

# Notes

## Political Parties

### IMPORTANT TERMS AND CONCEPTS

1. **Political Parties:** A "political party" is a political association or a voluntary group of people who come together to contest elections and hold power in the government. They agree on some policies and programmes.
2. **Election Commission:** It is an independent multi-member body which is constituted for the superintendence, direction and conduct of elections.
3. **Partisan:** A person who is strongly committed to a party, group or faction. Partisanship is marked by a tendency to take a side and inability to take a balanced view on an issue.
4. **One-Party/Mono Party:** "Mono-party system" means a system in which only one party operates in the political system for various reasons. In this system there is no opposition, e.g., China.
5. **Two-Party or Bi-Party System:** A political system where there are two major parties. In this system power usually changes between two main parties, e.g., United Kingdom and United states of America.
6. **Multi Party System:** It is a political system where more than two parties exist and contest elections to come to power.
7. **National Parties:** Parties that are present in only one of the federal units and are countrywide parties known as national parties. These parties have their units in various states.
8. **State or Regional Parties:** The parties that are present in several or all units (states) of the federation known as state or regional parties.
9. **Recognised Political Parties:** The parties which get recognition by the Election Commission, given election symbols, privileges and some other special election facilities are known as the recognised political parties.
10. **Leftist Parties:** Parties which are radical, ideological conservative in nature known as Leftist parties.
11. **Rightist Parties:** Parties which want a status Quo and are conservative known as Rightist parties.
12. **Opposition:** The political party or group of parties that form part of a legislature but are not in the government. They check the activities of the government.

- 13. Defection:** It signifies, changing party allegiance from the party on which a person gets elected to a different party, i.e., members may change their party for money, post, etc.
- 14. Affidavit:** It is a signed document submitted to an officer, where a person makes a sworn statement regarding his/her personal information.
- 15. Ruling Party:** Political party that runs government.

<b>Regional Parties</b>	<b>Areas of Influence</b>
• Kerala Congress	• Kerala
• People's Democratic Party	• Jammu and Kashmir
• National Conference	• Jammu and Kashmir
• Assam Gana Parishad	• Assam
• Telugu Desam Party	• Andhra Pradesh
• Dravida Munnetra Kazagam	• Tamil Nadu
• All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazagam (AIADMK)	• Tamil Nadu
• Akali Dal	• Punjab
• Shiv Sena	• Maharashtra
• Tamil Manila Congress	• Tamil Nadu
• Biju Janata Dal	• Orissa
• Rashtriya Janata Dal	• Bihar
• Trinamool Congress	• West Bengal
• Haryana Vikas Parishad	• Haryana