

POLITICAL PARTIES AND PRESSURE GROUPS.

UNIT – II:

KINDS OF PARTY SYSTEM : SINGLE-PARTY SYSTEM : The party system may be classified for the sake of convenient study. The party system in China has only one party. So it is called one party system or uni-party system.

In some of the totalitarian states this kind of party system exists. During the inter war period the Nazi party was the only party existed in Germany. Similarly the Fascist party was the only party which existed in Italy. In Communist countries like China the Communist party alone exist and exercise power. There are political and constitutional institutions in one party states as in other states. There is a council of ministers too. Elections are conducted periodically. But there is no opposition party.

MERITS OF SINGLE PARTY SYSTEM: (1) The party is unified and disciplined. (2) The party could clearly implement it's policies and programmes. No political confusion. (3) No rival party which would try to capture power by right or wrong means government also disciplined. (4) Bureaucrats have to do their duties properly. (5) The loyalty of the people is not divided.

DEMERITS OF SINGLE PARTY SYSTEM : (1) Not favourable for liberal democracy. (2) Voters have no choice except to vote for the same party. (3) Absence of opposition party may ruin the administration. (4) There is no difference between the government and party. (5) Economic development achieved at the cost of political liberty. Hence many nations are against single party system.

BI – PARTY SYSTEM : There are two political parties in a system is called Bi party system. Originated in Britain. The Whigs and Tories were the original parties. Later they became the liberal party and conservative party. Now the Conservative party and Labour party are there in England. Similarly there are democratic and republican party in U.S.A.

MERITS: (1) Very helpful for parliamentary form of government (2) The opposition provides an alternative to the ruling party. (3) There is possibility of constructive criticism in it. (4) The stability of government is assured. (5) people are able to make a right choice on the basis of the programmes of the parties.

DEMERITS : (1) Under this system only two parties are there. If both parties are bad or inefficient, the voters have no choice.(2) The whole country is divided into two. (3) Party rivalry under this may affect the administration. (4) The opposition party may object every move of the ruling party. (5) There may be criticism for criticism sake instead of constructive criticism.

MULTI-PARTY SYSTEM : There are more than two political parties in some of the nations , such system is called multi party system. India and France have this kind.

MERITS : (1) The people have wider choice.(2) There is the chance for many alternatives.(3) The nation would not be divided into two groups. (4) Political rivalry may be limited. (6

DEMERITS : (1) There would be much political confusion.(2) The people would be divided into many political factions.(3) The cabinet may not stable.(4) Coalition governments may be formed under this system .(5) The coalition governments lack cohesion and coordination.

(FOR EXTENSIVE READING REFER BOOKS)

