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# **Parliamentary Democracy**

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# Abstract:

Parliamentary democracy is the most significant contribution of the British to the world. Before India's independence from England, the nation had experience working in a parliamentary democracy, so many countries under the British embraced parliamentary democracy.

Keywords: Democracy, Leadership, Legislative Honour

# **1.1 Introduction:**

Several countries under British rule adopted parliamentary democracy because it is the most significant contribution of parliamentary democracy. For example, when the British asked the Indians to choose their government system, the Indian leaders naturally chose parliamentary democracy. This was discussed at the Constitutional Convention and finally adopted and adopted by both the Centre-States.

# **1.2 Meaning of the Democracy:**

A system of government in which people elect representatives to a parliament to make laws is called parliamentary democracy for example; the UK and India are following Parliamentary Democracy, where citizens elect representatives to parliament to make the necessary laws and decisions for the country.

# **1.3 Definitions of the Democracy:**

According to Dr. Lll Garner: "The Cabinet is a real executive. It is, in all political and policy matters, directly and legally responsible to the lower house of the legislature, and to the electorate. But the head of the country, the nominal executive, is not responsible for anyone. This whole system is called parliamentary democracy.

According to Dr. Hermann Fainer: "There is a committee of informally selected members of parliament to guide the legislative process, to oversee and govern the legislature. Such a system is a parliamentary democracy."

# **1.4 Nature and Features of Parliamentary Democracy:**

# 1. Nominal Executive and Real Executive.

In a parliamentary democracy, there are two kinds of executives: nominal and real. According to the legislation, the nominal executive has all of the country's executive powers but must consult the Prime Minister's Cabinet for guidance and assistance. He is not the head of the government; he is the head of the country. The nation governs the cabinet in his name. This is the actual executive. For instance, the Prime Minister's Cabinet of Ministers is the actual executive of a country, while the Queen of Britain and the President of India are the formal executive.





# 2. The close relationship between the Executive and the Legislature.

In the Government of Parliamentary Democracy, every member of the Executive (Cabinet) is also a member of the Legislative Assembly. If a minister who is not already a legislature member is appointed, he must be elected within six months of his appointment. If not, the minister's term will be terminated. The initiatives will be droughted by Cabinet members and approved by Parliament. Promote government policy and take part in legislative activities. The legislative and executive branches have a positive relationship because members of the Cabinet are also members of the legislature.

#### 3. The executive is subject to the control of the legislature.

The legislature is the responsibility of the executive branch in a parliamentary democracy. The legislature has complete authority over the executive. Only as long as the legislature remains confident and quits right away after losing support will it survive in power.

#### 4. Collective Responsibility.

The Cabinet, comprising the Prime Minister, is responsible for the governance of Parliament. If the Prime Minister resigns, the entire Cabinet will lose power. By the principle of collective responsibility, no one can go against cabinet decisions.

#### 5. Personal responsibility.

Not every minister can handle the responsibility of the administration of their department by blaming their officers. They are responsible for the failure of the department and resign the ministerial position with moral responsibility if necessary.

#### 6. Leadership of the Prime Minister.

The Cabinet functions under the leadership of the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister is responsible for the birth, life and end of the Cabinet, the selection of ministers, the sharing of accounts, and the administration of ministers. The Prime Minister supervises all of the Ministry's activities. The government's failure is the prime minister's responsibility.

#### 7. Political Reconciliation.

All members of the Cabinet in a democratic parliamentary system often come from the same political party, which holds a majority in the parliament. However, this is impossible in a coalition government, and ministers must always act in favour of the party's policy. Not to express opinions that are contrary to the policy of the party and its government.

#### 8. Political Party Government.

Having a political party government is characteristic of parliamentary democracy. If there is no majority, several parties will form a coalition government. Parties can be two or many. However, with a bipartisan system, this operation will not succeed.

#### 9. Period of Uncertainty.

In parliamentary democracy, the tenure of government is not specific because it depends on the will of the legislature. If the legislature makes a no-confidence motion against the government, then it will expire. In multilateral systems, it is common to see government instability.

#### **10. Strong Opposition**

There is a need for strong opposition in parliamentary democracy. The ruling party cannot ignore the role of the opposition parties. The opposition exposes the government's loopholes. If necessary, the cabinet can be overthrown by a vote of no confidence, and a replacement government can be created.



# **1.5 B. Working of Parliamentary Democracy: India And UK:**

Today, India and the UK are the largest democratic countries in the world. There is more debate going around the world on whether India and the UK are worthy of parliamentary democracy. Important aspects of the functioning of parliamentary democracy in India and the UK can be discussed as follows:

#### **1. Existence of the Nominal Executive.**

There are two distinct kinds of executives in nations with parliamentary democratic countries: nominal executives and real executives. According to the constitution, the executive has all of the country's executive powers. These are formal and ornamental capabilities of the nominal executive. As a result, the nominal CEO does not truly use the authority granted to him. For example, the king of Great Britain and the president of India.

#### 2. The Cabinet is the Real Executive.

The Real executive with Nominal executive in a parliamentary democratic Government. A real Cabinet exercises virtually all executive powers in this system, though not constitutionally executive functions. The Cabinet makes decisions on matters of national and international importance. In this system, nominal executives make decisions on the advice of real executives. For example, Article 74 (1) of the Constitution of India provides for the Cabinet to advise the President on the performance of his duties. Similarly, in Great Britain, the Cabinet is a real function. The Queen or the King of Great Britain exercises powers at the suggestion of the Cabinet.

#### 3. Politically ambitious government.

In the parliamentary democracy system, the Political Party will create a government. It only takes his party to the Minister's post. That is only the Minister of the administration party. The opposition parties are no more genuinely allowed to come to power. This is why the country cannot be able to serve its talent. No technical or academic eligibility to be ministered or a majority party member is enough. Although there is no majority party perturbation, they can be ministers using the impact. Thus, the government is non-efficient and politically ambitious.

# 4. Ministerial Dictatorship.

With legislative and executive powers concentrated, the Cabinet can function in its way from the dictatorship of the Cabinet. If the majority is too strong and the opposition parties are weak and dysfunctional, parliamentary democracy can be transformed into totalitarianism. So lengthy as it maintains a majority, the Cabinet may act in its best interests.

#### 5. Leadership of bureaucracy.

In the parliamentary democratic system, every minister engages in legislative functions, party affairs, and social gatherings. Since they spend most of their time in public relations and meetings, their departments do not have time to look after related tasks. As a result, they are entirely dependent on their administrative staff. This puts the Cabinet in the grip of the bureaucratic class. This is inevitable. Thus, the real powers of the ministry are in the bureaucracy. It boosts the bureaucracy.

#### 6. Decline in Legislative Honour.

There should always be healthy debates in Parliament and State Assemblies. Many prime ministers have transformed Parliament into their institution. Thus, Parliament loses its dignity and respect. The ideas and debates of former MPs are hidden today. Creating an atmosphere of debates and tense discussions on trivial matters is more challenging to control. Overall, the respect of the people's legislature is diminished by the manner in which the current parliament and state legislatures are run.



# 7. Decline in the quality of people's representatives.

The lawmakers must be very competent and ideal for the people of the country and the state. But the morality of our representatives today is very low. The perfect moral qualities of our ancestral representatives are now lacking. Monetization is interesting to them. Some people get paid to ask a question in the legislature; from these kinds of representatives, the country's progress is impossible.

# 8. Priorities party interests over national interests.

In this system, the government is controlled by a majority party. So, it allows for flaws in the party system. Ministers also party selfishly overlook national interests. They can use their power to strengthen their party. Party interests are more important than the interests of the nation. If the minister is busy with his party affairs, there will be no efficiency in the administration.

#### 9. Violation of the principle of separation of powers.

Since the legislative and executive powers are concentrated in the Cabinet in this system, it violates the doctrine of devolution. As a result, the executive has control over the legislature.

#### 10. Emergency situations are useless.

The Cabinet governs under the collective responsibility thoughts in this system. The minister should agree upon the significant policies. It is necessary to have a conversation, etc. As a result, in the event of an emergency, quick action is not feasible. This practice is most successful in periods of peace.

#### **1.13 Conclusion:**

A system of government in which people elect representatives to a parliament to make laws is called parliamentary democracy. For example, the UK and India follow Parliamentary Democracy, where citizens elect representatives to parliament to make the necessary laws and decisions for the country.

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