

Category III

B.A. Prog. with Political Science as non-Major or Minor discipline

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE (MDSC-2A): Indian Government and Politics

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		
Indian Government and Politics MDSC 2A	4	3	1	0	12th Pass	NIL

Learning Objectives

This course aims to familiarize students with constitutional government and nature of politics in India and the relationship between the two. It focusses on the originary moment of the Indian Republic through an understanding of the philosophy and the features of the Constitution while demonstrating how the processes of state formation and nation making coincided with constitution-making and the interlacing between the two. The course also introduces students to the institutions of the state, the constitutional rules governing them and the political trajectory of their evolution. The course then proceeds by way of familiarity with varied political processes that have dominated the nature of Indian politics including reflections on the development paradigm followed by the Indian state and a critical perspective on the character of Indian state itself. While focusing on the constitutional framework and design laid down for governance, the course delves deeper into the political processes through which a divergent space for actual politics is carved out, in India.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course, students would demonstrate:

- Understanding of the Indian Constitution, its basic features and the rights and duties of the citizens as well as the constitutional obligations of the state
- Knowledge of state institutions in India, the constitutional provisions governing them and actual their working
- Understanding into the nature of Indian society and its relationship with politics through the prism of caste, class, gender, religion, etc.
- Knowledge of party system and political parties in India
- Awareness of the development debates in India and its relationship with the social movements

SYLLABUS OF MDSC-2A

UNIT – I (6 Hours)

Indian Constitution: basic features, debates on Fundamental Rights, Directive Principles and Federalism

UNIT – II (6 Hours)

State formation and nation building: Integration of princely states, linguistic re-organisation of states

UNIT – III (6 Hours)

Political institutions at the Centre and State levels: Parliament, Judiciary, Prime Minister, Chief Minister

UNIT – IV (4.5 Hours)

Social structure and political power: caste, class, gender

UNIT – V (4.5 Hours)

Religion and politics: debates on secularism and communalism

UNIT – VI (4.5 Hours)

Political parties and party systems

UNIT – VII (4.5 Hours)

Development strategies: planned economy, neo-liberal restructuring

UNIT – VIII (4.5 Hours)

Social movements: workers, farmers, environmental, and women's movements

UNIT – IX (4.5 Hours)

The nature of state in India: developmental, welfare, regulatory

Essential/recommended readings

Indian Constitution: basic features, debates on Fundamental Rights, Directive Principles and Federalism

B R Ambedkar, 2010, Basic features of the Indian Constitution, in Valerian Rodrigues (ed), *The essential writings of BR Ambedkar*. Oxford University Press, India.

D DBasu, 2011, Fundamental Rights and Duties (pp. 79- 142), in *Introduction to the Constitution of India*, (20thed.). Lexis Nexis, India.

ShibaniKinkarChaube, 2010, Duties of State and Citizens, in *The Making and Working of the Indian Constitution*, NBT, India.

D DBasu, 2011, Distribution of Legislative and Executive Powers, in *Introduction to the Constitution of India*, (20thed.). Lexis Nexis, India.

State formation and nation building: Integration of princely states, linguistic re-organisation of states

Chandra, B., Mukherjee, A. & Mukherjee, M. (2008), Consolidation of India as a Nation (I), in *India Since Independence*. New Delhi: Penguin.

Chandra, B., Mukherjee, A. & Mukherjee, M. (2008), Consolidation of India as a Nation (II), the Linguistic Organization of the States, in *India Since Independence*. New Delhi: Penguin.

V P Menon, 1956, CH I- Setting the Stage and Ch XXV- The Cost of Integration, in *The Story of the Integration of the Indian States*, Orient Longman.

Political institutions at the Centre and State levels: Parliament, Judiciary, Prime Minister, Chief Minister

S.K. Chaube, 2010, Union Government- 1: The Executive, in *The Making and Working of Indian Constitution*, NBT, India

S.K. Chaube, 2010, Union Government 2: The Legislature, in *The Making and Working of Indian Constitution*, NBT, India

Granville Austin, 1966, *Indian Constitution, Cornerstone of a Nation*, OUP, pp. 145- 230.

Punam S Khanna, 2008, The Indian Judicial system, in K Sankaran and U K Singh (eds), *Towards Legal Literacy: An Introduction to Law in India*, OUP.

ArunThiruvengadam, 2018, The Executive and the Parliament, in *The Constitution of India, a Contextual Analysis*, Hart Publishing

R. Dhavan and R. Saxena (2006), 'The Republic of India', in K. Roy, C. Saunders and J. Kincaid (eds.) *A Global Dialogue on Federalism*, Volume 3, Montreal: Queen's University Press, pp. 166-197

Social structure and political power: caste, class, gender

R. Kothari, (1970) 'Introduction', in *Caste in Indian Politics*, Delhi: Orient Longman, pp.3-25.

S. Deshpande (2016), 'Caste in and as Indian Democracy', New Delhi: *Seminar*, No.677, pp. 54-58.

Jhodka, Surinder. 2010. 'Caste and Politics'. In NirajaJayal and PratapBhanu Mehta (eds). *The Oxford companion to politics in India*, pp.154-67.

U. Chakravarti. (2003)'Caste and Gender in Contemporary India', in *Gendering Caste Through a Feminist Lens*. Calcutta: Stree, pp.139-317.

M. Weiner, (2001) 'The Struggle for Equality: Caste in Indian Politics', in A.Kohli. (ed.)*The Success of India's Democracy*, Cambridge: CUP, pp.193-225.

S. Chowdhury, (2007) 'Globalization and Labour', in B. Nayar (ed.) *Globalization and Politics in India*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp.516-526.

Raju. J Das. (2019). 'Class Relations, Class Struggle, and the State in India'. In *Critical Reflections on Economy and Politics in India: A class Theory Perspective*. Leiden; Boston: Brill, pp. 233-282.

Religion and politics: debates on secularism and communalism

T. Pantham, (2004) 'Understanding Indian Secularism: Learning from its Recent Critics', in R. Vora and S. Palshikar (eds.) *Indian Democracy: Meanings and Practices*, New Delhi: Sage, pp. 235-256.

N. Chandhoke, (2010) 'Secularism', in P. Mehta and N. Jayal (eds.) *The Oxford Companion to Politics in India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 333-346.

R Bhargava (ed.) (2006) *Secularism and its Critics*, Oxford India Paperbacks.

Political parties and party systems

R. Kothari, (2002) 'The Congress System', in Z. Hasan (ed.) *Parties and Party Politics in India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp 39-55.

Y. Yadav and S. Palshikar, (2006) 'Party System and Electoral Politics in the Indian States, 1952-2002: From Hegemony to Convergence', in P.R. DeSouza and E. Sridharan (eds.) *India's Political Parties*, New Delhi: Sage, pp. 73-115.

C. Jaffrelot and G. Verniers (2020), 'A New Party System of a New Political System?', *Contemporary South Asia*, Vol.28, No.2, pp. 141-154.

M. Vaishnav and J. Hinton (2019), 'The Dawn of India's Fourth Party System', *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Paper*, 5 September.

Pradeep Chibber and Rahul Verma, (2019) 'The Rise of the Second Dominant Party System in India: BJP's New Social Coalition in 2019' in *Studies in Politics*, Vol. 7, No.2, Pp.131-148.

Development strategies: planned economy, neo-liberal restructuring

A. Mozoomdar, (1994) 'The Rise and Decline of Development Planning in India', in T. Byres (ed.) *The State and Development Planning in India*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 73-108

T. Byres, (1994) 'Introduction: Development Planning and the Interventionist State Versus Liberalization and the Neo-Liberal State: India, 1989-1996', in T. Byres (ed.) *The State, Development Planning and Liberalization in India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp.1-35.

P. Chatterjee, (2000) 'Development Planning and the Indian State', in Zoya Hasan (ed.), *Politics and the State in India*, New Delhi: Sage, pp.116-140.

P. Patnaik and C. Chandrasekhar, (2007) 'India: Dirigisme, Structural Adjustment, and the Radical Alternative', in B. Nayar (ed.), *Globalization and Politics in India*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 218-240.

S. Mehrotra and S. Guichard, eds., (2020), *Planning in the 20th Century and Beyond: India's Planning Commission and the Niti Aayog*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Social movements: workers, farmers, environmental, and women's movements

G. Shah, (2004) *Social Movements in India: A Review of Literature*, New Delhi: Sage Publications.

A. Roy, (2010) 'The Women's Movement', in N. Jayal and P. Mehta (eds.) *The Oxford Companion to Politics in India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp.409-422

A.R. Desai, (ed.), (1986) *Agrarian Struggles in India After Independence*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. xi-xxxvi

D.N. Dhanagare, (2017), Understanding the Farmers' Movement in Maharashtra: Towards an Analytical Framework, in *Populism and Power Farmers' movement in western India, 1980—2014*, Routledge

S. Shyam, (2003) 'Organizing the Unorganized', in *Seminar*, [Footloose Labour: A Symposium on Livelihood Struggles of the Informal Workforce, 531] pp. 47-53.

G. Omvedt, (2012) 'The Anti-caste Movement and the Discourse of Power', in N. Jayal (ed.) *Democracy in India*, New Delhi: Oxford India Paperbacks, sixth impression, pp.481-508.

R. Guha, *Environmentalism: A Global History*, Longman Publishers, 1999

B. Agarwal, Environmental Management, Equity and Ecofeminism: Debating India's Experience, *Journal of Peasant Studies*, Vol. 25, No. 4, pp. 55-95.

M. Mohanty, (2002) 'The Changing Definition of Rights in India', in S. Patel, J. Bagchi, and K. Raj (eds.) *Thinking Social Sciences in India: Essays in Honour of Alice Thorner Patel*, New Delhi: Sage.

The nature of state in India: developmental, welfare, regulatory

A. Chakraborty (2019) 'From Passive Beneficiary to 'Rights Claimants': What Difference Does it Make', in A. P. D'Costa and A. Chakraborty eds., *Changing Contexts and Shifting Roles of the Indian State: New Perspectives on Development Dynamics*, Singapore: Springer, pp. 25-38.

P. Chatterjee (2010) 'The State', in N. G. Jayal and P. B. Mehta eds. *The Oxford Companion to Politics in India*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 3-14.

R. Khera, 2020, India's Welfare State: A Halting Shift from Benevolence to Rights, *Current History*, Vol 119, Issue 816

M. Khosla and M. Vaishnav, (2021), 'The Three Faces of the Indian State', *Open Democracy*, 32(1), pp. 111-25.

M. Mohanty, (1989) 'Duality of the State Process in India: A Hypothesis', *Bhartiya Samajik Chintan*, Vol. XII (1-2).

M.P Singh and R. Saxena, 2021 (Re-print) *Indian Politics: Constitutional Foundations and Institutional Functioning*, Third Edition, PHI Learning Pvt. Ltd. (Chapter 3).

A. K. Thiruvengadam, 'Flag-bearers of a New Era? The Evolution of New Regulatory Institutions in India (1991-2016)' in S. Rose-Ackerman, P.L. Lindseth and J. Emerson eds., *Comparative Administrative Law*, Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, pp. 218-232.

L. Tillin, R. Deshpande and K.K. Kailash eds. (2015) *Politics of Welfare: Comparisons across Indian States*, Delhi: Oxford University Press [Introduction: Comparing the Politics of Welfare across Indian States, pp. 1-39]

Additional Readings:

Chandra, B., Mukherjee, A. & Mukherjee, M. (2010) *India After Independence*. New Delhi: Penguin.

Singh, M.P. & Saxena, R. (2008) *Indian Politics: Contemporary Issues and Concerns*. New Delhi: PHI Learning.

Austin, G. (1999) *Indian Constitution: Corner Stone of a Nation*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Austin, G. (2004) *Working of a Democratic Constitution of India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Jayal, N. G. and Mehta, P. B. (eds.) (2010) *Oxford Companion to Indian Politics*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

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