

CBSE Class-10 Social Science
NCERT Solutions
Chapter - 6
Political Science - Political Parties

Question 1. State the various functions political parties perform in a democracy.

Answer : The various functions political parties perform in a democracy are:

- **Contest election:** Candidates are put forward by political parties to contest in elections. These candidates may be chosen by the top leaders, or by members of the party.
- **Put forward policies and programmes:** Political parties put forward their policies and programmes for the welfare of the people and voters choose those parties whose policy they like most.
- **Making Laws:** Political parties play a major role in making laws for the country. No law can become a bill unless majority parties support it.
- **Form the government:** Political parties form and run governments.
- **Play the role of opposition:** Parties that lose election play the role of opposition to the party in power.
- **Voice public opinion:** Political parties voice public opinion and raise issues to social concern.
- **Social welfare schemes:** Political parties form an important link between the government and the people. It is easy for the public to approach their local leader than a government official. The local leader has to listen to the public demand, otherwise he will lose the next election.

Question 2. What are the various challenges faced by political parties?

Answer : The various challenges faced by political parties are:

- **Lack of Internal democracy:** Every member of the party does not have a chance to take part in decision making process. Power remains in the hands of a few top leaders, who do not consult ordinary members. All the major or minor decision are taken by party head. Ordinary members have no information about the internal

working of the party. They hardly get a 'ticket' in a election.

- **Dyanstic Succession:** The biggest challenge within the political party is the issues of dynastic succession. These parties do not have transparent functioning and always try to give unfair advantage to their family members. Hence, a political party remains under the control of one family. We can take the examples of Congress, SP, RJD, DMK, etc.
- **Money and Muscle Power:** Money is needed to organise demonstrations, public meetings and speeches to publicise the image of the party. Parties choose those candidates who can raise money for the party and win elections with their money. Sometimes parties also support criminals candidates because they can win elections.
- **Meaningful choice to others:** Most of the political parties have same fundamental and ideological issues. Voters do not have a meaningful choice. Even leaders keep changing parties, thus confusing the voter.

Question 3. Suggest some reforms to strengthen parties so that they perform their functions well?

Answer : Some reforms to strengthen parties are:

- A law should be made to regulate the internal affairs of political parties. Amendment was made in the constitution to prevent MPs and MLAs from changing parties. If anyone tries to change his/her party then they will lose their seat.
- It should be mandatory for political parties to give a minimum number of tickets, about 1/3rd to the women candidates.
- There should be state funding of elections. The government should give parties money to support the election expenses. This may reduce the influence of money in the election.
- Supreme court has helped in reducing the influence of criminals and money in elections. It is now mandatory for every person contesting the election, to give an affidavit regarding his wealth and criminal cases pending against him.

Question 4. What is a political party?

Answer : A political party is a group of people who follow an ideology and thus come together to contest elections and hold power in the government..

Question 5. What are the characteristics of a political party?

Answer : Characteristics of a political party are:

- A political party has members who agree on some policies and programmes for the society with a view to promote common good.
- It seeks to implement the policies by winning popular support through elections.
- The presence of a leader, the party workers and supporters.
- It is a group of people who come together to contest elections and hold power in the government.

Question 6. A group of people who come together to contest elections and hold power in the government is called a _____.

Answer : Political Party

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

	List I		List II
1	Congress Party	A.	National Democratic Alliance
2	Bharatiya Janata Party	B.	State party
3	Communist Party of India (Marxist)	C.	United Progressive Alliance
4	Telugu Desam party	D.	Left Front

	1	2	3	4
(a)	C	A	B	D
(b)	C	D	A	B
(c)	C	A	D	B

Answer :

	1	2	3	4

(c)	C	A	D	B
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Question 8. Who among the following is the founder of the Bahujan Samaj Party?

- A. Kanshi Ram
- B. SahuMaharaj
- C. B.R. Ambedkar
- D. JotibaPhule

Answer : A. Kanshi Ram

Question 9. What is the guiding philosophy of the Bharatiya Janata Party?

- A. BahujanSamaj
- B. Revolutionary democracy
- C. Integral humanism
- D. Modernity

Answer : D. Modernity

Question 10. Consider the following statements on parties.

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

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) A, B, and C
- (b) A and B
- (c) B and C
- (d) A and C

Answer : A and B