

Elections (Article 324-329)

Article 324 stipulates that the superintendence, direction and control of elections shall be vested in the Election Commission.

Article 325 provides for a single electoral roll for every constituency. Also stipulates that no person shall be eligible or ineligible for inclusion in electoral rolls on the basis of race, religion, caste or sex.

Article 326 stipulates that elections shall be held on the basis of adult suffrage. Every person, who is a citizen of India and is not less than 18 years of age shall be eligible for inclusion.

Political Parties

Registration of the People Act, 1951 provides for registration of political parties with the election commission.

There are eight (8) National Parties in India, namely BJP, Congress, BSP, NCP, CPI, CPM, Trinamool Congress and National People's Party.

A political party shall be eligible to be recognised as a **National party** if









- i. It secures at least 6% of the valid votes polled in any four or more states, at a general election to the House of the People or to the State Legislative Assembly; and
- ii. In addition, it wins at least four seats in the House of the People from any State or States.
- iii. It wins at least 2% seats in the House of the People (i.e., 11 seats in the existing House having 543 members) and these members are elected from at least three different States.

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Likewise, a political party shall be entitled to be recognised as a if.

- i. It secures at least 6% of the valid votes polled in the State at a general election, either to the House of the People or to the Legislative Assembly of the State concerned; and
- ii. In addition, it won at least two seats in the Legislative Assembly of the State concerned.
- iii. It wins at least 3% of the total number of seats in the Legislative Assembly of the State or at least three seats in the Assembly, whichever is more. For elections of President and VicePresident, election petitions can only be filed with the Supreme Court.

