

Case study based questions**10th Social Studies****Political Parties****Passage - 1****4 Marks**

Every party in the country has to register with the Election Commission. While the Commission treats all parties equally, it offers some special facilities to large and established parties. These parties are given a unique symbol – 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 for this purpose. That is why these parties are called, 'recognised political parties'. 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. A party that secures at least 6 per cent of the total votes in an election to the Legislative Assembly of a State and wins at least two seats is recognised as a State party. A party that secures at least six per cent of total votes in Lok Sabha elections or Assembly elections in four States and wins at least four seats in the Lok Sabha is recognised as a national party.

Q1. (3) The Election Commission gives a unique symbol to every party.

Q2. (2) At least 6 per cent of votes is needed by a party to win in a Legislative Assembly of a state?

Q3. (1) Parties that are given the privilege of being assigned a unique symbol and some other special facilities are 'recognised' by the Election Commission as political parties.

Q4. (4) A party that secures at least six per cent of total votes in Lok Sabha elections or Assembly elections in four States and wins at least four seats in the Lok Sabha is recognised as a national party.

Passage - 2

4 Marks

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 the society with a view to promote the collective good. Since there can be different views on what is good for all, parties try to persuade people why their policies are better than others. They seek to implement these policies by winning popular support through elections. Thus, parties reflect fundamental political divisions in a society. Parties are about a part of the society and thus involve PARTISANSHIP. Thus a party is known by which part it stands for, which policies it supports and whose interests it upholds. A political party has three components:
the leaders, the active members and the followers.

Q1. (4) A party is known by which part it stands for, which policies it supports and whose interests it upholds.

Q2. (1) A political party has three components: the leaders, the active members and the followers.

Q3. (3) Elections

Q4. (2) Partisanship

Case study based questions
10th Social Studies
Political Parties

Passage - 1**4 Marks**

The list of functions in a sense answers the question asked above: we need political parties because they perform all these functions. But we still need to ask why modern democracies cannot exist without political parties. We can understand the necessity of political parties by imagining a situation without parties. 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. The government may be formed, but its utility will remain ever uncertain. Elected representative will be accountable to their constituency for what they do in the locality. But no one will be responsible for how the country run.

Q1. (4) The government may be formed without any political party, but its utility will remain ever uncertain and no one will be responsible for how the country runs.

Q2. (3) Democracies

Q3. (2) Elected representative are accountable to their constituency for what they do in the locality.

Q4. (2) Independent

Passage - 2**4 Marks**

The rise of political parties is directly linked to the emergence of representative democracies. As we have seen, large scale societies need representative democracy. 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. They needed some way 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. Political parties fulfill these needs that every representative government has. We can say that parties are a necessary condition for a democracy.

Q1. (2) Political parties are necessary because they fulfill the needs that every representative government has.

Q2. (1) Democracy

Q3. (1) 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.

Q4. (3) Government

Case study based questions
10th Social Studies

Political Parties

Passage - 1

4 Marks

What does a political party do? Basically, political parties fill political offices and exercise political power. Parties do so by performing a series of functions:

1) Parties contest elections. In most democracies, elections are fought mainly among the candidates put up by political parties. Parties select their candidates in different ways. In some countries, such as the USA, members and supporters of a party choose its candidates. Now more and more countries are following this method. In other countries like India, top party leaders choose candidates for contesting elections.

2) Parties put forward different policies and programmes and the voters choose from them. Each of us may have different opinions and views on what policies are suitable for the society. But no government can handle such a large variety of views. In a democracy, a large number of similar opinions have to be grouped together to provide a direction in which policies can be formulated by the governments. This is what the parties do. A party reduces a vast multitude of opinions into a few basic positions which it supports. A government is expected to base its policies on the line taken by the RULING PARTY.

3) Parties play a decisive role in making laws for a country. Formally, laws are debated and passed in the legislature. But since most of the members belong to a party, they go by the direction of the party leadership, irrespective of their personal opinions.

4) Parties form and run governments. As we noted last year, the big policy decisions are taken by political executive that comes from the political parties. Parties recruit leaders, train them and then make them ministers to run the government in the way they want.

5) Those parties that lose in the elections play the role of opposition to the parties in power, by voicing different views and criticising government for its failures or wrong policies. Opposition parties also mobilise opposition to the government.

6) Parties shape public opinion. They raise and highlight issues. Parties have lakhs of members and activists spread all over the country. Many of the pressure groups are the extensions of political parties among different sections of society. Parties sometimes also launch movements for the resolution of problems faced by people. Often opinions in the society crystallise on the lines parties take.

7) Parties provide people access to government machinery and welfare schemes implemented by governments. For an ordinary citizen it is easy to approach a local party leader than a government officer. That is why they feel close to parties even when they do not fully trust them. Parties have to be responsive to people's needs and demands. Otherwise people can reject those parties in the next elections.

Q1. (3) In countries like U.S.A., members and supporters of a party choose its candidates.

Q2. (3) In any party, the big policy decisions are taken by political executive of the political parties. Parties recruit leaders, trains them and makes them ministers to run the government in the way they want.

Q3. (1) Those parties that lose in the elections play the role of opposition to the parties in power, by voicing different views and criticising government for its failures or wrong policies.

Q4. (1) Ruling

Passage - 2

4 Marks

In some countries only one party is allowed to control and run the government. These are called one-party systems. In Class IX, we noted that in China, only the Communist Party is allowed to rule. Although, legally speaking, people are free to form political parties, it does not happen because the electoral system does not permit free competition for power. We cannot consider one party sys-

tem as a good option because this is not a democratic option. Any democratic system must allow at least two parties to compete in elections and provide a fair chance for the competing parties to come to power.

Q1. (1) It is so because it doesn't allow at least two parties to compete in elections and provide a fair chance for the competing parties to come to power.

Q2. (2) One

Q3. (3) China

Q4. (3) It happens because the electoral system does not permit free competition for power.
