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CHAPTER

Political Parties

Level - 1

CORE SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (MCQs)

1. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: India is a diverse country with multiple languages, cultures, and regional identities. Many political parties have emerged to represent the interests of specific linguistic, regional, and cultural groups.

2. Option (B) is correct

Explanation: In some countries, power usually changes between two main parties. Several other parties may exist, contest elections and win a few seats in the national legislatures. But only the two main parties have a serious chance of winning majority of seats to form government. Such a party system is called two-party system. The United States of America and the United Kingdom are examples of two-party system.

3. Option (D) is correct.

Explanation: China has a one-party system dominated by the Communist Party of China (CPC). Other political parties exist, but they function under the leadership and control of the CPC and do not challenge its authority. This makes China a one-party state.

The other options:

- (A) United States of America: Has a two-party system dominated by the Democratic Party and the Republican Party.
- (B) United Kingdom: Functions as a multi-party system, although it is often dominated by the Conservative and Labour Parties.
- (C) India: Has a multi-party system with numerous national and regional political parties.

4. Option (D) is correct

Explanation: Political parties are accountable to the public because they rely on voter support in elections. If a party fails to fulfil its promises,

the public can vote them out in the next election. Elections serve as a mechanism for accountability, ensuring that parties work in the interest of the people.

5. Option (D) is correct

Explanation: The Election Commission of India has introduced several reforms to make political parties more transparent and democratic. It is mandatory for all registered political parties to conduct regular internal (organisational) elections to ensure democratic functioning and file income tax returns to maintain financial transparency and reduce black money in politics.

6. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: The Supreme Court of India has passed several orders to bring transparency and accountability in elections. One key reform is that candidates must submit an affidavit disclosing criminal records (if any), financial assets and liabilities, Educational qualifications. This helps voters make informed choices and promotes cleaner politics by discouraging criminal elements from entering elections.

7. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Political parties are essential for a democracy because they represent people's interests and different ideologies, contest elections and form governments, provide policy alternatives and hold the government accountable. Without political parties, democracy would struggle to function as there would be no organised way to represent public opinion.

8. Option (D) is correct

Explanation: The formation of the government is done by the elected political parties which have the required majority for the formation of the government.

MATCH THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

1. Option (B) is correct

Explanation: A political party is a group of people coming together to contest elections and hold power in government. The function of political parties is agreeing on policies and programmes to promote the collective good of society. The perception of political parties by citizens is highlighting criticism and blame directed towards them for problems in democracy and political life. On the evolution and prevalence of political parties, noting their increased presence and significance in democracies worldwide over time.

2. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Communalism involves the belief that religion is the principal basis of social community. Secularism constitutes one of the foundations of a nation, as it ensures equality and prohibits discrimination on religious grounds. Combating caste inequalities involves countering communal prejudices and propaganda, as caste discrimination is a form of social division. Political parties in democracies are groups contesting elections and holding power in government.

ASSERTION-REASON QUESTIONS

1. Option (B) is correct

Explanation: Political parties are essential in a democracy as they organise elections, represent different ideologies and interests, form governments and provide governance. Without political parties, democracy would be unstable and disorganised because independent candidates would lack a structured way to govern effectively. In the absence of political parties, representatives would act only in local interests without considering national policies. Political parties ensure that representatives balance local and national responsibilities, helping democracy function smoothly.

2. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: India follows a multi-party system due to its large population, social diversity, and regional variations. Several national and regional parties exist to represent different sections of society.

India is a diverse country with multiple languages, religions, and regions. A multi-party system ensures that different groups have political representation, helping maintain stability and unity.

Thus, both assertion and reason are true and reason correctly explains the assertion.

3. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Elections are a fundamental feature of democracy, allowing people to choose their representatives and government. Without elections, democracy cannot function

effectively, as they ensure public participation and accountability.

Elections give citizens the right to vote, enabling them to be a part of the decision-making process. They encourage political awareness, activism, and representation of different social groups.

Thus, both assertion and reason are true and reason correctly explains the assertion.

4. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: Political parties are essential for democracy as they contest elections, form governments, and represent people's interests. However, the media's role is to inform and influence public opinion, not to create political parties. While media coverage can impact a party's popularity, it does not form or establish political parties.

5. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Political parties worldwide, including in India, face challenges such as corruption, lack of internal democracy, dynastic politics, and declining public trust. Many people believe that parties do not fully represent their interests, leading to a crisis of credibility.

Many political parties have lost public trust due to broken promises and lack of transparency. Voter apathy and distrust in politicians have grown, making citizens less engaged with parties. This lack of public faith contributes to the crisis political parties face, making the reason a valid explanation for the assertion.

VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. (i) Every party in the country has to register with the Election Commission.
(ii) Parties are given a unique symbol by the commission.
(iii) Parties that get this privilege and some other special facilities are 'recognised' by the

- Election Commission for this purpose.
(iv) The Election Commission has laid down detailed criteria of the proportion of votes and seats that a party must get in order to be a recognised party. (Any two)

2. (i) Parties shape public opinion through different sources.
 (ii) They raise and highlight issues of public interests and nation's development.
 (iii) Parties have lakhs of members and activists spread all over the country to cater the interests of society.
 (iv) Many of the pressure groups are the extensions of political parties among different sections of society.
 (v) Parties sometimes also launch movements for the resolution of problems faced by people. Often opinions in the society crystallise on the lines parties take. (Any two)
3. (i) In some countries, power usually changes between two main parties. Several other parties may exist, contest elections and win a few seats in the national legislatures.
 (ii) But only the two main parties have a serious chance of winning majority of seats to form government. Such a party system is called two-party system. The United States of America and the United Kingdom are examples of two-party system.
4. (i) **Freedom of Speech and Expression:** Party workers may face restrictions on voicing their opinions, ideas, or concerns within the party structure.
 (ii) **Right to Equality of Opportunity:** Not everyone would get an equal chance to climb up the success ladder.
5. Yes, because despite a religiously homogenous population, having multiple political parties helps represent diverse political perspectives, helps in policy formation, helps avoid authoritarianism, provides an alternative to the voters.
6. The three components of political parties are:
 - (i) **Leaders:** The leaders are those who take major decisions of the party and their decisions are the supreme command for the party.
 - (ii) **Active Members:** Another component of political party are the active members who contest elections for the party and are elected as representatives.
 - (iii) **Followers:** The last one are the followers who support a political party and in elections make their party victorious.

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. (i) Political parties exercise political power and form government.
 (ii) Parties contest election.
 (iii) Parties put forward different policies and programmes.
 (iv) Parties play a decisive role in making laws for the country.
 (v) Parties play the role of opposition.
 (vi) Parties shape public opinion.
 (vii) Parties provide people access to government machinery and welfare schemes, implemented by government. (Any three)
2. (i) Political parties run and form government.
 (ii) Political parties put forward different policies and programs and the voters choose from them.
 (iii) Political parties play a decisive role in making laws for a country.
 (iv) Political parties play the role of opposition.
 (v) Political parties shape the public opinion.
 (vi) Parties provide people access to government machinery and welfare schemes implemented by governments. (Any three)
3. (i) Political parties raise and highlight issues.
 (ii) Parties have lakhs of members and activists spread all over the country.
 (iii) Many of the pressure groups are the extensions of political parties among different sections of society.
- (iv) Parties sometimes also launch movements for the resolution of problems faced by people.
 (v) Opinions in the society crystallise on the lines parties take. (Any three)
4. (i) Lack of internal democracy.
 (ii) Political parties do not conduct regular internal election and do not hold meetings.
 (iii) Dynastic succession.
 (iv) Money and muscle power.
 (v) They do not seem to offer a meaningful choice to the voters. (Any three)
5. The role of money and muscle power among political parties can be exhibited as follows:
 - (i) Since parties are focused only on winning elections, they tend to use short-cuts to win elections.
 - (ii) They tend to nominate those candidates who have or can raise lots of money.
 - (iii) Rich people and companies who give funds to the parties tends to have an influence on the policies and decisions of the party.
 - (iv) In some cases, parties support criminals who can win elections.
 - (v) Democrats all over the world are worried about the increasing role of rich people and big companies in democratic politics. (Any three)

6. If several parties compete for power and more than two parties have a reasonable chance of coming to power either on their strength or in Alliance with others, it is called a multi-party system.

India adopted a multi-party system because:

- (i) There is social and geographical diversity in India.
- (ii) India is such a large country, which is not easily absorbed by two or three parties.
- (iii) The system allows a variety of interests and opinions to enjoy political representation.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. In a democratic set-up, political parties are required because without political parties:

- (i) Every candidate in the elections will be independent. No promises could be made, and the utility of the government formed will remain uncertain.
- (ii) No one will be responsible for running the country. Elected representatives will only be accountable to their constituency.
- (iii) There will be no agency to gather and present different views on various issues to the government.
- (iv) No one will be responsible for bringing various representatives together to form a responsible government.
- (v) There will be no mechanism to support the government, make policies and justify or oppose them.

2. (i) The first challenge is lack of internal democracy within parties. All over the world, there is a tendency in political parties towards the concentration of power in one or few leaders at the top. Parties do not keep membership registers, do not hold organisational meetings, and do not conduct internal elections regularly. Ordinary members of the party do not get sufficient information on what happens inside the party. They do not have the means, or the connections needed to influence the decisions.
- (ii) The second challenge of dynastic succession is related to the first one. Since most political parties do not practise open and transparent procedures for their functioning, there are very few ways for an ordinary worker to rise to the top in a party. Those who happen to be the leaders are in a position of unfair advantage to favour people close to them or even their family members. In many parties, the top positions are always controlled by members of one family.
- (iii) The third challenge is about the growing role of money and muscle power in parties, especially during elections. Since parties are focussed only on winning elections, they tend to use shortcuts to win elections. They tend to nominate those candidates who have

or can raise lots of money. Rich people and companies who give funds to the political parties tend to have influence on the policies and decisions of the party.

- (iv) The fourth challenge is that very often parties do not seem to offer a meaningful choice to the voters. 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 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.
- (v) Not much difference between the leaders as well. They keep shifting from one party to another.

3. The major functions of Political parties are:

- (i) **Contesting Elections:** Political parties nominate candidates to contest elections and compete for power. They campaign to gain public support.
- (ii) **Forming and Running Governments:** The party that wins the majority in elections forms the government and makes policies to govern the country.
- (iii) **Providing Opposition:** Parties that do not win the elections act as opposition, criticising the government's policies and holding it accountable.
- (iv) **Shaping Public Opinion:** Political parties raise awareness on various issues and influence public opinion through speeches, campaigns, and media interactions.
- (v) **Link Between Government and People:** Parties convey the needs and demands of people to the government and help in addressing public concerns.

4. If several parties compete for power, and more than two parties have a reasonable chance of coming to power either on their own strength or in alliance with others, we call it a multi-party system.

Merits:

- (i) This system allows a variety of interests and opinions to enjoy political representation.
- (ii) More choice with the voters.

Demerits:

- (i) The multi-party system often appears very messy.
- (ii) Sometimes it leads to political instability.
- 5. Political party is a group of people who come together to contest elections and hold power in the government.

Challenges faced by political parties:

- (i) Lack of internal democracy within parties.
- (ii) Political parties do not conduct regular internal elections and do not hold meetings.
- (iii) Dynastic succession.
- (iv) Growing role of money and muscle power in parties.
- (v) Lack of meaningful choice to the voters.
- 6. Modern democracies cannot exist without political parties. We can understand the necessity of political parties by imagining a situation without parties.
 - (i) Every candidate in the elections will be independent. So no one will be able to make any promises to the people about any major policy changes.
 - (ii) The government may be formed, but its utility will remain ever uncertain. Elected representatives will be accountable to their constituency for what they do in the locality. But no one will be responsible for how the country will be run.
 - (iii) By looking at the non-party based elections to the panchayat in many states. Although the parties do not contest formally, it is generally noticed that the village gets split into more than one faction, each of which puts up a 'panel' of its candidates. This is exactly what the party does. That is the reason we find political parties in almost all countries of the world, whether these countries are big or small, old or new, developed or developing.
 - (iv) The rise of political parties is directly linked to the emergence of representative

democracies. As societies became large and complex, they also needed some agency to gather different views on various issues and to present these to the government and to bring various representatives together so that a responsible government could be formed. They needed a mechanism to support or restrain the government, make policies, justify or oppose them.

- (v) Political parties fulfil these needs that every representative government has. We can say that parties are a necessary condition for a democracy.
- 7. One sees several parties compete for power, and when more than two parties have a reasonable chance of coming to power either on their own strength or in alliance with others, we call it a multiparty system. Thus in India, we have a multi-party system.
 - (i) In this system, the government is formed by various parties coming together in a coalition.
 - (ii) When several parties in a multi-party system join hands for the purpose of contesting elections and winning power, it is called an alliance or a front. For example, in India there were three such major alliances in 2004 parliamentary elections– the National Democratic Alliance, the United Progressive Alliance and the Left Front.
 - (iii) The multi-party system often appears very messy and leads to political instability. At the same time, this system allows a variety of interests and opinions to enjoy political representation.
 - (iv) India has evolved a multi-party system because the social and geographical diversity in such a large country is not easily absorbed by two or even three parties. No system is ideal for all countries and all situations.

Level - 2

ADVANCED COMPETENCY FOCUSED QUESTIONS

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (MCQs)

1. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: Political parties are crucial in a democracy because they contest elections, form governments, shape public opinion, frame policies and legislation, and act as a link between the government and the people. This shows that they play a central role in democratic governance and the smooth functioning of political processes.

2. Option (B) is correct

Explanation: India's multi-party system allows several national and regional parties to compete in elections. This ensures that voters have a wide range of choices, reflecting the country's social

and cultural diversity. It enhances democratic participation by allowing citizens to choose representatives that align with their regional, ideological, or community interests.

3. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: National political parties are those that have a presence in multiple states, are recognised by the Election Commission as national based on certain criteria (like performance in Lok Sabha and Assembly elections), focus on national issues and interests, not just regional concerns, and work to form or influence policies that affect the entire country.

4. Option (D) is correct

Explanation: Issues like dynastic succession and lack of internal democracy show that many political parties do not conduct regular internal elections, are controlled by a few powerful individuals or families, lack transparency in decision-making and candidate selection. These problems indicate a need for reform to make parties more accountable, transparent, and democratic.

5. Option (B) is correct

Explanation: Regional parties represent the interests of specific states or regions, addressing local needs and cultural identities. They play a crucial role in Indian federalism by ensuring that regional voices are heard in both state and national governance. In coalition governments, they often have influence in national decision-making, promoting a balance between national and regional interests.

ASSERTION-REASON QUESTIONS

1. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: Assertion is true because dynastic succession means leadership is handed over within a family, regardless of merit, which goes against the democratic principle of equal opportunity.

Reason is false because dynastic politics often ignores merit and public opinion, favouring family ties over competence.

2. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Assertion is true because political parties play a key role in the functioning of representative democracies by contesting elections, forming governments, and shaping policies.

Reason is also true because parties provide a structured platform for citizens to express opinions, influence decisions, and engage in the democratic process.

Both assertion and reason are true and the reason is the correct explanation of assertion.

3. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: Assertion is true as India indeed follows a multi-party system where multiple national and regional parties compete in elections. Reason is false because the statement describes a two-party system, not a multi-party system. In a multi-party system, more than two parties have a significant chance of gaining power, either independently or through alliances.

4. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Assertion is true because regional parties have become influential in both state and national politics, especially in coalition governments.

Reason is also true because regional parties focus on local issues, give voice to regional aspirations, and promote the federal character of India by balancing power between the Centre and states.

Both assertion and reason are true and the reason is the correct explanation of assertion.

VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Political parties are necessary for functioning of democracy because:

- Political parties provide a platform for people to participate in elections and public affairs, allowing them to express their interests and influence government decisions.
- They help in the formation of governments and opposition, ensuring accountability, smooth functioning of democracy, and representation of diverse viewpoints.

2. (i) **Wider Choice for Voters:** The multi-party system allows citizens to choose from a variety of national and regional parties, representing diverse ideologies and interests.

- (ii) **Representation of Diverse Groups:** It ensures that different regions, communities, and social groups have a voice in governance, strengthening inclusive democracy.

3. Internal democracy means that a political party follows democratic principles within its organisation, such as regular internal elections, transparency in decision-making, and equal

participation of members.

The common shortcomings seen in Indian parties are:

- Lack of regular internal elections, where top leaders are chosen without fair voting.
- Concentration of power in one family or a few individuals, leading to dynastic succession.

4. (i) **Representation of Local Interests:** Regional parties focus on state-specific issues like language, culture, and development, ensuring that local demands are addressed in the political process.

- (ii) **Strengthening Federalism:** They promote power-sharing between the Centre and the States, ensuring that the federal structure of India functions more effectively and inclusively.

5. (i) **Mandatory Financial Disclosure:** Political parties should be required to publicly disclose their sources of funding, including donations and expenditures, to ensure transparency.

- (ii) **Internal Elections and Leadership Rotation:** Parties should conduct regular internal elections and promote leadership beyond

family ties to reduce dynastic control and encourage democratic functioning within the party.

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. (i) **Contesting Elections:** Political parties nominate candidates and contest elections, providing voters with choices and competing for public support.
(ii) **Forming and Running Governments:** The party (or coalition) that wins the majority forms the government and implements its policies and programmes.
(iii) **Shaping Public Opinion:** Political parties raise and highlight public issues, conduct debates, and mobilise citizens around matters of national interest, thereby influencing public opinion and policy decisions.
2. (i) **Lack of Internal Democracy:** Most political parties do not conduct regular internal elections and are often dominated by a few powerful leaders or families.
(ii) **Dynastic Succession:** Leadership is frequently passed on within families, limiting opportunities for capable leaders from outside the family to rise.
(iii) **Use of Money and Muscle Power:** Many parties rely on unaccounted money and criminal elements to win elections, affecting free and fair democratic processes.
3. The Features of India's Multi-Party System are:
(i) **Presence of National and Regional Parties:** India has both national parties (like the Indian National Congress, BJP) and regional parties (like DMK, TMC, BJD), which represent specific states or communities.
(ii) **Coalition Governments:** Often, no single party gains a majority, leading to coalition governments, especially at the Centre. This allows different parties to work together and represent varied interests.
(iii) **Diverse Representation:** The multi-party system allows for representation of diverse social, regional, cultural, and linguistic

groups, giving voice to India's pluralistic society.

India is a vast country with multiple religions, languages, regions, and castes. A multi-party system ensures:

- (i) Inclusive representation of different communities.
 - (ii) Local issues are addressed through regional parties.
 - (iii) Strengthening of federalism and democratic values by ensuring that governance is more balanced and participatory.
4. (i) **Ensure Internal Democracy:** Political parties should conduct regular internal elections and promote transparent decision-making, giving equal opportunities to all members.
(ii) **Transparency in Funding:** Parties should be required to maintain and disclose audited accounts and declare the sources of their funds to reduce corruption and illegal donations.
(iii) **Reduce Dynastic Politics:** Steps should be taken to discourage dynastic succession by encouraging merit-based leadership and giving opportunities to grassroots-level workers.
 5. (i) **Representation of Local Interests:** Regional parties focus on state-specific issues, ensuring that the needs and aspirations of local people are addressed in governance.
(ii) **Promoting Federalism:** They help in balancing power between the Centre and the States, thereby strengthening the federal structure of India.
(iii) **Enhancing Political Participation:** By representing regional identities and communities, they encourage broader participation in politics and bring more citizens into the democratic process.

CASE BASED QUESTIONS

1. (i) A political party is a group of people who come together to contest election and hold power in the government.
(ii) Large societies need representative democracy. Political parties give platform to elect representatives and representatives formed the government.
(iii) Political parties bring various representatives together so that a responsible government could be formed. They work as a mechanism to support or restrain the government, make policies, justify, or oppose them.

Political parties fulfil the needs that every representative government has.

2. (i) The Election Commission treats all parties equally, it offers some special facilities to large and established parties.
(ii) Those parties which are given a unique symbol and only the official candidates of that party can use that election symbol. Parties that get this privilege and some other special facilities are recognised by the Election Commission and hence known as recognised political parties.

- (iii) A party that secures at least 6 per cent of the total votes in the Lok Sabha elections or Assembly elections in four states and win at least four seats in the Lok Sabha is recognised as a National Party.
3. (i) Internal democracy ensures that party decisions are made through consultation, leaders are chosen transparently, and all members have a voice, making the party more accountable and responsive to the people.
- (ii) Manifestos help voters understand a party's policies, promises, and priorities, allowing them to make informed choices during elections.
- (iii) **(1) Regulation of Party Funding:** Parties should disclose their income sources and expenditures to promote financial transparency and prevent misuse of money power.
- (2) Fair Candidate Selection:** Parties should adopt a transparent and merit-based process for selecting candidates to ensure better leadership and public trust.
4. (i) It shows that regional parties play a key role in forming governments, especially in coalition politics, and represent local and state-level issues, strengthening federalism.
- (ii) It ensures that elections are conducted fairly and ethically, preventing misuse of power, money, and unfair practices by political parties or candidates.
- (iii) **(1) Concern:** Excessive use of money in elections
Reform: Implement strict regulation of party funds and campaign spending, and audit party finances.
- (2) Concern:** Lack of transparency in candidate selection
Reform: Ensure internal democracy by conducting transparent and democratic procedures for selecting party candidates.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Political parties perform the following major functions in a democracy:
- (i) **Contesting Elections:** Political parties nominate candidates to contest elections and campaign to gain public support, giving voters a choice of representatives.
 - (ii) **Forming and Running Governments:** The party (or coalition) that wins the majority forms the government and is responsible for policy-making and administration.
 - (iii) **Shaping Public Opinion:** Parties raise important public issues, conduct debates, and mobilise people, thereby helping in the formation of public opinion.
 - (iv) **Providing Access to Government Machinery:** Political parties act as a bridge between the government and the people, allowing citizens to convey their needs and complaints.
 - (v) **Acting as Opposition:** Parties that lose elections act as a constructive opposition by questioning the ruling party, highlighting flaws, and preventing misuse of power.
2. The features of India's Multi-Party System are:
- (i) **Existence of National and Regional Parties:** India has both national parties (e.g., BJP, INC) and regional parties (e.g., DMK, TMC) that address different levels of issues — national and local.
 - (ii) **Representation of Diversity:** The multi-party system reflects India's social, cultural, and regional diversity, giving voice to varied communities and interests.
 - (iii) **Coalition Governments:** When no single party gets a majority, parties come together to form coalition governments, which promotes consensus-based decision-making.
 - (iv) **More Choices for Voters:** Voters are not restricted to just two options; they can choose from multiple parties based on ideologies, performance, and regional relevance.
 - (v) **Encourages Political Competition:** The presence of multiple parties promotes healthy competition, forcing parties to perform better and be more accountable to the people.
- The multi-party system in India enhances participation, representation, and accountability. It ensures that minority and regional voices are heard, thereby making the democracy more inclusive and responsive to people's needs.
3. The measures to reform political parties in India are:
- (i) **Ensure Internal Democracy:** Parties should conduct regular internal elections and allow active participation of members in decision-making to reduce concentration of power.
 - (ii) **Promote Transparency in Funding:** Parties must declare sources of income and expenditure, and all donations above a certain limit should be made public to curb black money.

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- (iii) **Discourage Dynastic Succession:** Parties should adopt rules that limit family-based leadership and encourage promotion based on merit and performance.
 - (iv) **Fair Candidate Selection:** Candidate selection should be transparent and criteria-based, ensuring that competent individuals, including women and marginalised groups, get opportunities.
 - (v) **Encourage Women and Minority Participation:** Political parties should give

more tickets to women and minorities, ensuring broader representation and inclusivity.

These reforms would:

- (i) Increase transparency and public trust in political parties.
- (ii) Promote greater accountability and responsiveness to citizens.
- (iii) Ensure equal opportunity for all, enhancing the democratic character of the political system.



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