

CLASS:--12TH

POLITICAL SCIENCE NOTES

CHAPTER:-18 ,

RECENT, DEVELOPMENT IN INDIAN POLITICS

Communalism, Secularism, Democracy

- During 1990s the politics based on religious identity emerged in India and debate about secularism and democracy came in currency. After Shah Bano case of 1985 BJP emerged as a 'Hindutva Party'.
- The Babri Masjid was a 16th century mosque in Ayodhya and was built by Mir Baqi -Mughal emperor Babur's General.
- Some Hindus believe that it was built after demolishing a temple for Lord Rama.
- The dispute took the form of a court case and has continued for many decades.
- The Babri Masjid was demolished on 6th December, 1992. After demolition, the news led to clashes between the Hindus and Muslims in many parts of the country.

- In February-March, 2002, large-scale violence against Muslims took place in Gujarat. The violence began from Godhra.
- This incident alert us to the dangers involved in using religious sentiments for political purposes.

Emergence of a New Consensus

- Analysis shows that since 1989 election, the votes polled by the two parties-Congress and BJP do not add upto more than 50 per cent.
- The political competition during the nineties is divided between the coalition led by BJP and the coalition led by the Congress.

Lok Sabha Elections 2004

In 2004 elections, the coalition led by BJP National Democratic Alliance was defeated and new coalition led by the Congress, known as the United Progressive Alliance came to power.

Growing Consensus

- After 1990 a consensus appears to have emerged among most parties which consists of following elements
 - Agreement on new economic policies.
 - Acceptance of the political and social claims of the backward castes.

- **Acceptance of the role of state level parties in governance of the country.**
- **Emphasis on pragmatic considerations rather than ideological positions and political alliances without ideological agreement.**
- **They also work as a pressure groups in Indian politics.**
- **Sometimes regional parties influence the Central Government to divert more annual budget funds to their states at the expense of other states.**