Political Systems

Political systems are the official and informal political procedures through which decisions are made in any particular society on resource use, production, and distribution.

The most important 3 types of political systems are totalitarianism, authoritarianism and democracy. These can be further be divided into many categories such as:

Absolutism: The term "absolutism" refers to a political system that existed in the early modern period and was traditionally characterised as the reign of a king whose power was tied to his person and who ruled without the participation of state institutions.

Aristocracy: The meaning of Aristocracy is "the rule of the best". The governance of a small group of elites is referred to as aristocracy. This indicates that the State is managed by a limited group of exceptionally skilled persons.

Autocracy: Autocracy combines all of the political system's powers into a single force and excludes any form of public involvement in state power. Autocracy means who draws their power (cracy) from themselves (auto). Examples are monarchy and dictatorship.

Dictatorship: Dictatorship is a political system characterised by an unchecked power of a single ruler, the dictator or a group of governors. A dictator would never claim to rule through free elections.

Monarchy: Monarchy is described as "power concentrated in one person." It refers to a political system or regime in which a monarch serves as the head of state.

Military regime: A military government is a political system in which the army exercises executive control. The army's influence in countries governed by the army can range from veto authority to complete absorption of state power.

Republic: The republic is a political system that prioritises the common good and community. It is a political system in which the people are the State's foundation, providing legitimacy and they control the majority of the state's power.

Anarchy: Anarchy as an anti-movement and anti-political idea of monarchy and democracy was just coined in the nineteenth century. The term "anarchy" refers to a political system in which there is no governance.

Democracy: The word "Democracy" comes from Greek. It is the most desired one out of all the types of political systems. To begin with, it referred to the people's direct rule since only a restricted number of citizens had the right to participate in politics at the time. Today, the term democracy is mainly used to refer to political systems in which the rule is based on a wide and inclusive understanding of the people, as well as meaningful participation for all citizens.

Forms of Democracy:

Direct Democracy: Direct Democracy is a form of democracy in which individuals have direct conversations with one another about various topics in order to reach a conclusion according to the majority opinion. Every person puts forth their opinion in the form of a vote to carry out or stop any

law or related action. This type of democracy only works in small-sized organizations, being practically impossible with the immense population of a Country.

Representative Democracy: In Representative Democracy, people choose their representatives. One of the most distinguishing characteristics of this style of democracy is that elected representatives serve the nation on behalf of the people by taking on numerous responsibilities. This type of democracy is far more likely to be converted into a national government. India is a representative democracy.

Features of Democracy in India

Elections must also have complete Transparency and Impartiality in terms imparting voting rights to each and every adult citizen of the country.

In a democracy the final decision-making power must rest with those who are selected by the people.

The public's voice, even if against the ruling party, should be allowed to be expressed openly, allowing people to establish their own thoughts and expressions without fear of repercussions.

The law that applies to ordinary citizens of the country will also apply to celebrities or famous people. In all circumstances, the law is the same for everyone in India.

A democratic government governs within the bounds established by constitutional law and citizen rights.

Minority exclusion or oppression should be condemned, and the legal power of the country should assist them in achieving equal status in life and society in all ways possible.

President, Vice President and Council of Ministers and Governor

President- He is the Chief executive of a republic. Article 53 of the Indian Constitution states that the President may exercise his or her powers directly or through subordinate authority. However, with few exceptions, all of the executive authority vested in the President is exercised in practise by the Council of Ministers.

Vice President – According to Article 63 of the Indian Constitution, "there shall be a Vice President of India." In the event that the President is unable to serve due to death, resignation, impeachment, or other circumstances, the Vice President assumes the role of President. He is also the Rajya Sabha's ex-officio Chairman.

Council of Ministers – Article 74 of the Republic of India's Constitution establishes a Council of Ministers to assist the President in carrying out his duties. The Council of Ministers in states is addressed in Articles 163-164.

Governor – At the state level, the Governor of India has similar powers and functions to the President of India at the Union level. They are in charge of enforcing state laws and overseeing the operation of the state executive branch.

The Parliament of India

Article 79 of the Constitution describes the structure of parliament. The President, the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha make up the Parliament.

The Lower House is Lok Sabha and the Upper House is Rajya Sabha.

Despite the fact that the President is a member of the legislature, he does not sit in parliament, however a bill passed by the Houses cannot become law without the President's approval.

The maximum strength of the house envisaged by the constitution is 552 which is made up by the election of up to 530 members to represent the states, up to 20 members to represent the Union Territories and not more than two members of the Anglo-Indian Community to be nominated by Honourable President.

Tenure of Lok Sabha is 5 years. The Rajya Sabha is a permanent body that cannot be dissolved. However, every other year, one-third of the members retire and are substituted by newly elected members.

Supreme Court of India

The Supreme Court of India is the country's highest judicial court, according to the Indian constitution.

It is the highest constitutional court with judicial review authority.

The Supreme Court of India has the authority to consult with the President in order to regulate the Court's practise and procedure.

The Supreme Court has 34 judges, including the Chief Justice.

It resolves disagreements between various government bodies like state governments or centre and any state government.

Political Parties

A political party is a group of people who band together to gain and wield political power by contesting in elections.

The type of political party system in India is a multi-party system in which political parties are divided into national, state, and regional levels. The Election Commission of India grants the status of a political party, which is reviewed on a regular basis.

The Election Commission is responsible for registering all parties. The Election Commission also assigns a special and distinct symbol to each registered party.

India now has more than 2,500 political parties registered with the election commission.

Types of Political Party Systems:

Political party systems are different from the types of political systems in political science. There are 3 types of political party systems:

Multiparty systems: In a multi-party system, parties across the political spectrum participate in national elections and they all have the capacity to gain control of government offices, separately or by forming alliances. Example: India and Pakistan.

Two-party systems: In a two-party system, two major political parties have the dominance over the political landscape. Example: America and Britain.

American Political Parties: 1. Republican Party: Donald Trump, George W. Bush. **2. Democratic Party:** Barack Obama, and Joe Biden.

British Political Parties: 1. Conservative Party: Winston Churchill, David Cameron. **2. Labor Party:** Tony Blair.

Single-party systems: In a Single-party system, only one political party has the authority to form a government. Example:

China: The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) is the sole ruling party in China, controlling all aspects of governance and politics.

North Korea: The Workers' Party of Korea is the only legally permitted party in North Korea, and it holds a monopoly on political power in the country.

Cuba: The Communist Party of Cuba is the only recognized political party in Cuba, and it controls all government institutions and processes.

Vietnam: The Communist Party of Vietnam is the dominant political party, holding a monopoly on power and governance in Vietnam.

Election Commission of India

Election Commission of India directs and controls the entire process of conducting elections to the legislators of each state, as well as the offices of President and Vice-President of India.

Articles 324 to 329 of the constitution address the commission's and member's powers, functions, tenure, eligibility, and so on.

It was established on 25th January 1950.

Functions of Election Commission of India

The commission's most important function is to set schedules for periodic and timely elections.

To determine the territorial areas of electoral constituencies across the country in accordance with the Delimitation Commission Act of Parliament.

It creates the electoral roll and issues the Electronic Photo Identity Card (EPIC).

EC organises and updates electoral rolls frequently and registers all qualified voters.

It registers political parties and assigns election symbols to them and resolves election-related disputes.

It issues the Model Code of Conduct for every election for political parties and candidates in order to maintain the dignity of democracy.