

| UPSC |

Political Science & International Relations Syllabus

Paper - I

Western Political Thought, Political Theory and Indian Politics:

- 1. **Political Theory:** meaning and approaches.
- 2. Theories of the State: Liberal, Neoliberal, Marxist, Pluralist, Post-colonial and feminist.
- 3. **Justice:** Conceptions of justice with special reference to Rawl's theory of justice and its communitarian critiques.
- 4. **Equality:** Social, political and economic; relationship between equality and freedom; Affirmative action.
- 5. Rights: Meaning and theories; different kinds of rights; concept of Human Rights.
- 6. **Democracy:** Classical and contemporary theories; different models of democracy representative, participatory and deliberative.
- 7. Concept of power, hegemony, ideology and legitimacy.
- 8. Political Ideologies: Liberalism, Socialism, Marxism, Fascism, Gandhism and Feminism.
- 9. **Indian Political Thought :** Dharamshastra, Arthashastra and Buddhist traditions; Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Sri Aurobindo, M.K. Gandhi, B.R. Ambedkar, M.N. Roy.
- 10. **Western Political Thought:** Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, John S. Mill, Marx, Gramsci, Hannah Arendt.

Indian Government and Politics:

1. Indian Nationalism:

- Political Strategies of India's Freedom Struggle: Constitutionalism to mass Satyagraha, Non-cooperation, Civil Disobedience; Militant and revolutionary movements, Peasant and workers' movements.
- **Perspectives on Indian National Movement:** Liberal, Socialist and Marxist; Radical humanist and Dalit.
- 2. Making of the Indian Constitution: Legacies of British rule; different social and political perspectives.
- 3. Salient Features of the Indian Constitution: The Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Duties, Directive Principles; Parliamentary System and Amendment Procedures; Judicial Review and Basic Structure doctrine.

- 4. **(a) Principal Organs of the Union Government:** Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and Supreme Court.
 - **(b) Principal Organs of the State Government:** Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and High Courts.
- 5. **Grassroots Democracy:** Panchayati Raj and Municipal Government; significance of 73rd and 74th Amendments; Grassroot movements.
- 6. Statutory Institutions/Commissions: Election Commission, Comptroller and Auditor General, Finance Commission, Union Public Service Commission, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, National Commission for Women; National Human Rights Commission, National Commission for Minorities, National Backward Classes Commission.
- 7. **Federalism:** Constitutional provisions; changing nature of centre-state relations; integrationist tendencies and regional aspirations; inter-state disputes.
- 8. **Planning and Economic Development :** Nehruvian and Gandhian perspectives; role of planning and public sector; Green Revolution, land reforms and agrarian relations; liberalization and economic reforms.
- 9. Caste, Religion and Ethnicity in Indian Politics.
- 10. Party System: National and regional political parties, ideological and social bases of parties; patterns of coalition politics; Pressure groups, trends in electoral behaviour; changing socio- economic profile of Legislators.
- 11. **Social Movements:** Civil liberties and human rights movements; women's movements; environmentalist movements.

Paper II

Comparative Politics, International Relations and India's Foreign Policy

Comparative Political Analysis and International Politics:

- 1. Comparative Politics: Nature and major approaches; political economy and political sociology perspectives; limitations of the comparative method.
- 2. **State in comparative perspective:** Characteristics and changing nature of the State in capitalist and socialist economies, and, advanced industrial and developing societies.
- 3. **Politics of Representation and Participation:** Political parties, pressure groups and social movements in advanced industrial and developing societies.
- 4. **Globalization:** Responses from developed and developing societies.
- 5. **Approaches to the Study of International Relations:** Idealist, Realist, Marxist, Functionalist and Systems theory.
- 6. **Key concepts in International Relations:** National interest, Security and power; Balance of power and deterrence; Transnational actors and collective security; World capitalist economy and globalization.

7. Changing International Political Order:

- Rise of superpowers; strategic and ideological Bipolarity, arms race and Cold War; nuclear threat;
- Non-aligned movement: Aims and achievements;
- Collapse of the Soviet Union; Unipolarity and American hegemony; relevance of non-alignment in the contemporary world.
- 8. **Evolution of the International Economic System:** From Bretton Woods (1944) to WTO (1995); Socialist economies and the CMEA (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance); Third World demand for new international economic order; Globalization of the world economy.
- 9. **United Nations:** Envisaged role and actual record; specialized UN agencies-aims and functioning; need for UN reforms.
- 10. Regionalisation of World Politics: EU, ASEAN, APEC, SAARC, NAFTA.
- 11. **Contemporary Global Concerns:** Democracy, human rights, environment, gender justice, terrorism, nuclear proliferation.

India and the World:

- 1. **Indian Foreign Policy:** Determinants of foreign policy; institutions of policy-making; continuity and change.
- 2. India's Contribution to the Non-Alignment Movement: Different phases; current role.
- 3. India and South Asia:
 - Regional Co-operation: SAARC past performance and future prospects.
 - South Asia as a Free Trade Area.
 - India's "Look East" policy.
 - Impediments to regional co-operation: river water disputes; illegal cross-border migration; ethnic conflicts and insurgencies; border disputes.
- 4. **India and the Global South:** Relations with Africa and Latin America; leadership role in the demand for NIEO and WTO negotiations.
- 5. India and the Global Centres of Power: USA, EU, Japan, China and Russia.
- 6. **India and the UN System:** Role in UN Peace-keeping; demand for Permanent Seat in the Security Council.
- 7. **India and the Nuclear Question:** Changing perceptions and policy.
- 8. Recent developments in Indian Foreign policy: India's position on the recent crisis in Afghanistan, Iraq and West Asia, growing relations with US and Israel; vision of a new world order.