

NATIONAL AND STATE PARTIES

The Election Commission registers political parties for the purpose of elections and grants them recognition as national or state parties on the basis of their poll performance.

The other parties are simply declared as registered unrecognised parties.

CONDITIONS FOR RECOGNITION AS A NATIONAL PARTY

At present (2016), a party is recognised as a national party if any of the following conditions is fulfilled:

If it secures six per cent of valid votes polled in any four or more states at a general election to the Lok Sabha or to the legislative assembly; and, in addition, it wins four seats in the Lok Sabha from any state or states; or

If it wins two per cent of seats in the Lok Sabha at a general election; and these candidates are elected from three states; or

If it is recognised as a state party in four states.

CONDITIONS FOR RECOGNITION AS A STATE PARTY

At present (2016), a party is recognised as a state party in a state if any of the following conditions is fulfilled:

If it secures six per cent of the valid votes polled in the state at a general election to the legislative assembly of the state concerned; and, in addition, it wins 2 seats in the assembly of the state concerned; or

If it secures six per cent of the valid votes polled in the state at a general election to the Lok Sabha from the state concerned; and, in addition, it wins 1 seat in the Lok Sabha from the state concerned; or

If it wins three per cent of seats in the legislative assembly at a general election to the legislative assembly of the state concerned or 3 seats in the assembly, whichever is more; or

If it wins 1 seat in the Lok Sabha for every 25 seats or any fraction thereof allotted to the state at a general election to the Lok Sabha from the state concerned; or

If it secures eight per cent of the total valid votes polled in the state at a General Election to the Lok Sabha from the state or to the legislative assembly of the state. This condition was added in 2011.

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