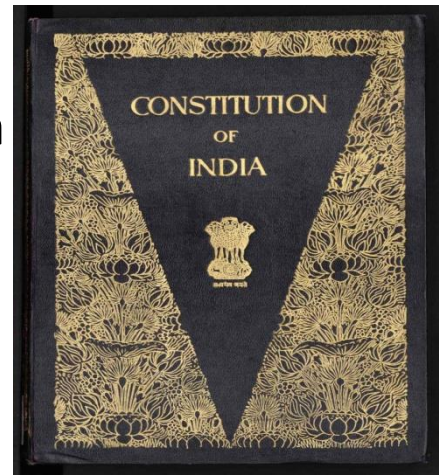# *ERA OF ONE PARTY DOMINANCE*

*BY KAPILDEV RAY*

# SOME BASIC POINTS

A. The constitution of India was adopted on **26$^{th}$ November, 1949** and it came into force on **26$^{th}$ January, 1950**.

B. The Election Commission of India was set up in January 1950.

C. **Sukumar Sen** was the first Chief Election Commissioner.

D. He was also become the Chief Election Commissioner of Nepal and Sudan.
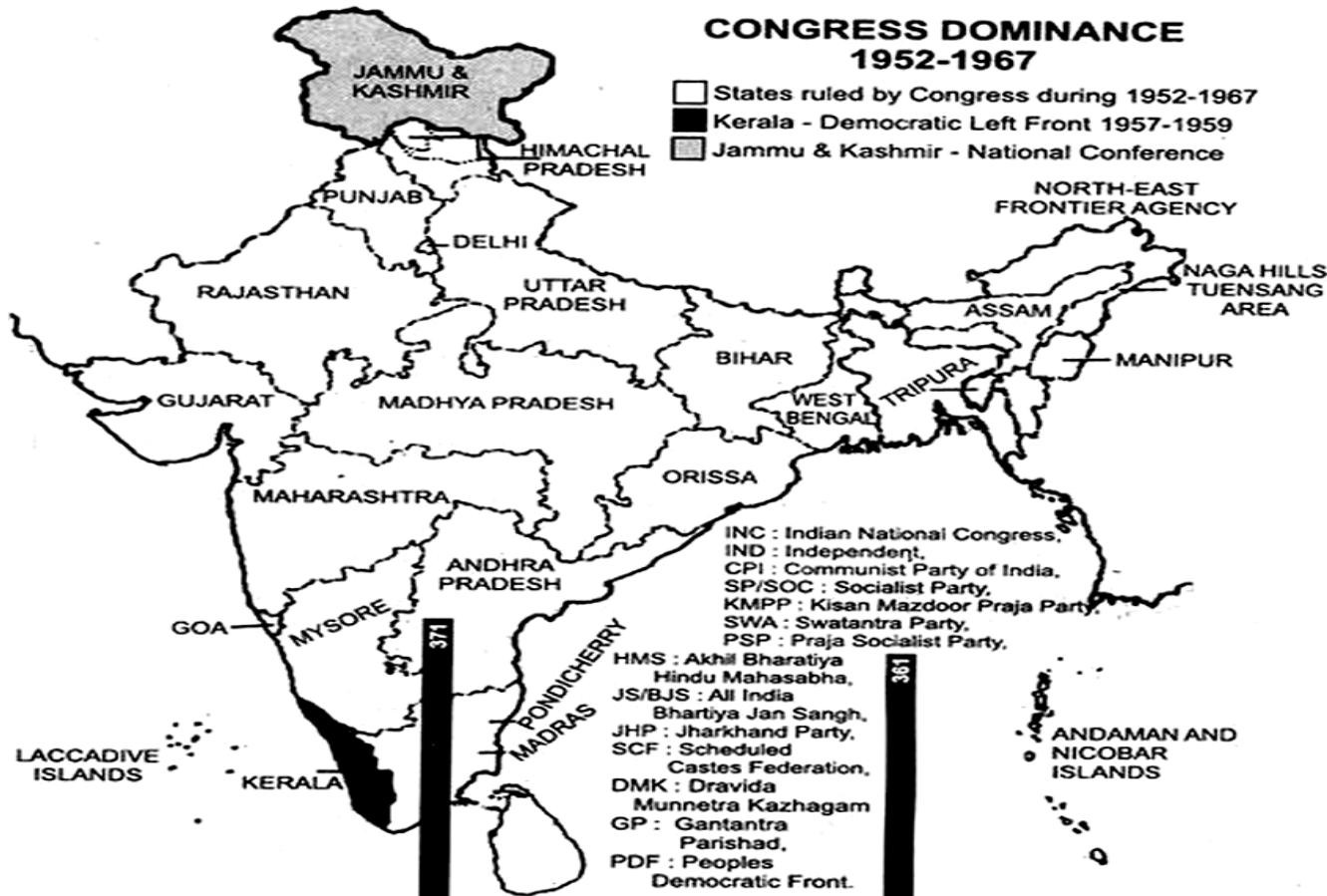
# *INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS(INC)*

1. ***INC was formed in 1885 by A.O.Hume***.
2. At first the INC was not a political party. Its main aim was to independent India from British rule. Later it becomes a political party.
3. INC dominates the Indian politics in the first three general elections, i.e***. 1952-1967***. The domination of Congress party on Indian political system is known as one party dominance.
4. Rajni Kothari termed the dominance of Congress party as **"Congress System"**.
5. J.L.Nehru says that **the Congress is India and India is the Congress.**

# _THE THREE GENERAL ELECTIONS_

1) **_First general election(1951-1952)_** – INC won 364 seats out of 489. CPI came next with 16 seats. 14 national parties were contest in the first general election.

2) **_Second general election(1957)_** – INC won 371 out of 494 seats. CPI came next with 27 seats.

3) **_Third general election(1962)_** – INC won 361 out of 494 seats. CPI came next with 29 seats.

# CONGRESS DOMINANCE
## 1952-1967

☐ States ruled by Congress during 1952-1967
■ Kerala - Democratic Left Front 1957-1959
▒ Jammu & Kashmir - National Conference

JAMMU & KASHMIR

HIMACHAL PRADESH

PUNJAB

DELHI

RAJASTHAN

UTTAR PRADESH

NORTH-EAST FRONTIER AGENCY

NAGA HILLS TUENSANG AREA

ASSAM

BIHAR

MANIPUR

GUJARAT

MADHYA PRADESH

WEST BENGAL

TRIPURA

MAHARASHTRA

ORISSA

ANDHRA PRADESH

GOA

MYSORE

PONDICHERRY

MADRAS

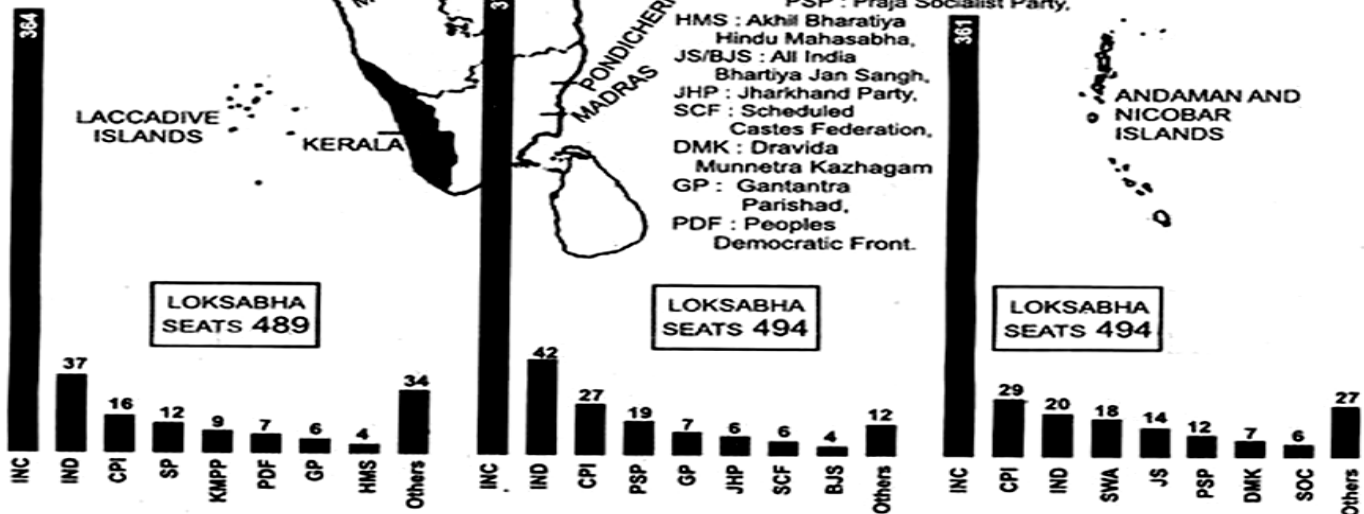LACCADIVE ISLANDS

KERALA

ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

INC : Indian National Congress,
IND : Independent,
CPI : Communist Party of India,
SP/SOC : Socialist Party,
KMPP : Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party,
SWA : Swatantra Party,
PSP : Praja Socialist Party,
HMS : Akhil Bharatiya Hindu Mahasabha,
JS/BJS : All India Bhartiya Jan Sangh,
JHP : Jharkhand Party,
SCF : Scheduled Castes Federation,
DMK : Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam
GP : Gantantra Parishad,
PDF : Peoples Democratic Front.

LOKSABHA SEATS 489

LOKSABHA SEATS 494

LOKSABHA SEATS 494

| Party | Seats |
|---|---|
| INC | 364 |
| IND | 37 |
| CPI | 16 |
| SP | 12 |
| KMPP | 9 |
| PDF | 7 |
| GP | 6 |
| HMS | 4 |
| Others | 34 |

| Party | Seats |
|---|---|
| INC | 371 |
| IND | 42 |
| CPI | 27 |
| PSP | 19 |
| GP | 7 |
| JHP | 6 |
| SCF | 6 |
| BJS | 4 |
| Others | 12 |

| Party | Seats |
|---|---|
| INC | 361 |
| CPI | 29 |
| IND | 20 |
| SWA | 18 |
| JS | 14 |
| PSP | 12 |
| DMK | 7 |
| SOC | 6 |
| Others | 27 |

# CONGRESS DOMINATION IN STATE LEVEL

1) Congress lost its dominance for the first time in Kerala, 1957.
2) In 1957, in Kerala CPI formed the government and E.M.S.Namboodiripad become Chief Minister.
3) This is the first democratically elected communist party government in the world.
4) In 1967 general election Congress lost its majority in nine states – West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Haryana, Punjab.
5) In Kerala CPI formed the government and in Tamil Nadu DMK formed the government.
6) In 1967 , Congress got majority in Lok Sabha but get only 283 seats out of 516 seats.

# REASON FOR THE CONGRESS PARTY DOMINANCE

1) The inclusive character of the national movement led by the Congress enabled it to attract different sections, groups, and interests making it a broad based social and ideological coalition.

2) The key role of the Congress in the freedom struggle gave it more popular than other parties.

3) The ability of the Congress to accommodate all interests and all aspirations of the people.

4) INC is an old and well structured party .it influenves on the ground level too.

5) The personality of such leaders of Congress party .

# FEATURES OF THE PERTY SYSTEM OF INDIA

1) Multiparty system.
2) Caste and communal based party.
3) Ideological confusion.
4) Organizational looseness of the parties.
5) Defection.
6) Fragmental opposition.
7) Personality cult – dominance of individuals in political parties.

# _SOCIALIST PARTY_

a) The **Socialist Party was formed in 1948**.

b) Socialist Party believed in the ideology of **democratic socialism.**

c) They criticised Congress for favouring capitalists and landlords and for ignoring the workers and the peasants.

d) Some prominent leaders of the Socialist Party were - **Jayprakash Narayan, Achyut Patwardhan, Asoka Mehta, Acharya Narendra Dev, Rammonohar Lohia, S.M. Joshi** etc.

e) Many parties in contemporary India like the Samajwadi Party, the Rastriya Janata Dal , Janata Dal (United) , Janata dal (Secular) , the Kishan Mazdoor Praja Party , the Praja Socialist Party and Samyukta Socialist Party trace their origins to the Socialist Party.

# COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (CPI)

a) **CPI was formed in 1924**,influenced by the Russian revolution of 1917.

b) CPI emerged as the largest opposition party in the first three general elections.

c) CPI believed in **reduce of taxes , welfare of labour and peasents , land reforms , nationalisation of industries** etc.

d) Some prominent leaders of CPI were **– A.K.Gopalan , S.A.Dange , E.M.S.Namboodiripad , P.C.Joshi , Ajay Ghosh , P.Sundarrya** etc.

e) The party's support was more concentrated in West Bangal , Kerala, Tripura , Andhra Pradesh , Bihar etc.

f) The party was **split in 1964** , following the ideological rift between Soviet Union and China. The pro Soviet remained as the CPI ,while the opponents formed CPI(M).

# _COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MARXIST)_

a) CPI(M) was formed in 1964.

b) A.K.Gopalan was the prominent leader.

c) Believe in the establishment of communism through parliamentary system.

## _COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA ( MARXIST-LENINIST )_

a) CPI(ML) was formed in 1969 as a result of split in CPI(M).

# BHARATIYA JANA SANGH

a) **BJS was formed in 1951 by Shyama Prasad Mukherjee**.

b) Its lineage can be traced back to the RSS and Hindu Mahasabha.

c) Some prominent leaders of this party were – **Shyama Prasad Mukherjee , Deen Dayal Upadhyaya , Balraj Madhok** etc.

d) The BJP traces its roots to the BJS.

e) It emphasised the idea of **one country , one culture , and one nation** and believed that the country could become modern , progressive , and strong on the basis of Indian culture and traditions.

f) The party called for a reunion of India and Pakistan in **Akhand Bharat.**

g) The party seeks to replace English by **Hindi as the official language** of India and opposed to the granting of concessions to religious and cultural minorities.

h) The party was a consistent advocate of India developing nuclear weapons.

# SWATANTRA PARTY

a) *Swatantra Party was formed in 1959*.

b) Some prominent leaders were – *C.Rajagopalachari , K.M.Munshi , N.G.Ranga , Minoo Masani* etc.

c) It believed in *individual freedom and free private sector.*

d) It was very critical of the state intervention of economy , centralised planning , nationalisation , and the public sector.

e) It was critical of the policy of non –alignment and maintaining friendly relations with the Soviet Union and advocated closer ties with the United States.

*Towards the end of 1990s the Election Commission of India started using the EVM (Electronic Voting Machine). By 2004 the entire country had shifted to the EVM.*



VS

Ballot Paper

Corrupt
Criminal
Opportunist
Defector
Communal
Undertrial

EVM