

POLITICS -A BUSINESS OR A PROFESSION

Anuj Sabharwal ^a, Payal Lamba ^b

^{a, b} Amity Law School Delhi, Affiliated to Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Dwarka, New Delhi.
Corresponding author: anujsabharwal26@gmail.com

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Abstract: Politics in our day-to-day understanding is an all comprehensive term. Mostly it has been used to mean state Politics that includes structure and functioning of a State as well as its correlation with other states. Politics is used as a science of state or an academic discipline which is not competent to change the image of politics, and, which is understood as an activity centering around power and very often devoid of principles. The paper examines the meaning of the term 'politics' and further explains how it has become a business or whether it has turned into a profession. By and large, people in India consider Politics as 'dirt'. This paper brings into light those facts which support this perception and further brings into light a few examples which prove this perception as just a misconception. The aim of this paper is to know in depth the concept of Politics in India. In India, dynastic Politics have existed from the days India was not even fully Independent. Post Independence Era has seen kiths and kins of late famous political figures, who have entered politics in spite of not being capable of handling public administration. The paper examines this aspect in deep and further brings into light certain cases of dynastic politics in India and the pros and cons of its existence. The paper further gives suggestions to improve the current scenario of Indian Politics.

Keywords: dynasty, Independence, politics, power, state.

INTRODUCTION

"Politics is the last resort of the scoundrel"- George Bernard Shaw

Politics in our day-to-day understanding is an all comprehensive term. Mostly it has been used to mean state Politics that includes structure and functioning of a State as well as its correlation with other states. Politics is used as a science of state or an academic discipline which is not competent to change the image of politics, and, which is

understood as an activity centering around power and very often devoid of principles. Etymologically, politics comes from the Greek root 'polis'. It implies the principles and applications that guided the governance of the Greek city-states. It should be remembered that State was a holistic concept to the ancient Greeks, which covered every public activity of the citizens. In many Indian languages, politics has been called 'Rajniti'. In one sense, it meant the principle of administration of the king or ruler (Political Thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi: A Brief Outline, 2013).

As quoted by the Nobel laureate and political activist George Bernard Shaw politics is the last resort for all scoundrels. Countries all over the world and especially India are proving his statement right. According to him, politics is a profession of those who are good for nothing but is that the case? Every coin has two sides and so does politics, politics is a profession that does not require a minimum qualification or criteria and so we see less-educated and non-experienced join this profession. But the other side of the coin is not the same if we have non-experienced politicians then we have others who are very qualified and give their heart and soul in making the country a welfare state (Constitution of India, Art.38, 1949).

In India politics is often regarded as a disgraced profession that is why most of the capable and competent lot is reluctant to join this profession. This is because of the image of politicians that has deteriorated over the time and deters them to take a plunge in the politics. We say that politicians are corrupt, and they have made politics a business but looking from other perspective there are full time politicians who depend on their political career for livelihood, recognition and further growth that people of other profession desire. There is nothing wrong if they have desire for increased income and higher standard of living, but that should have some limitation as India can't afford to give home to such politicians whose only aim is to earn money for their

own purposes. A politician has the right to earn money and have a standard of living but not at the cost of the nation. Instead, he should get paid only for his contribution to the nation. We cannot find saints in Indian politics ready to give their heart and soul to the nation. Today the politicians are no longer dedicated for the cause of nation. For example just remember what Mahatma Gandhi perceived as possible methods of political activity. To Gandhiji, politics means an instrument for the uplift of mankind in social, economic, moral and spiritual spheres. Gandhi had a vision of transforming the socially and morally degenerated and separated individuals in a manner where individuals can enjoy their freedom in spirit altruism. To understand Gandhi's politics it is also necessary to understand Gandhi's concern for the cleavage between state and civil society. The community life is fast diminishing and civil society could not formulate any mechanism to control it. Politicians today are not like other politicians that we had in the initial years of independence like Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, first Prime Minister of India. Jawaharlal Nehru imparted modern values and ways of thinking, which he adapted to Indian conditions. He was very keen on carrying India forward into the modern age of scientific discovery and technological development. At the same time, he made people aware of the necessity of social concern for the poor and the outcast. One of his remarkable achievements was reforming the Hindu Civil Code, enabling widows to have equal claims on property and inheritance. In the changed social circumstances, politicians have the desire to earn money like people in other professions do. There is nothing wrong in taking politics as a paid-job profession but they should not forget the main aim of politics, that is, to serve the nation. We see politicians often engage in money-making activities even at the cost of legitimate methods. A popular example can be that of those MLAs and MPs who, irrespective of their mere contributions, urge for cash for exercising their constitutional duties. So, politicians' quest for money is not wrong but at the cost of nation it is wrong.

There can be many reasons for the degenerated status of politics in India and the same reasons accelerated the process of businessisation of Indian politics. They are nepotism, corruption, lack of transparency, violence, communalism, fundamentalism, caste, race etc. According to the 2010 figures of *Transparency International*, India has more black money than the rest of the world combined. The recent scams like 2G and Commonwealth Games have involved unimaginably large sums of money. The voracious appetite of our political leadership and bureaucracy for money to fund elections has fuelled these unscrupulous practices. The total spending for the 2009 Lok Sabha elections is reportedly pegged at

Rupees 10,000 crore. A mere Rupees 1,300 crore of this was spent by the Election Commission, another Rupees 700 crore by the Centre and state governments. So a whopping Rupees 8,000 crore came from political parties and individual candidates. (Harsh Goenka, "Corruption: the change we need", Times of India:opinion, , 2011)

MEANINGS

Politics is the activity concerned with governing a country or an area.¹ It can also be defined as the science or art of government or governing the nation, and the administration and control of its internal and external affairs. It is clear from the meaning of politics that it is a very noble and privileged profession where people elect their representatives/parliamentarians and they are given the job of governing the country.

Business is a person's regular occupation, commercial activity (Oxford English Mini Dictionary Indian edition, Seventh Edition , 2007). It is the occupation, work or trade in which a person is engaged. It is something that involves commercial, industrial or professional dealings. Doing business is not a crime and is not illegal, as it is a commercial activity. And, Profession is a job requiring special training and a formal qualification.

Analyzing the meaning of politics, business and profession, it can be interpreted that politics or being in politics has no commercial activity involved in it, so politics is not a business. It is the activity concerned with governing a country or an area and it can never be a business. As well, profession is an occupation or career that requires specialized study and training. Being in politics, a politician should have a special training or knowledge or experience to govern a country. Our parliamentarians or politicians may be illiterate or inexperienced but their survival in politics in long run is quandary.

So, politics is not a business but a profession and it is no longer considered noble instead a lucrative profession which is the easiest to enter.

POLITICS-AS A BUSINESS

Politics over the period of time has transformed into a business by some greedy politicians. The greed for fame and fortune has drawn them into this profession and they are least bothered about providing service to the nation. Lok Sabha elections are no longer a poor man's playground. With Election Commission making it mandatory for the candidates to disclose their assets to the public, it can be seen that there are many wealthy businessmen entering politics. .

Parties give candidature to the rich, but do they really deserve? Can they make any difference in the political system? The report submitted by politicians to the Election Commission underlines the fact that the rich politicians are hardly troubled by the global financial meltdown. In addition, the only business that survived the global recession is the business of politics as, despite the financial slowdown, our politicians are flourishing (Khan, 2013). Parties obviously prefer the rich candidates who could afford the expenditure also of their respective political parties during elections and campaigns. Politicians make money by asking questions in the Parliament, State Legislative Councils, and other bodies of representation and they make money by casting votes for special agendas. By occupying a ministerial post they can make more money by making his dream project sanctioned and inflating its cost. George Bernard Shaw's quote holds true with the current scenario of Indian politics. In fact, with every election we keep on adding more of them and add more filth to the current. As CRGC has shown in its report "In the last 10 years or so, one has witnessed an exponential growth of industrialists, businessmen or others from allied communities getting elected to the Lok Sabha, as well as occupying the hallowed precincts of the Rajya Sabha. 128 out of 543(25 percent) of the Lok Sabha members in India are industrialists, traders, businessmen or builders. In Rajya Sabha MPs from these groups account only 10 percent (25 out of 245) in the parliament" (Citizen's Report on Governance and Development, 2010). So why do these businessmen enter politics? For providing service to the nation, or formulate policies in favor of their business? The Standing Committee of Finance includes Vijay Jawaharlal Darda (Rajya Sabha-2011-12), Mahendra Prasad, Rayapati S. Rao, Magunta Srinivasulu Reddy (The National Identification Authority of India Bill, 2010, Forty-second report Lok Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi, 2011), all of them are businessmen having variety of business. Committee on Public Undertaking includes Shri Nama Nageshwara Rao who is also a businessman (Members of the Committee on Public Undertaking, 2011-2012). The presence of these industrialists in Parliamentary Committees can influence decision-making process and thereby help their business. (Aji, 2009).

Going to another aspect, politics has become part of what critics term as dynastic politics. Dynastic politics isn't a new phenomenon in Indian politics, but it has become an increasingly wide-reaching one in recent times. Almost every political party has leaders whose sons and daughters have entered politics, most of them without much political experience. At the top we have had the Holy Nehru Trinity, father, daughter, and grandson. And now we

have the transnational daughter-in-law, she has been declared as the only daughter-in-law of Indira Gandhi but also the head of the UPA government. The famous Nehru-Gandhi family is often seen as the dominant family controlling politics in India. Indira Gandhi followed by Rajiv Gandhi and now his son Rahul Gandhi has become popular figures of the public. This familiarity and popularity along with their family status help them get positions easily. For instance, we can cite the case of Mr. Rahul Gandhi, the son of former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, whose reported status of being the most eligible candidate to become the next Prime Minister of India is based on the fact that he is a progeny of the Gandhi- Nehru scion. There are more numbers to add to this category- Varun Gandhi, Priya Dutt, Milind Deora, Raj Thackeray carry forward their family legacy. As politics has degenerated to be a family business in India, the people from less privileged sections and non-political background find it difficult to enter politics. Commentators like Ashis Nandy and Cho Ramaswamy, argue that money and power are the ties that bind these families (referred to the Badals, the Duttas, the Pilots, the Pawars etc.) even as they lead to dramatic public disputes. Says Cho: "Politics has become a business. Similarly, as politics has turned to be a family affair in India most politicians want to keep politics and its fruits within the family. (Bhaumik & Iyengar, 2008)

Some of political parties functioning are similar to that of any companies and here the distinction between politics and business slowly melts down like ice cubes in warm days! Like in companies, there are media/public relation agencies that are constantly at work to promote their business and the companies. Similarly, a political party also has media/ Public relation agencies constantly promoting the interests of party. Nowadays, political parties have used media aggressively for their campaigns. A lot of money is incurred on their election campaigns.

Politics is the mother of all corruption in India. For instance, take the case of Kumari Mayawati, the leader of lower-caste oriented Bahujan Samaj Party (B.S.P) and the present Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. In 2007-08, having paid a tax of 260 million rupees, Mayawati emerged as the top taxpayer among politicians and one of the top 20 tax payers of the country (Dua, 2013). In 2007, she has declared assets worth 52 cores of rupees – that's \$12.68 million – five times higher than the amount she declared before the 2004 elections. Her assets include property worth nearly \$10 million, located mostly in and around Delhi, and jewelry worth \$122,000. Mayawati has said that the assets were "accumulated through donations and gifts from party workers across the country" after she had been accused of illegally accumulating property, and that she was involved in

the corruption case of 'Taj Corridor' tourism infrastructure project linked to the famous Taj Mahal mausoleum in Agra. She denied the charges at the time and the cases have yet to be heard – soon after Mayawati regained the Chief Minister post, the Uttar Pradesh Governor refused permission for police authorities to proceed with the Taj Corridor case against her. Mayawati flatly refused the allegations and argued that the donations had been given to her in personal capacity by both individuals and as well as the party. The fact that she possesses assets worth \$12.68 million became public as Mayawati was forced to declare assets as part of Election Commission's directions. She seems not to worry about such publicity. In 2003, she threw a mind-boggling 47th birthday party in a film-set type location with over 100,000 sweet cakes, 5,000 bouquets of flowers and a massive 50 k.g. birthday cake. It is very captivating to see how our politicians lead such lavish lifestyles (Elliot, Politics in India is big busin (Elliot, 2013). Most of the richest men in the country are the politicians with mostly unaccounted wealth, both internal and foreign wealth. Politics is a business without any norms or rules of business regarding accounting or accountability to anyone. It is the only business that facilitates acquisition of wealth without earning at distress prices or for a pittance or the grabbing of valuable resources such as prime lands without any compensation to the owner or the government. This business of politics seems to operate with no taxation on income or wealth and no disclosure of sources of wealth or any fiduciary interests at any time. Politics is a business with no code of conduct. There is no limit to the magnitude of profits or accumulation of wealth or the enormity of crimes. Politics is the only business where our politicians are under no constraint to discriminate between public and private wealth, where his personal interests are involved. The business of politics in India has become so attractive that many unscrupulous people from different professions, inspired by ulterior motives, are seeking the mantle of politics. Such politicians are hindrance in the progress of the country. Politicians also engage in vote bank politics rather than focusing on improving the socio economic condition. Politicians in India have changed the meaning of politics in India. They are more concerned for their party, their own benefits and not for the welfare of the nation. (V. Sundaram, 2013)

So, politics was never meant to be a business but over the period of time it has transformed to a business.

POLITICS- AS PROFESSION

Profession is a career or occupation that requires special training and formal qualification. So, we can say politics is a profession as our politicians require

some sort of training, although there is no strict requirement to have a formal qualification.

Being a politician means that he or she has the obligation to serve the nation and make India a welfare state and not join politics for the sole motive to earn fame and fortune. In the case of CET vs. P.V.G. Raju, it was held that politics could be a profession or occupation within the meaning of s. 5(a) of the Expenditure-Tax Act, 1958. In this case Krishna Iyer J., speaking for the court, said: "It is thus clear, without reference to the wealth of case law relied on by the High Court, that politics has been a profession and, indeed, under modern conditions in India, perhaps the most popular and uninhibited occupation with its perils, of course. Law cannot take leave of realities and, therefore, section 5(a) of the Expenditure-Tax Act, 1958, must bear the construction that politics is a profession or occupation." (Income tax India). Politics is a profession that youth and competent don't want to join. But what are the reasons that refrain people the youth and competent from joining this profession?

Today we are unable to find good candidates who can become high quality MLAs and MPs for India. This has happened because our socialist electoral laws and systems have made politics a very corrupt profession. (Sabhlok, 2009). Honest and competent people are very reluctant to join hands with sullied group of people. Another reason is that it is easier for a youth to enter politics with a background in politics as compared to someone who has no godfather or family backup. (Governance in India: Have the youth become indifferent to politics, 2009). Young MPs in the 14th Lok Sabha were only 6.3 percent of the total number of MPs. A whopping 76 percent of the age group of 18 to 40 years says that politics is a profession they would not consider. (Upadhyay, 2004) The percent shows how the youth has maintained a distance from politics. As the general perception about politics and politicians gives a corrupt and fraudulent image for politics altogether the youth and the competent refrain from entering this profession. About 65 percent think politicians are corrupt, 12 percent see them as lazy while 9 percent think most are criminals. As, there is no minimum qualification to enter this profession and there are no minimum standards to be maintained for climbing the career ladder, the youth find the work environment unhealthy. These were some of the reasons why we see the young, talented are more inclined towards joining other professions like medical, engineering and legal services.

Politics in the pre-independence period was a movement while in the post- independent days it has become the status of a profession and soon assumed the nature of influential and profitable profession. In

the pre-independent period, politics was equated to be service to the people, in the post-independence period, politics is debased to the level of it being service to the self. There is no denying the fact that there are still dedicated and sacrificial politicians, leaders and workers all across the country, irrespective of their political agenda and the high level of corruption in the political system. Yet, there is perceptible change in the nature or type of dedication or sacrifice. Formerly, they were dedicated to the cause of independence of the country. It was the nation or India as a whole that was uppermost in their minds. These days, it is not the nation but the political party which is uppermost in the mind of a political leader or worker. Party has been understood to be an important vehicle for reaching the goal. (S.C.Ghose, 1993) The aim of joining this profession has shifted from providing service to the nation to providing service to self.

The profession of politics has attracted many who are unprincipled, inept, corrupt, or even criminal. As Rajiv Gandhi recognized, their quest for power is unaccompanied by any larger vision of the common good, any sense of responsibility to the society as a whole. But they do get elected repeatedly, for one of the failures of Indian democracy has certainly in its inability to educate the mass of voters to expect and demand, better of their elected representatives. (Tharoor, 1997) Since there is no set qualification to join this profession, those who have greed for power and fame finds politics the most lucrative profession, as to them it is the only profession which is not less than a cakewalk for them. Indian politics is no more a platform to provide service to the nation but it has been transformed to be a 'mere' profession. Profession of politics has come to be viewed in India as a pathway to fame and fortune. Thousands enter the profession because of the hope that it will open the doors of various economic prospects for them. That would otherwise be closed for them. Those who succeed acquire a vested interest in perpetuating themselves in office for as long as possible and forging links with fellow politicians who can contribute to their survival and prosperity in the profession (Motwani & Saxena, 2002). The greed for power is such they the ministers don't give up their post so easily. They want to stay as much as they can in this profession which carries a lot of benefits with it. So the greed for power leads to abuse of power. The greed for power and fortune has converted this noble profession to a lucrative profession. Unfortunately in India politics is a playground for power. It is no more a noble profession. Politics in India continues to be the best profession for the unscrupulous seeking name, fame and unlimited power and money. For them, the formation of more states in India means more opportunities, especially

for the second, third ranking and rejected politicians. Thus, the demand for more and more states has become lucrative for many (Kumar, 1998).

With politics becoming a mere profession the approach of politicians have changed towards their work. Earlier they worked for the welfare of the country but now they work and exist in politics for their own interest. Entering politics is another way of becoming rich and powerful while not providing service to the nation. They have become professionals who work for their own purpose and not to provide service to the nation. The motive of entering politics for greed of power has changed the face of democracy in India.

Like teaching, politics is also a noble profession. In politics it is service to the nation and in teaching it is service to the society. Both have over the period of time been plagued by corruption. Corruption in politics and education is no untold story. Both politics and education have transformed into business which were once considered to be noble professions. Those in this profession do not consider their motive to provide service. The fact is that there are wicked people in every profession that does not mean that the entire profession should be discredited. Some politicians are avaricious but that does not mean that we stop believing in our politicians and the political system. Indian politics is in need of professionals who can improve the current scenario. We need more professionals, thinkers and intellectuals, who have other kinds of work experiences than politics to bring their different mindsets into political process. Professionals like, Shashi Tharoor, Kapil Sibal, and Arun Jaitley have emerged as great leaders while belonging to non-political families. The middle-class considers politics dirty, and steers clear, but there are so many talented and smart people among us who should take political responsibility and take the plunge." says R.V.Krishnan, President Peoples Professional Party (Chandra, 2013). It is not that politics is a dirty profession but it has been made dirty by those who enter this profession for personal gains. Politics has become a stained profession because of some politicians but the scenario can be challenged if some reforms are adopted. . Anna Hazare, a veteran social activist against corrupt politics in India, started a 'fast unto death' to exert pressure on the government of India to enact a strong anti-corruption act. The fast led to nation wide protests in support of Hazare. The fast ended after 97 hours on 9 April 2011, the day after all of Hazare's demands were agreed by the government of India and the government issued a gazette notification on the formation of a joint committee (of government and civil society representatives) to draft an effective Lokpal Bill (Anna Hazare, 2013). The 'Janlokal bill' promises to be one such reform. Politics is a

corrupt profession and corruption can be removed from the system through reforms aimed to improve the current scenario.

Some of the suggested points to improve the current scenario in politics are as follows: (a) Some selection criteria for the candidates contesting elections must be set. At least the person should be 10+2 passed. (b) To encourage the young the profession should be made financially attractive like other professions. (c) No politician's family member should be given any preference. Selection for candidates must be fair and based on merit only. (d) To encourage youth participation in politics some seats in elections should be reserved for youth. (e) Candidate's background must also be taken into account. (f) Those with criminal record should be strictly banned from contesting elections. (g) Election Commission rules should be strictly adhered by the parties. (h) There should be limits for tenure for holding Ministerial posts, so the young leaders should get a chance to hold the post of a minister in the cabinet. (i) There must be a retirement age for the politicians so that young leaders can become parliamentarians and lead the country. (j) The minimum age of 25 years to enter this profession must be reduced to 21 years. (k) The aged and retired diplomats who had contributed a lot to the nation and are extremely valuable to the nation must be given some post in the Advisory Boards or projects of the government. Their experience should not go waste. (l) No businessman or industrialist be given any post or appointed in any legislative committees related to the business he is personally engaged in.

These are some of the suggestions that can make changes in this profession and would prevent filth from entering this profession. Though it is not possible to implement all the suggestions but some of them can be considered practically possible and therefore adoptable.

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS

In Constitution of India, Article 102 lays down some disqualifications for membership in Parliament. Also, Parliament of India, in pursuance of the powers granted under Article 327, has further enacted the Representation of the Peoples Act, 1951 governing the elections which contain some more additional disqualifications. A member of a State legislature is also disqualified on the same grounds. The makers of the constitution while drafting the constitution desired to have people of unimpeachable conduct and character, inspired with a deep-seated commitment to provide selfless service to the nation, to enter into politics and hence into Parliament and State legislatures. Sadly, we do not have such politicians as the constitution makers desired. Present politicians have brought disgrace to the nation by indulging in

various malpractices. They abuse their power for their own means. In spite of the fact that our constitution that talks about the disqualification of Members of Parliament, yet we have unscrupulous politicians. Therefore, reforms in the political system are of utmost importance.

CONCLUSION

So it is clear that the road to reform politics is not an easy task. Politics was a noble profession earlier but now it is not just the same. After independence, the spirit of mission gradually got diluted. Unfortunately, in India, today politics is seen neither as a mission nor a profession but purely commerce. So, it is necessary for the young to join politics and serve the nation² as the magnates are making it a business. The approach of taking politics as a mere profession also has to be changed. Youth in India is believed to be full of enthusiasm and have the spirit of bringing change in the political system. In UK, Tony Blair retired at 58 whereas, in India, the chief posts are mostly occupied by the politicians above 50. We need young ignited minds in this profession not the age old ideas. Society is dynamic and hence we require youth who can with their modern approach rule the modern India. The involvement of youth in politics will bring changes so desired. It is high time that the modus operandi of Indian politics should be reformed. The reforms will surely bring necessary changes when the young ignited minds enter this profession. One of the Airtel advertisements says: "One act of defiance- can spark a revolution". The Youth has to become a part of the politics to facilitate the reconstruction of a better society and a country. It is seen that mostly those who enter this profession see it as a career option because it is the most easiest to join as there is no minimum qualification set for this profession. Especially the magnates who enter this profession see it as a lucrative profession and not a mode of serving the nation.

At this stage, India needs super competent leaders in politics. All our best lot becomes doctors, engineers or lawyers. So, Indian politics is in need of young, talented youth who can be given the responsibility to run the country having large population.³ An illustration will explain this well- an average Indian pilot is paid in excess of Rupees Twenty Lakhs per year in recognition of skill and responsibility needed for that job. Experienced pilots get even more. A

² Speech of Shri L.K. Advani at the National Summit Organized by the Foundation for Restoration of National Values, 2008, <http://www.lkadvani.in/eng/content/view/600/282/>.

³ *supra* note 23 at p.150.

pilot is responsible for a few hundred lives. However, a PM is responsible for a billion lives. The risk to our lives from corrupt and incompetent politicians is very much. Many people die from socialist corruption and incompetence. In fact, a millions of lives are regularly lost in India due to our corrupt and incompetent political leaders – children who die below the age of five from preventable diseases, elderly who lack medical treatment, people who fall into manholes, people who are burnt, hung and quartered in communal riots, and so on. We don't usually attribute these deaths to our leaders, but we should. These deaths are directly caused by failures in governance. This loss of life is preventable if we get good leaders. We value lives of a few hundred lives in an airplane so the skilled pilots are hired for the responsibility of those lives. Similarly a leader to whom the responsibility of millions of lives is given should also be competent enough. So it is very important and necessary to have only capable and competent leaders who know their responsibility well. The competent leaders are no slaves who will work for free. The honest and the competent care a lot about getting paid the highest salary they deserve as they are determined to make India succeed. So it is necessary to make this profession financially attractive so that honest and competent join his profession.

Election after election we keep on adding more filth to the current, but none of them have made any difference in politics in India. The reforms should be adopted in the system so that we can stop more filth coming to this profession and we have only the best lot who know their responsibility of taking care of million lives.

Politics is a noble profession but the greed for power and fame has stained the profession. Because of some atrocious politicians the integrity of the entire profession is destroyed. The image of politicians, the corrupt system, unachievable projects, slow growth has refrained the youth and competent from entering this profession. So we need best and the brightest among the youth to join politics and serve the nation. Politics is not a business but a noble profession with the aim of providing service to the nation. But it has been made business by some for their own non-political gains. But it should not be tagged as a business. As George Bernard Shaw said,

“He knows nothing and he thinks he knows everything. That points clearly to a political career.”

By this statement he means that politics is the last resort of all those who know nothing, who are good for nothing and his statement somewhat hold true as we have mostly illiterate, incompetent politicians but his statement is not completely to be agreed upon. We do have capable and highly qualified politicians

who are not in politics to earn fame and fortune but only for the sole aim of

welfare of the nation. The politicians should get paid only for the amount of hard work and contributions they render and not for anything else. So for the sake of millions of lives there is an urgent need for political system to undergo a change and make room for reforms so that only the best lot gets admitted to this profession. The success or failure of democracy in a country is solely dependent on the quality of politicians who operate in it. Indian democracy is one of the largest democracies in the world. To make Indian democracy more functional we need talented and honest politicians. Politicians are indispensable for the working of any democracy. As politics includes activities concerned with governing the nation, politicians occupy the most important part in democratic set up. Therefore, the success and failure of a democracy is in the hands of politicians who operate within the functioning of the system. So, politics is a profession which carries a lot of responsibility, that is, responsibility to the nation and for the people.

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BRIEF PROFILE OF AUTHORS

Payal Lamba
Fourth year, Amity Law School, Delhi
GGSIIP University, Dwarka, Delhi.
Contact no - +91-9582742699

Anuj Sabharwal
Fifth year, Amity Law School, Delhi
Contact no- +91- 9953986233