

THE MUN FACTORY

EXCELLENCE IN DIPLOMACY & LEGISLATIVE DEBATE

OFFICIAL BACKGROUND GUIDE

ALL INDIA POLITICAL PARTIES MEET

(AIPPM)

AGENDA:

"Engaging in Multi-Party Discussions on National Policy, Legislative Strategies, Governance Priorities, and Political Alliances."

Executive Board & Research Directorate

A Comprehensive Strategic Guide for Parliamentarians & Party Representatives

THE MUN FACTORY EDITION 3.0

Strictly Confidential & Proprietary Academic Material

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A NOTE FROM THE MUN FACTORY EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the All India Political Parties Meet (AIPPM) at TMF 3.0. The AIPPM is a unique, non-conventional simulation of an informal parliamentary consultation body in India. Unlike standard Model United Nations committees that operate under international law and UN rules of procedure, the AIPPM operates within the framework of the Constitution of India, parliamentary conventions, and Indian political dynamics.

This Background Guide serves as a comprehensive reference to orient your research. Delegates are expected to go beyond surface-level political rhetoric, adopting deep policy-driven arguments, supported by constitutional provisions, legislative precedents, statistical data, and official party manifestos. Maintain parliamentary decorum, debate with conviction, and embody the true spirit of Indian democratic deliberation.

1. ABOUT THE ALL INDIA POLITICAL PARTIES MEET (AIPPM)

The All India Political Parties Meet (AIPPM) is an extra-constitutional, informal body convened by the Government of India prior to parliamentary sessions or during national crises. It brings together leaders of all recognized national and regional political parties, representatives from both the ruling coalition and opposition benches, to build consensus on critical legislative agendas, national security matters, and socio-economic policy frameworks.

The core objective of AIPPM is to enable candid, cross-party dialogues free from the strict procedural rigidities and televised theatrics of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha floors. It offers political leaders a platform to deliberate on sensitive national policies, voice regional grievances, reconcile conflicting party ideologies, and formulate bipartisan solutions to national challenges.

2. UNDERSTANDING THE AGENDA & SCOPE OF DEBATE

Agenda Overview

"Engaging in Multi-Party Discussions on National Policy, Legislative Strategies, Governance Priorities, and Political Alliances."

The contemporary political landscape of modern India stands at a critical juncture. Rapid economic growth, technological advancement, and demographic dividends coexist with persistent structural challenges including agricultural distress, regional economic disparities, unemployment, climate vulnerabilities, and evolving geopolitical realities. The purpose of this consultation is to critically evaluate national policy frameworks across key socio-economic and strategic sectors.

Key Conceptual Pillars of the Debate

- **Socio-Economic Development Policies:** Reviewing India's growth trajectory, fiscal policy targets, employment generation, rural economy, and public infrastructure expenditure.
- **Legislative Reform & Governance:** Analyzing pending national legislation, statutory frameworks, institutional autonomy, judicial reforms, and federal administrative efficiency.
- **Federalism & Centre–State Dynamics:** Examining financial allocations, fiscal devolution under the Finance Commission, GST compensation mechanisms, the role of Governors, and state autonomy.
- **Coalition Politics & Strategic Consensus:** Navigating the nuances of multi-party democracy, coalition management, alliance building, and ideological convergence/divergence on matters of paramount national interest.
- **National Security & Diplomatic Posture:** Assessing border security management, defense procurement reforms, counter-terrorism measures, and India's evolving global strategic partnerships.

DELIBERATION SCOPE & MANDATE

Delegates must refrain from treating AIPPM as a platform for mere electoral campaigning or personal mudslinging. The focus must strictly remain on constructive policy criticism, constructive legislative proposals, constitutional arguments, and viable strategic alternatives. Representatives must articulate their respective political party's official stance accurately while demonstrating a willingness to build consensus on national priority issues.

Key Socio-Economic Metrics Overview

Economic Indicator	Current Value / Status	Primary Policy Focus
GDP Growth Rate	~6.8% - 7.2% Projected	Macroeconomic stability, private investment, manufacturing (PLI)
Fiscal Deficit Target	~4.9% - 5.1% of GDP	Fiscal consolidation vs. capital infrastructure spending
Retail Inflation (CPI)	~4.5% - 5.0% Band	Food supply chain management, monetary policy alignment
Agrarian Sector Share	~15% - 17% of GDP	MSP guarantees, farm income, irrigation, technology adoption

Unemployment Rate (PLFS)	~3.2% - 6.5% (Varied Urban/Rural)	Youth skill development, manufacturing job creation, formalization
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3. STRUCTURAL FRAMEWORK OF THE INDIAN PARLIAMENT

Constitutional Mandate & Bicameral Architecture

Under Article 79 of the Constitution of India, the Parliament consists of the President and two Houses: the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) and the House of the People (Lok Sabha). The Indian parliamentary system is modeled on the Westminster system but operates within a federal constitutional setup with supreme constitutional authority vested in the Constitution itself.

Lok Sabha (House of the People)

- **Composition:** Directly elected representatives from territorial constituencies across States and UTs. Maximum sanctioned strength is 550.
- **Tenure:** 5 years, unless dissolved earlier by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister.
- **Key Powers:** Exclusive power over Money Bills (Article 110), voting on Demands for Grants, and passing No-Confidence Motions against the Council of Ministers (Article 75(3)).

Rajya Sabha (Council of States)

- **Composition:** Representatives elected by the elected members of State Legislative Assemblies (proportional representation) plus 12 nominated experts. Max strength 250.
- **Tenure:** Permanent body; one-third of members retire every two years.
- **Key Powers:** Federal safeguard; special powers under Article 249 (legislating on State List) and Article 312 (creation of All-India Services).

The Executive–Legislative Relationship

In accordance with Article 75(3), the Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha. Executive power is exercised by the Cabinet, but legislative approval is mandatory for statutory enactments, taxation, and government expenditure. The President acts on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers under Article 74.

Parliamentary Committees: The Engine of Scrutiny

Due to the limited time available on the floor of the House, detailed scrutiny of legislative bills, budgetary demands, and ministerial policies occurs within Parliamentary Committees. These are broadly categorized into:

- **Departmentally Related Standing Committees (DRSCs):** 24 standing committees covering all Union Ministries to examine bills, annual reports, and budgetary allocations.
- **Financial Committees:** Public Accounts Committee (PAC), Committee on Estimates, and Committee on Public Undertakings (COPU). PAC scrutinizes Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) audit reports.
- **Ad-Hoc / Joint Parliamentary Committees (JPCs):** Constituted for specific legislative inquiries or investigations into public issues.

Constitutional Amendments & Legislative Passing

Ordinary Bills require a simple majority in both Houses. Constitutional Amendment Bills under Article 368 require a special majority (majority of total membership and 2/3rd of members present and voting in each House), and in matters affecting federal structures, ratification by at least half of the State Legislatures.

4. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE IN AIPPM

Procedural Adaptations for AIPPM

While the AIPPM is an informal consultative conference, discussions follow stylized parliamentary rules derived from the *Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha* to ensure structured, equitable, and rigorous debate. The committee is moderated by a Speaker / Executive Board.

Primary Parliamentary Instruments & Motions

1. Statements by Party Representatives (Formal Speeches)

Delegates deliver opening policy statements representing their political party's official platform, outlining key legislative priorities, criticisms of current national policies, and proposed reforms.

2. Moderated Caucus / Consultative Discussions

Sub-topics under the overarching agenda (e.g., "Fiscal Devolution to States", "Agrarian MSP Framework", "National Security & Border Infrastructure") are debated during Moderated Caucuses. Delegates speak for designated time limits (e.g., 60-90 seconds) to present specific policy arguments.

3. Unmoderated Caucus / Alliance Building

Informal negotiations where party leaders interact across ideological lines to form alliances, draft joint policy communiqués, negotiate amendments, and resolve contentious policy disagreements.

4. Parliamentary Devices & Points

- **Point of Order:** Raised when there is a violation of committee rules or constitutional procedure.
- **Point of Parliamentary Inquiry:** Used to seek clarification from the Executive Board regarding procedure.
- **Point of Information / Question:** Posed to a speaker following their address, subject to their permission.
- **Right of Reply:** Granted at the discretion of the Chair if a delegate or party's integrity has been directly impugned.

Committee Documentation & Outcomes

Unlike MUN committees that pass "Resolutions", AIPPM outcomes take the form of:

- **All-Party Joint Communiqué / Declaration:** A consensus document outlining agreed national policies, bipartisan commitments, and joint legislative recommendations.
- **Policy Memoranda & Dissent Notes:** Submitted by individual party blocs or coalition groups highlighting alternative reform models, statutory objections, and minority recommendations.

DELEGATE CODE OF CONDUCT & DECORUM

Delegates must adhere strictly to parliamentary language. Unparliamentary remarks, personal accusations lacking factual substantiation, or disruptive behavior are prohibited. Address all arguments through the Chair, using formal designations (e.g., "The Representative of BJP", "The Representative of INC").

5. HISTORICAL EVOLUTION OF INDIA'S MULTI-PARTY DEMOCRACY

Phase 1: The One-Party Dominance System (1952–1967)

Following independence and the enactment of the Constitution in 1950, Indian politics was characterized by what political scientist Rajni Kothari termed the "Congress System". The Indian National Congress (INC), having led the freedom struggle, enjoyed overwhelming dominance at both the Central level and across virtually all States in the first three general elections (1952, 1957, 1962). Opposition parties (such as the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, CPI, Socialist Party, and Swatantra Party) existed but acted primarily as pressure groups within the broader consensus framework.

Phase 2: The Breakdown of Dominance & Emergence of Regional Power (1967–1989)

The 1967 Fourth General Elections marked a watershed moment. Non-Congress coalition governments (Samyukta Vidhayak Dal - SVD) came to power across eight major States, shattering the monolith of single-party dominance. The split in the INC in 1969, the imposition of National Emergency (1975–1977), and the subsequent victory of the Janata Party in 1977 established that Indian democracy possessed robust self-correcting mechanisms. The 1980s saw the dramatic rise of powerful regional parties rooted in linguistic, identity, and state-specific economic aspirations (e.g., TDP in Andhra Pradesh, DMK/AIADMK in Tamil Nadu, Akali Dal in Punjab).

Phase 3: The Era of Coalition Politics & Fragmentation (1989–2014)

The 1989 General Election ushered in a quarter-century of coalition governance at the Center. No single political party secured an absolute majority in the Lok Sabha between 1989 and 2014. Key structural factors included:

- **Mandal Commission Implementation (1990):** Reshaped the social architecture of politics, leading to the rise of regional and caste-based political parties (e.g., SP, BSP, RJD, JD(U)).
- **Economic Reforms of 1991:** Shifted state-led economic planning toward market liberalization, decentralizing economic decision-making and empowering State governments.
- **Coalition Formations:** National parties were forced to build broad-based national coalitions—the United Front (1996-98), the National Democratic Alliance (NDA - formed 1998), and the United Progressive Alliance (UPA - formed 2004).

Phase 4: The Contemporary Multi-Party Landscape (2014–Present)

The 2014 and 2019 general elections resulted in single-party majorities for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, leading political scientists to refer to a "BJP-dominant system". However, the 2024 general election reaffirmed the fundamental multi-party nature of Indian democracy, returning India to an era of explicit coalition governance where major national parties rely on strategic regional allies to secure parliamentary majorities.

6. DYNAMICS OF COALITION POLITICS & ELECTORAL ALLIANCES

The Mechanics of Coalition Governance

Coalition politics in India represents the practical operationalization of social and regional pluralism within executive governance. Successful coalition management relies on formal and informal institutional mechanisms:

- **Common Minimum Programme (CMP):** A negotiated policy document agreed upon by coalition partners that outlines shared policy goals, legislative agendas, and executive commitments while sidelining core contentious ideological points.
- **Coordination Committees:** Institutional bodies comprising representatives from all coalition partners to resolve disputes, align legislative strategies, and streamline executive appointments.
- **Cabinet Representation & Power Sharing:** Allocation of key ministerial portfolios based on parliamentary strength, regional weight, and ideological leverage.

Major Political Alliances in India

1. National Democratic Alliance (NDA)

Led by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the NDA emphasizes national security, infrastructure expansion, economic modernization, digital governance, and culturally rooted developmental governance. Major regional partners historically and currently include TDP, JD(U), Shiv Sena (Shinde), LJP (Paswan), Jana Sena, and regional parties from the North-East under the North-East Democratic Alliance (NEDA).

2. Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (I.N.D.I.A.)

Formed as an umbrella opposition coalition led by the Indian National Congress (INC), alongside major regional parties including AAP, TMC, DMK, CPI(M), CPI, Samajwadi Party (SP), Shiv Sena (UBT), NCP (Sharadchandra Pawar), RJD, and JMM. The bloc emphasizes federalism, social justice, welfare rights, employment generation, protection of constitutional institutions, and secular governance.

Challenges & Paradoxes of Coalition Governance

While coalitions enhance regional representation and prevent executive overreach, they can lead to policy paralysis, blackmail by regional allies, fragmented economic policymaking, and instability if coalition partners withdraw support over local electoral compulsions.

7. THE NATIONAL POLICY-MAKING & LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

Phases of Federal Policy Formulation

Policy formulation in India is an intricate multi-stage process involving executive institutions, constitutional bodies, legislative scrutiny, and judicial review.

THE LIFECYCLE OF A NATIONAL LEGISLATION

1. **Policy Conceptualization:** Driven by Cabinet Ministries, NITI Aayog recommendations, Law Commission reports, or judicial mandates.
2. **Inter-Ministerial Consultation & Public Feedback:** Draft bills circulated among relevant ministries, states, and published for public comments.
3. **Cabinet Approval:** The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister formally approves the draft Bill.
4. **Legislative Introduction & First Reading:** Bill introduced in Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha; overall principles discussed.
5. **Committee Scrutiny (Second Reading):** Referred to Departmentally Related Standing Committees for clause-by-clause scrutiny and stakeholder submissions.
6. **Clause-by-Clause Debate & Voting:** Amendments moved by opposition and treasury benches; voted upon.
7. **Transmission to Second House:** Process repeated in the other House of Parliament.
8. **Presidential Assent:** Under Article 111, the President grants assent, turning the Bill into an Act of Parliament.

Role of NITI Aayog & Think Tanks

Replacing the Planning Commission in 2015, NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India) serves as the primary policy think tank of the Union Government. It promotes cooperative federalism through bottom-up planning, three-year action agendas, and comparative state rankings (e.g., Good Governance Index, Health Index, Innovation Index).

Judicial Scrutiny & Constitutional Limits

Under the doctrine established in the landmark *Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala (1973)* judgment, the Supreme Court of India exercises judicial review over all parliamentary enactments to ensure they do not violate the Basic Structure of the Constitution or Fundamental Rights (Part III).

8. ECONOMY, MACROECONOMIC REFORMS & FISCAL POLICY

Current Economic Landscape & Growth Imperatives

India stands as the world's fifth-largest economy, striving to achieve a \$5 trillion GDP target and transition into a developed nation ("Viksit Bharat") by 2047. However, economic policy debates center on balancing fiscal consolidation with aggressive capital expenditure, formalizing the unorganized sector, boosting private investment, and tackling structural youth unemployment.

Fiscal Federalism & Debt Management

The Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act mandates fiscal discipline, targeting a Central fiscal deficit below 4.5% of GDP. Policy disputes arise over the balance between capital expenditure (roads, railways, defense) and revenue spending (subsidies, welfare schemes, cash transfers).

Goods and Services Tax (GST) Framework

Enacted via the 101st Constitutional Amendment Act (2016), GST unified India into a single market. However, political friction persists within the GST Council regarding rate rationalization, compensation cess sunset clauses, state revenue autonomy, and tax devolution timelines.

Key Macroeconomic Indicators & Policy Debates

Economic Issue	Treasury / NDA Perspective	Opposition / Allies Stance
Capital Expenditure (CapEx)	Focus on massive state-led infrastructure spending to crowd in private investment and build long-term assets.	Argues CapEx growth has not generated adequate employment; demands direct cash transfers to boost consumption.
Manufacturing & PLI Schemes	Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes across 14 sectors to position India as a global manufacturing hub.	Critiques PLI for favoring large conglomerates; demands greater support for MSMEs which absorb most labor.
Taxation & Wealth Inequality	Broadening tax base, reducing corporate tax rates, rationalizing GST slabs, and strengthening digital tax compliance.	Demands wealth tax, higher marginal tax rates on ultra-rich, and reduction of GST on essential food and medicines.

10. AGRICULTURE, AGRARIAN DISTRESS & RURAL TRANSFORMATION

Structural Challenges in Indian Agriculture

Agriculture employs nearly 45% of India's workforce but contributes less than 18% to Gross Value Added (GVA). The sector suffers from land fragmentation (average holding size < 1.08 hectares), climate vulnerability, depleting groundwater levels, inadequate cold-chain infrastructure, and market distortions.

The MSP Debate & Statutory Guarantees

The Minimum Support Price (MSP) is announced by the Central Government for 22 mandated crops based on recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). A major focal point of cross-party debate is whether MSP should be granted legal statutory enforceability (guaranteeing purchase at C2+50% formula) versus fears of fiscal unsustainability and market distortion.

Key Farm Policies & Welfare Reforms

- **PM-KISAN:** Direct Income Support of ₹6,000 per year to landholding farmer families.
- **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY):** Crop insurance framework aimed at stabilizing farm income.
- **Agricultural Infrastructure Fund (AIF):** ₹1 Lakh Crore financing facility for post-harvest infrastructure.
- **MGNREGA:** Statutory guarantee of 100 days of wage employment in rural areas; subject to debate over wage rates, budget allocation, and fund delay mechanisms.

DEBATE POINTERS: AGRARIAN REFORM

Delegates should debate private investment in agriculture, contract farming regulation, modernization of APMC mandis, crop diversification away from water-intensive paddy/wheat, and sustainable organic farming initiatives.

11. EDUCATION, NEP 2020 & SKILL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020

NEP 2020 replaced the 1986 National Policy on Education, proposing structural reforms across foundational, school, and higher education. Key features include the 5+3+3+4 curricular structure, mother-tongue instruction up to Grade 5, National Credit Framework, and internationalization of higher education.

Political Faultlines on Education Policy

- **Centralization vs. State Autonomy:** Regional parties contend that education is on the Concurrent List (List III) and argue that NEP imposes a centralized framework, uniform entrance examinations (CUET, NEET), and language policies that infringe upon state rights.
- **Public Spending Mandate:** Debate over achieving the long-standing target of allocating 6% of GDP to public education expenditure.
- **Skill Deficit & Employability:** Bridging the gap between university output and market demand through vocational integration under Skill India, PMKVY, and apprenticeship models.

12. PUBLIC HEALTHCARE INFRASTRUCTURE & SOCIAL WELFARE

Healthcare Systems & Public Investment

India's public healthcare expenditure stands at ~2.1% of GDP. Debate centers on shifting from out-of-pocket spending toward universal healthcare access, strengthening Primary Health Centres (PHCs), and expanding secondary/tertiary hospital networks.

Ayushman Bharat - PM-JAY vs. State Welfare Schemes

Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY offers health cover of ₹5 Lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization to over 12 crore vulnerable families. Divergence exists as several opposition-ruled states prefer running independent state insurance models or demand higher central subsidy contribution ratios.

Social Safety Nets & Welfare Delivery Models

The transformation of welfare delivery through the "JAM Trinity" (Jandhan-Aadhaar-Mobile) and Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) has reduced leakage. Parties debate the efficacy of targeted welfare schemes versus universal basic welfare guarantees, and the political discourse surrounding state-funded welfare concessions ("freebies" vs. "developmental welfare").

13. INFRASTRUCTURE, SMART CITIES & URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Capital Infrastructure Expansion

Infrastructure development is a primary driver of economic growth. Key national initiatives include PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan for multimodal connectivity, Bharatmala (highways), Sagarmala (ports), and the National Logistics Policy aiming to reduce logistics costs from 14% to under 10% of GDP.

Urbanization Challenges & Smart Cities Mission

Over 35% of India's population resides in urban centers, projected to reach 50% by 2050. Issues include urban flooding, affordable housing (PMAY-U), waste management, public transit (Metro Rail expansion), and municipal financial autonomy through civic bond issuances.

14. DIGITAL GOVERNANCE, DATA PROTECTION & TECHNOLOGY POLICY

India Stack & Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)

India leads globally in Digital Public Infrastructure, anchored by Aadhaar, UPI, DigiLocker, and ONDC. DPI has democratized digital payments, financial inclusion, and e-governance service delivery.

Legislative Frameworks & Technology Regulation

- **Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act 2023:** Establishes obligations for data fiduciaries, rights of data principals, and sets up the Data Protection Board. Critics raise concerns over broad state exemptions.
- **Telecommunications Act 2023 & Cyber Security:** Overhauls colonial-era telecom laws, addresses spectrum allocation, cyber threats, critical infrastructure protection, and platform intermediary liability.
- **Artificial Intelligence Governance:** Formulating ethical AI standards under the IndiaAI Mission while fostering startup innovation.

15. ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY TRANSITION & CLIMATE RESILIENCE

India's Global Climate Commitments

Under its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) presented at COP26/COP28, India has committed to Panchamrit goals: achieving 500 GW non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030, reducing carbon intensity of GDP by 45%, and targeting Net-Zero emissions by 2070.

Domestic Climate Policy & Energy Transition

Debates focus on managing the transition away from coal without compromising energy security, promoting green hydrogen (National Green Hydrogen Mission), solar PV manufacturing, EV adoption, and balancing environmental clearances with industrial development projects.

16. NATIONAL SECURITY, DEFENCE MODERNIZATION & FOREIGN POLICY

Border Security & Geopolitical Realities

India faces complex security challenges along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China and the Line of Control (LoC) with Pakistan. Issues include border infrastructure deployment, theaterization of armed forces commands, and counter-insurgency operations in border regions.

Defence Modernization & Atmanirbharta

Transitioning from being the world's top defense importer to an exporter through defense indigenization ("Make in India in Defence"), earmarking domestic capital procurement budgets, corporatizing Ordnance Factories, and evaluating recruitment models such as the Agnipath Scheme.

Foreign Policy Consensus & Strategic Autonomy

India's foreign policy reflects strategic autonomy, non-alignment 2.0, and multi-alignment across global groupings (QUAD, BRICS, SCO, G20). Parties generally maintain bipartisan support on core foreign policy goals while debating diplomatic strategies regarding neighbor relations and global power rivalries.

17. CENTRE–STATE RELATIONS & FEDERALISM

Constitutional Foundations of Indian Federalism

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar described the Constitution as federal in structure but unitary in spirit. Seventh Schedule distributions divide legislative powers into Union List (List I), State List (List II), and Concurrent List (List III).

Major Constitutional Friction Points

- **Role of Governors (Article 156/163):** Controversies over gubernatorial delays in granting assent to state bills, reserving bills for Presidential consideration, and discretionary powers in government formation.
- **Use of Article 356 (President's Rule):** Historical misuse and current legal safeguards established under the landmark *S.R. Bommai v. Union of India (1994)* judgment requiring judicial review of Presidential proclamations.
- **Fiscal Devolution & Financial Autonomy:** Tensions regarding 15th/16th Finance Commission tax share allocations, cess/surcharges that bypass state sharing pools, and state borrowing ceilings under Article 293.
- **Central Investigating Agencies:** Debates over the jurisdiction and general consent requirements for agencies like CBI, ED, and NIA operating within State territories.

18. POLITICAL PARTY PERSPECTIVES & STRATEGIC POSITIONS

Key National & Regional Political Parties

1. Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)

Ideology / Stance: Cultural nationalism, national security, infrastructure modernization, digital governance, fiscal discipline, and centralized welfare delivery ("Labharthikattwa"). Promotes "One Nation, One Election" and a Uniform Civil Code (UCC).

2. Indian National Congress (INC)

Ideology / Stance: Social democracy, secularism, rights-based welfare framework (NYAY, rights to employment/health), socio-economic caste census, federal autonomy, and strengthening independent regulatory institutions.

3. Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)

Ideology / Stance: Governance welfare model focusing on free/subsidized public education, primary healthcare (Mohalla Clinics), subsidized electricity, anti-corruption, and full statehood for Delhi.

4. Communist Party of India (Marxist) - CPI(M)

Ideology / Stance: Left-wing politics, opposition to neoliberal privatization, protection of public sector enterprises, statutory MSP guarantees, land reforms, and secular constitutional principles.

5. Trinamool Congress (TMC), DMK, Shiv Sena (UBT), NCP, JD(U), TDP, BRS, YSRCP

Ideology / Stance: Regional empowerment, strong state federalism, language rights, targeted regional industrial incentives, agricultural safety nets, and local infrastructure projects.

19. QUESTIONS FOR DELIBERATION & RESEARCH GUIDE

Questions Delegates Should Address

1. How can the Union and State Governments reconcile fiscal expenditure targets with the rising demand for statutory welfare guarantees and agricultural income supports?
2. What constitutional and statutory safeguards are required to strengthen cooperative federalism and streamline the relationship between State Executives and Governors?
3. What legislative adjustments are necessary to resolve agrarian distress while ensuring food security and agricultural market modernization?
4. How can India accelerate job creation in manufacturing and digital sectors while safeguarding worker rights and domestic MSMEs?
5. What joint strategic consensus can be reached to fortify national security along border regions while advancing defense indigenization?

Delegate Research Checklist

- [] Review your assigned Political Party's latest Election Manifesto and official legislative policy documents.
- [] Examine speeches by your party leaders in Lok Sabha / Rajya Sabha on key policy bills.
- [] Study constitutional articles pertinent to your party's stance (e.g., Articles 246, 280, 356, Part III, Part IV).
- [] Gather statistical data from official government publications (Economic Survey, RBI Bulletins, NITI Aayog Reports, PLFS data).
- [] Prepare clear policy proposals, potential amendments to national schemes, and strategic alliance positions.

20. COMPREHENSIVE GLOSSARY & OFFICIAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

Glossary of Terms

AIPPM: All India Political Parties Meet; informal cross-party consultative assembly.

Cooperative Federalism: Model where Union and State governments work together jointly to solve national problems.

Fiscal Deficit: Excess of total government expenditure over total revenue borrowings excluded.

GST Council: Constitutional body (Article 279A) making recommendations on Goods and Services Tax.

MSP: Minimum Support Price; floor price guaranteed by the state for selected agricultural crops.

NITI Aayog: Executive think tank replacing the Planning Commission to foster cooperative federalism.

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- Supreme Court of India Landmark Judgments: *Kesavananda Bharati* (1973), *S.R. Bommai* (1994).
- Official Manifestos of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Indian National Congress (INC), and major regional parties.

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