

Homework

1. What are the major challenges which the political parties face in the present era?

ans - * Lack of internal democracy

→ 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. Thus, ordinary members of the party do not get sufficient information on what happens inside the party.

* Dynastic succession

→ 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. This is unfair to other members of that party.

* Money and muscle power

→ Since parties are focussed only on winning elections, they tend to use short-cuts 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 parties tend to have influence on the policies and decisions of the party.

* Offer of a meaningful choice

→ 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.

Q4 Describe any five efforts made to reform political parties in India?

Ans -> The constitution was amended to prevent elected MLAs and MPs from changing parties. This was done because many elected representatives were indulging in defection in order to become ministers or for cash rewards.

* The Supreme Court passed an order to reduce the

Influence of money and criminals. NOW, it is mandatory for every candidate who contests elections to file an affidavit giving details of his property and criminal cases pending against him.

* The Election Commission passed an order making it necessary for political parties to hold their organisational elections and file their income tax returns. The parties have started doing so but sometimes it is mere formality.

* A law should be made to regulate the internal affairs of political parties. It should be made compulsory for political parties to maintain a register of its members, to follow its own constitution.

* It should be made mandatory for political parties to give a minimum number of tickets, about one-third, to women candidates.

Q. Define the term Defection?

ans - Defection means changing party allegiance.

from the party on which a person got
~~elected~~ to a different party.