



12-12-2022

Political Parties recognized as national or state parties

Why in Newspaper?

The **Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)** has fulfilled the criteria laid down by the Election Commission of India for **getting the status of a national political party** after the recently held **Gujarat Assembly elections**.

Quick issue?

- In this election, Aam Aadmi Party has won **5 seats and got about 13% of the total valid votes**.
- Earlier it has got the status of state level party in Delhi in the year 2013, Punjab in the year 2017 and Goa in the year 2022.
- The Aam Aadmi Party has achieved **state party recognition in four states**. It has secured **at least 6% of the total valid votes in four state assembly elections** as well as at least 2 seats in the assembly.
- After getting the **formal approval of the Election Commission**, the Aam Aadmi Party will be the **ninth party to get the status of a national political party** at present.

Historical Background

- A national political party is party which has **its presence at the national level**. It is opposite to the regional party.

Other Key Facts!

Political Party

- Political party is an **organized body of people who have common principles and goals regarding the political system of the country**.
- The main objective of political parties is to **obtain and maintain political power**.
- The **political party that runs the government is called the ruling party**.
- There can be more than one ruling party in a coalition government. The political party that sits in opposition and criticizes and analyzes the actions of the ruling party in general or on specific issues is called **opposition party**.



- A certain stature is associated with a national party, but it does not necessarily mean much national political influence.
- As per the Handbook of Political Parties and Election Symbols, 2019 of the ECI, a political party is considered to be a national party if:-
- It is '**recognised**' as a **state party in four or more states**; either
- Get **6 percent of the total valid votes** from **4 different states in the Lok Sabha or State Legislative Assembly elections** and win 4 Lok Sabha seats in addition. Or if it has won **at least 2% of the total seats in the Lok Sabha from at least 3 states.**
- A party is recognized as a state party in a state -
- If it secures **6% of the valid votes polled in the State in the General Election** to the concerned State Legislative Assembly and at the same time it wins **2 seats in the same State Legislative Assembly.**
- If it gets **6% of the total valid votes** in the state in the general election to the Lok Sabha and also it wins 1 seat in the Lok Sabha from the same state.
- If it wins **3% of the seats in the Legislative Assembly or 3 seats in the Legislative Assembly** (whichever is higher) in the general election to the Legislative Assembly of the concerned State.
- If it wins **1 seat in the Lok Sabha for every 25 seats allotted** to the State or any part thereof in the general election to the Lok Sabha from the State concerned.
- If it secures **8% of the total valid votes polled** in the state in a general election to the Lok Sabha for the State or State Legislative Assembly.

राष्ट्रीय राजनीतिक दल		
नाम	स्थापना वर्ष	चुनाव चिन्ह
भारतीय राष्ट्रीय कांग्रेस	1885	
भारतीय जनता पार्टी	1980	
बहुजन समाज पार्टी	1984	
भारतीय कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी	1925	
भारतीय कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी (मार्क्सवादी)	1964	
राष्ट्रवादी कांग्रेस पार्टी	1999	
ऑल इंडिया वृणमूल कांग्रेस	1998	
नेशनल पीपुल्स पार्टी	2013	
आम आदमी पार्टी	2012	



- The recognition granted to parties by the Commission entitles them to certain privileges, such as **allocation of symbols, state control, provision of time for political broadcasts on television and radio stations, and access to electoral lists.**
- These parties are allowed to have **40 "star campaigners"** (registered-unrecognized parties are allowed to have **20 "star campaigners"**) at the time of elections.
- Each national party is given a **symbol which is exclusively reserved for it throughout the country.** Even in those states where she is not contesting elections.
- The election symbol allotted to a state party is **exclusively reserved for its use in the state/states in which it is recognized.**

Expected questions for prelims!

1. What is the main feature of the party system in India?

- A. Most of the parties are mainly based on religion, language and caste
- B. There are many similarities in the policies and programs of different political parties
- C. There is a plethora of different regional or state level political parties
- D. All of the above

Ans - D. All of the above

2. In at least how many states the political party having the status of a state party is recognized as a national party?

- A. 2
- B. 3
- C. 4
- D. 5

Ans-C. 4



Q. 3 Who gives recognition to a political party as a national party or a regional party?

- A. President
- B. Law Minister
- C. Election Commission
- D. None of these

Ans - C. Election Commission

Three Himalayan medicinal plants included in IUCN Red Data Book

Why in Newspaper?

Recently, after an **assessment by the IUCN**, three medicinal plants found in the Himalayas have been included in their **list of threatened species (Red Data Book)**.

Quick issue?

- In this list, **Mesotropis pelita** is listed as **Critically endangered**, **Fritillaria cirrhosa** as **Vulnerable** and **Dactylorhiza hatagirea** as **Endangered**.

Historical Background

In this list, **Mesotropis pelita** is listed as **Critically endangered**, **Fritillaria cirrhosa** as **Vulnerable** and **Dactylorhiza hatagirea** as **Endangered**.

Mesotropis pelita – Mesotropis pelita is locally known as Patwa in the Kumaon Himalayas of Uttarakhand.

It is an endemic shrub species, which is critically endangered.



- These species are listed as '**critically endangered**' based on their **limited area of occurrence** (less than 10 sq km).
- It is **facing extinction due to deforestation**, habitat fragmentation and wildfires.
- The oil extracted from the leaves of *Mesotropis pelita* contains **antioxidant properties**, it can be used in **pharmaceutical industries** as a **natural alternative to synthetic antioxidants**.
- **Fritillaria cirrhosa** - *Fritillaria cirrhosa* (Yellow Himalayan Fritillary) is an Asian species of herbaceous plant of the lily family.
- It is found in **China, Tibet, Nepal, Pakistan, India, Bhutan and Myanmar**.
- During the period of assessment (22 to 26 years), its population recorded a **decline of about 30%**.
- Considering the **rate of decline, poor germination capacity, high trade value, extensive harvesting and illegal trade**, this species is listed as '**Vulnerable**' on the **IUCN Red List**.
- The plant is **also the source of a strong cough suppressant and expectorant** in traditional Chinese medicine.
- In China it is also used to treat

Other Key Facts!

IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)

- IUCN was **established in 1948**.
- It is headquartered in **Gland, Switzerland**.
- It is an **international organization**, which works for the conservation of nature and to ensure sustainable exploitation of natural resources.
- The members of IUCN include both states and non-governmental organizations.
- **Objectives:-** To promote international co-operation while providing scientific knowledge and tools to assist in biodiversity conservation.
- To provide scientific information on the status of species and subspecies globally.
- Raising awareness about the extinction of species and biodiversity.
- Creating a framework for biodiversity conservation



bronchial disorders and pneumonia.

- **Dactylorhiza hatagireya** - Dactylorhiza hatagireya (Salam Mishri or Salam Panja), is a **perennial herb found in sub-alpine to alpine regions.**
- It is a perennial tuber species found in the **Hindu Kush and Himalayan ranges of Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, India, Nepal and Pakistan.**
- It is used in **Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and folk medicine** to fight infectious diseases, **boost the immune system, and heal disorders of the circulatory, respiratory, nervous, digestive, skeletal and reproductive systems.**
- It is also used as a **dietary supplement to increase testosterone levels.**
- This species is **threatened by habitat loss, livestock grazing, deforestation and climate change.**

Expected Question for Prelims

Question.1 With reference to the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. IUCN is a part of the United Nations and CITES is an international convention between governments.
2. IUCN runs thousands of field projects around the world to better manage the natural environment.
3. CITES is legally binding on the states that have joined it, but the convention does not take the place of national laws.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only