

Discipline Specific Elective (DSE) Courses for Sem – III

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE COURSE – 1a: State Politics in India

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
State Politics in India DSE-1a	4	3	1	0	12 Pass	NIL

Learning Objectives

This course situates the study of state politics as one of the key domains of Indian politics. It aims to introduce the students to 'state politics' in India as a significant site where key idioms, processes and practices of democratic politics are produced. Discussing the relevance of the theme, the course focusses on various theories on state politics, the historical and constitutional context that shaped state reorganisation including linguistic demands and other recent demands for smaller states. The course also focuses on the rise of regional parties and movements as the means through which state politics unfolds. It subsequently looks at the political economy of development in the states through a detailed analysis of agrarian change, with specific focus on the rise of the agrarian capitalist class, rural markets, agrarian movements, regional business and economic reforms in the states.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course, the students would demonstrate:

- Knowledge of the historical context and legal framework of the emergence of state politics in India
- Understanding of the phenomenon of state formation and reorganisation as part of both national and regional politics in India
- Awareness of the nature of agrarian politics in India and the political economy of states in India
- Knowledge of electoral politics and political leadership in states in India.

SYLLABUS OF DSE-1a

UNIT – I (9 hours)

State politics in India

Relevance and frameworks of analysis

UNIT – II (9 hours)

States reorganisation and formation of states

UNIT – III (9 hours)

Agrarian politics

Rise of an agrarian capitalist class, rural markets, land acquisition and farmers' movements

UNIT – IV (9 hours)

Political economy of development and reforms in the states

Policy, politics, and regional business.

UNIT – V (9 hours)

Electoral politics in states

Political parties, leadership, and mobilisation

Essential/recommended readings

State politics in India: relevance and frameworks of analysis

Kumar, A. (2016) Introduction, in *Rethinking State Politics in India-Regions Within Regions*, Taylor and Francis.

Pai, Sudha (1989) 'Towards a theoretical framework for the study of state politics in India: Some observations, *The Indian Journal of Political Science*, Jan. - March, Vol. 50, No. 1, pp. 94-109

Tillin, L. (2013) 'National and Subnational Comparative Politics: Why, What and How,' *Studies in Indian Politics*, Vol.1, No.02, pp.235-240.

Snyder, R. (2001) 'Scaling Down: The Subnational Comparative Method,' *Studies in Comparative International Development*, Spring 2001, Vol. 36, No. 1, pp. 93–110.

States reorganization and formation of states

Mawdsley, E. (2002). Redrawing the body politic: federalism, regionalism and the creation of new states in India. *Commonwealth & Comparative Politics*, Vol. 40, No.3, pp. 34-54.

Sarang, A. and Pai, S. (2011), Introduction: Contextualising Reorganisation, in Sarang, A. and Pai, S (eds) *Interrogating Reorganisation of States-Culture, Identity and Politics in India*, Routledge, New Delhi.

Tillin, Louise (2011), Reorganising the Hindi Heartland in 2000: The Deep Regional Politics of State Formation, in Sarang, A. and Pai, S (eds) *Interrogating Reorganisation of States-Culture, Identity and Politics in India*, Routledge, New Delhi.

Singh, M.P. (2008) 'Reorganisation of States in India,' *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 43, No.11 (March 15-21) pp.70-75.

Tillin, Louise (2013). *Remapping India: New states and their political origins*. Hurst Publishers.

Samaddar, R. (2020). Rule, Governmental Rationality and Reorganisation of States, in Sarang, A. and Pai, S (eds) *Interrogating Reorganisation of States* (pp. 48-65). Routledge India.

Nag, Sajal (2011) 'Linguistic Provinces' to 'Homelands': Shifting Paradigms of State-making in Post-colonial India, in Sarang, A. and Pai, S. (eds) *Interrogating Reorganisation of States-Culture, Identity and Politics in India*, Routledge, New Delhi.

Agrarian politics

Bhalla G.S. 1994 (ed.) *Economic Liberalisation and Indian Agriculture*, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, New Delhi: 61107.

Brass, T. (1994) Introduction: The new farmers' movements in India, *The Journal of Peasant Studies*, 21:3-4, 3-26, DOI: [10.1080/03066159408438553](https://doi.org/10.1080/03066159408438553)

Frankel, F. and Rao, M.S.A. (1989 and 1990) (eds.) *Dominance and State Power in India* Oxford University Press, New Delhi 2 Vols. 198

Pai, S. (2009) 'Agrarian Mobilization and Farmers' Movements in India' in *Oxford Companion to Indian Politics* (eds.) Pratap Bhanu Mehta and Niraja Gopal Jayal. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Baviskar, A. and Levien, M. (2021) 'Farmers' protests in India: introduction to the JPS Forum,' *The Journal of Peasant Studies*, 48:7, DOI: [10.1080/03066150.2021.1998002](https://doi.org/10.1080/03066150.2021.1998002)

Political economy of development and reforms in the states

Ahluwalia, M. (2000) 'Economic Performance of States in Post-Reform Period,' *Economic and Political Weekly*, 6 May, pp.1637-1648

Jenkins, R. (2000). The evolution of economic reform in India. In *Democratic Politics and Economic Reform in India* (Contemporary South Asia, pp. 12-41). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi:10.1017/CBO9780511605871.004

Kennedy, L., Robin, K. and Zamuner, D. (2013) 'Comparing State-level policy responses to economic reforms in India,' 13 | 1er semestre / Spring 2013: *Économie politique de l'Asie* (1)

Sinha, A. (2016) 'A Distinctive Indian Political Economy: New Concepts and a Synthesizing Framework', *Studies in Indian Politics*, Vol.4, No.02, pp. 266-273.

Electoral politics in states

Auerbach, A. M., Bussell, J., Chauchard, S., Jensenius, F. R., Nellis, G., Schneider, M., & Ziegfeld, A. (2022). Rethinking the study of electoral politics in the developing world: Reflections on the Indian case. *Perspectives on Politics*, 20(1), 250-264.

Kumar, A. (2003). State Electoral Politics: Looking for the Larger Picture. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 38(30), 3145-3147

Yadav, Y. (1999). Electoral politics in the time of change: India's third electoral system, 1989-99. *Economic and political weekly*, 2393-2399.

Yadav, Yogendra, and Palshikar, S. (2006) 'Party system and electoral politics in the Indian States, 1952-2002: From hegemony to convergence,' *India's political parties* 6: 73-116.

Additional Readings:

Roy, H., Singh, M.P. and Chouhan, A.P.S. (2017) *State Politics in India*, Primus Books.

Narain, I. (1965) (ed.) *State Politics in India* Meerut, Meenakshi Prakashan

Note: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.