

Q # 07

IMPORTANCE OF POLITICAL PARTIES IN MODERN STATE AND THEIR ROLE FOR MOBILIZING PUBLIC OPINION.

INTRODUCTION:

Modern democratic states cannot be functional without proper political parties, and it does not function well if political parties are weak. Political parties are generally called the agents of social change and the builders of public opinion. Thus, strong, nationalist and honest political parties have great importance for an effective modern administration. The strong and candid political parties are essential to sustain democracy. They have immense involvement in building public opinion, either in favour of the government, nation and fellow citizens or antagonizing the democratic structure by distorting public unity through conspiracies, vulnerable slogans, and agenda groups.

"Political parties are like the conduits through which democracy breathes."
(James Bryce)

UNDERSTANDING OF POLITICAL PARTIES

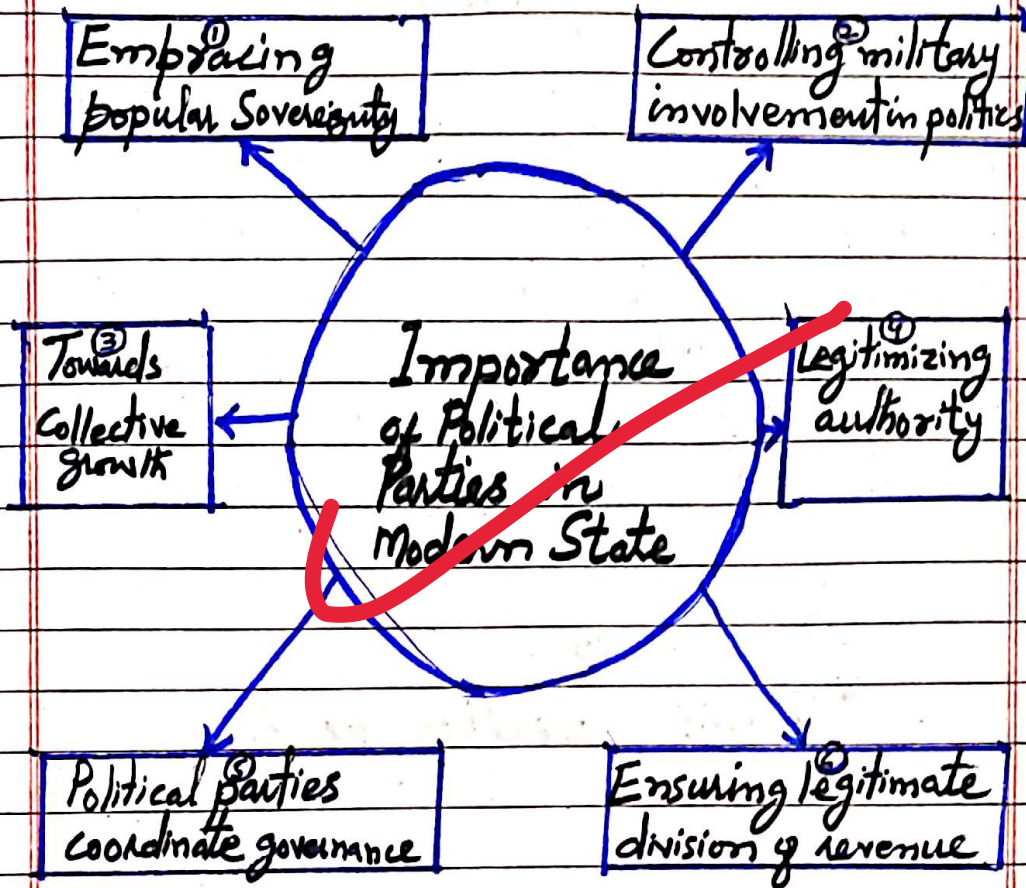
① The Concept Behind Political Party

According to Layman's.
A political party is a group of candidates that contest during election to run for public office. The general concept behind the political parties is that: group of contestants who either show a particular ideology or take ideological inspiration from people of specific area and, later, contest in election.

② Historical Perspective

During the era of monarchies and aristocracy, people used to form groups and views are supported or opposed. During 17th century industrial revolution, people tended to group around industrialists, feudal lords, merchants, and businessmen, including nobles. Mainly in 19th century, the concept of political parties.

IMPORTANCE OF POLITICAL PARTIES IN MODERN STATE



① Embracing popular sovereignty

The idea of popular sovereignty, a form of government based on the public consent, has aspirated political parties concept. Political parties can provide a critical ground to diverse opinions and demands within the electorate.

② Controlling military involvement in politics

Besides, a growing body of political studies suggests that robust, well organized political parties with strong ideologies and policy structures are associated with more strong democracies. Strong parties, governing the tenets of democracy, are less likely to collapse while weak and unorganized parties are more likely to collapse in front of non-political institutions.

Add and highlight references/examples against these arguments

③ Towards collective growth

A healthy party system with responsible leadership is essential for a modern state. Political parties bring together people from different backgrounds. They ensure that the voices of underprivileged groups and minorities are heard in political decisions.

④ Legitimizing authority

In modern states,

authority gains legitimacy through public approval, supported by democratic principles like elections, universal suffrage, equal representation, and the rule of law.

⑤

Political parties coordinate governance

A stable coalition between ruling and opposition parties fosters effective governance. Constructive criticism should guide decision making for national progress. Without cooperation, governance becomes ineffective, delaying development and eroding public trust.

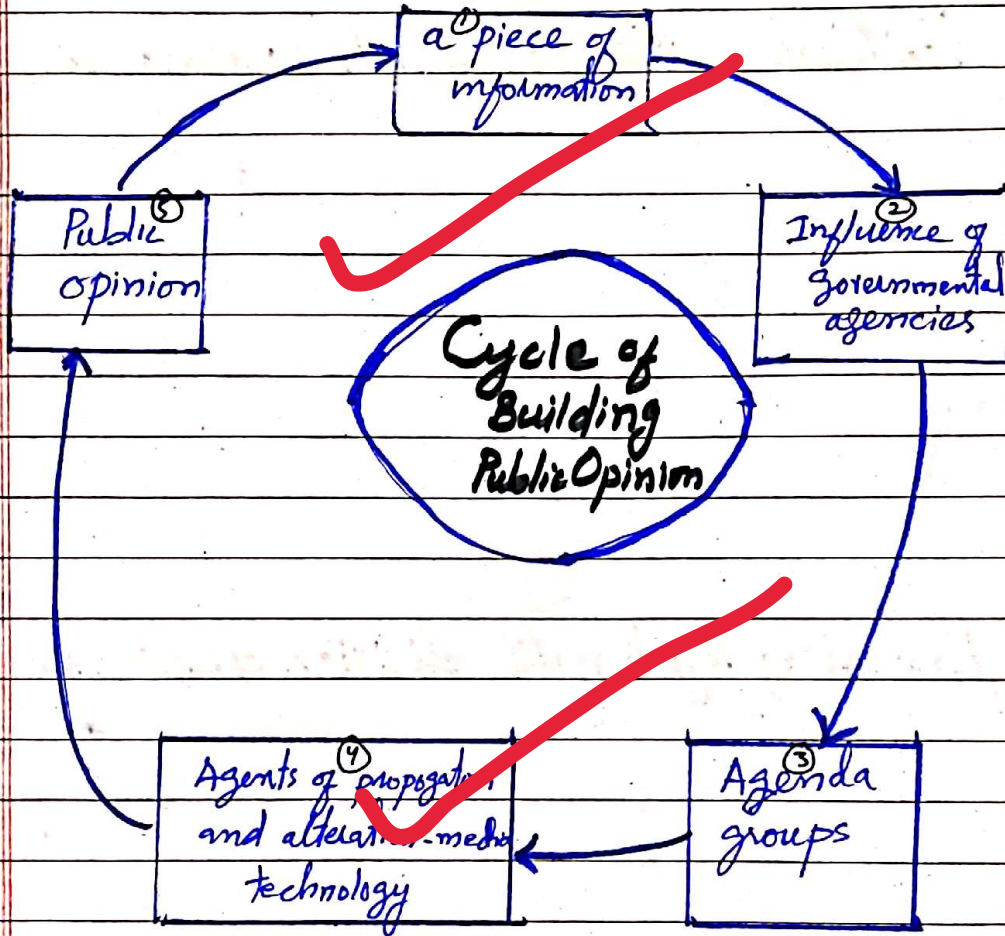
⑥

Ensuring legitimate division of revenue

Strong political parties ensure balanced growth across social classes and regions. Thoughtful fiscal decisions and honest representatives in democratic setup empower underdeveloped sections through local self-governance. In this way, a holistic growth of all social classes and territories of state is robust.

PUBLIC OPINION AND ITS AGENTS

As the word "public" refers to a large group of people, their opinions on particular matter or issue is known as public opinion.



①

A piece of information

This refers to the fact that initiates the cycle. It can be news report, social media post, or statement.

Minimum description
under a heading should
be 5 lines

② Influence of government agencies

Government entities may shape, control or use the information to align it with national interests or policies.

③ Agenda groups

Groups or organizations with specific goals (e.g. political, social or economic) that use the information to promote their agendas.

④ Agents of propagation and alteration - media technology

Media platforms and technologies that spread, modify or amplify the information, making it accessible to a larger audience.

⑤ Public Opinion

It is what people think or feel about the shared information.

ANALYZING THE ROLE OF POLITICAL PARTIES

IN MOBILIZING PUBLIC OPINION

Political parties play a crucial role in shaping, influencing and mobilizing public opinion in democracy. They compete for public support, using various methods like mass media campaign and interpersonal communication to sway votes and gain political power. While political parties strengthen democracy by promoting political engagement and representing the public's interests, weak or manipulative parties can weaken it. They may distort public opinion, create distrust in institutions, and undermine democratic values.

In such cases, democracy suffers as voters become radical or apathetic, and non-representative parties may undermine the system's integrity.

CRITICAL ANALYSIS :

In modern democratic states, the number of political parties may be limited to protect democracy, while in others, the constitution allows for the free development of multiple parties. Political parties represent the people, structure and mobilize public opinion, and often manipulate sentiment to gain power.

CONCLUSION:

Political parties are vital in modern democratic states, empowering democracy by representing both majority and minority groups and voicing underprivileged. Strong, honest, and nationalist parties support economic development and prevent non-political entities from interfering in politics. However, weak parties with internal motives can disrupt this balance. They also shape public opinion and influence democracy, playing crucial role in state governance.

"A political party is the only way to make democracy work on a large scale" - (Alexis de Tocqueville)