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ROLE AND ADMINISTRATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES DURING 1999 TO 2008

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ABSTRACT

As man moves from living in uncivilised groups and moves towards civilised society, the individuals try to participate in and establish different social institutions among which were political organisations that helped in creating unity among the people. The state of nature influences it because it is one of the phenomena for the existence of different political systems and the reason for the emergence of several non-political systems in the state. The political structure of the state is directed by its own administrative theories with the support of non-political system or actors for its strength and stability. Each nation has its own political system set up with the consent of the people and for their welfare. The political behaviour of individuals is the reason for the creation of the political system, administrative theories and organised political institutions in the state. The political system is one among the social structures of the state related to individuals and the supportive tools of the political and non-political institutions.

Keywords: Administration Political Parties

INTRODUCTION

Therefore, Aristotle said ,,

“Man is a social and political animal.” (Jowett, B.1999).

Before the emergence of the political system, there was no institution recognized as a systematic political institution for proper administration of the state.

There was a period when the word „mythology“ and „philosophy“ were used for politics though politics, unlike mythology, had objectivity and reliability. When man was dissatisfied with the state of nature, defeated by the anarchy and many threats to security in society, he wanted to change the social system by changing the political direction as he saw in that a tool to control and supervise the activities of human beings authoritatively. Simultaneously, the social order would also enter all spheres of human life. The social order would give people a systematic way of life with an appropriate structure of political administration. Following the state of nature, the political behavior of individuals would facilitate the formulation of new political theories and political tools for the citizens, governed and governing. Through this, society would have a new political culture, socialization, communication and institutions. Groups lacking political knowledge in society would move towards the groups of political community, which had the civic sense associated with civil society. These would include the youth, women, intellectuals and other professionals. As man became increasingly rational, he started to establish a systematic political structure based on non-political groups of society.

With the passage of time, man’s social concern was awakened. He tried to establish new political institutions and organisations related to the correct administration of

the state. Man emerged out of the earlier socio-political behaviour to change over to the

implementation of a proper political administration for the future. During the time when man enjoyed political liberty, he established a political system based on a liberal administrative theory, which was that of democracy. It is an evolving administrative-political system of the state with a process continuously changing in accordance with the political behaviour of individuals and their social concerns.

Democracy is one of the most popular political systems which give more liberties to an individual to act in the political and non-political systems. Political parties are one of the tools that play a vital role in the political process. The non-political elements of the state also play an equally significant role in the politics of succession of democracy, as they provide more opportunities for institutions for the progress and development of the individual and the state.

The Greeks adopted and advocated the political system of democracy dividing it into two forms, direct and indirect. The concept of democracy was later followed by the formulation of many other administrative theories such as aristocracy, oligarchy, dictatorship, tyranny, socialism and communism as they were followed in various countries of the world. Several of these theories faced challenges and many countries adopted the system of democracy.

When democracy emerged, it was the first popular, political structure. It provided to people an opportunity to express different political aspirations in terms of values, morals and democratic principles. Unlike in a democracy, other political theories fell short of meeting people’s

political aspirations.

In the ancient period, the principles of democracy were yet to crystallise. Later, in the medieval period, they were dormant in the non democratic political systems such as in dynasties and religious institutions. Especially in the modern period, there was a golden era of democracy when it thrived and from where it continued with its principles and practices to achieve the form that it has today. Democracy still lives with all its contradictions. Therefore, it sometimes looks as though "Democracy is nothing but collapsed rather than its existence." (Sartori, G.1965).

In the functioning of democracy, political parties play an important role. Politicians in government are the symbols of popular representation. Each political party has its own constitution, organisation and structure related to its ideology and programmes. The organisational structure of the party is systematically arranged by its leaders ranging from the regional level to the national level creating a party hierarchy.

Every political party tries to get the consent of the people so that it can administer the state. Political parties give equal priority to every group of civil society with the aim of attracting higher number of people, which helps it to prove its majority in the government.

Political parties identify particular groups of civil society as important to the party and create an identity for those groups within the party to strengthen itself.

Therefore, they have wings such as the youth wing, women's wing, students' wing, labour wing and peasants' wing. However, the youth wing becomes much more significant as it works as the backbone of the political activities of the party.

The youth wing is one of the auxiliary groups or political platforms of a political party. It is considered as the party's roots, providing stability and strengthening it at each level of the state. It acts as one of the channels of political recruitment into the party, promoting political awareness, education and participation.

1.2 DEMOCRACY

"Democracy is the beauty of political systems" (Sartori, G.1965) because it allows achieving the desired goals and objectives of the welfare state it is the theory whose principles can be applied practically. However, some of the scholars say that its principles

are only sometimes congruent with its practice. Therefore, it is not easy to define democracy. Democracy is a political system that is favoured by people because it enables each individual to get security, progress and development.

Even earlier, J. J. Rousseau, one of the social contractualists, spoke about

"Popular sovereignty" based on the principles of the

"general will" of the people to show that people's participation is inevitable. Likewise, democracy upholds the will of the citizens of the state.

Man enjoys the principles of democracy based on power and authority. He therefore tries to establish his own political institution which helps democracy to succeed using the tools of political parties, elections, government and public opinion. In the literal sense, democracy is formed of two Greek words, „demos“ and „cratia“, which means „people“ and „power“ of the state. However, Aristotle described democracy as a perverted form of government.

The political system of democracy involved several political activities of man in various social groups of civil society. Therefore, Robert A. Dahl said that "Democracies are polyarchies" (Sartori, G. 1965).

POLITICAL PARTIES

A political party is an organised group of people who hold position in the government with collective interest of the people. Therefore, "political parties are breathing organs of democracy. In the study of democracy, political parties have an important role because they are an essential factor for the functioning of the Government with the consent of the people and its political process. Lord Bryce says "Political parties are inevitable" in society. The main objective of political parties is related to the public's collective interest, to the articulation of the interest, its communication and organisation through political socialisation. Political parties are agents of political socialisation and mobilisation of man.

All over the world, political parties are identified by different groups of society such as language, races, tribes, religions and other social groups of society. In ancient Rome, the two communities were identified as „factions“ of "Plebeians" and "Patricians" but later, in England, two „sects“, the Tories and the Whigs originated, which later evolved into the Conservative and Liberal political parties. That is when the term

„political parties“ entered the lexicon. It was followed by the formation of political parties in the West such as the Democratic and Republican parties in the USA, the Conservative, Radical and Liberal political parties in Switzerland. Later, other social groups and communities also transformed as organised political parties took root in different countries for reasons of national events, political culture, socialisation and as a consequence of anarchy, protests, war and freedom movements.

In India, British imperialism and the Indian freedom movement were the major causes for the emergence of many political parties such as the Indian National Congress, Muslim League, Bharatiya Jan Sangh, Communist Party of India and Communist Party of India

(Marxist). In a democracy, political parties are considered extra constitutional institutions that compete for power to bring about change peacefully. According to J. Bentham, democracy is “the greatest happiness of the greatest number”. Modern political parties are studied scientifically in “Stasiology”, a term derived from the Greek word „stasis”, which means „faction” or bloc. (Gokhale, B. K.1979)

Political parties are the backbone of a democracy which articulates general interest as well as specific. Sigmund Neumann says, “Only of late and at last has the role of the political party entered the centre of our professional concern” which means social man has transformed into the political man.

According to Harold J Laski, “Political parties are inevitable in democracies.” No democracy can function without the existence of political parties. Munroe writes, “The government of independent political parties is another name of democracy.” This means democracy allows for the setting up of a government with a spectrum of opinions. However, Taine says, “Ten millions” ignorance do not make up one knowledge”. In a democracy, it is very important for a political party to articulate an opinion. (Sartori, G.1965)

Gilchrist says, “A political party may thus be defined as one organised group of citizens who profess to share the same political views and who by acting as a political unit, try to control the government.” It describes political parties as a set of units that control the government with popular opinion by conducting regular free and fair elections.

NATURE AND GROWTH OF POLITICAL PARTIES

Since ancient times, several political parties have emerged, transformed and collapsed for different reasons. Some political parties originated in the cause of freedom from exploitation, for freedom from imperialism and for popular representation.

However, Sir Henry Maine attributes the origin of political parties to “human nature” People, in the quest for a representative government, formed political parties. In Europe, political parties were differentiated on the basis of their political culture such as the conservative and radical parties. The conservatives were people who wanted the same principles and conditions of society to continue. They wanted the status quo to remain and strongly opposed change. The Radicals were in contrast to the conservatives. They were in favour of reforms and change.

“The different economic interests” were also one of the reasons for the emergence of political parties, wrote Arthur Holcombe. Political parties do not exist by virtue of ideology alone. They have an economic aspect as well. They have to strive for economic justice. For example,

political parties such as the Labour Party and the Socialist Party were based on bringing about change in the economic disparities in society and to fulfill people’s basic needs.

There were other causes as well for the rise of political parties. These were political, economic, social, religious, familial and leadership. For example, radical parties in Europe, political parties such as the Hindu Mahasabha, the Akali Dal and Muslim League in India, had religion as a base. Political parties were also based on leadership. For example, in Karnataka, the Janata Party in 1970s, this was built around Jayaprakash Narayan, Morarji Desai, and others. In Karnataka, the Janata Dal (Secular) and in Tamilnadu, the Dravida Munnetra Kazagam (DMK) and the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazagam (AIADMK) are parties built around leaders. Maurice

Duverger describes a political party as “a community with a particular structure”. He classified political parties as of two kinds: cadre parties and mass parties, according to their structure. (Swain, P. C. 2001). The cadre party by nature itself is represented by groups of elites. In the 19th Century, the political parties in Europe were recognised by the powerful, influential, recognised, popular citizens of the state. The candidate was selected”, not „elected” thus affecting the quality and quantity of the cadre in the party. The membership of the party was a “closed system”. The party was funded by the elites so only „notable” figures could take on the critical roles of formulating and implementing party policies and programmes. The party, therefore, represented and was led by the interests of the elite and not by the masses.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF POLITICAL PARTIES IN INDIA

Every political party has its own organisation based at different levels, which follow the party ideology at the national, state and local levels. The ideology of the party is based on the representation of the interests of various sections of a plural society. Political parties maintain internal democracy by organizing periodic elections within the party to provide equal opportunity to all members representing various interests to have a voice in the society.

The structure of Indian political parties is very well-organised with auxiliary and affiliated groups within the party that make it work successfully in the political system. Earlier, political parties were not focused on their working of auxiliary groups such as youth wing, women’s wing, peasants” wing. After the 1990s, the political parties recognized the role of important social groups and turned them into wings for the parties. Each wing of a political

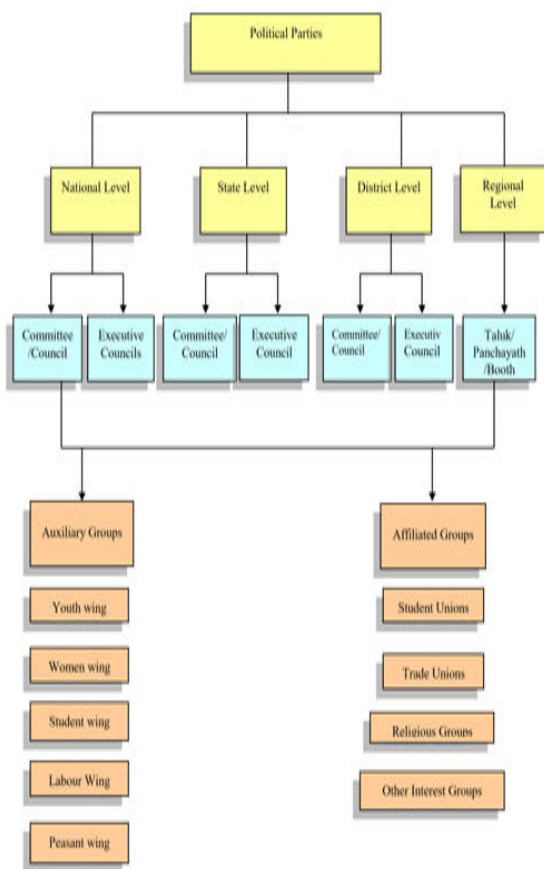
party had their own responsibility to promote qualitative politics with leadership, values and ideals among the respective members of their wings. This would help the structure of the political party in becoming strong and work more towards the welfare of the people. In parliamentary democracy, the structure of political parties is more decentralized according to the interests of multiplicity of people representing different social sectors of the state, which ensures the regular, periodic political process in the political party. However, the political parties have auxiliary, affiliated and non affiliated groups by the ideological agreement within its party and it has also a system of internal democracy.

Most political parties have an organizational structure that is as follows:-

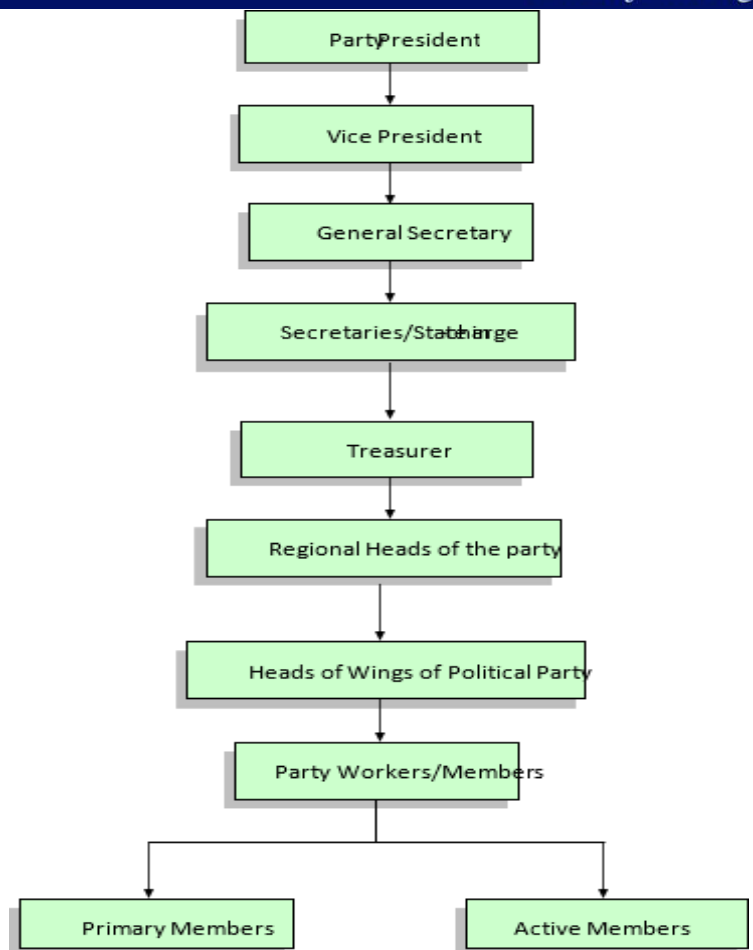
Levels of political parties:

1. The national level
2. The state level
3. The regional/local level

Chart-2.1: Organisational Structure of Political Parties in India



Hierarchy of Party Workers in the Organisation of Political Parties



The CPI has its own constitution to focus on the functions of party at the different level of state like National, state, District and regional level headed by the president, secretary and other co ordinate members of the party. Even the CPI has its own wings to implement its political programmes at all the level of state they are:

- All India Youth Federation – Youth wing
- All India Students Federation – Student wing
- National Federation of Indian Women – Women wing
- A.I.T.U.C and Bharatiya Khet Mazdoor Union – Labour wing
- All India Kisan Sabha – Peasant wing

CONCLUSION

Youth is a vital section of society whose members are required for the development of the state. The values, ideals, morals, ethics, values that each member of the youth has inculcated therefore matters and has a bearing upon society because the younger generation are the creators of a new world that has their aspirations. Without the youth in society, it is a challenge for the state to function actively. The youth is a resource for the economy and also is the symbol of a society's hopes. Recognizing the vital role that is played by the youth, the government has passed a

resolution that reads:

“Youth for Community – Community for Youth”, which emphasizes the role of the youth in the progress of society. Youth politics should be value-based and society should recognize this. The role of civil society groups is inevitable to identify the youth icon or mentor and to bring them in to the politics. The political parties of Karnataka need to recognize the significant role

that youth can make to politics. The youth wings are very actively mobilisation the youth in to the politics. If possible the political party has to provide quotas for youth to contest and positions of the different organisational level of the party. The youth wing is vibrant section of political party to attract, to hold, to facilitate, to implement, to criticize, and to show good way in politics for youth.

A youth wing of political parties in Karnataka has aim to determining the benefits of youth in to their political organisation. The political party has to think about the future in order to the priorities, strength and stability in politics. The competition will ahead across the political parties to attract youth towards politics by conducting and implementation of several policies and programmes.

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