POLITICAL PARTIES AND PRESSURE GROUPS,15BPO55S

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UNIT-I Meaning of political party- A political party may be defined as an organized group of people. They hold similar views on political problems. Gilchrist says," a political party is an organized group of citizens who profess to share the same political views and who, by acting as a political unit, try to control the government".

NATURE OF POLITICAL PARTY : A political party is a group operating to secure the control of government. Political parties possess some degree of organization. They have definite aims and objectives. In short ,a well organized party is like a state within a state.

FUNCTIONS OF POLITICAL PARTIES: (1) Political parties bridges the distance between the voter and the government, between the voter and the society, individual and the parties.(2) Selects future ministers and leaders of the government. (3) Formation of public policies for the government.(4) Makes the government smooth working.(5) The media of the public with in a country.(6) Educating the people.

ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF POLITICAL PARTIES: In modern democracies governments are being formed only by the political parties which are quite unavoidable. A party is an organization for collective life . Indeed organized society alone is a party. Political party system is a modern phenomenon

It is than 200 years old. Party and party systems emerged in Europe, North America and Japan around the third decades of nineteenth century. Much later it came into full force in other countries.

Britain is the mother of many political institutions. Modern political parties appeared first on England. In the seventeenth century there were constitutional conflicts. The conflicts created two camps among the politicians in England. There were known as Tories and Whigs. Later they came to be known as Conservatives and Liberals. Now the Conservative party and the Labor party are the two important parties in the U.K.

NATIONAL PARTY: A registered party has to fulfill any one of the following conditions to get recognised as a National political party.

(1) The party wins 2% of the seats in the Lok Sabha elections from at least 3 different states or (2) At a general election to Lok Sabha or legislative assembly the party polls 6% of votes in 4 states and in addition it 5 Lok Sabha seats from any state or States or (3) A party gets recognition as state party in 4 or more States. The Indian National Congress, The Communist party of India , The Bharatiya Janata party are some of the national parties.

REGIONAL PARTY : For any political party to be eligible for recognition as a state party or regional party in a state, it has to satisfy any one of the 5 conditions listed below. (1) Secure at least 6% of the valid vote and win at least 2 seats in an assembly general election.(2) secure at least 6% of the valid vote and win at least one seats in a Lok Sabha election. (3) win at least 3% of the seats or 3 seats in an assembly general election. (4) win at least one out of every 25 seats from a state in Lok Sabha election. (5) secure at least 8% of the total valid vote in assembly or Lok Sabha election. AIADMK,DMK TELUGU DESAM are some of the examples of the regional parties.

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL PARTIES – DISTINCTION

There are numerous political parties in India. Their number is also increasing at the national level and in various states and regions. Consequently we have both national parties and regional parties.

National and regional parties have different roles to play in the midst of social diversities, economic variations and political differences in India. National parties undertake the activities of reducing various kinds of diversities in the country. But the regional parties are interested only in the welfare of the local groups, casts ,or classes. The national parties have an all India out look. The regional parties are parochial in out look. However, the regional parties have to work within the framework of the Indian Constitution.

(For extensive reading refer books)