

# THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK ON ROLE OF POLITICAL PARTIES IN GOVERNANCE

**K Radha Kiran<sup>1</sup> (Research Scholar)**

**Dr. Shweta Rai<sup>2</sup> (Research Supervisor)**

Department of Political Science

<sup>1,2</sup> Sikkim Professional University, Gangtok, (Sikkim)

## Abstract

The data has been taken from the existing statistical data prepared after interviewing confident party leaders, who will then have their remarks and answers to the questionnaire examined and included into the article. The data, facts, and statistics included in the thesis are drawn from secondary sources. The statistics from the Parliamentary speeches, the data that was collected by the CSDS (National Centre for the Research and Analysis of Changing Economies) statistics Unit, and the replies of the provincial political party executives provided in their responses to the survey are among the key resources for the information. Secondary sources include written works such as documents, articles that have been peer-reviewed, and media and magazine pieces.

**Keywords:** *Regional Political Parties, State Politics in India, Coalition Politics, Federalism in India, Regional Identity and Politics, State Party Influence on National Politics*

## Introduction

Political parties play a significant role and serve as a "link between the electors and elected" in the contemporary democracies that have embraced "representative democratic forms of the government." When compared to its neighbors, India's democracy seems like a success; the emergency was a shock to the system, but it was only temporary, and democracy survived. Eighteen legislature elections and several more legislative races had been successfully conducted in India since the nation gained autonomy, with significant contributions from India's political parties. While political parties play a crucial role in today's democratic administration, there is a wide range in terms of its purpose, structure, and sheer number of members. Many variables, including the nature of the government and whether or not the political system is parliamentary or federal, influence the nature of a country's party system. <sup>1</sup>

## Background

Different viewpoints on the genesis of regional political parties in various political systems exist. Sociostructural characteristics and organizational and institutional aspect are the two basic points of view. Lipset and Rokkan introduced the social cleavages hypothesis in the context of the development of the European Party System. Additionally, it offered the fundamental framework for

<sup>1</sup> *Political Parties - Introduction, Functions, Need, and FAQs.* (n.d.). VEDANTU. <https://www.vedantu.com/political-science/political-parties>.

analysing party systems and election behavior globally. But there have been questions raised about the theory in relation to developing and poor nations. The social cleavages theory, however, was unable to account for the Membership for neighbourhood and tribal groups may fluctuate quickly. societal fractures remain constant, in comparison to the basis of support for regional political groups. The theory's main problem is that socioeconomic disparities, which are much more predictable as time goes on, cannot be used to explain extremely short fluctuations in favour for rural and regionalist movements. A different issue what this domain of study usually under-explains is the reason why and how political figures and groups decide the divide that is emphasised.

### Literature Review

India, the world's biggest democracy, is distinguished by a multi-party system that includes parties at the federal, state, and local levels. Stronger and more united communities may be achieved via the practice of positive regionalism. There has been no slowdown in the expansion of regional parties in India. Some of the more important ones are as follows:

- The development of regionalism may be traced back to the aim to maximize the benefits of federalism and the autonomy principle. Separation along subcultural lines has also helped areas maintain their independence.
- Regional parties serve as guardians of regional interests, preventing central government from disregarding other communities and cultures.
- Individuals' failure to see how their personal interests are intertwined with national interests has also contributed to the persistence of regionalism.
- Growth in India's economy has been erratic at the macro level. There are several states that are hindered in their ability to expand regionally. This discrepancy has exacerbated preexisting regional disparities.
- There has been corruption and scamming in political activity in a number of states. This is why government initiatives and policies failed to have full impact.
- Investment in human capital creation by the federal government is not distributed fairly throughout the states.

In this model, political parties form gradually over time as a result of the actions of lawmakers, following a straightforward method. The creation of house groupings, electoral committees of Congress, and a permanent connection across each of these elements come early in the process of creating a well-known party structure. The political institutions and lengthy independence process in India are both legacies of the country's time under colonial control.

### Aim and Objectives

- 1) To cover the different stages of party system in general with an emphasis to understand the distinguished features of Indian party system.
- 2) “To trace the origin and growth of the regional and the state-based parties in the framework of different theories”.
- 3) “To analyse the role of the regional and the state parties in the construction of the coalition government(s) at the national level”.

## Methodology

The data, facts, and figures in the thesis are based on primary as well as secondary information. The primary sources include information from the electoral agency of India (ECI), information from the Senate arguments, information from the Central Institute for the Research and Analysis of Developing Countries (CSDS) Data Unit, and survey responses with provincial governing party members. Print publications such as books are considered second-hand information, scholarly journals, and magazine and newspaper articles.

## Result And Discussion

### ➤ Crisis in Leadership

All the Third Front leaders that established with the regional parties have had leadership problems. Every single leader of a coalition party wants to be Prime Minister. There was no one figure in India who could unite people behind them and win their support.<sup>22</sup> One may make the case that Modi, and not the BJP, won the elections in 2014 and 2019.

### ➤ The Role of National Issues Increased

The results of national elections sometimes looked like a compilation of results from individual states. According to Yadav and Palshikar, there were several facets to the relationship between the state and national politics. After electing the Congress to power in the previous year's Assembly elections, voters in Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, and Madhya Pradesh soon turned to the BJP.

From 1998 to 2004, when the BJP was initially in power centrally, it did so as part of an alliance government operating inside a highly regionalized party environment. Over time, the BJP did become more moderate and tolerant of regional differences in order to gain power. As the neighbourhood parties' significance in national governance declined after the 2014 elections, the governing party's centralizing inclinations became more apparent.

## Conclusion

The central government of India, and the individual states that follow its model, are both governed by parliaments composed of elected representatives. At first, India was governed by what academics call a "one-party dominant system," or the "Congress system." During its formative years, the Congress party effectively steered the national liberation struggle and transformed into the country's preeminent political force ahead of each of the first four legislative elections held between 1952 and 1967. A "Congress System" was what Rajni Kothari called it, while Morris Jones called it a "one party dominant system."<sup>2</sup>

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Though the parties were allowed to freely compete with one another, there was no opposition coalition capable of challenging the Congress's hold on power. Although the 1967 legislative elections were a significant step toward a more competitive polity and a more varied structure of party rivalry, its effects were seen mostly at the state level and did not permeate to the national level. Even after the first coalition government was created in 1977, the Congress remained the most powerful political party in the country. But the Janata party administration only lasted for a short while, and in 1980 elections, the Congress party regained power.

Regional parties should use cutting-edge methods to reach out to more people. With their core supporter base dwindling, political parties need a new approach that can bring them together with the other social groupings.

Some of the results of this study go opposed to common sense, while others are consistent with known theory. After India gained its freedom, the nation's economic landscape has been in a constant state of flux, making the country's party system an interesting and important case study for anyone with an interest in or concern for the subject.

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