

3/8/21

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

The major challenges faced by the political parties are -

① 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.

② The challenge of dynastic succession

related to the first one

Since most political parties do not practice open and transparent procedures for their functioning these are very few ways for an ordinary worker to rise to the top in a party.

③ About the growing role of money & 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.

④ Parties do not seem to offer a meaningful choice to the voters

In order 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 the world.

- 2) Describe any five efforts made to reform political parties in India.
- 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 on a cash reward.
 - It is mandatory for every candidate who contests elections to file an Affidavit giving details of his property and criminal cases.
 - The election commission passed an order making it necessary for political parties to hold their organisations' elections & file their income tax returns.
 - There should be state funding of election to hold other organisations

How should the state:
The government should give parties money to support their election expenses

o. A law should be made to regulate the internal affairs of political parties.

3) Define the term Defection
Changing party allegiance from the party on which a person got elected to a different party is called Defection.