

Presentation: Indian Politics & Governance

Title: *Indian Politics & Governance*

Subtitle: Evolution, Reforms, and the Role of
Youth and Women

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Image Suggestion: Indian Parliament or Ashoka
Chakra background

Evolution of Indian Democracy

- India gained independence in 1947; Constitution adopted in 1950.
- Transitioned from colonial rule to a **sovereign democratic republic**.
- Strength of democracy shown through **peaceful power transitions**.
- Major milestones: Emergency (1975-77), liberalization (1991), digital governance (2014+).

Key Features of Indian Democracy

- **Parliamentary system** with separation of powers.
- **Universal adult franchise** – every citizen above 18 can vote.
- **Multi-party system** allowing diverse political participation.
- **Independent judiciary** upholding rule of law.

Role of Election Commission of India (ECI)

- Established under Article 324 of the Constitution.
- Conducts elections for **Lok Sabha**, **Rajya Sabha**, and **State Assemblies**.
- Ensures **free, fair, and transparent** elections.
- Introduced EVMs, VVPAT, and **Model Code of Conduct**.

Impact of Youth in Indian Politics

- India has **65%** population below **35 years**.
- Youth leaders like **Tejasvi Surya, Aaditya Thackeray, Kanhaiya Kumar** etc.
- Active participation through **social media and movements** (e.g., Anna Hazare, CAA protests).
- Challenges: lack of representation, family politics.

Women in Indian Politics

- Key leaders: **Indira Gandhi, Sushma Swaraj, Mamata Banerjee, Nirmala Sitharaman.**
- **33% reservation bill** for women passed in Parliament (2023).
- Challenges: gender bias, safety issues, lower representation at local & national levels.

Coalition Governments in India

- Began with **Janata Party (1977)**; continued with **UPA & NDA** alliances.
- **Pros:** Represents diverse voices, checks authoritarianism.
- **Cons:** Policy instability, compromise governance.
- Successful example: **Atal Bihari Vajpayee's NDA government.**

Political Reforms in India

- **Anti-Defection Law (1985):** Prevents party switching.
- **Right to Information (RTI) Act (2005):** Promotes transparency.
- **Electoral Bonds (2018):** Reform in political funding (criticized for lack of transparency).
- **Digital Governance & E-Voting initiatives.**

Challenges in Indian Politics

- **Corruption and criminalization of politics.**
- **Caste and religion-based politics.**
- **Voter apathy and misinformation.**
- **Need for youth and women empowerment.**

Conclusion

- Indian democracy has shown **resilience and inclusiveness**.
- Youth and women are emerging as **agents of change**.
- Continuous **political reforms** are needed for transparency and fairness.
- “**The strength of a democracy lies in the participation of its citizens.**”