

24/08/21

(Q) Why is it believed that political parties need to face and overcome the challenge of dynastic succession to remain effective instrument of democracy? Explain.

(i) As most political parties do not practice open and transparent procedures for their function, there are very few ways for an ordinary worker to rise to the top in a party.

(ii) Those who happen to be the leaders are ~~the~~ in a ~~positive~~ position of unfair advantage to favour people close to them or even their family members.

(iii) In many parties, the top positions are always controlled by the member of one family.

(iv) This is very negative for democracy, since people who do not have adequate experience or popular support come to occupy positions of power.

(v) Money and muscle powers Since parties are focussed only on winning elections, they tend to use short cuts to win elections. They tend to nominate or those candidates who can raise a lots of money.

(vi) Often parties do not seem to offer a meaningful choice to the voters.

31/8/21

(Q) What does the term 'defection' mean?

Defection refers to the changing party allegiance from the party on which a person got elected (to a legislative body) to a different party.

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

(i) The constitution was amended to prevent elected MLAs and MPs from changing parties (i.e., the anti-defection law was passed).

(ii) The Supreme Court passed an order to reduce the influence of money and criminals. It is mandatory for every candidate who contests elections to file an affidavit giving details of his property and criminal cases pending against him.

(iii) The Election Commission passed an order making it necessary for political parties to hold their organisational elections and file their income tax returns.

(iv) A law should be made to regulate the internal affairs of political parties.

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

(vi) There should be state funding elections.