted to an authority containing personal information.
- **Defection:** Switching allegiance from the party of election to another party.

## 7. Conclusion:

- Reforms in political parties are crucial for improving democracy.
- Effective change requires a combination of legal measures, public pressure, and active citizen involvement.
- The solution to bad politics lies in more and better politics.

## Next & Previous Topics of NCERT/CBSE Political Science (Civics) Class 10 Chapter 4: Political Parties

Topics No.	Topics Name
1	<a href="#">Why Do We Need Political Parties?</a>
2	<a href="#">How Many Parties Should We Have?</a>
3	<a href="#">Challenges To Political Parties</a>
4	<a href="#">How Can Parties Be Reformed?</a>