

UNIT 2

Election, Political Parties and Pressure Groups

Learning Objectives

- Know about the electoral system in India.
- Know the different types of elections in India.
- Understands the meaning of political party.
- Know the functions of state party and national party.
- Understand the pressure groups in India.



Introduction

An election is a formal decision-making process by which a people chooses an individual to hold public office by voting.

2.1 Electoral System in India

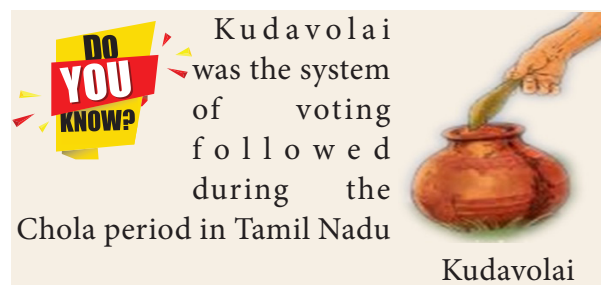
The electoral system in India has been adapted from the system followed in the United Kingdom. India is a socialist, secular, democratic republic and the largest democracy in the world. The modern India the constitution of India came into force on 26th January, 1950

Articles 324 to 329 in part XV of the Constitution make the following provisions with regard to the electoral system in our country.

- (i) Article 324 of the Indian Constitution provides for an independent Election Commission in order to ensure free and fair elections in the country. At present, the commission consists of a Chief Election Commissioner and two Election Commissioners.
- (ii) The Parliament may make provision with respect to all matters relating to elections to the Parliament including

the preparation of electoral rolls, the delimitation of constituencies and all other matters necessary for securing their due constitution.

- (iii) The state legislatures can also make provisions with respect to all matters relating to elections to the state legislatures including the preparation of electoral rolls and all other matters necessary for securing their due constitution.



2.1.1 Election Process

At the national level, the head of government, the Prime Minister, is elected by members of the Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Parliament in India.

