

COALITION GOVERNMENTS IN INDIA: A STUDY

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ABSTRACT

The term coalition is derived from the Latin word 'coalition' meaning to go or grow together. Thus it means an act of coalescing or uniting into one body or alliance. It indicates the combination of a number of bodies or parts into one body or whole. In the political sense it is used to indicate an alliance or temporary union between various political groups for the exercise or control of political power. Professor Ogg defines coalition in the Encyclopaedia of Social Sciences, as "cooperative arrangements under which distinct political parties or at all events members of such parties unite to form a Government or Ministry". Thus, it can be said that result of the exigencies of competitive multi-party system in a parliamentary democracy is coalition. It is a phenomenon where more than two political parties come together to form a government, sinking their basic ideological differences in the event of the inability of any single party to command a workable majority in the lower House of the legislature.

KEYWORDS: coalition governments, India.

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