

SOS POLITICAL SCIENCE & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
M.A POLITICAL SCIENCE IV SEM
INDIAN POLTICS-: SOCIAL & POLITICAL PROCESS (202)
UNIT -V

TOPIC NAME-PRESSURE GROUPS AND POLITICAL PROCESS IN INDIA

WHAT IS POLITICAL PRESSURE GROUP?

- Electors may follow issues, express views on a government policy or become involved in **pressure groups** or **political** parties. A **pressure group** is a **group** of people who share one or more interests or concerns, and who try to influence the course of public policy in relation to their interests.

WHAT ARE THE TYPES OF PRESSURE GROUPS?

- Sectional Pressure Groups
- Cause Or promotional pressure group
- Local group
- National group
- Transnational group
- Temporary group
- Permanent group

HOW DO PRESSURE GROUPS APPLY PRESSURE?

- **Directly**
- Funding political parties
- Boycotting firms and brands
- Breaking controversial laws
- Writing to MP's or local councillors
- Lobbying key policy-makers
- **Indirectly**
- Distributing informative leaflets and pamphlets
- Using the media and new technologies like Facebook and Twitter to spread their cause (and so effect referendum voting and general elections)
- Demonstrating/protesting (like the anti-poll tax demonstration of March 1990)

WHAT IS THE AIM OF PRESSURE GROUPS?

- The **aim** of all **pressure groups** is to influence the people who actually have the power to make decisions. **Pressure groups** do not look for the power of political office for themselves, but do seek to influence the decisions made by those who do hold this political power

FEATURES OF INDIAN PRESSURE GROUP

- Based on certain interest
- Lack of alignment with any party
- Pressure group uses party platform
- presence of political parties sponsored pressure group
- Resulting out of increasing pressure and demand on resources-
- Use of traditional and modern means
- . Existence of several caste families and religion-based groups
- . A counter check on political parties
- More dependent on means of direct action

HOW ARE PRESSURE GROUPS USEFUL TO SOCIETY?

- Pressure groups are treasured by representative democracies like the USA and the UK because it gives ordinary people a chance to voice their views and be heard - even when it's not time to vote.
- Pressure groups allow us to influence the government and so let us become more directly involved with how things are run in our lives.

ADVANTAGES OF PRESSURE

- The influences on parliament have many advantages and disadvantages. The advantages of pressure groups are that it gives the public and minorities a voice. They act as a safety valve for disappointments, as in pro-hunting and anti-Iraq war protests. Also, pressure groups raise public awareness of issues. For example, Father4justice has been successful through many stunts as they raised awareness for fathers who have been denied access to their children after divorce. As well as raising public awareness, another advantage is that members of pressure groups are often experienced and therefor can propose detailed and well-thought-out law changes.

DISADVANTAGES OF PRESSURE GROUPS

- disadvantages of pressure groups are that some large pressure groups that represent powerful organisations are extremely influential therefore difficult for smaller pressure groups to match their impact. Pressure groups such as environmental groups are also a disadvantage as they claim that the strength of the road lobby and the airline industry means that new roads or airport extensions are tough to fight. Also, the methods of some pressure groups can be a problem. For example, strikes and protests like the blocking of oil depots can cause disruption and the direct action tactics of Fathers4justice have been criticised.

MAJOR PRESSURE GROUPS IN INDIA

- The business group
- Peasant's organization
- Student's organizations
- Community association
- Linguistic groups
- Professional groups
- .Tribal(regional groupsLinguistic groups

ROLE OF PRESSURE GROUP IN INDIA

- is as follows-Role in legislature-Pressure group tries to introduce their chosen person into the legislature. They help political parties on the eve of an election and prepares election manifesto.
- Role in executive-Pressure group tries to fill high executive posts with men of their own choice i.e. selection of cabinet, distribution of portfolios and P.M selection due to the prevalence of collation government. And henceforth influences policy implementation process.
- Role in Bureaucracy- Bureaucrats are politically neutral and hence pressure group tries to oblige them by putting good remarks that protect their interests. Bureaucrats have long tenure and so they are in contact with them to oblige.
- Role in judiciary- By appointing judges in political affairs, pressure groups play an important role as the high judicial offices are occupied by them.

MEDIA AS PRESSURE GROUP

- Mass media plays a vital role in revealing the various happening of politics and life of common people all around. In countries such as India the mass media –the radio, TV, the cinema and the press are very powerful means of social change and act as a pressure group for the interest of common people and reveals all deeds of the government. Mass media in its full swing of working can openly criticize the government and have the right to place their view on a certain situation. Further mass media help to generate a common platform which tries to focus on core issues of the society and its need.
- So media role is as much important in influencing activities of the political parties as that of other pressure group working to strive certain specific goals. In fact, in this contemporary world media acts as an agent of change focusing on the social development of society and hence media role of pressurizing government given its nature of pressure group which is of vital importance.

CONCLUSION

- all these major criticism, the existence of a pressure group is now an indispensable and helpful element of a democratic setup. Pressure group promotes national and particular interests, constitute a link of communication between citizen and the government. They provide the necessary information and keeps the nation politically alive. Today democratic politics has to be politics through consultation, negotiation and some amount of bargaining. These cannot happen without pressure group. The society has become highly complex and individual cannot pursue their interest in their own, they need pressure group for this. Tom Driberge -"You have only two option with pressure group if you agreed with it then accept it and embrace it and if you are not agreed then ignore it". Pressure groups are so vital that they are not confined to need of developed or developing nation or any form of government.

THANK YOU

