

(1) What do you mean by Defection  
Changing party allegiance from the party  
on which a person got elected to a different  
party.

(2) What are the major challenges which the  
political parties face in the present era?

- \* Lack of internal democracy - Power within  
political parties is concentrated in hands  
of one or few leaders at the top. They do not  
hold regular meetings, members can't  
criticise top leaders' decisions.
- \* Dynastic succession - In many political parties  
power is concentrated in the hands  
of only a particular family.
- \* Role of money and muscle power - parties  
give tickets to people who have money  
or muscle power instead of deserving  
people.
- \* No meaningful choice - Often political parties  
don't give us meaningful choice. All main  
parties are generic, corrupt and they  
have similar policies.

Describe any five efforts made to reform political parties in India.

- The financial accounts of the parties must be audited this will decrease the role of private big business, house donors.
- State funding of political parties must be done to meet their election expenditure.
- The accounts must be made available to public.
- Parties must come under the ambit of Right to information to increase transparency in the system.
- Common people must be encouraged to give donations to parties and such citizens must be exempted from income tax.