

21-02-2021

Governance.
Role of Money

Electoral Bonds

it defeats the fundamental principle
of transparency in Pol finances.

features →

- ① The Bonds would be issued in
the multiples of 1000, 10,000, 1 lakh,
1 crore.
- only the Pol. Party registered under
RPA Act, 1951 and secured not
less than 1% votes in Lok Sabha
and legislative assembly will be
eligible to receive electoral
Bonds.

It would be valid for 15 days from the date of issue. Currently, bonds issued by SBI. The donor and the party details will be available with the banks but the Pol. Party would not be aware of "the donor".

is"

Issues

① It would facilitate co-operation funding (influencing Policy making). Request to the ruling Party and open the way for legitimising bribery and corruption. (In 2017-18 a total of

220 cr of bonds were issued,

out of this 95% went to B.I.P.

97% of the bonds purchased were in denomination of Rs 10 Lakh

and Rs 1 crore. Algo to ADR

Pol. Party has received a total
of electoral bond worth 6,900 Crn.

Jan till Jan 2020 the election period ends

BTP got 60% of the bonds and
Congress got 31.9%.

(2) The govt. at any point of time can look for the names of the anonymous donor through illegal means.
(fear aspect)

Election Commission has written letter to the centre saying that the changes made in the laws relating to pol. bonds will have serious repercussions on transparency.

funding will have serious repercussions on transparency.

result go to YFP go to other members in

SOA or PIA go to pol. party

It had also said that changes in
FCRA, would allow unchecked
foreign funding in Indian election,
which would lead to Indian Policy
influenced by foreign party.

Election commission, has said that
citizens / voters do not have or should
not have interest in how, and from
where, and ~~to~~ from whom Pol.
Party gets their money (killing the
essence of RTI Act). He said that
there appears to be no larger
public interest overriding the
right to privacy of the donor
and recipient concern.

State funding of Elections

Indrajeet Gupta Committee, 1998 → It

endorse state funding of elections and

it put two limitations -

- state fund should only be given to

to national and state parties and 2

not to independent candidates

- state funding should only be given in kind (in form of certain facility)

[Law commission, 1999]

Its reports concluded that state

funding of election is desirable

so long as the pol. parties are

Prohibited from taking funds from other sources.

It concurred with interact gupta
committee, only Partial state
funding is possible given the
Economic condition of country (P)

(2nd ARC) → also recommends
partial funding of elections

for the purpose of reducing illegitimate
and unnecessary funding (P)

and giving feedback (P)

(NCRB) → did not endorse

State funding of elections (P)

(Law commission Report, 2015) (electoral
reforms) (P)

→ supports the current
system (P)

System has privilege (P)

Positives →

- ① qt would reduce the role of money
- ② qt could contribute to the growth of democracy by helping Party that would otherwise decline due to resource shortage.

Concern →

- ① qt creates a level playing field only if pt blocks other funding channels (undisclosed private funding still might be there).
- ② Additional burden on the state.

Sweeter, canada are too some extent japan does show effective public spending and does reduce

dependency on private entity, but
we need to understand that it is
more of transparency that lead to
this effect.

Misuse of caste, Religion for electoral gains

section 123(3) of RPA Act defines
corrupt practices \rightarrow appeals made

by a candidate or his agent \rightarrow
to vote or refrain from voting on

the ground of his religion, race,

caste, community or language.

Abhiram Singh Case, 2008 ^{the}
court ruled politician cannot
use religion, caste to seek votes.

These would amount to corrupt.

Practices under electoral laws

Election is a secular exercise.

Regulation of pol. parties

More than 1600 parties are registered
with Election commission of India.

However, only few contest election, ECI
should be allowed to deregister such
parties which do not contest two or
consecutive elections.

Inner party Democracy

There should be mandatory, secret,
ballot voting for all elections for all
inner party post and selection of

candidates by registered members
overseen by election commissioner of
India.

Majority System

2 round system → Egypt, France

Single transferable voting system → Australia

- Paid news
- Issue of non-serious candidate
- Misuse of govt. machinery

Problem with election system in India

Totaliser machine

Totaliser machine

Introduction of totaliser machine
for counting of votes increases
secrecy of voting by counting votes at
booths together against the current

Practice of announcing the booth wise results. fig to election commission

The identification of area-wise voting trend could encourage candidates and pol. parties to target areas where they got less votes.

The pol. parties says boothwise performance of candidate is imp. for booth

management.

Simultaneous elections

First in 1952

↳ one nation, one election

During the first 1954 General elections,

there were simultaneous pols throughout the country, but this cycle was

disrupted with the premature dissolution of Lok Sabha in the late 60's.

Also, centre has been misusing the Art. 356 frequently. The idea of simultaneous elections has been discussed by ECF since 1982. The law commission report 1999 and Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice in its 79th report suggested to hold simultaneous elections for long term good governance.

(Positives) →

- ① It is a solution to prevent country from being in constant election mode (In 3 years (2014-16) the country witness 1 General election and 15 state elections).

- (2) It will also ensure better implementation of policy. (uninterrupted years of govt.)
- (3) Keep leaders holding imp. govt. posts. are tied for months for campaigning across the countries clearing the functioning of govt. in the hands of bureaucracy.
- met and by 2006 was over 12
- damage proof
+ [certified]
permalinking of websites in +
- political parties registered
- it (also) ensured that
properly linked & certified political
sites of govt. (smooth state 2)