

Chapter 2: Institutional representation of democracy

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April 26, 2021

Elections

- Derived from 'legare' [*Latin*] = to choose
- General elections held every 5 yrs

Mid-term Elections

- Govt. gets dissolved before 5 yrs
- Fresh elects. are held

By-elections

- Elected repr. dies/resigns before term completions
- Fresh elects. are held for that seat

Election Commission of India

- Responsible for conducting free & fair elects.
- 3-member Body headed by:
 - Chief Election Commissioner
 - 2 Election Commissioners

Election Process

- Constituency = Areas country divided for elects.
- 543 Consts. in India {2021}
- 1 repr. from each constit. elected
- Candidates file nominated paper to ECI
- Candidate gives speeches
- Organises rallies
- **MLA** = Member of Legislative Assembly

Party System

- 3 Types:
 - Uni party-system: *China Communist party*
 - Bi party-system: *USA & UK*
 - Multi party-system: *India*
- National Party:
 - Influence over entire country
 - *BJP, INC, BSP, CPI, CPI-M, TMC*

- Regional Party:
 - Influence over 1/2 States