



## **Role of youth in Indian party system**

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### **Abstract**

Corruption is commonplace in government offices and second nature to some of India's politicians. One of the loudest cries heard at political gatherings across India is that the youth should enter the field of politics. In fact, these cries that call upon the youth to lead the country have echoed right from the time of India's independence. It started with Gandhi's request to the youth to actively participate in the freedom movement and continues right up to today's pleas by young political leaders like Rahul Gandhi, Milind Deora, Varun Gandhi, Jyotiraditya Scindia, Naveen Jindal, Priya Dutt and Sachin Pilot, amongst others. Indian Youth as a category is extremely complex and difficult to ascertain at a time when there is no general consensus yet amongst scholars on its minimal definition. The category or the social group referred to as 'Indian youth' many look simple as most of us identify this category by a certain age group, but it is not as simple as a one may think. Student participation in politics characterized by militant unity and ideological objectives was considered noble and prestigious. Many of the present days political leaders in India received their political baptism in the student movements.

**Keywords:** Indian youth, party system. Corruption, social group, political leader

### **Introduction**

In democracies like the one I live in, politics is, whether we like it or not, an integral part of our lives. In everything we read, everything we eat and even in everything we touch is a story interwoven with politics. We know of people who have given up their lucrative careers to come into politics and do community service; we know of committed "career politicians", and we also know of the greedy and the slovenly type who live off public property. Therefore in politics and in governance what matters are the people who are behind it. If politics is flawed, it is because the people in it are flawed. We are constantly in the process of demanding honesty, transparency and efficiency in the political process. Yet, honest and capable young people in my country do not take an interest in joining politics, and governance. The active participation of young people in a democracy is essential, if we want to build more democratic, inclusive and prosperous societies. However participation in a democracy is more than voting or standing for election. Participation is about having the right, possibility the opportunity and the support to participate in and influence decisions and involve in actions and activities to help to build a better society.

If we truly believe that the future of any country lies in the hands of the youth than we need to take a step forward. Only youth can change the pace and width of the course of our nation's progress and make India a global giant. If we want to see a better India it's time to take charge. We have to build a foundation now for a prosperous future. Unless youth feel concerned and gets involved in politics at all stages, we cannot expect a nation to grow.

### **Youth-driven parties**

The phenomenon that involves the youth forming their own political party instead of just playing puppets to major parties is not new. However, these parties have hardly managed to take off, giving rise to the question whether such youth-driven parties can compete with the big names in India's political scene. However, a party for the youth, by the youth and of the youth needs to come to life, given that the youth of today have a desire for change and are brimming with fresh ideas. Research assessing young people's political interest and engagement has principally employed quantitative, rather than qualitative methods. In addition, researchers have tended to use rather narrow and conventional indicators of political interest, for example, by examining voting behaviour, party identification and knowledge of parliamentary politics. Such measures depend on the context in which questions are asked and the reference points used by young people to make their judgements. Without a clear understanding of how young people conceptualise political interest and engagement, it is difficult to know how they interpret such questions or the reasons for their responses.

Young people identified a range of different ways in which politics had been taught at school and college. These included formal classes about politics, which were incorporated into either PSHE or Modern Studies, as well as discussions about politics as part of another course, such as History, Law or Sociology. As part of these various courses, they sometimes had been encouraged to write to politicians, or to take part in a mock election

"Youth-driven political parties are the only hope, but they

need to be 'marketed' well. You need a popular face to promote it, some excellent fund-collectors and people who are in it for the right reasons and for the long haul," explains Usmani.

Here are the steps you need to take to start a youth-driven political party:

One needs to be at least 25 years of age.

A registration application along with certain documents needs to be submitted to the Secretary of the Election Commission of India. The accompanying documents include copies of the youth-driven party's Constitution, an affidavit signed by the party's president and general secretary that states that no member of the party is a member of any other political party, and particulars of bank accounts in the name of the party.

### **BJP made India's youth less liberal?**

The Lokniti report, titled Attitudes, Anxieties and Aspirations of India's Youth: Changing Patterns is based on a 2016 survey of 6,122 people between the ages of 15 and 34, across 19 Indian states. The exercise was done nine years after a similar survey was conducted in 2007. The 2007 report is called Indian Youth in a Transforming World: Attitudes and Perceptions. Both surveys were conducted with assistance from the German think tank, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS). The 2016 survey shows that around 25% of the country's youth identifies itself with the BJP, making the party's base among the young, the biggest among all political parties. But it is worth noting that a majority of respondents do not identify with any political party.

Youth politicians, young journalists, young students and leaders of the national polity must work as a role model for general public and revolutionize the whole system and fulfil Kalam's vision- 2020. The role and relation of politics with youth is to be taken in constructive perspective, they are hope of corruption free society who will promote morality, effectively and honestly. Only positive approach will make sure that Indian youth will lighten the country which is under the dark clouds of bribery. It is the best medicine to cure the disease of future but also the key factor in the present scenario who will give us a systematic and full solution of the problem.

### **Some important International Youth organizations**

1. Dail na Nog (Irish Youth Parliament) 2. Young Democrats of America 3. College Democrats of America 4. UK Youth Parliament 5. European Liberal Youth 6. International Federation of Liberal Youth 7. Green Youth (Sweden)

### **Youth wings of political parties in India**

Some prominent ones are - - Indian Youth Congress - Bhartiya Janta Yuva Morcha - Asom Yuva Parishad - All India Trinamool Youth Congress - Jharkhand Yuva Morcha - National Youth league (Indian National League) - All India Youth League - All India Democratic Youth organization - All Indian Federation Youth Organization - Yuva Janta Dal - Revolutionary Youth Association - Democratic Youth Federation of India

The right to vote is not just a right enjoyed by every individual over the age of 18; it is also a responsibility to make an informed and responsible choice and to bring to power the well-suited candidate. For a long time, there has been a trend

to vote for people who give the maximum amount of freebies in return. Instead of following this path, the youth must make a conscious decision to vote on the basis of the agenda of the candidates and their past work.

It is only when the youth become aware of the problems that the country is facing and choose the candidate who is most likely to bring about a change, that the right representatives will come to power and India's future will be in safe hands. The task is not a long and tedious one. All it requires is a bit of effort to look at all the contesting candidates, their histories and their agendas and vote for the one that they deem the most fit to govern the country. Several websites are making this task easier by simplifying the analysis of the comparative performance of the competing candidates.

Democracy cannot survive without both citizens' participation and politicians' accountability. Since the politicians would do nothing to inform the youth about the socio-economic problems facing the nation today and only exploit them, it is the responsibility of civil society organisations and the media to educate young people about the issues involved and their high stakes in the fruits of development.

### **Youth rejecting negative politics**

All parties have their fair share of candidates with a criminal background who are given tickets to stand for elections, and therefore each party's leadership must accept responsibility for the poor quality of politics being practiced today. Across the country, the youth are expressing their frustration and rejecting the low level of politics being played out by all parties, and has been expressing themselves on social media and other forums. This is the prime reason why they are unable to connect with old world political leaders and their polarizing politics, and are therefore, unwilling to come forward and take part in active politics. In a democracy, politics is supposed to represent the voice of the people, wherein politicians are expected to fairly represent the expectations of the voters that voted them in. But this is an idealist perception. In reality, politics has become a business, often family business, where a small group of people control the 'affairs' of politics in an oligarchy, for selfish gains – monetary or otherwise.

### **Present political scenario of youth**

Though as a nation we might have succeeded in electing a few youths in the Parliament, it has been an act of mere tokenism. For neither do they seem to possess any zealously rousing vision, nor do they presumably possess any precipitously striking leadership skills, which is pretty evident from their spiritless attendance and incurious participation. The real catalytic change can happen only when political parties in power have a pre-potently dynamic youth oriented perspective. They need to not just invigoratingly encourage educated youth to participate but they need to have a systematic selection and funding process. It is only then that there would be a true vitalizing transformation in the political system that would pave a path for a fundamentally strong and prosperously efficacious democracy. The youth play a very important role in every society. This is because the youth are mostly well educated with updated skills and knowledge. They are also very dynamic and hardworking unlike the

elderly men who can barely walk. Youth of India should come up and take part in politics so that the people's future can be in hands of someone who is much more capable of.

### **Conclusion**

Indian youth plays an important role in the Indian politics as they are the future of India and needs different ideas to share with the old minds and make great changes in the politics, government and policies for the betterment of the country. Indian youth are much awaited in Indian politics. We are witnessing new trends in politics but not many youth are coming into politics. Youth have the spirit and energy to achieve high goals in comparison to the sluggish old men working in the existing political system. Youth, overall could play a better role. The youth is always the prime factor of any society or any organization, because with age they have energy, zeal to perform and more dedication. We agree that politics is quite a challenging field, but we do believe that the youth of today is far more capable and fast. The youth of today are not only knowledgeable, but they are also aware of latest technologies and trend, which if used in right way can surely benefit every citizen and hence the country. Therefore it is time for senior politicians, to show their benevolence, by letting youth of today take over their role and let India have a better and speedy progress.

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