

**Event: National seminar on Coalition Politics in India: Bane or Boon?**

**Organized by: Department of Political Science**

**Date: February 7, 2019**

**Number of Participants: College faculties and students attended the event**

The Department of Political Science organized a national seminar on Coalition Politics in India: Bane or Boon? On February 7, 2019. The theme had been so selected keeping in context the present-day political scenario and also more importantly since the National elections had been around the corner, so what better way it would have been to disseminate knowledge about trends regarding the current Indian Political situation and the trends, and how the Indian Party system had evolved since the one-party dominant system to the present coalition politics era, and what are the consequent trends and major aspects of the same. The seminar opened with the keynote address by Dr Sridharan who gave an extensive and coherent overview of the entire topic centering around coalitions. He started with the basic explanation of what is a coalition government. And elaborated on the fact that Coalition governments are formed when different political parties choose to cooperate in the administration and regulation of a country or community, he further stated that coalition governments usually are temporary alliances, being formed when no single political party gains a clear majority and competing parties instead negotiate to work together on a common minimum program. He brought to light the history of governments in India starting with the one-party dominance of Congress and eventually how several parties though ideologically different joined hands to end the dominance. The other important areas touched by him was the explanation of types of coalition. Professor Singh started his session by discussing the normative aspect of having a coalition form of government and stated that coalition is a necessary mechanism to arbitrate the activities of different political parties, it is a cooperative arrangement under which different political parties combine to form government. Issues like corruption and instability which are rampant in coalition formations were also emphasized. Dr Ajay K. Mehra started with- Introduction of coalition Politics and stated that coalition politics is neither a boon nor a bane but the essence of Indian Politics. It has become an integral part of our country's politics. Coalition government results due to fractured mandate as voter's opinion is fractured. Secondly, he discussed about the position of the Prime Minister in the Parliamentary form of government, emphasizing

that prime minister in 'West ministerial' model is considered to be the most powerfully elected office in the world. The event concluded with the vote of thanks.