
Class –X POLITICAL SCIENCE

Political Parties

Answer1: The various functions political parties perform in a democracy are:

- Candidates are put forward by political parties to contest in elections. These candidates may be chosen by the top leaders, or by members of the party.
- Parties put forward their policies and programmes for voters to choose from them.
- Political parties play a major role in making laws for the country. No law can become a bill unless majority parties support it.
- Political parties form and run governments.
- Parties that lose election play the role of opposition to the party in power.
- Parties shape public opinion.
- Political parties form an important link between the government and the people. It is easy for the public to approach their local leader than a government official. The local leader has to listen to the public demand, otherwise he will lose the next election.

Answer2: The various challenges faced by political parties are:

- Lack of Internal democracy:
 - Every member of the party does not have a chance to take part in decision making process.
 - Every member is not consulted before taking a decision.
 - There is no proper organisation or registration of members.
 - Power remains in the hands of a few top leaders, who do not consult ordinary members.
 - Ordinary members have no information about the internal working of the party.
- Dynastic Succession: With power in the hands of a few top leaders, all party positions go to their family members. These members may not be qualified or have the ability to hold their positions.
- Money and Muscle Power:
 - Money is needed to organise demonstrations, public meetings and speeches to publicise the image of the party. Parties choose those candidates who can raise money for the party and win elections with their money.
 - Sometimes parties also support criminals candidates because they can win elections.
- Meaningful choice to others: Most of the political parties have same fundamental and ideological issues. Voters do not have a meaningful choice. Even leaders keep changing parties, thus confusing the voter.

Answer3: Some reforms to strengthen parties are:

- A law should be made to regulate the internal affairs of political parties.
- It should be mandatory for political parties to give a minimum number of tickets, about 1/3rd to the women candidates.
- There should be state funding of elections. The government should give parties money to support the election expenses.

Answer4: A political party is a group of people who follow an ideology and thus come together to contest elections and hold power in the government.

Answer5: Characteristics of a political party are:

- A political party has members who agree on some policies and programmes for the society with a view to promote common good.
- It seeks to implement the policies by winning popular support through elections.
- The presence of a leader, the party workers and supporters.
- It is a group of people who come together to contest elections and hold power in the government.

Answer6: Political Party

Answer7:

	1	2	3	4
(c)	C	A	D	B

Answer8: Kanshi Ram

Answer9: D. Modernity

Answer10: A and B

Answer11: Yes, I agree that Muhammad Yunus made the right decision. Being a Noble Peace Prize winner and leading economist of Bangladesh, he was not satisfied with the present economic development of the country. He wanted the rapid development of the economy of Bangladesh, and hence, he decided to form his own political party.

While many people appreciated his decision some people did not like it. I agree with the statement made by Shahedul Islam, a governmental official who said "Now I think Bangladesh will have a chance to choose between good and bad and eventually have a good government," and "That government, we hope, would not only keep itself away from corruption but also make fighting corruption and black money a top priority."

Many people did not like his decision as they were afraid that his party may come into power as it might be supported by the masses due to the policies of his party.

I think that this party would be different from the other parties as Muhammad Yunus would contribute towards the development of the nation by improving its economy, creating jobs and introducing reforms in the agricultural sector.

If I would have started a party, I would defend it by saying that in a democracy every person or a group has the right to form the government. I will present an argument that the people of Bangladesh need to choose between traditional parties which have no new policies and unconventional parties who want to improve the economy of the nation.
