

# CLASS – 10

## SOCIAL SCIENCE

Democratic Politics-II

CH-4 : Political Parties

Part – 5

Exercise Questions

Varsha Thadani

# EXERCISE

1

State the various functions political parties perform in a democracy



# EXERCISE

**1** | State the various functions political parties perform in a democracy

**Answer :**

The functions performed by the political parties are as follows:

- a. They contest elections.
- b. They introduce various policies and programmes for the people.
- c. They play an important role in decision-making to legislate and execute.

# EXERCISE



d. These parties, when successful in elections, form and run the government.

e. These parties, if they lose, become the opposition parties and play the role of criticising the government. *They are actually advising*

f. The parties mould the public's opinion on various issues. They can help them form an opinion and can also influence them to alter their opinion.

g. These parties help the citizens access the government's policies and acts.

# EXERCISE



2

What are the various challenges faced by political parties?



# EXERCISE

**2** | What are the various challenges faced by political parties?

**Answer :**

There are some challenges that political parties have to face, and they are:

- a. The lack of internal democracy - If there is a concentration of power in the hands of one or only a few ministers in the party, it gives space to internal conflicts.

# EXERCISE



- b. **The dynastic succession** - This has been in the political parties from time immemorial. The leader of the party sets a lineage, and one after another, a dynastic succession keeps taking place, which affects the chances of other ministers in the party to gauge an effective position in the party.
- c. **Money and muscle power** - The participation of smaller regional parties is lesser due to the growing prominence of muscle and money power. These powers can mostly be seen during the election period, where rich candidates can gain more votes using both of these.

# EXERCISE

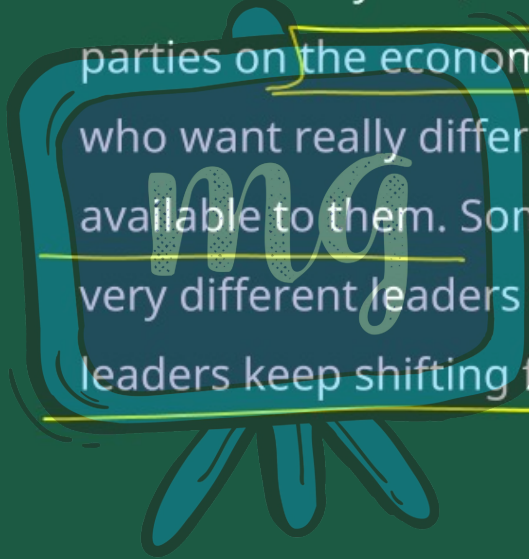


- d. **Meaningful choice** - The fourth challenge is that very often parties do not seem to offer a meaningful choice to the voters. In order to offer meaningful choice, parties must be significantly different. In recent years, there has been a decline in the ideological differences among parties in most parts of the world. For example, the difference between the Labour Party and the Conservative Party in Britain is very little. They agree on more fundamental aspects but differ only in details on how policies are to be framed and implemented.

# EXERCISE



In our country too, the differences among all the major parties on the economic policies have reduced. Those who want really different policies have no option available to them. Sometimes people cannot even elect very different leaders either, because the same set of leaders keep shifting from one party to another.



# EXERCISE



3

Suggest some reforms to strengthen parties so that they perform their functions well.



# EXERCISE

**3** | Suggest some reforms to strengthen parties so that they perform their functions well.

**Answer :**

The various reforms that a political party can take are as follows:

- a. A provision within a political party to tackle internal conflicts → *have regular meetings*
- b. The 1/3rd representation in the party should be given to women candidates.

# EXERCISE



- c. The parties should not promote candidates having criminal records.
- d. State funding during elections should be promoted so that candidates coming from poor backgrounds stand an equal chance to win.

*In the form of paper, petrol etc.*

# EXERCISE



4

What is a political party?



# EXERCISE

4

What is a political party?

**Answer :**

A political party is a group of people who come together to contest elections and hold power in the government. They agree on some policies and programmes for society, with a view to promote the collective good.

# EXERCISE



**5** | What are the characteristics of a political party?



# EXERCISE

5

What are the characteristics of a political party?

Answer :

The political party has the following characteristics.

- a. They have members who share the same interests in policies and programmes.
- b. They seek to introduce policies which are for the welfare of the citizens.
- c. There are three components - leaders, active members and followers.

# EXERCISE

6

A group of people who come together to contest elections and hold power in the government is called a *political party*.

mg



# EXERCISE

6

A group of people who come together to contest elections and hold power in the government is called a \_\_\_\_\_.

**Answer :**

A group of people who come together to contest elections and hold power in the government is called a political party.

# EXERCISE

**7** Match List-I (organisations and struggles) with List-II and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists.

## List-I

1. Congress Party
2. Bharatiya Janata Party
3. Communist Party of India (Marxist)
4. Telugu Desam Party

## List-II

- A. National Democratic Alliance
- B. State party
- C. United Progressive Alliance
- D. Left Front



# EXERCISE



## Answer :

The correct option is —

1. Congress Party - ~~United Progressive Alliance~~ (1 - C)
2. Bharatiya Janata Party - ~~National Democratic Alliance~~ (2 - A)
3. Communist Party of India (Marxist) - ~~Left Front~~ (3 - D)
4. Telugu Desam Party - ~~State/Regional Party~~ (4 - B)

# EXERCISE

**8** | Who among the following is the founder of the Bahujan Samaj Party?

- A** | Kanshi Ram
- B** | Sahu Maharaj
- C** | B.R. Ambedkar
- D** | Jotiba Phule

# EXERCISE

9 | What is the guiding philosophy of the Bharatiya Janata Party?

- A Bahujan Samaj
- B Revolutionary democracy
- C Integral humanism
- D Modernity

→ All individuals must unite and form different societal units

# EXERCISE

10

Consider the following statements on parties.

1. Political parties do not enjoy much trust among the people.
2. Parties are often rocked by scandals involving top-party leaders.
3. Parties are not necessary to run governments.

Which of the statements given above is correct?

- |                            |             |                                       |         |
|----------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A | 1, 2, and 3 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B | 1 and 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C | 2 and C     | <input type="checkbox"/> D            | 1 and 3 |

# EXERCISE

11

Read the following passage and answer the questions given below.

Muhammad Yunus is a famous economist of Bangladesh. He received several international honours for his efforts to promote economic and social development for the benefit of the poor. He and the Grameen Bank have jointly, received the Nobel Peace Prize for the year 2006. In February 2007, he decided to launch a political party and contest in the Parliamentary elections.

# EXERCISE



His objective was to foster proper leadership, good governance and build a new Bangladesh. He felt that only a political party different from the traditional ones would bring about new political culture. His party would be democratic from the grass roots level. The launching of the new party, called Nagarik Shakti (Citizens Power), has caused a stir among the Bangladeshis. While many welcomed his decision, some did not like it. "Now I think Bangladesh will have a chance to choose between good and bad and eventually have a good government," said Shahedul Islam, a government official.

# EXERCISE



"That government, we hope, would not only keep itself away from corruption but also make fighting corruption and black money a top priority." But leaders of traditional political parties who dominated the country's politics for decades were apprehensive. "There was no debate (over him) winning the Nobel, but politics is different-very challenging and often controversial," said a senior leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party. Some others were highly critical. They asked why he was rushing into politics. "Is he being planted in politics by mentors from outside the country," asked one political observer.

# EXERCISE



**a**

Do you think Yunus made a right decision to float a new political party?



# EXERCISE



**a**

Do you think Yunus made a right decision to float a new political party?

**Answer :**

Yes, he made a right decision to float a new political party.

# EXERCISE



**b**

Do you agree with the statements and fears expressed by various people?



# EXERCISE



**b**

Do you agree with the statements and fears expressed by various people?

**Answer :**

I did not agree with the fear expressed by various people about his political party, because winning Noble Prize is a different thing and working as an activist of political party is a different thing.

# EXERCISE



C

How do you want this new party organized to make it different from other parties?



# EXERCISE



C

How do you want this new party organized to make it different from other parties?

**Answer :**

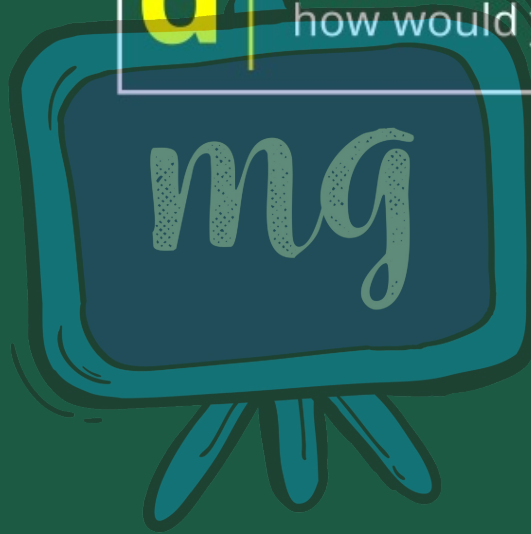
It is usual that people have always different views of their own. Corruption free people will appreciate such steps while the bureaucrats and those who earn profit through corrupt practices will certainly criticise it.

# EXERCISE



d

If you were the one to begin this political party how would you defend it?



# EXERCISE

**d** | If you were the one to begin this political party how would you defend it?

**Answer :**

If I was one of them to begin this political party, I would try to develop direct interaction with the people living in the countryside and in towns. Regular meetings of the party members, seminars, workshops, etc would have been adopted to win the confidence of the people.