

Politics in India: A Study of Indian Politics and as a Leading Power of Global Politics

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ABSTRACT: Politics is a set of activities that bring people together to make decisions, so that they can stay together as a social group. It can also be said that politics is a process through which individuals get the opportunity to participate in state activities. People have established political parties to advance their views in the majority of nations. Within a party, there are frequently some differences of opinion, but the members cooperate because they believe that by banding together, they can achieve greater political success. Making collective decisions for a group of individuals is a component of politics. The study focuses on comprehending the fundamental theoretical frameworks, practical applications, conceptual vocabulary, as well as the discipline's main subfields of study and connections to other political disciplines. The main objective of this article is to discuss in detail about the Indian political system, the constitutional system of India, the legal system of India and various important political ideals. The study also discusses various political systems, including empirical knowledge specific to a given field, a broader theoretical understanding of various political systems, institutions, and processes, as well as the shifting national and international environments in which these systems work. The study examines the core principles and ethical dilemmas that have been debated in politics throughout history, as well as various moral and ethical frameworks for analyzing and interpreting modern political discourses.

KEYWORD: Indian Politics, Civil Society, Governance, Political Party, World Politics.

Introduction: India's constitution serves as the foundation for its political system. The Preamble to the Indian Constitution refers to India as a “sovereign, socialist secular, democratic, republic” and one of the aspects of Indian polity is the Indian democratic system. In this system, India's highest constitutional post is the government headed by the President and the Prime Minister, who take important administrative decisions of the state. The Indian constitution is one of the largest constitutions in the world and the largest democratic state. India's polity adopts a federal structure, with a central government for the center and state governments for the states. On the other hand, it can be said that the Indian Parliament system has two houses, the upper house is the ‘Rajya Sabha’ and the lower house is the ‘Lok Sabha’. Also, the Constitution of India has enshrined in an integral judicial system. At the apex of the divisional judicial system is the Supreme Court and High Courts formed for one or more states. The main purpose of the formation of this judicial system is to preserve the rights of citizens and at the same time, if various problems arise, it is also one of the tasks to judge them. The Judiciary protects the rights of citizens by issuing lacunae even in cases where any state law conflicts with the fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution. Democracy is the foundation of Indian politics. And the essential part of this democracy is the electoral system. Hence elections are conducted every five years in India, in which various political parties participate. The political party that wins the majority in

this election forms the government. The elections conducted to form the central government are called 'Lok Sabha' elections and the elections conducted to form the state governments are called 'Vidhan Sabha' elections. In these elections representatives are elected through active participation of the people. The first elections in India were held in 1951 and the Indian National Congress won a majority and formed the government. Until 1977, the Congress government established a monopoly in Indian politics. The power of a single political party could be observed in Indian politics then. But with the change of time this process also changes. The 1990s saw the formation of India's first coalition government, which played an important role in changing the course of Indian politics. Although, Indian politics mainly consisted of coalition governments from 1990 to 2014, this process changed somewhat after 2014. In 2014, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) captured sole political power in the state by winning a single majority in the Lok Sabha. Then the same trend can be observed in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. The backdrop of Indian politics has changed in many ways in the context of present times. Political parties are adopting different methods to maintain their power and, in that case, various religious organizations, civil society, pressure groups are influencing the Indian politics. In 2016, India received a "flawed democracy" rating from the Economist Intelligence Unit.

Review of literature:

It is crucial to read and discuss numerous books and articles written by various eminent scholars, independent researchers and writers who have vividly studied and assessed their perception about politics in general and Indian politics in particular. In this part, we have reviewed some of the important work related to Indian politics and tried to understand the ground reality of Indian Politics on the light of global Politics.

Describing the Politics in Indian Perspective, Biju (1999) in his book Parliamentary Democracy and Political Change in India (1999), pointed out that a noticeable shift in women's standing in India over the previous few decades. Political involvement is more encouraged in modern society than in traditional society, according to Palmer's book Elections and Political Development (1976), and it is more prevalent in developed society than in developing society. He noticed that Indians participate in politics to a greater extent. Nearly half of Indian voters join in politics in one or more ways besides voting, with 84 percent of Indian electorates participating in more than one political activity, including voting. In his study entitled "White Paper on Political System of India: An Example of a Sustainable Democracy," Md. Manzurul Karim discussed various problems of the present political system and various contexts of democracy. Fadia (2011) in his study on "Indian Government and Politics" has presented a fascinating account about the Indian political system. The study has revealed that in democratic system political groups are given more weight. Political parties do, however, formally express and shape popular opinion. They have a big impact on the voters. Understanding this is necessary in order to appreciate the significance of the electoral process.

India is one of the largest democratic countries in the world. Despite its flaws, this democratic system stands in stark contrast to the challenges to democracy over time. The American and British political systems are older than the Indian political system, which was created after India gained freedom from Britain in 1947. The Indian Constitution was established on January 26, 1950, and is based on the principles of fairness, liberty, and equality for all people. The world's biggest democracy is found in India. There are many political ideologies and political parties that are present and active throughout the nation due to the size and diversity of the people. The constitution of India provides the right to every citizen of the country to establish political parties and contest elections in the country. However, politics in India is no longer just confined to political groups but has permeated all spheres of society. Politics is supposedly the skill of influencing the state's will. Numerous pressure groups, advocate organizations, interest groups, etc., have been observed cooperating with political organizations. Every citizen of the nation has a responsibility to make sure that our representatives continue to be responsive to public demand and keep their election pledges. Political parties' work goes beyond simply working to win elections.

Political parties in India are generally of two main categories, these are National Parties and Regional parties. The regional parties are those parties that are restricted to just one state or a small number of states where they have some impact. The national parties are those political organizations that have a significant presence in the majority of the country. As the states in India have been organized based on language, regional parties are typically established along linguistic lines. Together with these political parties, the various political interest groups advocate for their causes and ensure that our leaders are made aware of the problems that affect the average person. The media has been acknowledged as the fourth pillar of a democracy and also plays a crucial part in how well a democracy functions. A sound political system is necessary for the development and proper governance of a state. If this political system is properly managed, a program will be properly managed, which will accelerate the development of the state. The stronger the political system of the state, the more powerful the state will be in the national and international spheres. Indian politics have a unique charisma because it is the biggest democracy in the world and the Prime Minister is the highest elected official. The Indian political system, how it operates, and the issues it encounters are all covered in the article on Indian politics that is provided below. Political situations and occurrences are significant for India.

Analysis and study the Indian Politics in terms of Elections of 2019 and the role of political parties:

Undoubtedly, India's 2019 general election brought about a significant change in Indian politics. The Bharatiya Janata Party government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi became the single largest political party in Indian politics. After India's independence in 1947, non-Congress rule emerged as a strong system in 2019. And the BJP did so in an election in which it outperformed its rivals on virtually every metric, with voter turnout reaching an all-time high. The Lokniti Program of the “Center for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS)” has collected survey data that shows that the BJP government has been elected by all social and economic classes in most rural and urban areas. The BJP government's victory in the 2014 and 2019 general elections changed the landscape of Indian politics. Also, the popularity of ‘Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)’ spread to almost all the states of the country and due to this BJP also emerged as a majority party in Rajya Sabha. The 2019 election decisively dispelled the notion that the party's victory in 2014 was a “black swan” election. This victory of the Bharatiya Janata Party ushered in a new era in Indian politics. Coming out of the coalition political system, the BJP government has proved how strong a political party can be when a well-organized political organization, capable leadership, money to run the party and a visionary mindset can make a party strong. Narendra Modi and Amit Shah played a special role in giving this opportunity to the Bharatiya Janata Party. Hindu nationalism and what Suhas Palshikar refer to as a “new developmentalism are the two pillars that support its ideological outlook for a Naya (new) India”. Both of these elements played a role in the party's return to power and have continued to be evident in the days and weeks since the election.

After winning the 2019 elections, the BJP government made some historic announcements with some long-term goals in mind. One of the goals of this declaration is to change the system in Muslim-majority Jammu and Kashmir by abrogating Article 370. By bringing a bill in Parliament, BJP government stressed on making the state more welfare and united by abolishing the special status of Jammu and Kashmir. Also in December 2019, the Citizenship Bill was introduced in Parliament to change the system of granting citizenship to illegal immigrants from neighboring states. A new national registry of citizens may be created as a result of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), which prompted protesters worried about the marginalization of India's minorities to take to the streets. This decision of the BJP government created a stir of discussion and criticism in India and outside the country. Because of this decision, the democratic system of India is also facing questions. In fact, new work by Pradeep Chhibber and Rahul Verma has solidified “the ideological divide between the two parties, even as structural comparisons between the BJP and the old Congress evolve”. Statism and recognition, the two main ideological axes in India, emphasize different national visions that

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place a particular emphasis on the politics of minority rights. It is undeniable that Muslim representation has declined while Hindu nationalism has gotten stronger under BJP control. The under-representation of Muslims has become more pronounced with the rise of the BJP, which can be seen as introducing a cyclical element to patterns of representation. Traditional "secular" parties like the Congress Party chose not to rally around secularism for fear of being stigmatized as minority appeasers. Secularism has lost favor with the voters.

The results of the 2019 election will affect how the "Union government" in New Delhi and "state administrations" interact on a daily basis. Because Narendra Modi had the experience of working as the Chief Minister of Gujarat from 2013 to 2014. He promised to "end the top-down", "one-size-fits-all strategy" that had defined most Indian central governments since 1947 and to empower states in comparison to Delhi. The 14th Finance Commission suggested that to improve the state economy, there was a need to further consolidate the state economy and abolish the 'Planning Commission'. Both actions the Modi administration initially took in the direction of fiscal decentralization. The consequences for Modi 2.0 are evident. First off, the structural modifications to the Indian capitalist system are imperfect, ambiguous, and implemented unevenly. Second, the nationalist agenda of the BJP has strengthened long-standing structural variables and patterns of influence rather than being the direct cause of economic outcomes. The celebration of the BJP's resounding electoral win in 2019 contrasts with an environment of "increasing gloom" in the economy. There is a general lack of trust between the government and different commercial actors as a result of slowing growth and declining private investment. The repercussions for the Indian economy are severe because a single-party majority government's maintenance of the status quo strengthens the grip of business elites, lowers productivity, and eventually weakens independent accountability institutions.

India's Perception in Global Politics:

The twenty-first century is the Asian era, ruled by China and India. After World War II, the world was divided into two poles. On one side was the United States and on the other was the Soviet Union. The rivalry between these two states led to a worldwide situation known as the "Cold War". After the Cold War, India now occupies a powerful position in regional and global politics. India's presence in the world has gradually grown since economic liberalization in the 1990s. India's rise is being shaped by two factors: the "political benefit" it has gained from being the biggest democracy in the world and its expanding "economic status", which, according to projections, will cause it to emerge, alongside China, as a major future economic player. With their respective 'Strategic Partnerships with India, the US and the European Union (EU)' support India's transition from being the recognized leader of the South to playing a larger global role. India has become one of the claimants in the international field with its demand for permanent membership of the United Nations Security Council. Moreover, India's position and political decisions in various international situations have become very important to other countries. As one of the largest countries in Asia and the world, India's development is remarkable. India's political and economic development has presented India as a "new India" before the world. This is an ongoing process rather than a signpost.

The political leadership of India has taken various active steps to raise India's position in the international arena. The current Indian government led by Narendra Modi is determined to make India one of the world's great powers. Prime Minister Narendra Modi refers to India as one of the leading powers in the world. In the words of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, "a leading power refers to a superpower that plays one of the leading roles in world politics". However, India won't achieve this position until its economic foundations, governmental structures, and military prowess are all solidly in place. To achieve this zenith, deliberate effort is required. One of the aspects of India's foreign policy is the policy of neutrality and self-defense, which has been one of the features of India's international politics for a long time. Since the time of former Jawaharlal Nehru, India has always attached great importance to the establishment of world peace. Even now, the

establishment of world peace is one of the goals of India. By sustaining this long-standing tradition, India wants to send a message to the world that India never wants to disturb world peace. Early on, it advocated a "real internationalism".

However, due to its inherent weaknesses, its strategic objectives in reality were primarily centered on safeguarding the nation's democracy and development from the bitter bipolar competition of the Cold War. India's broad orientation remained constant during these years, even as the nature of the country's international engagements changed. Although fundamentally conservative, India's disorganization was intended to prevent US-Soviet hostilities from threatening its security, autonomy, and well-being at a time when the nation was still relatively weak. Modi's clear demand that India takes on a leading rather than simply balancing role suggests higher aspirations. Insofar as "larger international politics are concerned, India welcomes the growing reality of a multi-polar world, as it does, of a multi-polar Asia," Jaishankar summed up these objectives concisely. In other words, India would strive to establish the distribution of capabilities at the continental and global levels that would support its existence as a legitimate great power. This would be done through domestic decisions and international actions. Although these goals are expressed by the more subdued locution "leading power," technically speaking, Modi's vision envisions India becoming a traditional great power—an inevitable result if the goal of multi polarity at the global level is to have any meaningful significance. The argument is abundantly clarified by contrast between the two ideas. From a structural point of view, major powers in international politics are true poles: their numbers define the makeup of the system, their preferences govern its institutions, and their interactions with one another shape the relationships between its parts. As a result, great forces create systems. Leading forces, on the other hand, are not true poles. Minor powers, by comparison, are categorically system-takers. They cannot impose their desires on others, and the only way they can achieve their national objectives is with the assistance of other states and organizations or under the suffering of more powerful entities.

It is clear that PM Modi wants to elevate India from its current status “as a mere influencer to one whose tastes and weight are defining for global politics”. Although, this goal is admirable, it seems that India will have to wait before becoming a powerful power. India will likely become a true pole by 2050, according to current estimates of global growth, but it will also likely stay “the weakest of the major powers—China, the United States, the European Union, and India—that will be dominating the international system at that time”.

Conclusion:

There needs to be a clear line of demarcation between political ideologies for a democracy to function correctly. But in India, the lines separating these ideologies often become hazy, which leads to the superimposition of one doctrine over the other. This definitely does not represent a developed democracy. Due to the clash of opposing political views, India's political system suffers. Such conflicts may also end up being quite nasty. Most importantly, these conflicts harm the nation's growth as a whole. Other issues like bigotry, greed, injustice, and hatred also have an impact on Indian governance. Because of all these issues, politics in India is referred to as a corrupt game. Many eminent and intelligent people may be forced to remain away from Indian politics as a result of these issues.

Indian politicians occasionally select a political party based more on the likelihood of winning elections than on their ideological position. This is a very depressing fact about Indian governance. Additionally, it demonstrates that these lawmakers prioritize their own interests over those of the general populace.

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