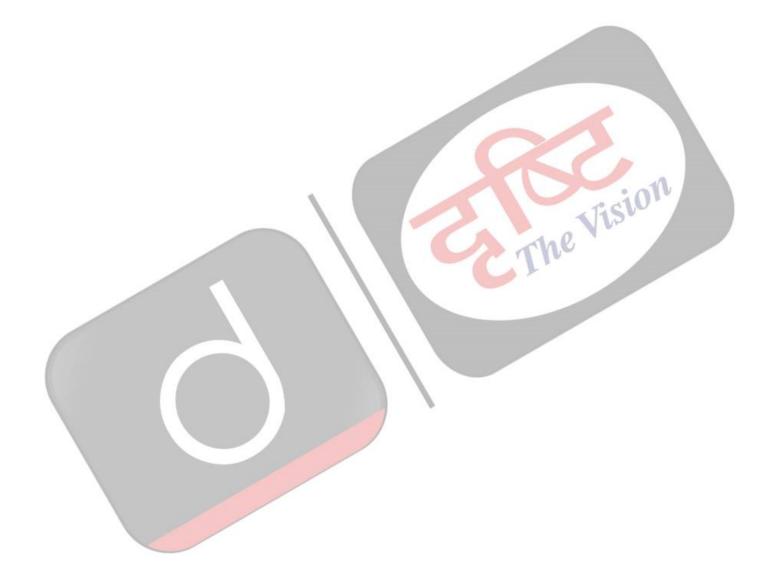


Rise of Regional Parties in India



	 Introduction India has a multi-party system of democracy. ECI based on poll performance grants
	 recognition to political parties as national or state parties. There are eight "recognized national" and more than 50 "recognized state" political parties.
	 Regional Parties in India In India regional parties are based on themes like: Identity: Based on the recognition of the cultural rights of the inhabitants of the states. Statehood: It demands an independent state within the country. Autonomy: Asks for greater powers to the states. Development: Thinks only regional party can bring development in the region. Sometimes regional parties create these 'cultural specificities' for electoral gains.
Rise of Regional	 Various Stages of the Indian Party System 1952-64: Indian democracy was a one-party system, termed as 'Congress system'. 1964-77: After the Nehru era and 1967 elections growth of regional parties came about. 1977-80: Emergence of a multi-party system, in the aftermath of emergency, led by Janata
Parties in India	 Party in 1977. 1980-89: More assertive role of regional parties in centre politics. For eg: TDP as the regional party was the main opposition party in 1984 Lok Sabha. 1989-2014: Era of coalition politics started. 2014 - till now: Return of Single party dominance; 2014 and 2019 Lok Sabha elections.
	Implications of Regional Parties
	 Compulsions of coalition Policy paralysis and delay in decision making. Rainbow' coalitions: 1996-1999 had 3 general elections, which cost a lot of public money. Competition for vote banks based on caste and community.
	 On the positive side Regional parties have strengthened the cooperative federalism trends of our federal system. Regional parties filled a vacuum by projecting the issues related to minorities and safeguarding their interests. They provided a new dimension to the process of national integration and nation-building.
d drishti	 Way Forward Regional parties are a natural consequence of diversity and democracy in India. Thus, their growth is in synergy with the entire spirit of democracy.



<u>For TTP</u>

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