

CBSE CLASS X
Social Science (087)**ANSWER KEY***From previous CBSE Board Exam questions***Code: PFARGY** **Questions: 61** **Maximum Marks: 156** **Generated: 2026-06-15 13:05****SELECTIONS USED**

Source	Previous-year board
Subject	Social Science
Lessons	Political Parties
Year	2022-2026
Questions selected	61

Composition — Types: 18 MCQ · 16 Short · 12 Long · 6 Assertion–reason · 6 Very short · 3 source_based

Q1. § Overview / Introduction**[1]**

Which of the following statements are correct related to the role of political parties in India ?

- I. Play a decisive role in making laws for the country.
- II. Making different interest groups in the country.
- III. Play a role for shaping public opinion in the country.
- IV. Pulling forward different policies and programmes before voters.

- (A) Only I, II and III are correct.
- (B) Only I, III and IV are correct.
- (C) Only II, III and IV are correct.
- (D) Only I, II and IV are correct.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/5/1 Q14

♦ **Political Parties** Functions and Role of Political Parties

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Model Answer**(B) Only I, III and IV are correct.**

Political parties play a decisive role in making laws, shape public opinion, and put forward policies and programmes before voters. Making different interest groups is NOT a function of political parties.

Explanation

Statement II is incorrect — political parties do not *make* interest groups; interest groups exist independently. The three correct functions (law-making, shaping public opinion, presenting policies/programmes to voters) are standard roles of political parties as described in Chapter 4 of Democratic Politics. Eliminate II to get option (B).

Q2. § Overview / Introduction § Why do we need political parties?

[1]

Two statements are given below. They are Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read both the statements and choose the correct option.

Assertion (A) : Modern democracy cannot function without political parties.

Reason (R) : Elected representatives will be accountable only to their constituencies, not towards the country.

(A) (A) is true, but (R) is false.

(B) (A) is false, but (R) is true.

(C) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

(D) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

Previously asked in: 2024 32/4/1 Q11

♦ Political Parties Need and Importance of Political Parties in Democracy

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Model Answer

(D) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

(A) is true — modern democracy cannot function without political parties. (R) is also true — without parties, elected representatives would be accountable only to their constituencies, not the country. However, (R) is a *consequence* of the absence of parties, not the explanation for why democracy needs parties.

Explanation

The textbook states: "Elected representatives will be accountable to their constituency... But no one will be responsible for how the country will be run" — this describes what happens *without* parties, making (R) true. However, the core reason democracy needs parties is the broader necessity of gathering opinions, forming governments, and making policies — so (R) does not fully explain (A). Hence option (D) is correct.

Q3. § Overview / Introduction

[5]

Explain the importance of political parties in Indian democracy.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/5/1 Q27(a)

♦ Political Parties

Role and Importance of Political Parties in Democracy

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Model Answer

Political parties are essential to the functioning of Indian democracy for the following reasons:

1. **Contesting Elections:** Parties select candidates, provide them with symbols, and mobilise voters, making elections meaningful and organised.
1. **Forming Government:** The party winning majority forms the government; the losing party sits in opposition and keeps the ruling party in check.
1. **Policy Making:** Parties present programmes and policies to the public. The ruling party implements its policies, giving people a clear choice.
1. **Representing Social Groups:** Parties act as negotiators of social divisions, giving voice to diverse groups — dalits, minorities, regional communities, etc.
1. **Federal Sharing of Power:** State/regional parties have strengthened federalism. Since 1996, state parties have been part of national coalition governments, making Parliament more diverse and representative.
1. **High Participation:** Despite low trust, membership in Indian parties has steadily grown and is higher than in many advanced democracies.

Source: *Democratic Politics, Chapter 4*

Explanation

- The examiner expects 5 clear points — one per mark — covering roles like elections, government formation, policy, social representation, and federalism.
- Use textbook terms: "coalition," "opposition," "federalism," "recognition."
- The passage specifically highlights growing participation and federalism through state parties — include these as they are textbook-specific points examiners reward.
- Avoid padding; keep each point to 1–2 lines.

Q4. § Overview / Introduction § Popular participation in political parties § State parties

[5]

Explain the challenges faced by the political parties in India.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/5/1 Q27(b)

♦ Political Parties Challenges faced by Political Parties in India

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Model Answer

Political parties in India face four major challenges:

1. **Lack of internal democracy:** Power is concentrated in one or a few top leaders. Parties do not maintain membership registers, hold organisational meetings, or conduct internal elections regularly. Ordinary members have little say in decisions, and personal loyalty to the leader becomes more important than loyalty to party principles.
1. **Dynastic succession:** Since parties lack transparent functioning, top positions are often controlled by members of one family. This gives unfair advantage to leaders' relatives, who may lack experience or popular support.
1. **Role of money and muscle power:** Parties tend to nominate candidates who can raise large funds. Rich people and companies influence party policies. Sometimes parties even support criminals to win elections.
1. **Lack of meaningful choice:** Ideological differences among parties have reduced sharply. Leaders keep shifting from one party to another, leaving voters with no real alternative.

Source: Chapter 4 — Challenges to political parties

Explanation

The textbook lists exactly four challenges under the heading "Challenges to political parties." Examiners expect all four to be named and briefly explained. Use the same sequence as the book. For 5 marks, each point needs 1–2 lines — no elaborate examples needed beyond what the textbook gives. Avoid padding with unrelated material.

Q5. § Overview / Introduction § State parties

[3]

Explain three major challenges before Political Parties in India.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/5/1 Q29

♦ Political Parties

Challenges faced by Political Parties in India

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Model Answer

Three major challenges before political parties in India are:

1. **Lack of internal democracy** – Power is concentrated in the hands of a few top leaders. Ordinary members have little say in decision-making, and party elections are rarely held.
1. **Dynastic succession** – Top positions are often inherited by family members of senior leaders rather than being filled through merit or democratic selection.
1. **Money and muscle power** – Parties increasingly rely on wealthy candidates and criminal elements to win elections, sidelining honest but resource-poor candidates.

Explanation

Examiners expect three distinct, clearly labelled challenges — one point per mark. These three (lack of internal democracy, dynastic succession, and criminalisation/money power) are the standard ones from NCERT Chapter 4 ("Challenges to Political Parties"). Avoid vague statements; name each challenge precisely and give a one-line explanation. No examples are needed for 3 marks.

Q6. § Overview / Introduction

[3]

Analyze the need of Political Parties in the Democracy.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/4/1 Q28

♦ Political Parties

Need and Importance of Political Parties in Democracy

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Model Answer

Political parties are necessary for democracy due to the following reasons:

1. **Elections:** Parties contest elections and select candidates, enabling citizens to choose their representatives.
2. **Policy Formation:** Parties group similar opinions and present clear policies, helping governments make decisions.
3. **Forming Government:** Parties recruit and train leaders who form and run governments.
4. **Opposition Role:** Losing parties act as opposition, criticising the government and keeping it accountable.
5. **Shaping Public Opinion:** Parties raise issues, mobilise people and influence public thinking.
6. **Access to Government:** Parties help ordinary citizens access government schemes and welfare programmes.

Without parties, elected representatives would be accountable only to their constituencies, with no one responsible for running the country as a whole.

Source: Chapter 4 — Democratic Politics, "Why do we need political parties?" — Necessity and Functions

Explanation

- This is a **3-mark question**, so list 3–4 well-labelled points or write 2 short paragraphs. The answer above is slightly fuller for completeness; in the exam, you may write any **3–4 clear points** with one-line explanations each.
- Examiners look for **functions as reasons** — each function justifies why parties are needed.
- The key closing line about "no one responsible for running the country" is from the textbook's "Necessity" section — including it shows you've read the chapter carefully and earns full marks.
- Avoid vague statements like "parties are important" — always link to a **specific function**.

Q7. § Overview / Introduction § State parties

[5]

Examine any five major challenges faced by the political parties in India.

Previously asked in: 2022 32/4/1 Q9(a)

♦ Political Parties

Challenges faced by Political Parties in India

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Model Answer**Five Major Challenges Faced by Political Parties in India:**

1. **Lack of Internal Democracy:** Power is concentrated in the hands of one leader or family. Ordinary members have little say in decision-making. There is no transparency in party affairs.
1. **Dynastic Succession:** Top positions are passed on to family members of the leader rather than to capable and deserving party workers.
1. **Money and Muscle Power:** Parties tend to choose candidates who can raise large funds or who have criminal connections, sidelining honest candidates.
1. **No Meaningful Choice:** Ideological differences between parties are shrinking. Parties frequently switch policies, making it difficult for voters to choose on the basis of principles.
1. **Lack of Trust among People:** Political parties are one of the least trusted institutions. They are often rocked by scandals involving top leaders, reducing public confidence in the democratic process.

Source: Democratic Politics – II, Chapter 4

Explanation

- Examiners expect **five distinct, named challenges** — one point per mark.
- Each point should have a **heading + 1–2 lines of explanation**. Avoid bullet points without explanation.
- Key terms to use: *dynastic succession, internal democracy, money and muscle power, ideological difference, public trust*.
- Do not copy definitions; write in your own words for better marks.

Q8. § Overview / Introduction § Why do we need political parties?

[5]

"Political parties play an important role in democratic countries." Justify the statement.

Previously asked in: 2022 32/4/1 Q9(b)

♦ Political Parties Role and Functions of Political Parties in a Democracy

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Model Answer

Political parties play a vital role in democracy. The following points justify this:

1. **Contest Elections:** Parties select candidates and contest elections, giving voters a structured choice.
1. **Formulate Policies:** Parties put forward different policies and programmes. They reduce vast public opinions into a few clear positions for the government to act upon.
1. **Making Laws:** Parties play a decisive role in law-making. Most legislators follow party direction while debating and passing laws.
1. **Form Governments:** Parties recruit and train leaders who form governments and take major policy decisions.
1. **Role of Opposition:** Parties that lose elections act as opposition, criticise government failures, voice different views, and keep the government accountable.
1. **Shape Public Opinion:** Parties raise issues, highlight problems, and launch movements, helping opinions in society crystallise.
1. **Access to Government:** Parties provide ordinary citizens access to government machinery and welfare schemes.

Source: *Democratic Politics – II, Chapter 4 (Functions and Necessity of Political Parties)*

Explanation

- Examiners expect **5 distinct functions** with brief explanation for a 5-mark answer. Listing 6–7 shows thorough understanding.
- Use the **exact functional headings** from the textbook (contest elections, form government, opposition, etc.) — these are the scoring points.
- Avoid vague statements; each point must name the function **and** briefly explain it (one line each).
- Do **not** write about challenges/problems of parties here — the question asks you to *justify* their importance.

Q9. § Overview / Introduction

[3]

Explain the importance of political parties in democracy.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/1/1 Q28(a)

♦ Political Parties

Importance/Functions of Political Parties in Democracy

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Model Answer

Political parties are essential to democracy for the following reasons:

1. **Contesting elections:** Parties select and put up candidates for elections, making the electoral process organised and meaningful.
1. **Policy formulation:** Parties present different policies and programmes to voters, giving them a choice and helping governments frame policies.
1. **Forming government:** Parties form and run governments; party leaders become ministers and take major policy decisions.
1. **Role of opposition:** Parties that lose elections act as opposition, criticising government failures and voicing alternative views.
1. **Shaping public opinion:** Parties raise issues, mobilise people and help opinions crystallise on important matters.

Without political parties, elected representatives would be accountable only to their constituency with no one responsible for running the country as a whole.

Source: Chapter 4 — Political Parties, Functions and Necessity

Explanation

- This is a 3-mark question, so **3 clear points** with brief explanation each is ideal. The answer above lists 5 short points; in the exam you may write any 3 well-explained points for full marks.
- Examiners look for **named functions** (contesting elections, forming government, opposition role, shaping opinion, providing access) — don't just write vague statements.
- The concluding line on necessity ties the answer together and shows understanding beyond rote listing.
- Avoid copying long paragraphs from the textbook; paraphrase concisely.

Q10. § Overview / Introduction § State parties

[3]

Why did India adopt the multiparty system ? Explain with suitable arguments.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/1/1 Q28(b)

♦ Political Parties

Multi-party system in India – reasons for adoption

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Model Answer

India adopted the multiparty system due to the following reasons:

1. **Social and geographical diversity:** India is a vast country with enormous social, regional, linguistic and cultural diversity. This diversity cannot be absorbed by just two or three parties.
1. **Federal structure:** India follows a federal system, which naturally leads to the growth of both national and regional/state parties representing local interests.
1. **Coalition governments:** In a multiparty system, various parties form alliances to come to power, allowing a variety of interests and opinions to enjoy political representation.
1. **Historical evolution:** Party systems are not chosen — they evolve over time based on a country's history, social divisions and electoral system. India's unique circumstances led to the multiparty system.

Source: Chapter 4, "How many parties should we have?"

Explanation

- The examiner expects **3-4 distinct points** for a 3-mark question — one point per mark roughly.
- The key phrase from the textbook is: *"India has evolved a multiparty system because the social and geographical diversity in such a large country is not easily absorbed by two or even three parties."* — include this idea.
- Avoid writing a long essay; keep each point crisp and 1–2 lines.
- The idea that party systems **evolve, not chosen** is an important examiner-favourite point.

Q11. § Overview / Introduction

[3]

Explain any three responsibilities carried out by the political parties in a democracy.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/2/1 Q27

♦ Political Parties

Functions and Responsibilities of Political Parties in a Democracy

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Model Answer

Political parties perform the following responsibilities in a democracy:

1. **Contesting Elections:** Parties put forward candidates, contest elections, and work to win majority support to form the government.
1. **Making Laws and Policies:** Parties in power make laws in the legislature and shape government policies. Opposition parties criticise policies and present alternatives.
1. **Forming and Running Government:** Parties with majority form the government, run it, and are accountable to the people through elections.

Source: Chapter 4, Democratic Politics

Explanation

- The question asks for **three** responsibilities — write exactly three, clearly labelled or separated.
- Examiners look for distinct functions: contesting elections, forming government, making laws/policies, playing opposition, shaping public opinion. Pick any three and explain each in 1–2 lines.
- Avoid listing vague points like "they help democracy" — be specific.
- At 3 marks, ~20 words per point is sufficient; no need for elaborate examples.

Q12. § Overview / Introduction § State parties

[5]

Describe the main challenges before political parties in India.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/3/1 Q26(b)

♦ Political Parties

Challenges faced by Political Parties in India

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Model Answer**Challenges faced by political parties in India:**

1. **Lack of internal democracy:** Power is concentrated in the hands of one or a few leaders. Ordinary members have little say in decision-making. No internal elections are held regularly.
1. **Dynastic succession:** Top positions are passed on to family members of leaders rather than capable workers, limiting opportunities for others.
1. **Role of money and muscle power:** Parties increasingly rely on wealthy candidates and criminals to win elections, sidelining honest candidates.
1. **No meaningful choice:** Parties are often divided on the basis of personalities rather than ideology, so voters lack a real policy-based choice.
1. **Lack of transparency:** Parties do not make their internal working and finances transparent or open to public scrutiny.

These challenges undermine the democratic functioning of political parties.

Source: Chapter 4, Democratic Politics

Explanation

- CBSE expects **5 distinct, labelled points** for a 5-mark question on challenges.
- Each point should have a **bold heading + 1–2 lines of explanation** — examiners award 1 mark per valid point.
- Avoid just listing headings; a one-line explanation for each is necessary.
- These exact challenges are from the textbook section "Challenges to Political Parties" — stick to the textbook language for full marks.

Q13. § Overview / Introduction § Popular participation in political parties § State parties

[3]

Analyse any three challenges faced by political parties in India.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/5/1 Q27

♦ Political Parties

Challenges faced by Political Parties in India

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Model Answer

Three challenges faced by political parties in India are:

1. **Lack of internal democracy** – Power is concentrated in the hands of one family or a few top leaders. Ordinary members have no say in decision-making.
1. **Dynastic succession** – Leadership positions are passed on to family members of top leaders rather than being based on merit or democratic selection.
1. **Corruption and criminalisation** – Parties often rely on candidates with criminal backgrounds and are rocked by scandals involving money and power, reducing public trust.

Source: Democratic Politics, Chapter 4

Explanation

- The question asks to "analyse," so briefly explain each challenge — don't just list names.
- These three (lack of internal democracy, dynastic succession, money/muscle power) are the standard textbook challenges and are most commonly expected in board exams.
- Each point needs a one-line cause or effect to count as "analysis."
- At 3 marks, 3 well-stated points (one per mark) is the ideal structure.

Q14. § Overview / Introduction § State parties

[5]

Explain any five challenges faced by political parties in India.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/5/1 Q32(a)

♦ Political Parties

Challenges faced by Political Parties in India

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Model Answer**Challenges faced by political parties in India:**

1. **Lack of internal democracy:** Power is concentrated in the hands of one leader or family. Ordinary members have little say in decision-making or candidate selection.
1. **Dynastic succession:** Leadership is passed on within families rather than through merit, reducing opportunities for capable leaders from ordinary backgrounds.
1. **Money and muscle power:** Parties increasingly rely on wealthy candidates and criminals during elections. Candidates with money and criminal records are given tickets, weakening democratic values.
1. **Lack of meaningful choice:** Ideological differences between major parties have narrowed. Voters feel there is no real alternative, as parties frequently shift positions.
1. **Caste and religion:** Parties often promote caste or communal loyalties to win elections instead of focusing on genuine public issues and policy.

Source: Democratic Politics – II, Chapter 4

Explanation

- CBSE expects **five distinct points**, each in 1–2 lines for a 5-mark answer.
- Common examiner focus: internal democracy, dynastic succession, money/muscle power, lack of choice, and criminalisation — these are the textbook-listed challenges.
- Avoid writing long paragraphs; crisp numbered points score better in board exams.
- Do **not** mix challenges with reforms — that is a separate question.

Q15. § Overview / Introduction

[5]

Examine the role of political parties in a democracy.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/4/1 Q27(a)

◆ Political Parties

Functions/Role of political parties in a democracy

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Model Answer

Political parties play a crucial role in a democracy through the following functions:

1. **Contesting Elections:** Parties select and put up candidates to contest elections, giving voters a structured choice.
1. **Forming Policies and Programmes:** Parties present different policies to voters. They reduce the vast multitude of opinions into a few basic positions for the government to act upon.
1. **Making Laws:** Party members in the legislature vote according to party direction, playing a decisive role in law-making.
1. **Forming and Running Governments:** Parties recruit and train leaders who become ministers and run the government.
1. **Playing Opposition:** Parties that lose elections act as opposition, criticising government failures and voicing alternative views.
1. **Shaping Public Opinion:** Parties raise issues, launch movements, and mobilise public opinion through their large network of members.
1. **Providing Access to Government:** Parties help ordinary citizens access government machinery and welfare schemes.

Thus, political parties are a necessary condition for democracy.

Source: Chapter 4, Democratic Politics — Functions of Political Parties

Explanation

- This is a 5-mark question, so 5–7 crisp points are ideal. The examiner expects you to list and briefly explain the **7 functions** from the textbook.
- Always conclude with the line "parties are a necessary condition for democracy" — it is directly from the textbook and signals completeness.
- Avoid writing vague general statements; use the exact function names the book uses (e.g., "shape public opinion," "play opposition").
- Each point needs only one sentence of explanation — do not over-elaborate.

Q16. § Overview / Introduction § National parties § State parties

[2]

Why has India adopted a multi-party system? Explain.

Previously asked in: 2022 32/1/1 Q3

♦ Political Parties

Multi-party system in India – reasons for adoption

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Model Answer

India has adopted a multi-party system because of its immense **social and geographical diversity**. Such a large country with varied regional, social, and cultural divisions cannot be easily represented by just two or three parties. This diversity requires multiple parties to give political representation to different interests and opinions.

Source: *Democratic Politics, Chapter 4 — "How many parties should we have?"*

Explanation

The examiner expects two clear points:

1. India's social and geographical diversity is too vast for a two-party system.
2. A multi-party system allows varied interests and opinions to get political representation.

The key phrase from the textbook is: "*social and geographical diversity in such a large country is not easily absorbed by two or even three parties.*" Mention that party systems **evolve over time** based on a country's history and social conditions — this shows you understand the concept, not just memorised it. Avoid writing too much; 40–50 words is enough for 2 marks.

Q17. § Overview / Introduction § Why do we need political parties?

[3]

Explain, how the rise of political parties are directly linked to the emergence of representative democracies.

Previously asked in: 2022 32/2/1 Q8

♦ Political Parties Rise of Political Parties and Representative Democracy

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Model Answer

Large societies require representative democracy, where people elect representatives to govern on their behalf. As societies became large and complex, they needed agencies to gather different views on various issues and present these to the government. They also needed ways to bring representatives together to form a responsible government, and a mechanism to support or restrain the government, make policies, and justify or oppose them. Political parties fulfil all these needs of a representative government. Without parties, every candidate would be independent, making it impossible to ensure policy continuity or governmental accountability. Thus, parties are a necessary condition for representative democracy.

Source: Chapter 4, 'Necessity' section

Explanation

- The key line from the textbook is: "**The rise of political parties is directly linked to the emergence of representative democracies.**" Quote or closely paraphrase this.
- Examiners expect you to explain *why* — large societies need representatives, and representatives need parties to coordinate, form governments, and make/oppose policies.
- Avoid listing party functions; focus specifically on the **necessity argument** (the "imagine no parties" logic).
- 3 marks = roughly 3 linked points: large societies → need representatives → need parties to organise those representatives effectively.

Q18. § Overview / Introduction § Popular participation in political parties § State parties

[3]

Describe three major challenges faced by the political parties in India.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/2/1 Q28(b)

♦ Political Parties Challenges faced by Political Parties in India

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Model Answer

Three major challenges faced by political parties in India are:

1. **Lack of internal democracy** – Power is concentrated in the hands of one or a few top leaders. Ordinary members have no say in decision-making, and there are no transparent organisational elections.
1. **Dynastic succession** – Top positions are passed on to family members of leaders rather than to capable workers, limiting opportunities for talented members.
1. **Role of money and muscle power** – Parties increasingly rely on criminals and wealthy individuals to win elections, which has promoted criminalisation of politics.

Source: Chapter 4, Political Parties (Challenges to Political Parties section)

Explanation

- The examiner expects exactly these three challenges from the textbook — internal democracy, dynastic succession, and money/muscle power. These are the standard three points NCERT lists.
- Each point needs a brief explanation (not just a label) to earn full marks. One point ≈ 1 mark.
- Do not pad with extra challenges; three clear, explained points are sufficient for 3 marks.

Q19. § Overview / Introduction

[3]

Analyse the role of political parties in a democracy.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/1/1 Q27

♦ Political Parties

Role of Political Parties in a Democracy

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Model Answer

Political parties play several crucial roles in a democracy:

1. **Contesting elections** – Parties select candidates and fight elections to win power.
2. **Policy formation** – They present different policies and programmes for voters to choose from.
3. **Making laws** – Party members in the legislature vote on laws largely following party direction.
4. **Forming government** – The winning party forms and runs the government.
5. **Opposition role** – Losing parties voice criticism and keep the government accountable.
6. **Shaping public opinion** – They raise issues, launch movements and highlight people's problems.
7. **Providing access** – They help ordinary citizens access government schemes and machinery.

Thus, political parties are a necessary condition for a functioning democracy.

Source: *Democratic Politics – II, Chapter 4, "Why do we need political parties?"*

Explanation

- This is a **3-mark question**, so 3–4 well-stated functions with brief elaboration are sufficient. You can list 3 key points with one supporting sentence each, or give 6–7 crisp bullet points as above.
- Examiners look for **specific functions** (contest elections, form government, opposition, policy-making, public opinion) — not vague statements like "parties are important."
- Avoid writing an essay; bullet points with bold labels score well and save time.
- The concluding line ("necessary condition for democracy") adds a neat close that examiners appreciate.

Q20. § Overview / Introduction § Why do we need political parties? § Challenges to political parties

[5]

Political parties have become omnipresent in democratic setups across the world. Explain the statement with examples.

Previously asked in: 2022 32/3/1 Q9 (a)

♦ Political Parties

Need and Functions of Political Parties in Democracy

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Model Answer

Political parties have become **omnipresent** (present everywhere) in democracies across the world. About a hundred years ago, very few countries had political parties. Today, there are very few countries that do not have them.

Reasons for their omnipresence:

1. **Contesting elections:** Parties select and put up candidates. In India, top leaders choose candidates; in the USA, supporters choose them.
2. **Policy formation:** Parties group millions of opinions into a few clear positions for the government to act on.
3. **Forming governments:** Parties recruit and train leaders who then run the government.
4. **Role of opposition:** Losing parties criticise the government and voice alternative views, keeping democracy functional.
5. **Shaping public opinion:** Parties raise issues and mobilise people through members spread across the country.
6. **Access to welfare:** Parties help ordinary citizens access government schemes and services.

Without parties, every candidate would be independent, no major policy promises could be made, and no one would be responsible for running the country. Even in panchayat elections where parties do not formally contest, informal factions naturally emerge — proving parties are a necessity in any democracy.

Source: Chapter 4 — Political Parties, 'Why do we need political parties?' and 'Functions'

Explanation

- The question asks you to **explain** the statement with **examples** — so name countries (India, USA, UK, China) and give concrete functions as evidence.
- The examiner looks for: definition/meaning of omnipresent + reasons (functions) + at least one example per point or overall.
- Do **not** just list functions mechanically — frame them as reasons why parties are found everywhere.
- The panchayat example is excellent to show parties arise naturally even when not formally permitted.

Q21. § Overview / Introduction § Why do we need political parties? § Challenges to political parties

[3]

Analyse the role of political parties in shaping public opinion.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/4/1 Q27

♦ Political Parties Role of Political Parties in Shaping Public Opinion

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Model Answer

Political parties play a key role in shaping public opinion through the following ways:

1. **Raising issues:** Parties raise and highlight important issues affecting society, drawing public attention to them.
1. **Mobilising opinion:** With lakhs of members and activists spread across the country, parties spread their views and influence people's thinking at the grassroots level.
1. **Pressure groups:** Many pressure groups are extensions of political parties, helping crystallise opinions among different sections of society.
1. **Launching movements:** Parties launch movements for the resolution of problems faced by people, further influencing public discourse.

Often, opinions in society crystallise along the lines that parties take on key issues.

Source: *Democratic Politics – II, Chapter 4 (Functions of Political Parties)*

Explanation

- The examiner expects you to cite specific ways parties shape public opinion — not generic statements about democracy.
- The key phrase from the textbook is: "*Parties raise and highlight issues... often opinions in society crystallise on the lines parties take.*" Use it.
- Three well-explained points are sufficient for 3 marks. Don't over-write.
- Mentioning pressure groups as extensions of parties is a scoring detail most students miss.

Q22. § Overview / Introduction**[1]**

Two statements are given in the question below as Assertion (A) and reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option.

Assertion (A) : Political Parties are important in the functioning of democracy.

Reason (R) : The media plays an important role in the making of Political Parties.

- (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- (B) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (C) (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- (D) (A) is false, but (R) is true.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/6/1 Q16

♦ Political Parties

Assertion-Reason: Role of Media in Formation/Making of Political Parties

Role and Importance of Political Parties in Democracy

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Model Answer**(C) (A) is true, but (R) is false.**

Assertion (A) is correct — political parties are essential for democracy as they contest elections, form governments, and shape public opinion. However, Reason (R) is false — it is citizens and leaders, not the media, that form political parties.

Explanation

- The textbook clearly states that political parties are necessary for democracy (A is true).
- The reason incorrectly attributes the making/formation of political parties to the media. Parties are formed by groups of people who come together to contest elections — the media is not a founding factor. Hence (R) is false, making option **(C)** correct.
- Do not confuse the media's role in *influencing* political opinion with actually *making* political parties.

Q23. § Overview / Introduction § Why do we need political parties? § Challenges to political parties

[2]

Explain the role of political parties in shaping public opinion.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/3/1 Q23

◆ Political Parties Role of Political Parties in Shaping Public Opinion

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Model Answer

Political parties shape public opinion in the following ways:

1. **Raising issues:** Parties raise and highlight important issues in society, bringing them to public attention.
2. **Spreading opinions:** With lakhs of members and activists spread across the country, parties help spread their views widely.
3. **Mobilising support:** Parties launch movements and campaigns, causing opinions in society to crystallise along the lines parties take.
4. **Pressure groups:** Many pressure groups are extensions of political parties among different sections of society, further influencing public opinion.

Source: Democratic Politics, Chapter 4 — Functions of Political Parties

Explanation

- The textbook directly states: *"Parties shape public opinion. They raise and highlight issues... Often opinions in the society crystallise on the lines parties take."* Quote or paraphrase this for full marks.
- For a 2-mark question, 2–3 clear points are sufficient. Avoid writing a long paragraph.
- Key terms to use: *raise issues, activists, pressure groups, crystallise.*

Q24. § Overview / Introduction § Why do we need political parties?

[5]

Examine the need of the political parties in a democratic government.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/4/1 Q27(b)

♦ Political Parties Need for political parties

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Model Answer

Political parties are essential for the smooth functioning of a democratic government. The following points explain their need:

1. **Contesting Elections:** Parties select and put up candidates for elections, giving voters a structured choice among different groups.
1. **Policy Formulation:** Parties present different policies and programmes to the public. A government bases its decisions on the ruling party's agenda.
1. **Law Making:** Parties play a decisive role in law-making. Party members in the legislature generally vote according to party direction.
1. **Forming Governments:** Parties recruit, train, and prepare leaders who go on to form and run governments.
1. **Role of Opposition:** Parties that lose elections act as the opposition—criticising wrong policies and keeping the government accountable.
1. **Shaping Public Opinion:** Parties raise important issues, mobilise people, and help opinions in society form around key concerns.
1. **Access to Government:** Parties provide ordinary citizens access to government machinery and welfare schemes.

Without parties, every representative would be independent with no accountability for national policy. Thus, political parties are a **necessary condition** for a democracy.

Source: Chapter 4 — Political Parties, "Why do we need political parties?" / Necessity

Explanation

- The examiner expects **7 functions/needs listed as points** — this directly maps to the textbook's list plus the "Necessity" explanation.
- For 5 marks, hitting **5–7 crisp points** with a brief intro and a concluding line is ideal.
- Avoid writing lengthy paragraphs; the point-format makes it easier for the examiner to award marks per point.
- The conclusion ("necessary condition for democracy") is a textbook phrase — using it scores well.

Q25. § How many parties should we have?**[1]**

Which one of the following countries has a two-party system ?

- (A) China
- (B) Pakistan
- (C) United States of America
- (D) France

Previously asked in: 2024 32/4/1 Q12

♦ Political Parties

Two-party system

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Model Answer**(C) United States of America**

The USA is an example of a two-party system, where power usually alternates between two main parties — the Republicans and the Democrats.

Source: Democratic Politics, Chapter 4 (How many parties should we have?)

Explanation

The textbook explicitly states: "*The United States of America and the United Kingdom are examples of two-party system.*" China has a one-party system; Pakistan and France have multiparty systems. Examiners expect you to identify the correct option and briefly justify it in an MCQ.

Q26. § How many parties should we have? § National parties**[1]**

Which one of the following countries has two party system ?

- (a) China
- (b) Russia
- (c) America
- (d) India

Previously asked in: 2024 32/1/1 Q12; 2023 32/4/1 Q19 — 2×

♦ Political Parties

Two-party system

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Model Answer**(c) America**

The United States of America is an example of a two-party system, where only two main parties have a serious chance of winning majority of seats to form the government.

Source: *How many parties should we have?*, Chapter 4

Explanation

The passage explicitly states: "*The United States of America and the United Kingdom are examples of two-party system.*" China has a one-party system (Communist Party), India has a multiparty system, and Russia is not mentioned as a two-party system. Always recall the key examples given in the textbook for each type of party system.

Q27. § How many parties should we have?**[1]**

Which one of the following countries has 'one-party system' ?

- (A) United States of America
- (B) United Kingdom
- (C) India
- (D) China

Previously asked in: 2024 32/2/1 Q11

♦ Political Parties

Types of Party Systems – One-Party System

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Model Answer**(D) China****Explanation**

The passage clearly states: "In China, only the Communist Party is allowed to rule" — making it the example of a one-party system. USA and UK have two-party systems; India has a multiparty system.

Q28. § National parties**[2]**

Differentiate between ruling and opposition parties.

Previously asked in: 2022 32/2/1 Q3

♦ Political Parties

Ruling Party vs Opposition Party

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Model Answer

Ruling Party: A political party that wins the majority of seats in elections and forms the government. It exercises political power and implements its policies and programmes through the government.

Opposition Party: A party that loses in the elections and does not form the government. It voices different views, criticises government failures or wrong policies, and mobilises public opposition to the government.

Explanation

The textbook explicitly defines both terms in the "Functions" section of Chapter 4. Examiners expect you to clearly name and define each party type. The key contrast is: ruling party = in power and governs; opposition party = out of power but holds the government accountable. Keep both definitions balanced in length since it's a "differentiate" question worth 2 marks (1 mark each).

Q29. § How many parties should we have?**[1]**

Which one of the following countries adopted multi-party system ?

- (a) USA
- (b) India
- (c) China
- (d) United Kingdom

Previously asked in: 2023 32/2/1 Q13

♦ Political Parties

Multi-party system

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Model Answer**(b) India**

India adopted a multiparty system, where more than two parties have a reasonable chance of coming to power on their own or in alliance with others.

Source: Chapter 4, "How many parties should we have?"

Explanation

- USA and UK follow a **two-party system**; China has a **one-party system**.
- India's multiparty system arose due to its vast social and geographical diversity.
- Key phrase to remember: "more than two parties have a reasonable chance of coming to power either on their own or in alliance."

Q30. § How many parties should we have? § National parties**[2]**

How is one-party system different from two-party system ? Explain with examples.

Previously asked in: 2022 32/4/1 Q4

♦ Political Parties

Types of Party Systems: One-Party vs Two-Party System

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Model Answer

In a **one-party system**, only one party is allowed to control the government and no real competition is permitted. For example, in **China**, only the Communist Party rules.

In a **two-party system**, power alternates between two main parties, though other parties exist. For example, **USA and UK** follow this system.

Source: How many parties should we have?, Chapter 4

Explanation

- The examiner expects: a clear definition/contrast of both systems + one example each.
- Do not confuse "two-party system" with a system that has only two parties — other parties exist but only two have a real chance of winning majority.
- Mentioning China for one-party and USA/UK for two-party is essential for full marks.
- At 2 marks, keep it brief — two short sentences with examples is sufficient.

Q31. § How many parties should we have? § National parties § State parties

[3]

Describe any three features of Multiparty System.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/4/1 Q28

♦ Political Parties Multiparty System

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Model Answer

Features of Multiparty System:

1. **Multiple parties compete:** Several parties contest elections and more than two parties have a reasonable chance of coming to power, either on their own or in alliance with others.
1. **Coalition governments:** The government is formed by various parties coming together in a coalition, as no single party easily wins a majority on its own.
1. **Political representation of diverse interests:** This system allows a variety of interests and opinions to enjoy political representation, though it can appear messy and sometimes leads to political instability.

Source: Chapter 4 — How many parties should we have?

Explanation

- The examiner expects three **distinct, named points** — just listing them earns full marks.
- All three features come directly from the textbook paragraph on multiparty system, so quote/paraphrase those lines closely.
- Avoid writing extra background about two-party or one-party systems — that wastes words on a 3-mark question.
- Underline or bold the feature heading (as shown) to help the examiner award marks quickly.

Q32. § Overview / Introduction § How many parties should we have? § Challenges to political parties

[3]

"Political parties perform a series of functions in the democracy." Explain the statement with examples.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/1/1 Q26

♦ Political Parties Functions of political parties

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Model Answer

Political parties perform the following functions in a democracy:

1. **Contest elections** – Parties select and put up candidates to contest elections. For example, in India, top party leaders choose candidates.
1. **Formulate policies and programmes** – Parties put forward different policies; voters choose among them. The ruling party's policies guide the government.
1. **Making laws** – Party members in the legislature vote according to party direction, playing a decisive role in law-making.
1. **Run governments** – Parties recruit and train leaders who become ministers and run the government.
1. **Opposition role** – Losing parties criticise government failures and voice different views, keeping the government accountable.
1. **Shape public opinion** – Parties raise issues, launch movements, and help opinions crystallise among the public.

Source: Chapter 4, Democratic Politics — Functions of Political Parties

Explanation

The examiner expects you to list **any three to four functions** with a brief explanation each for 3 marks. Each point earns roughly 1 mark. Always pair the function with a short example or elaboration — don't just list one-word answers. Avoid padding; crisp and accurate points score full marks.

Q33. § Overview / Introduction § Why do we need political parties?**[4]**

The rise of political parties is directly linked to the emergence of representative democracies. As we have seen, large societies need representative democracy. As societies became large and complex, they also needed some agency to gather different views on various issues and to present these to the government. They needed some ways, to bring various representatives together so that a responsible government could be formed. They needed a mechanism to support or restrain the government, make policies, justify or oppose them. Political parties fulfil these needs that every representative government has. We can say that parties are a necessary condition for a democracy.

Read the given source and answer the questions that follow :

(36.1) Explain the meaning of a 'political party'. [1]

(36.2) The rise of political parties is directly linked to the emergence of representative democracy. Justify this statement. [1]

(36.3) Why are political parties a necessary condition for a democracy ? Explain. [2]

Previously asked in: 2023 32/2/1 Q36

♦ **Political Parties**

Meaning and definition of a political party

Political parties as a necessary condition for democracy

Rise of political parties and emergence of representative democracy

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Model Answer

(36.1) A political party is an organised group of people who come together to contest elections, hold power, and work to implement certain policies and programmes for society.

(36.2) Large and complex societies need representative democracy, which in turn requires agencies to gather different views, bring representatives together, and form a responsible government — roles only political parties can fulfil.

(36.3) Political parties are a necessary condition for democracy because they:

- Gather different views on various issues and present them to the government.
- Bring representatives together to form a responsible government.
- Provide a mechanism to support or restrain the government.
- Make policies, justify or oppose them on behalf of the people.

Source: *Political Parties, Class 10 Civics (Democratic Politics – II)*

Explanation

- **(36.1)** A one-line definitional answer is sufficient for 1 mark. Focus on the key elements: organised group, elections, power, policies.
- **(36.2)** Directly lift the logic from the passage — large/complex societies → need representative democracy → need political parties. One crisp sentence scores full marks.
- **(36.3)** The passage lists four distinct functions. Write them as bullet points; examiners award 1 mark per valid point, so covering 2–3 points from the passage ensures full marks. Do not go beyond the passage for a source-based question.

Q34. § National parties § State parties**[1]**

Two statements are given below. They are Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read both the statements and choose the correct option:

Assertion (A): Every party in India has to register with the Election Commission.

Reason (R): The Government provides election symbols to all political parties in India.

A Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

B Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

C (A) is true, but (R) is false.

D (A) is false, but (R) is true.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/3/1 Q7

♦ Political Parties

Election Symbols and Recognition of Political Parties

Registration of Political Parties with the Election Commission

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Assertion is correct — every party must register with the Election Commission. However, the Reason is false — unique election symbols are given only to *recognised* parties, not to all political parties.

Explanation

The passage clearly states: "Every party in the country has to register with the Election Commission" (A is true). It also states that a unique symbol is given only to large, established, *recognised* parties — not to all parties. So R is false, making option C correct. Students often confuse registration (mandatory for all) with recognition (earned by fulfilling specific criteria).

Q35. § Overview / Introduction § Why do we need political parties?**[1]**

Read the following statements about the functions of political parties and choose the correct option :

- I. Political parties build public opinion.
- II. Political parties play the role of the opposition.
- III. Political parties present their programmes to the public.
- IV. Political parties make foreign policy.

- A Only I, II and III are correct.
- B Only II, III and IV are correct.
- C Only I, III and IV are correct.
- D Only I, II and IV are correct.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/2/1 Q19

♦ Political Parties

Functions of political parties

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Model Answer**Option A: Only I, II and III are correct.**

Making foreign policy is the function of the government, not political parties. Parties build public opinion, play the role of opposition, and present programmes to voters.

Source: Democratic Politics, Chapter 4 — Functions of Political Parties

Explanation

The textbook lists seven functions of political parties, and **foreign policy-making is not among them** — that is a function of the government/executive. Statements I (shaping public opinion), II (role of opposition), and III (putting forward policies/programmes) are directly mentioned in the textbook's "Functions" section. Eliminating Statement IV makes Option A the only correct choice.

Q36. § Overview / Introduction § National parties § Challenges to political parties

[3]

Explain any three functions of Political Party.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/1/1 Q28

◆ Political Parties Functions of political parties

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Model Answer

Three functions of a political party are:

1. **Contesting Elections:** Political parties put forward candidates to contest elections. In most democracies, candidates are chosen by the party and campaign under the party's name and symbol.
1. **Making Policies and Programmes:** Parties present their policies and programmes to the voters. The party that wins elections puts its policies into practice in the government.
1. **Playing the Role of Opposition:** Parties that lose elections sit in opposition, criticise the government's failures, and mobilise public opinion against it.

Source: Chapter 4, Democratic Politics

Explanation

- The question asks for **any three** functions — so choose three well-known ones and explain each in 1–2 lines. Do not list more than three.
- Examiners expect labelled/numbered points for such answers.
- Common functions to know: contesting elections, forming government, making laws, forming opposition, shaping public opinion, voicing demands of social groups. Pick three and explain briefly.
- Avoid writing long paragraphs — concise numbered points score better in board exams.

Q37. § Overview / Introduction § Why do we need political parties? § How many parties should we have?

[1]

Which of the following are the main components of a political party ? Choose the correct option :

I. Leaders

II. Active members

III. Followers

IV. Pressure groups

- (A) Only I, II and III are correct.
- (B) Only II, III and IV are correct.
- (C) Only I, III and IV are correct.
- (D) Only I, II and IV are correct.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/1/1 Q14

♦ Political Parties

Components of a Political Party

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Model Answer

(A) Only I, II and III are correct.

A political party has three components: the **leaders**, the **active members**, and the **followers**. Pressure groups are separate from political parties.

Source: Chapter 4, Meaning (Components of a Political Party)

Explanation

The textbook explicitly states: "A political party has three components: the leaders, the active members and the followers." Pressure groups are mentioned elsewhere as extensions of parties among different sections of society, but they are **not** components of a political party. Students must not confuse the two.

Q38. § Overview / Introduction § How can parties be reformed?

[1]

Which one of the following steps has been taken by the Election Commission of India to reform political parties ?

- (A) Amended the Constitution to prevent defection.
- (B) Candidates will have to give the details of criminal cases on affidavit.
- (C) Candidates will have to give details of their property on affidavit.
- (D) It has been made mandatory for all parties to conduct organizational elections and file income tax returns.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/5/1 Q11

♦ Political Parties

Electoral and Political Party Reforms by Election Commission of India

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Model Answer

(D) It has been made mandatory for all parties to conduct organizational elections and file income tax returns.

Source: How can parties be reformed?, Chapter 4

Explanation

Option (A) is wrong — the Constitution amendment to prevent defection was done by Parliament, not the Election Commission. Option (B) and (C) refer to a Supreme Court order, not an Election Commission step. Only option (D) correctly identifies an Election Commission order. Students often confuse the three agencies (Parliament, Supreme Court, Election Commission) involved in different reform measures.

Q39. § How many parties should we have?**[1]**

Which one of the following countries have One Party System ?

- (A) China
- (B) India
- (C) Pakistan
- (D) America

Previously asked in: 2023 32/6/1 Q18

♦ Political Parties

Types of Party Systems - One Party System

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Model Answer**(A) China**

China has a One Party System where only the Communist Party is allowed to rule.

Explanation

The passage clearly states: "In China, only the Communist Party is allowed to rule." India has a multiparty system, the USA and UK have a two-party system, and Pakistan also follows a multiparty system. Always remember China as the standard example of a one-party system in CBSE Political Science.

Q40. § Overview / Introduction § National parties

[5]

Describe the main functions of political parties.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/3/1 Q26(a)

◆ Political Parties Functions of political parties

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Model Answer

Political parties perform the following main functions in a democracy:

1. **Contesting Elections:** Parties select and put up candidates to contest elections. Voters choose among these candidates.
1. **Formulating Policies and Programmes:** Parties present different policies and programmes before voters. A government bases its policies on the ruling party's line.
1. **Making Laws:** Members of the legislature belong to parties and vote according to party direction, thus parties play a decisive role in law-making.
1. **Forming and Running Governments:** Parties recruit and train leaders who become ministers and run the government.
1. **Playing Opposition:** Parties that lose elections act as the opposition — they criticise the government's failures and voice alternative views.
1. **Shaping Public Opinion:** Parties raise issues, highlight problems, and launch movements, helping crystallise public opinion.
1. **Providing Access to Government:** Parties provide ordinary citizens access to government machinery and welfare schemes.

Source: Chapter 4, "Functions" (Why do we need political parties?)

Explanation

The textbook explicitly lists **seven functions** under the "Functions" sub-heading in Chapter 4. Examiners expect all seven to be named and briefly explained. For 5 marks, write each as a labelled point with one supporting line — don't elaborate beyond that. Using the textbook's own words (e.g., "decisive role in making laws," "shape public opinion") scores well.

Q41. § National parties

[2]

Explain the role of Election Commission regarding recognition of Political Parties in India.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/6/1 Q23

♦ Political Parties

Role of Election Commission in Recognition of Political Parties

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Model Answer

The Election Commission of India registers all political parties. It lays down criteria for **recognition** — a party getting at least **6% votes** in State Assembly elections and **2 seats** is recognised as a **State party**; a party getting 6% votes in Lok Sabha/Assembly elections in four states and **4 Lok Sabha seats** is recognised as a **national party**. Recognised parties receive special facilities like a **unique election symbol** reserved only for their official candidates.

Source: Chapter 4, National parties / State parties section

Explanation

Examiners look for two things: (1) the Election Commission's power to **register and recognise** parties, and (2) the specific **criteria** (% votes + seats) for state vs national recognition. Mentioning the **unique symbol** privilege adds a concrete example of what recognition means. At 2 marks, one criterion + one privilege is sufficient, but quoting both thresholds shows you've read carefully.

Q42. § Overview / Introduction § National parties

[5]

Explain any five major functions of the political parties.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/5/1 Q32(b)

♦ Political Parties Functions of political parties

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Model Answer

Political parties perform the following major functions in a democracy:

1. **Contesting Elections:** Parties put up candidates, campaign on their behalf, and mobilise voters to win elections and form governments.
1. **Policy-Making:** Parties present different policies and programmes to the voters. The ruling party implements its policies through the government.
1. **Making Laws:** Parties play a decisive role in law-making. Members of Parliament belonging to a party vote together and follow party decisions.
1. **Forming Government:** The party that wins a majority forms the government. Its leaders occupy key executive positions.
1. **Role of Opposition:** Parties that lose elections sit in opposition, criticise the government's failures, and keep it accountable.
1. **Shaping Public Opinion:** Parties raise issues, mobilise public support, and help citizens form opinions on national matters.

Source: Chapter 4, Democratic Politics

Explanation

- The examiner expects **5 clearly labelled points** (one per function) since it is a 5-mark question.
- Each point should name the function and briefly explain it — one or two lines each.
- Avoid copying long passages; paraphrase in your own words.
- Common functions tested: contesting elections, policy/programme framing, law-making, forming government, opposition role, and shaping public opinion — know all six so you can write any five confidently.

Q43. § National parties

[3]

Explain the role of Election Commission in the registration and recognition of political parties in India.

Previously asked in: 2022 32/1/1 Q8

♦ Political Parties

Role of Election Commission in Registration and Recognition of Political Parties

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Model Answer

The Election Commission plays a key role in the registration and recognition of political parties:

1. **Registration:** Every party in the country must register with the Election Commission. The Commission treats all registered parties equally.
1. **Recognition and Symbols:** The Commission grants recognition to large, established parties and gives each a unique election symbol that only their official candidates can use.
1. **Criteria for Recognition:**
 - **State Party:** Secures at least 6% of total votes in a State Assembly election and wins at least 2 seats.
 - **National Party:** Secures at least 6% of votes in Lok Sabha or Assembly elections in four States and wins at least 4 Lok Sabha seats.

Source: Chapter 4, National Parties section

Explanation

- This question directly tests the passage on registration and recognition. Examiners expect three distinct points: registration, symbol-based recognition, and the specific numerical criteria (6% votes + seat threshold) for both State and National party status.
- Always mention both categories — **State party** and **National party** — with their exact figures; these are easy scoring points.
- Avoid writing about specific parties (BJP, INC, etc.) unless asked; focus on the *process*.

Q44. § Overview / Introduction § National parties § Challenges to political parties

[3]

Describe three main functions of political parties.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/2/1 Q28(a)

♦ Political Parties Functions of political parties

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Model Answer

Political parties perform the following main functions:

1. **Contesting Elections:** Parties select and put up candidates to contest elections. In India, top party leaders choose candidates for this purpose.
1. **Making Laws:** Parties play a decisive role in law-making. Since most legislators belong to a party, they vote according to party directions in the legislature.
1. **Forming and Running Governments:** Parties recruit and train leaders, then make them ministers to run the government according to the party's policies and programmes.

*Source: Chapter 4, Democratic Politics — Functions of Political Parties***Explanation**

The question asks for **three** functions, so pick three from the seven listed in the textbook and explain each briefly. The examiner expects **function name + one-line explanation** for each point. Avoid listing all seven — that wastes time and adds no extra marks. Use the exact textbook language where possible (e.g., "decisive role in making laws").

Q45. § Overview / Introduction § National parties § State parties

[3]

Describe any three functions of the Political Parties.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/3/1 Q27

◆ Political Parties Functions of political parties

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Model Answer

Political parties perform the following functions in a democracy:

1. **Contesting Elections:** Parties put forward candidates, campaign for them, and contest elections to gain power and form the government.
1. **Making Policies and Programmes:** Parties present different policies and programmes to the voters. When elected, the ruling party implements its policies through the government.
1. **Playing Opposition:** Parties that lose elections sit in opposition, criticise the government's failures, and keep it accountable to the people.

Source: Democratic Politics – II, Chapter 4

Explanation

- The question asks for **any three** functions, so pick three well-known ones and state them clearly — one point per function.
- Each function should be in 1–2 lines; avoid over-explaining.
- Other valid functions include: forming public opinion, providing social and welfare schemes, acting as a link between citizens and the government. Any three will earn full marks.
- Examiners look for accurate terminology and distinct points — do not repeat the same idea in different words.

Q46. § Overview / Introduction § Popular participation in political parties § State parties**[1]**

Find the odd one out regarding the Political Parties of India :

- (A) Indian National Congress and Communist Party of India (M)
- (B) Rashtriya Janta Dal and Lok Jan Shakti Party
- (C) Indian National Lok Dal and Jan Nayak Janta Party
- (D) Rashtriya Lok Dal and Jan Satta Dal

Previously asked in: 2026 32/1/1 Q22; 2026 32/5/1 Q22 — 2×

♦ Political Parties

National and State (Regional) Political Parties of India

Generated by claude-sonnet-4-6 · 2026-06-15 06:56 · grounding rag**Model Answer****(D) Rashtriya Lok Dal and Jan Satta Dal**

Options A, B, and C contain parties that are alliances or share a common ideological/regional base, whereas Rashtriya Lok Dal and Jan Satta Dal do not share such a grouping.

Explanation

This question tests knowledge of political party groupings/alliances. Options (A), (B), and (C) pair parties that are known to be part of the same alliance or coalition groupings (e.g., INC and CPI-M in UPA/Left; RJD and LJP in NDA-allied groupings). Option (D) pairs Rashtriya Lok Dal and Jan Satta Dal, which do not belong to the same alliance or grouping, making it the odd one out. Since the textbook passage is limited on specific regional party alliances, focus on what the Election Commission classifies as State/national parties.

Q47. § How many parties should we have?

[4]

How many political parties ?

In some countries, only one party is allowed to control and run the government. These are called one-party systems. In some countries, power usually changes between two main parties. Several other parties may exist, contest elections and win a few seats in the national legislatures. Such a party system is called two-party system. If several parties compete for power, and more than two parties have a reasonable chance of coming to power either on their own strength or in alliance with others, we call it a multiparty system.

Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow :

(27.1) Explain the main feature of 'multi-party system'. [1]

(27.2) Why is a 'one-party system' not compatible with democracy ? [1]

(27.3) Explain the main characteristics of a coalition government. [2]

Previously asked in: 2026 32/2/1 Q27

♦ Political Parties

Coalition government

Multi-party system

One-party system and incompatibility with democracy

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Model Answer

(27.1) In a multi-party system, several parties compete for power, and more than two parties have a reasonable chance of coming to power either on their own strength or in alliance with others.

(27.2) In a one-party system, only one party is allowed to control and run the government. This denies citizens any choice or competition, which goes against the democratic principle of free and fair elections among multiple parties.

(27.3) When several parties in a multi-party system come to power through an alliance with each other, it results in a **coalition government**. Its main characteristics are:

- It is formed by two or more parties joining together.
- All partners share power and govern on the basis of a common agreed agenda.
- It requires consensus and compromise among coalition partners to remain in power.

Source: *Political Parties, Types of Party Systems*

Explanation

- (27.1) is directly lifted from the passage — quote or closely paraphrase it.
- (27.2) is an inference from the passage; the key word is "only one party is *allowed*" — this restricts choice, which is anti-democratic.
- (27.3) is **not explicitly in the passage** but is a standard NCERT concept linked to multi-party systems (Chapter: Political Parties). Examiners expect you to define coalition, state how it forms, and mention shared power/compromise — 2 points minimum for 2 marks.

Q48. § Overview / Introduction § State parties**[1]**

Two statements are given below. They are Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read both the statements and choose the correct option.

Assertion (A) : Multi-party system has been adopted in India.

Reason (R) : It is capable of accommodating all the social and geographical differences in India.

- (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- (B) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (C) (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- (D) (A) is false, but (R) is true.

Previously asked in: 2024 32/5/1 Q12

♦ Political Parties

Multi-party system in India

Types of party systems (one-party, two-party, multi-party)

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Model Answer

(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

India adopted the multi-party system because its vast social, regional, and geographical diversity requires multiple parties to adequately represent all sections of society.

Explanation

The Reason directly explains *why* India has a multi-party system — the need to accommodate diverse social and geographical differences across a large federal country. Since both statements are true and R logically explains A, option (A) is correct. Remember: in assertion-reason questions, check (1) are both true? (2) does R actually explain A?

Q49. § Overview / Introduction § State parties**[1]**

Choose the correct option related to the regional political parties of India :

- A Rashtriya Lok Dal — Mashal — Uttar Pradesh
- B Telugu Desam — Cycle — Andhra Pradesh
- C Telangana Rashtra Samiti — Kite — Telangana
- D Shiromani Akali Dal — Chashma — Punjab

Previously asked in: 2025 32/6/1 Q12

♦ Political Parties

Regional Political Parties in India

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Model Answer

The correct option is **B — Telugu Desam — Cycle — Andhra Pradesh.**

Explanation

The textbook mentions Telugu Desam Party as a State (regional) party associated with Andhra Pradesh. Its election symbol is the Cycle. The other options have incorrect symbol or state pairings.

Q50. § State parties**[1]**

There are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read both the statements and choose the correct option as your answer :

Assertion (A) : India has a multiparty system.

Reason (R) : It is because of the social and geographical diversities in India.

- (a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of the Assertion (A).
- (b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of the Assertion (A).
- (c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
- (d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/5/1 Q11

♦ Political Parties

Multiparty System in India

Social and Geographical Diversity as a basis for Political Parties

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Model Answer

(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of the Assertion (A).

India's social and geographical diversities led to the rise of many parties representing different groups, making it a multiparty system.

Explanation

The textbook explains that India has a multiparty system because no single party can represent the vast social, regional, and cultural diversity of the country. The Reason directly explains why the Assertion is true, so option (a) is correct. Remember: when R logically explains A, choose (a), not (b).

Q51. § How many parties should we have? § State parties**[1]**

Find the odd one out from the following :

- (A) Communist Party of India (M) & Bharatiya Janata Party
- (B) Rashtriya Janata Dal & Janata Dal
- (C) Nationalist Congress Party & Shiv Sena
- (D) United Democratic Party & National People's Party

Previously asked in: 2026 32/4/1 Q22

♦ Political Parties

National and State (Regional) Political Parties of India

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Model Answer

(C) Nationalist Congress Party & Shiv Sena

Options A, B, and D pair parties from the same state/alliance grouping, while NCP and Shiv Sena belong to Maharashtra but are ideologically opposing parties with no common alliance historically.

Explanation

The examiner expects you to identify that CPI(M) & BJP are national parties, RJD & Janata Dal share ideological/organisational roots, and UDP & NPP are both regional parties of Meghalaya. NCP and Shiv Sena are the odd pair as they represent contrasting ideologies and have traditionally been rival parties in Maharashtra, making them the mismatched option.

Q52. § State parties

[1]

Which one of the following pairs is correctly matched ? List-I (Regional Parties) / List-II (Regions)

- (a) Rashtriya Janta Dal – Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Janta Dal (Secular) – Bihar
- (c) Rashtriya Lok Dal – Assam
- (d) Biju Janta Dal – Odisha

Previously asked in: 2025 32/4/1 Q11

♦ Political Parties

Regional Political Parties and their regions

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Model Answer**(d) Biju Janata Dal – Odisha**

Biju Janata Dal is correctly matched with Odisha. It is a State party conscious of its State identity, as mentioned in the chapter.

Source: *State parties, Chapter 4*

Explanation

The textbook explicitly names **Biju Janata Dal** as a party that is "conscious about their State identity" and it operates in **Odisha**. The other options are wrong: Rashtriya Janata Dal is associated with **Bihar** (not UP), Janta Dal (Secular) with **Karnataka** (not Bihar), and Rashtriya Lok Dal with **Uttar Pradesh** (not Assam). Examiners expect direct recall of party–state associations.

Q53. § How many parties should we have? § National parties § State parties

[1]

Choose the correctly matched pair from the following (Political Party – State) :

- A Janata Dal (Secular) – Bihar
- B Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party – Goa
- C Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam – Andhra Pradesh
- D All India Forward Bloc – Punjab

Previously asked in: 2025 32/2/1 Q14

♦ Political Parties

State/Regional Political Parties and their States

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Model Answer

The correctly matched pair is **B – Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party – Goa**.

Explanation

The source passages do not explicitly list all state parties with their states, but Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party is a well-known state party of Goa — this is standard NCERT/CBSE factual knowledge. The other options are incorrect: DMK is from Tamil Nadu (not Andhra Pradesh), Janata Dal (Secular) is from Karnataka (not Bihar), and All India Forward Bloc has its base in West Bengal (not Punjab).

Q54. § State parties**[1]**

Which of the following States is ruled by a regional party ?

- (a) Haryana
- (b) Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Odisha
- (d) Rajasthan

Previously asked in: 2023 32/2/1 Q12

♦ Political Parties

Regional Political Parties

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Model Answer

(c) Odisha — Odisha was ruled by the Biju Janata Dal (BJD), which is classified by the Election Commission as a State (regional) party.

Explanation

The passage explicitly names **Biju Janata Dal** as a regional/State party conscious of its State identity. Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan have historically been ruled by national parties (BJP/INC). Odisha's BJD is the clear regional party example given in the textbook, making (c) the correct answer.

Q55. § Overview / Introduction § Why do we need political parties?

[4]

The Need for Political Parties

As we have seen, large societies need representative democracy. As societies became large and complex, they also needed some agency to gather different views on various issues and to present these to the government. They needed some ways, to bring various representatives together so that a responsible government could be formed. They needed a mechanism to support or restrain the government, make policies, justify or oppose them. Political parties fulfil these needs that every representative government has. We can say that parties are a necessary condition for a democracy.

Read the following source and answer the questions that follow :

(36.1) Explain the meaning of 'representative democracy'. [1]

(36.2) How do political parties shape public opinion ? [1]

(36.3) Why are political parties considered a necessary condition for a democracy ? Explain. [2]

Previously asked in: 2025 32/6/1 Q36

♦ Political Parties

Meaning of Representative Democracy

Political parties as a necessary condition for democracy

Role of Political Parties in Shaping Public Opinion

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Model Answer

(36.1) Representative democracy is a form of government where people do not govern directly but elect representatives who govern on their behalf.

(36.2) Political parties shape public opinion by gathering different views on various issues, presenting them to the government, and justifying or opposing government policies on behalf of the people.

(36.3) Political parties are a necessary condition for democracy because:

- Large, complex societies need an agency to gather diverse views and present them to the government.
- They bring representatives together to form a responsible government.
- They support or restrain the government, make policies, and justify or oppose them.

Thus, they fulfil every need that a representative government requires.

Source: *Democratic Politics – II, Chapter: Political Parties, Section: The Need for Political Parties*

Explanation

- **(36.1)** is a 1-mark definition — one crisp line is enough.
- **(36.2)** is also 1 mark — draw directly from the passage phrases ("gather different views," "justify or oppose"). Do not go beyond the passage.
- **(36.3)** is 2 marks — examiners expect **at least 2–3 distinct points** from the passage. Use the passage's own language (agency, responsible government, support/restrain) to show reading comprehension. A concluding line ties it together.

Q56. § Overview / Introduction § Challenges to political parties § How can parties be reformed?

[1]

How do Political Parties ensure accountability to the public ? Choose the most suitable option from the following.

- (A) Through Press Conferences
- (B) Through Social Media Campaigns
- (C) Through encouraging Partisanship
- (D) Through Elections and Voter Support

Previously asked in: 2024 32/3/1 Q12

♦ Political Parties

Functions of Political Parties – Ensuring Accountability to the Public

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Model Answer

(D) Through Elections and Voter Support

Political parties ensure accountability to the public through elections and voter support, as people can replace parties that fail to perform by voting them out of power.

Explanation

The passage states that in a democracy, "people can replace them (party leaders)" through elections. Elections are the primary mechanism by which parties are held accountable — if they underperform, voters withdraw support. Options A and B are not mentioned as accountability tools; Option C (partisanship) actually weakens democracy. Option D is the only constitutionally grounded answer.

Q57. § How can parties be reformed?**[1]**

To reform the party system, which of the following tasks have been made compulsory for the political parties? Choose the most appropriate option.

- I. It is now compulsory for all the political parties to file income tax returns.
 - II. It is now compulsory for all parties to have one-third women candidates.
 - III. It is now compulsory for all the political parties to hold their organisational election.
 - IV. It is now compulsory for all candidates to disclose information about pending criminal cases against them through affidavit.
- A Only I, II and III are correct.
B Only I, II and IV are correct.
C Only I, III and IV are correct.
D Only II, III and IV are correct.

Previously asked in: 2025 32/3/1 Q5

♦ Political Parties

Reforms in Political Parties

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Model Answer**Option C — Only I, III and IV are correct.**

Statements I and III were made compulsory by the Election Commission (filing income tax returns and holding organisational elections). Statement IV was made mandatory by the Supreme Court (filing affidavit disclosing criminal cases). Statement II (one-third women candidates) is only a *suggestion*, not yet made compulsory.

Source: How can parties be reformed?, Chapter 4

Explanation

The key distinction here is between what has **already been made compulsory** (reforms that are in force) and what are merely **suggestions** (reforms proposed but not yet accepted). The textbook clearly states that the one-third women candidates rule is a suggestion, not a mandate — making Statement II incorrect. Examiners specifically test this distinction.

Q58. § Overview / Introduction § State parties § How can parties be reformed?

[2]

Suggest any two reforms to strengthen 'party system' in India.

Previously asked in: 2026 32/2/1 Q23

♦ Political Parties

Reforms to Strengthen Political Parties

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Model Answer

Two reforms to strengthen the party system in India:

1. **Mandatory internal democracy:** A law should be made requiring political parties to hold regular organisational elections and maintain a register of members, ensuring internal democracy.
1. **Reservation for women:** It should be made mandatory for political parties to give at least one-third of tickets to women candidates and ensure their representation in decision-making bodies.

Source: Democratic Politics – II, Chapter 4 (How can parties be reformed?)

Explanation

The examiner expects **specific, named reforms** from the textbook — not vague statements like "parties should be honest." The two most commonly asked reforms are **internal democracy/organisational elections** and **women's reservation in tickets/decision-making**. A third popular option is **state funding of elections** — any two are acceptable. Always state the reform clearly in one line; no need to elaborate at length for a 2-mark answer.

Q59. § Overview / Introduction § Popular participation in political parties § State parties

[5]

Several reforms have been made to strengthen political parties in India so that they could perform their functions well. Explain the statement with examples.

Previously asked in: 2022 32/3/1 Q9 (b)

♦ **Political Parties**

Anti-Defection Law

Election Commission Rules on Party Finances and Candidate Declarations

Reforms to Strengthen Political Parties in India

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Model Answer

Several reforms have been introduced to strengthen political parties in India:

1. **Anti-defection law:** The Constitution was amended to prevent elected representatives from changing parties for personal gains. This has reduced political instability.
1. **Supreme Court order on affidavits:** Candidates must file affidavits declaring their criminal records, financial assets, and educational qualifications, making information available to voters.
1. **Election Commission orders:** Political parties are now required to hold open elections for party offices and maintain registers of their members.
1. **Limits on election expenditure:** The Election Commission has set limits on campaign spending by candidates to reduce the role of money power in elections.
1. **RTI pressure:** Demand for bringing political parties under the Right to Information Act has grown, pushing for greater transparency in party functioning.

These reforms aim to address challenges like dynastic succession, money power, and lack of internal democracy within parties.

Source: Chapter 4, Democratic Politics — Challenges to Political Parties

Explanation

- The examiner expects you to list **specific reforms** (not just problems), ideally with brief examples or outcomes.
- Aim for 5 distinct points for a 5-mark question — one point ≈ one mark.
- Avoid writing long explanations for each point; a one-line description per reform is sufficient.
- Do not confuse **challenges** with **reforms** — the question asks what has been *done*, not what the problems are.

Q60. § How do we assess democracy's outcomes? § Economic outcomes of democracy

[1]

Two statements are given below as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the Statements and choose the correct option :

Assertion (A) : Elections are the spirit of democracy. Reason (R) : Elections expand Political participation.

- A Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- B Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is the not correct explanation of (A).
- C (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- D (A) is false, but (R) is true.

Previously asked in: 2023 32/1/1 Q16

♦ Outcomes of Democracy

Arguments in Favour of Democracy

Elections and Democratic Participation

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Model Answer

Option B: Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

Elections are indeed the spirit of democracy (A is true), and elections do expand political participation (R is true), but expanded participation is a result of elections, not the reason why elections are the spirit of democracy. The real reason is that elections allow citizens to choose their representatives and hold them accountable.

Explanation

- **(A) is true** — Elections are fundamental to democracy as they allow people to choose governments.
- **(R) is true** — Elections do expand political participation by involving voters, candidates, and parties.
- However, **(R) does not explain (A)** — The spirit of democracy through elections lies in accountability and popular sovereignty, not merely in expanding participation. Hence option **B** is correct.
- In assertion-reason questions, check: (1) Is A true? (2) Is R true? (3) Does R logically explain A? All three must be verified.

Q61. § Introduction § PRODUCTION ACROSS COUNTRIES § Small producers: Compete or perish

[1]

△ Globalisation and the Indian Economy › PRODUCTION ACROSS COUNTRIES — Internal project only — not in the Board exam (per CBSE 2026-27 curriculum) Only 'What is Globalisation?' and 'Factors that have enabled Globalisation' are in the Board exam; the remaining sub-topics are the internally-assessed interdisciplinary project. [\[source: Course Structure — Economics, Chapter 4 \(Subtopics evaluated in Board\)\]](#)

△ Globalisation and the Indian Economy › Small producers: Compete or perish — Internal project only — not in the Board exam (per CBSE 2026-27 curriculum) Only 'What is Globalisation?' and 'Factors that have enabled Globalisation' are in the Board exam; the remaining sub-topics are the internally-assessed interdisciplinary project. [\[source: Course Structure — Economics, Chapter 4 \(Subtopics evaluated in Board\)\]](#)

Identify the odd one out.

- A Hindustan Computers Limited
- B Bharti Airtel Limited
- C Hindustan Unilever Limited
- D Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited

Previously asked in: 2025 32/3/1 Q12

◆ Globalisation and the Indian Economy

Examples of MNCs operating in India

Find the odd one out

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Model Answer

Answer: A — Hindustan Computers Limited

Hindustan Computers Limited (HCL) is a private sector company, whereas Bharti Airtel, Hindustan Unilever, and Bharat Heavy Electricals are all publicly listed companies traded on stock exchanges.

*(Note: If this question is from Political Science/Civics context, the odd one out is **B — Bharti Airtel Limited**, as HCL, HUL, and BHEL all have "Hindustan/Bharat" in their names suggesting public/national identity, while Bharti Airtel does not follow this naming pattern.)*

Explanation

This question does not appear in the provided source passages, which are about political parties. The options are company names. The most likely expected answer is **Bharti Airtel Limited** — as Hindustan Computers Limited, Hindustan Unilever Limited, and Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited all contain "Hindustan" or "Bharat" in their names (indicating national/public sector association by name), while **Bharti Airtel** does not follow this pattern. Examiners typically look for pattern-based reasoning here. Since no passage supports this, use the naming-pattern logic.

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