

Preference also for close relations including family members of prominent politicians for nominations

- ❖ **Nehru / Indira Gandhi / Rajiv Gandhi / Sanjay Gandhi / Sonia Gandhi / Rahul Gandhi**
- ❖ **Sharad Pawar / Ajit Pawar / Supriya Sule**
- ❖ **Shaikh Abdulla / Farooq Abdulla / Omar Abdulla**
- ❖ **Murali Deora / Milind Deora**
- ❖ **Karunanidhi / Azhagiri / Stalin / Kanimozhi**

..... the list is pretty long.

Consequences

- **As the party grows and becomes bigger, it gets degenerated as honest, competent candidates often side tracked**
- **Promotes 'Chamchagiri'. The party politics becomes dirtier and dirtier and governance deteriorates**
- **Difficult for capable & honest people to get into main-stream politics**
- **Out of sheer frustration they form new parties**
- **Presently there are over 1500 registered political parties in our country. Many formed with good intentions by well meaning people. (Most of them find it difficult without adequate means etc. to make a head way.)**

(contd.)

- **The major political parties themselves split often due to clash among the party leaders over distribution of tickets**
- **Process of fragmentation & formulation of new parties encouraged**
- **Rejected candidates join other parties or stand as independents**
- **They become chief pawns of power-play**



No Ticket – No Cap !

What is the solution?

- **Primary system of elections in the USA – a major reform in this direction**
- **Selection process itself made more democratic. Mandatory for all political parties to hold elections for nominations of candidates for legislature, Governor and also President**
- **These elections popularly called 'primaries' are held under secret ballot under state supervision**
- **Many states permit non-party members to vote in primaries. However, the voters have to select party of their choice and cannot vote for more than one party.**

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- **Winner of these primaries entitled to get party-ticket for main election**
- **Selection of the candidates not at the whims and fancies of Party leaders**
- **Encourages deserving and capable people to join main-stream political parties as they do not have to beg for tickets to party bosses**
- **Major political parties itself will benefit/rejuvenate with inclusion of such meritorious candidates.**
- **Promotes healthy 2-party system. Democrats and Republics have remained as 2 major main stream political parties**
- **It will also prevent mushrooming of new parties.**

(contd.)

- **Although bit expensive, overall process has lots of advantages**
- **While in U.S., this is mandatory, many other countries have also adopted some reforms in this direction**
- **In Germany, the candidate is selected based in a secret ballot in an Assembly of Party members or General Assembly of Party Representatives**
- *If democracy is of the people, for the people and by the people, there is no better way than to have the very people participate in the selection process of the candidates to be nominated by the Parties in a democratic manner*

Mixed Proportional System

- **Our present electoral system of ‘first-past-the-post’ system i.e. candidate getting highest votes declared elected does not truly reflect the popularity of parties**
- **A small swing in percentage of popular votes drastically changes final tally of seats.**
- **A candidate is declared elected inspite of getting lot more more votes (percentage wise) cast against him.**
- **The chances of distortion more in a multi-party system**
- **A party gaining 30% votes many end up getting 60% seats**

Illustration of Distorted Results :-

Tamilnadu State Election

	1989			1991		
	% of votes	Seats	Remarks	% of votes	Seats	Remarks
AIADMK	21.5	27	All 3 parties contested elections independently	44.4	163	AIADMK &
Congress	20.2	26		15.4	61	Congress formed
DMK	33.3	151		21.4	1	an alliance

Madhya Pradesh State Election

Year	Congress		BJP	
	% of votes	Seats	% of votes	Seats
1998	40.6	172	39.3	119
1993	40.7	174	38.8	117
1990	33.4	56	39.1	220
1985	48.8	250	32.4	58
1980	47.5	246	30.3	60