

POLITICAL SCIENCE
Subject Code-028
Classes-XI & XII (2026-2027)

RATIONALE

A discipline of Social Science, Political Science deals with understanding the social structures and methods used to manage a government or State. It also encompasses the historical, philosophical, constitutional, and legal foundation of the political system. It further provides scope to identify the political values and ideas, governing institutions and their policy making process. The subject enhances the ability to address the functions and processes of government and politics in international, national, and state levels. It ensures that students acquire citizenship skills and engage as active citizens by appreciating human diversity. This subject is interdisciplinary by nature and draws upon other social disciplines or branches of knowledge and there by influenced by them in many ways. At Senior Secondary level, curriculum of Political Science is organised in a systematic manner to facilitate students to have an understanding of political ideas, ideologies, institutions, policies, processes, and behaviour, as well as groups, classes, government, law, peace and war which are the bedrock of human society and polity. The contents develop knowledge about current and past political events across the world and also enrich student's writing, communication, data analysis skills. An earnest effort is directed towards laying the foundation for a serious engagement with the discipline and developing competencies that prepare students for higher education, learning, and acquiring knowledge.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Indian Constitution at Work:

- Understand the historical circumstances and the processes in which the Constitution was drafted.
- Be familiar with the diverse perspectives that guided the makers of the Indian Constitution.
- Analyse the working of the three pillars of democracy: Legislature, Executive, and Judiciary and their role with changing times.
- Identify the key features of the Indian Constitution and compare these to other constitutions in the world.

2. Political Theory:

- Recognise the ideas, concepts, and values inherent in the political life of a citizen.
- Systematic reflection and critical analysis of the political phenomenon.
- Provide clarity on what is 'political' in relation to 'social', 'economic', 'moral', and the like.
- Augment the ability of students to build a good state in a good society, and create processes, procedures, institutions, and structures which could be rationally achievable.

3. Contemporary World Politics

- Enable an understanding of the nature of political interactions amongst the sovereign states in the World.
- Trace the key political events and processes in the post-cold war era.
- Analyse the all-encompassing impact of various global institutions, processes, and events.
- Promote international understanding and respect for humanity.

4. Politics in India since Independence

- Understand and analyse constitutional institutions and their working in the post-independence era.
- Appreciate the contribution of political leaders in Nation Building.
- Develop the capacity to link Government structure, processes, and their policies with contemporary political realities.
- Acquaint the students to the changing trends and developments in India.

**CLASS XI
COURSE STRUCTURE**

Chapter No.	Chapter Name	Marks
PART A INDIAN CONSTITUTION AT WORK		
1	Constitution: Why and How?	8
2	Rights in the Indian Constitution	
3	Election and Representation	6
4	Executive	12
5	Legislature	
6	Judiciary	
7	Federalism	6
8	Local Governments	4
9	Constitution as a Living Document	4
10	The Philosophy of the Constitution	
	Marks allotted to Indian Constitution at Work	40
PART B POLITICAL THEORY		
1	Political Theory: An Introduction	4
2	Freedom	12
3	Equality	
4	Social Justice	6
5	Rights	4
6	Citizenship	8
7	Nationalism	
8	Secularism	6
	Marks allotted for Political Theory	40
	Total	80

CLASS XI

COURSE CONTENT

Chapter No. and Name	Learning Outcomes with Specific Competencies
1- Constitution: Why and How? a) Why do we need a Constitution? • Constitution allows coordination and assurance • Specification of decision-making powers • Limitations on the powers of government • Aspirations and goals of a society • Fundamental identity of a people b) The authority of a Constitution • Mode of promulgation • The substantive provisions of constitution • Balanced institutional design c) How was the Indian Constitution made? • Composition of the Constituent Assembly • Procedures • Inheritance of the nationalist movement • Institutional arrangements d) Provisions adapted from Constitutions of different countries	Students will be able to: • Appreciate the need for a Constitution. • Understand the historical processes and the circumstances in which the Indian Constitution was drafted. • Critically evaluate how constitutions, govern the distribution of power in society. • Analyse the ways in which the provisions of the Constitution have worked in real political life.
2- Rights in the Indian Constitution a) The importance of rights • Bill of Rights b) Fundamental rights in the Indian Constitution • Right to Equality • Right to Freedom • Right against Exploitation • Right to Freedom of Religion • Cultural and Educational Rights • Right to Constitutional Remedies c) Directive principles of state policy • What do the directive principles contain? d) Relationship between fundamental rights and directive principles	Students will be able to: • Analyse the working of the Constitution in real life • Learn to respect others, think critically, and make informed decisions • Identify violations of the rights to equality and freedom in the society around them • Justify the need for reasonable restrictions on the rights guaranteed. • Use freedom of expression to advocate for ensuring rights is given to people around them.

3. Election and Representation - Elections and democracy - Election system in India - First Past the Post System - Proportional Representation - Why did India adopt the FPTP system? - Reservation of constituencies - Free and fair elections - Universal franchise and right to contest - Independent Election Commission - Electoral Reforms	Students will be able to: - Identify different types and methods of election - Develop critical thinking about the role of various stakeholders in ensuring free and fair elections. - Demonstrate the innate role played by Election Commission - Compare election systems of different countries of the world.
4. Executive - What is an executive? - What are the different types of executives? - Parliamentary executive in India - Power and position of President - Discretionary Powers of the President - Prime Minister and Council of ministers - Permanent Executive: Bureaucracy	Student will be able to: - Recognise the meaning of Executive. - Compare and contrast the Parliamentary and Presidential Executive. - Analyse the composition and functioning of the executive. - Know the significance of the administrative machinery.
5. Legislature - Why do we need a parliament? - Why do we need two houses of parliament? - Rajya Sabha - Lok Sabha - What does the parliament do? - Powers of Rajya Sabha - Special Powers of Rajya Sabha - How does the parliament make laws? - How does the parliament control the executive? - What do the committees of parliament do? - How does the parliament regulate itself?	Students will be able to: - Describe the law- making process in India. - Differentiate between the powers and functions of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. - Examine the parliamentary control over the Executive. - Analyse the role of Parliamentary committees for the success of Indian democracy.
6. Judiciary - Why do we need an independent judiciary? - Independence of Judiciary - Appointment of Judges - Removal of Judges - Structure of the Judiciary	Students will be able to: - Identify the different aspects which makes the Judiciary independent - Compare and contrast the different jurisdictions

c) Jurisdiction of supreme Court • Original Jurisdiction • Writ Jurisdiction • Appellate Jurisdiction • Advisory Jurisdiction • Judicial Activism d) Judiciary and Rights • Judiciary and Parliament	• Analyse the reasons why Judiciary has become proactive. • Examine the reasons for the conflicts between the judiciary and parliament with respect to Constitutional Amendments.
7. Federalism a) What is Federalism? b) Federalism in the Indian Constitution • Division of Powers c) Federalism with a strong central government d) Conflicts in India's federal system • Centre-State Relations • Demands for Autonomy • Role of Governors and President's Rule • Demands for New States • Interstate Conflicts e) Special provisions • Jammu and Kashmir	Students will be able to: • Explain the basic features of a federation. • Identify the different levels of the government & subjects on which the union and state governments can make laws. • Discuss the various constitutional provisions that led to a strong Centre in India.
8. Local Governments a) Why local governments? b) Growth of Local Government in India • Local Governments in Independent India c) 73rd and 74th amendments d) 73rd Amendment • Three Tier Structure • Elections • Reservations • Transfer of Subjects • State Election Commissioners • State Finance Commission e) 74th Amendment • Implementation of 73rd and 74th Amendments	Students will be able to: • Understand the Panchayati Raj system of local government in India, its emergence and significance • Identify the objectives, functions and sources of income of rural and urban local government bodies • Justify the significance of 73rd and 74th constitutional amendments • Acknowledge and examine the significance of decentralization • Introspect and realise the need to empower local government bodies
Constitution as a Living Document a) Are constitutions static? b) How to amend the constitution? c) Why have there been so many amendments?	Students will be able to: • Analyse the working of the Constitution. • Appreciate why the Constitution is called a Living Document

9. Contents of amendments made so far • Differing Interpretations • Amendments through Political Consensus • Controversial Amendments e) Basic structure and evolution of the constitution f) Constitution as a Living Document • Contribution of the Judiciary • Maturity of the Political Leadership	Students will be able to: • Know the various amendments that have taken place and the controversies raised. •
10. The Philosophy of the Constitution a) What is meant by philosophy of the constitution? • Constitution as Means of Democratic Transformation b) Why do we need to go back to the Constituent Assembly? c) What is the political philosophy of our constitution? • Individual freedom • Social Justice • Respect for diversity and minority rights • Secularism • Universal franchise • Federalism • National identity d) Procedural Achievements e) Criticisms • Limitations	Students will be able to: • Appreciate the philosophical vision of our Constitution. • Recognise the core features of the Indian Constitution. • Evaluate the strengths and limitations of the Constitution.
PART B POLITICAL THEORY	
1. Political Theory: An Introduction a) What is politics? b) What do we study in political theory? c) Putting Political theory into practice d) Why should we study political theory?	Students will be able to: • Define the term politics and identify various political principles. • Explain the innate ideas of various Political theories. • Appreciate the contribution of Political Thinkers

2. Freedom a) The Ideal of freedom b) The sources of Constraints-Why do we need constraints? c) The Harm Principle d) Negative and Positive liberty	Students will be able to: • Appreciate the ideal of freedom. • Critically evaluate the dimensions of negative and positive liberty. • Demonstrate spirit of enquiry • Explain the ideas introduced by J.S. Mill in Harm Principle. • Assess the possible limitations on freedom resulting from the social and economic structures of society.
3. Equality a) Why does equality matter? • Equality of opportunities • Natural and Social Inequalities b) Three dimensions of equality c) Feminism, Socialism d) How can we promote equality?	Students will be able to: • Understand the moral and political ideals of equality. • Assess how equality is perceived through different ideologies • Recognise the means and methods to promote equality. • Evaluate the possible solutions to minimise inequality.
4. Social Justice a) What is Justice? • Equal Treatment for Equals • Proportionate Justice • Recognition of Special Needs b) Just distribution c) John Rawls Theory of Justice d) Pursuing Social Justice e) Free Markets versus State Intervention	Students will be able to: • Classify the different dimensions of justice. • Appreciate the measures taken by the government of India to secure social justice. • Enlist the basic minimum requirements of people for living a healthy and productive life. • State John Rawls' theory of veil of ignorance.
5. Rights a) What are Rights? b) Where do rights come from? c) Legal rights and the state d) Kinds of rights e) Rights and responsibilities	Students will be able to: • Define rights • Identify the need for rights and its importance to mankind. • why rights need to be sanctioned by law. • Describe the features of different kinds of rights.
6. Citizenship a) Introduction b) Full and equal membership c) Equal Rights d) Citizen and Nation e) Universal Citizenship f) Global Citizenship	Students will be able to: • Explain the meaning of citizenship. • Contribute to meaningful discussion on ways of granting citizenship. • Discuss the probable solutions or alternatives to solve citizenship issue • Analyse the problems to be surmounted to strengthen links between the people and governments

7.Nationalism a) Introducing Nationalism b) Nations and Nationalism • Shared Beliefs and History • Shared National Identity c) National self-determination d) Nationalism and Pluralism	Students will be able to: • Understand the concepts of nation and nationalism • Assess the strengths and limitations of nationalism. • Identify and build an understanding on the factors related to creation of collective identities • Examine the concept of national self-determination • Acknowledge the need to make nations more democratic and inclusive
8.Secularism a) What is Secularism? b) Inter-religious Domination c) Intra-religious Domination d) Secular State • The western model of secularism • The Indian model of secularism e) Criticisms of Indian secularism • Western Import and Minoritism • Interventionist • Vote Bank Politics	Student will be able to: • Define Secularism. • Differentiate between Inter-religious and Intra-Religious Domination. • Recognise the concept of a Secular State. • Compare Western and Indian Model of Secularism. • Make an appraisal of Indian Secularism.

Prescribed Textbooks:

1. Indian Constitution at Work, Class XI, Published by NCERT
2. Political Theory, Class XI, Published by NCERT
3. Added Reference Material available with the document in the Annexure

Note: The above textbooks are also available in Hindi and Urdu versions.

CLASS XII

COURSE STRUCTURE

Chapter No.	Chapter Name	Marks Allotted
PART A-CONTEMPORARY WORLD POLITICS		
1	The End of Bipolarity	6
2	Contemporary Centres of Power	6
3	Contemporary South Asia	6
4	International Organizations	6
5	Security in the Contemporary World	6
6	Environment and Natural Resources	6
7	Globalisation	4
	PART A - Total	40
PART B-POLITICS IN INDIA SINCE INDEPENDENCE		
1	Challenges of Nation-Building	6
2	Era of One-Party Dominance	4
3	Politics of Planned Development	2
4	India's External Relations	6
5	Challenges to and Restoration of the Congress System	4
6	The Crisis of Democratic Order	4
7	Regional Aspirations	6
8	Recent Developments in Indian Politics	8
	PART B - Total	40
	TOTAL	80

CLASS XII
COURSE CONTENT

Chapter No. and Name	Learning Outcomes with Specific Competencies
1. The End of Bipolarity Topics to be focused: a) The Soviet System b) Gorbachev and the disintegration c) Causes and Consequences of disintegration of Soviet Union d) Shock Therapy and its Consequences e) New entities in world politics • Russia • Balkan States • Central Asian States f) India's relations with Russia and other post-communist countries	Students will be able to: • Identify the basic features of the Soviet System. • Discuss the background and outcome of disintegration of the Soviet Union. • Examine the consequences of unipolar world • Assess the features of Shock Therapy • Probe into the recent happenings in the Post-Communist Countries. • Trace the developments between India & Russia
2. Contemporary Centres of Power Topics to be focused: a) European Union b) Association of Southeast Asian Nations c) Rise of China as an economic power d) Japan and South Korea as emerging powers	Students will be able to: • Compare and contrast the importance of European Union and ASEAN. • Evaluate the extent of rise of Chinese economy and its impact on world politics. • Summarise India's relations with China.
3. Contemporary South Asia Topics to be focused: a) Military and Democracy in Pakistan and Bangladesh b) Monarchy and Democracy in Nepal c) Ethnic Conflict and Democracy in Sri Lanka d) India-Pakistan Conflicts e) India and its Neighbours f) Peace and Cooperation	Students will be able to: • Identify & locate the seven countries of the South Asian region. • Appreciate the mixed record of democracy in the South Asian region. • Examine the role of Political leaders • Reflect upon the causes of various conflicts and movements in this region. • Justify the creation of SAARC • Understand the involvement of US and China in South Asia.
4. International Organizations Topics to be focused: a) Meaning and importance of International Organisations b) Evolution of the UN c) Structures and functions of International Organisations d) Principal Organs of UN	Students will be able to: • Define International Organisation • Appreciate the role of United Nations and its agencies • Reflect on the events taking place in the post-cold war era • Understand the need for reforms in the United Nations

e) Reform of the UN after Cold War f) Reform of Structures, Processes and Jurisdiction of the UN h) India and the UN Reforms i) Key Agencies: IMF, World Bank, WTO, ILO, IAEA. j) NGO: Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch. g) Implications and Future of International Organisations	
5.Security in the Contemporary World Topics to be focused: a) Meaning and Type of Security. b) Traditional concept of Security c) Non-tradition notions of Security. d) New Sources of Threats e) Cooperative Security f) India's Security strategy	Students will be able to: • Recognise the causes of security threats • Enhance analytical skills to provide solutions to security concerns. • Develop critical thinking about the role of various stakeholders in ensuring security today.
6.Environment and Natural Resources Topics to be focused: a) Environmental Concerns b) Global Commons c) Common but differentiated responsibilities d) India's Stand on Environment Issues f) Environmental Movements g) Resource Geopolitics e) Rights of Indigenous peoples	Students will be able to: • Enlist and explain the facts related to global environmental issues • Recognise and understand the need to conserve critical resources Demonstrate knowledge and appreciation towards India's responsibility in protecting environment • Realise the need to conserve resources and exhibit responsibility towards prudent use to facilitate sustainable development • Know about the nature of concerns of indigenous communities and understand how the governments of different countries respond to their plea
7.Globalisation Topics to be focused: a) Concept of globalisation b) Causes and Consequences of globalisation c) India and globalization d) Resistance to globalisation e) India and resistance to globalisation	Students will be able to: • Appreciate the significance of Globalisation • Elucidate the political, economic, and cultural dimensions of Globalisation. • Critically evaluate the impact of globalisation on India. • Draw attention to resistance movements to Globalisation and envisage its future trends.

PART B-POLITICS IN INDIA SINCE INDEPENDENCE

1. Challenges of Nation Building Topics to be focused: a) Challenges for the new Nation. • Three Challenges. b) Partition: Displacement and Rehabilitation. • Consequences of Partition. c) Integration of Princely States. • The problem • Government's approach • Hyderabad • Manipur d) Reorganisation of States.	Students will be able to: • Analyse the challenges which Independent India faced. • Describe the factors that led to the partition of India. • Explain the circumstances under which different princely states signed the Instrument of Accession. • Assess how language became the basis of reorganisation of the states. • Evaluate the role played by leaders in Nation Building.
2. Era of One-Party Dominance Topics to be focused: a) Challenge of building democracy. b) Congress dominance in the first three general elections. • Nature of Congress dominance • Congress as social and ideological coalition. • Tolerance and management of Factions c) Emergence of opposition parties.	Students will be able to: • Appreciate the sustenance of democratic politics in the country. • Evaluate the electoral politics post-Independence • Assess the dominance of the Indian National Congress from 1952 to 1967. • Evaluate the role of Opposition parties
3. Politics of Planned Development Topics to be focused: a) Political contestation. • Ideas of Development. • Planning • Planning Commission b) The Early Initiatives • The First Five Year Plan. • Rapid Industrialisation.	Students will be able to: • Identify the varied option considered by the government to balance growth and socio-economic justice. • Know the difference between Left and Right Ideology • Understand the need for the formation of the Planning Commission. • Appreciate the need for strategic long-term development programme and policies
4. India's External Relations Topics to be focused: a) International Context b) The Policy of Non-Alignment.	Students will be able to: • Recognise the significance of NAM • Interpret, compare and contrast multi-lateral aspects of Indo-China relationship • Demonstrate knowledge on Indo-Pak wars

• Nehru's role • Distance from two camps. • Afro Asian Unity c) Peace and conflict with China • The Chinese Invasion 1962 • War and Peace with Pakistan • Bangladesh War 1971 d) India's Nuclear Policy.	• Appreciate the steps taken by Indian government to develop military capacity • Reflect and introspect on the choices that the country must consider for the cause of development and peace building
5. Challenges to and Restoration of the Congress System Topics to be focused: a) Challenge of Political Succession • From Nehru to Shastri • From Shastri to Indira Gandhi b) Fourth General Election 1967 • Context of the Election. • Non Congressism • Electoral Verdict • Coalitions • Defections c) Split in the Congress • Indira vs the Syndicate • Presidential Election 1969 d) The 1971 Election and Restoration of Congress • The outcome and after Restoration	Students will be able to: • Understand the challenges of political succession after Nehru. Evaluate the opposition unity and the Congress split as a challenge to Congress dominance. • Compare and contrast the new Congress and the old Congress. • Summarise the initiatives taken by Indira Gandhi to overcome the challenges faced by her • Analyse the process of restoration of the Congress system
6. The Crisis of Democratic Order Topics to be focused: a) Background to Emergency. • Economic Context. • Gujarat and Bihar Movements • Conflict with Judiciary c) Declaration of Emergency • Crisis and response • Consequences c) Lessons of the Emergency. d) Politics after Emergency. • Lok Sabha Elections 1977 • Janata Government d) Legacy	Students will be able to: • Understand the causes and consequences of Emergency • Examine the lessons of Emergency • Evaluate the rule of Janata Government

7.Regional Aspirations Topics to be focused: a) Region and the Nation • Indian Approach • Areas of Tension • Jammu and Kashmir • Roots of the Problem • External and Internal disputes • Politics since 1948 • Insurgency and After • 2022 and Beyond b) Punjab • Political Context • Cycle of Violence • Road to Peace c) The Northeast • Demand for autonomy • Secessionist Movements • Movements against outsiders • Assam and National Integration	Students will be able to: • Discuss the implications of regional demands. • Analyse the importance of integrity in India. • Appreciate the initiatives taken by the government in dealing with regional aspirations
8.Recent Developments in Indian Politics Topics to be focused a) Context of 1990s b) Era of Coalition • Alliance Politics c) Political rise of the Backward Classes • Mandal Implemented • Political Fallouts d) Communalism, Secularism and Democracy. • Ayodhya Issue • From Legal proceedings to amicable acceptance e) Emergence of New Consensus f) Lok Sabha Elections (2004- 2019) g) Growing Consensus	Students will be able to: • Understand momentous changes taking place in the nation since 1989 • Trace the rise and growth of BJP. • Identify the areas of growing consensus

Prescribed Books:

1. Contemporary World Politics, Class XII, Published by NCERT
2. Politics in India since Independence, Class XII, Published by NCERT
3. Added Reference Material available with the document in the Annexure

Note: The above textbooks are also available in Hindi and Urdu Languages.

CLASS XI-XII
QUESTION PAPER DESIGN

S. No.	Competencies	Marks	Percentage
1	Knowledge and Remembering: Exhibit memory of previously learned material by recalling facts, terms, basic concepts.	22	27.5%
2	Understanding: Understanding of facts and ideas by organizing, comparing, explaining, describing, and stating main ideas.	24	30%
3	Applying: Solve problems by applying acquired knowledge, facts to interpret a situation/ cartoon/ clippings/ sources/ Map	22	27.5%
4	Analysis and Evaluation: Classify, compare, contrast, or differentiate between pieces of information; organise and/ or integrate from a variety of sources; Examine, synthesize information into parts and identify motives or causes. Make inferences and find evidence to support generalizations.	12	15%
		80	100%

Note: Competency based questions for the examinations to be conducted in the academic year 2026-27 will be 50% in class XII.

QUESTION PAPER DESIGN

Book	Objective Type 1(M)	SA Type I 2(M)	SA Type II (4M)	Passage/Map/ Cartoon based Questions(4M)	LA Type (6M)	Total Weightage
Contemporary World Politics	6	3	3	1	2	40
Politics in India since Independence	6	3	2	2	2	40
Project/Practical						20
Total No. of Marks and Questions	12	6	5	3	4	80+20

NOTE-

1. Question paper will be in five parts (A, B, C, D & E). There will be an internal choice in Part C and Part-E.
2. In order to assess different mental abilities of learners, question paper is likely to include questions based on passages, visuals such as maps, cartoons.
3. Map question can be given from any lesson of Book 2 (Politics in India since Independence); but weightage of lessons should remain unaltered. The Maps available in the official websites of Govt of India may be used.
4. Cartoon and passage-based questions can be asked from either textbook, but weightage of lessons should be maintained

CLASS XI & XII

GUIDELINES FOR PROJECT WORK

Project Work: 20 Marks

Rationale

Political Science as a field of study in senior secondary classes enable students to get an exposure to political activities and processes that they are exposed to in everyday life. The study of political science has emerged as a multifaceted discipline, involving a contemporary interdisciplinary approaches and empirical framework, emphasizing more on field work rather than theoretical perceptions. The connect between government and citizen ensures the emergence of an active and reflective citizens and vibrant democracy. CBSE has therefore incorporated project work in Political Science to enable students to extend their interest beyond textbooks and provide them with a platform to gather information, value the decisions made to shape the community and visualise future course of action to be taken to ensure healthy democracy.

Objectives of project work

To enable learners to:

- probe deeper, initiate action and reflect on knowledge and skills acquired during the course of class XI and XII
- analyse and evaluate real world scenarios using social constructivism, a theory based on observation and scientific study
- become independent and empowered to choose their topic and gather data from a variety of source, investigate varied viewpoints acquired and arrive at logical deductions.
- enquire into, and reflect on, issues independently /in collaboration with others and identify the limitations
- develop 21st century skills of communication, cooperation, coordination, critical thinking, creativity and collaboration to produce an extended and independent work.

Role of the teacher

A teacher should:

- help each learner select the topic based on recently published extracts from the news media, government policies, RBI bulletin, NITI Aayog reports, IMF/World Bank reports etc., after detailed discussions and deliberations of the topic.
- play the role of a facilitator to support and monitor the project work of the learner through periodic discussions.
- guide the research work in terms of sources for the relevant data.
- ensure that students understand the relevance and usage of primary evidence and other sources in their projects

- ensure that students are able to derive a conclusion from the content; cite the limitations faced during the research and give appropriate references used in doing the research work
- educate learner about plagiarism and the importance of quoting the source of the information to ensure authenticity of research work

Project overview:

The Project work will be implemented for 20 Marks.

- Out of 20 marks, 10 marks are to be allotted to viva voce and 10 marks for project work.
- For class XII, the evaluation for 20 marks project work should be done jointly by the internal and external examiners and for class XI the evaluation can be done by the internal examiner.
- The project can be individual/pair/group of 4-5 each. The Project can be made on any of the topics given in the syllabus of a particular class or any contemporary issues.
- The project work can be culminated in the form of films, albums, songs, storytelling, debate, Role Play, Skit, Presentation, Model, Field Survey, Mock Drills/Mock Event etc.
- The teacher should give enough time for preparation of the Project Work. The topics for Project Work taken up by the student must be discussed by the teacher in classroom.
- Students can use primary sources available in city archives, Primary sources can also include newspaper cuttings, photographs, film footage and recorded written/speeches. Secondary sources may also be used after proper authentication.
- Viva-Voce
- At the end of the stipulated term, each learner will present the research work in the Project File to the External and Internal examiner.
- The questions should be asked from the Research Work/ Project File of the learner.
- The Internal Examiner should ensure that the study submitted by the learner is his/her original work.
- In case of any doubt, authenticity should be checked and verified

The marks will be allocated under the following heads:

S.No.	Components	Marks Allotted
1.	Introduction/Overview	2
2.	Variety Of Contents	3
3.	Presentation	3
4.	Conclusion	1
5.	Bibliography	1
6.	Viva-Voce	10
	TOTAL	20

Class XII: Assessment will be done by external examiner in coordination with internal examiner and the date of Project Assessment will be fixed by CBSE. The project reports are to be preserved by the school till the final results are declared, for scrutiny by the Board.

Class XI: Assessment will be done by internal examiner.

SUGGESTED TOPICS

CLASS XI

1. Making of the Constitution.
2. Elections in India.
3. Working of the Indian Judiciary System.
4. Social Justice: Are ethics followed in Indian Politics
5. Human Rights Act and its gratification in India.
6. Political impact on Indian Legislation.

CLASSXII

1. NAM- 1961 to present times.
2. Division of Germany with special focus on the construction and dismantling of the Berlin Wall.
3. CIS-Central Asian Republics
4. Disintegration of USSR with special focus on Gorbachev.
5. Arab Spring
6. Cover the negative as well as positive aspects of relationship between India and the following countries.

Focus on any one of the following (current updates should be highlighted):

- a) Relationship between India and Russia
 - b) Relationship between India and China
 - c) Relationship between India and Pakistan
 - d) Relationship between India and Bangladesh
7. ASEAN
 8. European Union and India
 9. BRICS
 10. SAARC
 11. India's Nuclear Policy
 12. United Nations with focus on India's candidature in Security Council.
 13. UN Agencies – UNICEF, UNESCO, WHO
 14. Pandemics: Covid 19- Its global impact (focus on worldwide cooperation and preparedness along with controversies (please collect newspaper clippings for the same)
 15. Partition of India-Theory behind it and its legacy
 16. Comparison between NITI AAYOG and Planning Commission and their contribution in India's Development.
 17. Election Commission of India and Electoral Roll and its revision
 18. Elections 2019- Rise of BJP and Downfall of Congress (1989-2019).
 19. Imposition of Emergency in India
 20. NDA III and NDA IV – Social and Economic welfare programmes.

NOTE: The additional reference material is for classroom transaction and will not be assessed in the Board examination.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE MATERIAL- CLASS XI

Part A - Indian Constitution at Work

Chapter -3: Election and Representation

Sub-Topic: 'Electoral Reforms in Indian Politics'

Electoral Reforms in the 21st Century include use of EVM [Electronic Voting Machine], VVPAT [Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail] and NOTA [None of the Above]. Restriction on exit polls, ceiling on election expenditure has been raised from 70 lakhs to 95 lakh rupees in bigger states like Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Karnataka. And 54 lakhs to 75 lakhs in Smaller States which include Goa, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and UTS for the Lok Sabha elections. For Assembly elections, expenditure limits have been enhanced from 28 lakh rupees to 40 lakhs in bigger states and from 20 lakhs to 28 lakhs in smaller states and the use electoral bonds in election funding are some of the major reforms initiated by the Election Commission of India that have sought to bring about revolutionary changes in the electoral process and the voter behaviour in contemporary India.

Revision of Electoral Roll

One of the important responsibilities of the Election Commission of India is to ensure that the Electoral roll (voter lists) is kept updated. To ensure the same, the electoral roll is updated and verified from time to time. The objective is to ensure that the voter list is accurate, inclusive, and free from errors. During this process, new eligible voters are added, names of deceased or shifted persons are removed, and any corrections in existing entries are made. This process ensures that only eligible voters are registered and able to participate in the democratic process of the country.

Chapter 7: Federalism

Sub-Topics: 'Quasi Federalism'. 'Competitive Federalism'

Quasi Federalism: In the context of special features and provisions of Indian federalism we use the phrase, 'Quasi Federalism', a concept given by K. C. Wheare. Quasi federalism represents a strong centre with comparatively less strong units. Wheare describes the Indian case in its formative phase as a 'quasi federation – A unitary state with subsidiary federal features rather than a federal state

with subsidiary unitary features’.

Cooperative Federalism: Cooperative federalism is the concept which reflects the relationship between the Union and the States where both come together and resolve the common problems with each other’s cooperation in amicable manner thus contributing towards the growth of a strong federation. It shows the horizontal relationship between the Union and the States where none is placed over and above on the other. To ensure this strong relationship between the two, the Indian constitution has evolved and incorporated certain instruments and agencies like the Inter-State Councils, Zonal Councils, the 7th Schedule, etc.

Competitive Federalism: Competitive federalism places all states vis a vis the Union on equal and competing footing where the best performing states can take the maximum benefits of the resources, services and taxes. It ensures a healthy competition among states leading towards better performance and delivery which constitute important part of governance. The post- liberalization era reflects the trend of competitive federalism where states are more autonomous, accountable, and efficient in their functioning.

Chapter 9: Constitution as a Living Document Sub-Topics: Constitution Amendments

As of 2024, there have been total 106 amendments of the Constitution of India. Source: <https://legislative.gov.in/constitution-of-india/>.

Part B- Political Theory

Chapter 2: Freedom

Sub-Topics: ‘Liberty vs Freedom’

We hear a lot around us that people appear to use the word liberty and freedom as synonyms of each other. But there are some fundamental differences between these two concepts that must be understood. Liberty comes from the Latin word “libertatem” which means “condition of a freeman”. While freedom come from the English word “freedom” which means “state of free will”. Liberty is power to act and express oneself according to one’s will while freedom is the power to decide one’s action. Freedom is more concrete concept than liberty which is more associated with an individual’s connection with the state rather than with other individuals and circumstances. State guarantees freedom through the liberty it grants to its citizens.

The difference between these two concepts can briefly be outlined as follows:

Liberty

- Condition of a freeman
- Power to act
- Free to do something

Freedom

State of freewill
Power to decide
Free from something

The common feature between these two concepts is that both remain unconstrained, which means that their realization is free from any constrain. Further, both follow rightful or ethical conformity in terms of their realization.

Chapter 4: Social Justice

Sub-Topics: 'Different Dimensions of justice'

Till now we have tried to understand what the term justice means. After considering this, we need to know different dimensions of justice which may help us in establishing a just society. Legal, social, political and economic justice are the key dimensions of justice. Here, we will try to understand these dimensions in some details.

Legal Justice: It is a narrow concept of justice which is associated with the legal system and legal procedure existing in a society. The court of law interprets the law and applies it after hearing the partners involved in a dispute. Here, justice is what administered by the court of law and the interpretation of the judge is considered to be an embodiment of justice.

Political Justice: In any democratic society political justice means providing equal political rights. Political justice stands for a free and fair participation of people in the political sphere. Universal adult franchise is the expression of political justice. Equality of opportunity in getting elected and in holding public offices, freedom of expression and association are important pillars of political justice.

Social Justice: It means to end all types of social inequalities and to provide proper opportunity to every citizen in every sphere of life, to develop her/his personality to ensure equality of law, prohibition of discrimination, social security, provision of equal political rights, etc. The concept of social justice is based on the belief that all human beings are equal and no discrimination should be made on the ground of race, religion, caste, gender and place of birth.

Economic Justice: It means to provide equal opportunities to everyone to earn her/his livelihood. It also means to help such people who are not able to work and earn their livelihood. The basic need of every person such as food, cloth, shelter and education should be fulfilled. It stands for by assuring adequate means of livelihood to all, by making provisions for equal pay for equal work, fair distribution of resources, equal economic opportunity to all, etc.

While the concept of political justice is closely linked with the ideal of “liberty”, economic and legal justice with “equality” and social justice with “fraternity”, a just combination of all these four dimensions will help in achieving justice in life.

Chapter 5: Rights

Sub-Topics: ‘Human Rights’

Human rights are those rights which all human beings are entitled by virtue of being human. It is based on the principle of respect for the individual. The fundamental assumption behind the concept of human rights is that every person is amoral and rational being who deserves to be treated with dignity. Human rights are both universal and fundamental; these are universal in the sense that they belong to all human beings irrespective of race, nationality, community, religion, gender, etc.; these are also fundamental because once given, these cannot be taken back.

Although the presence of human rights can be traced to the ancient Indian philosophy and culture, the concept formally originated at the international level in 1948 with the UN Declaration of Human Rights listing 30 rights for all people across the globe.

Chapter 7: Nationalism Sub-Topics: ‘Multiculturalism’

Multiculturalism in the general sense is the coexistence of people of different religions, cultural groups and communities in all countries of the globe. Originated in the 1970s with a counter-culturalism and human rights movement in opposition to the homogenization of other cultures in favor of the white culture of America and Europe, multiculturalism broadly comprises the principles of both ‘acceptance’ and ‘reverence’. It expects all countries of the globe to give equal acceptance and reverence to the cultural groups. In the India context, the concept of multiculturalism is identified with the notion of "Salad Bowl", advocated by social scientist, Ashish Nandy. It shows that different cultural groups within a nation maintain their identity with their respective distinct forms.

CLASS XII

Part A: Contemporary World Politics

Chapter-1: The End of Bipolarity

Sub-Topic: 'Arab Spring'

The 21st century witnessed emergence of new developments for democracies and democratization in West Asian countries, one such event is characterised as Arab Spring that began in 2009. Located in Tunisia, the Arab Spring took its roots where the struggle against corruption, unemployment and poverty was started by the public which turned into a political movement because the people considered the existing problems as outcome of autocratic dictatorship. The demand for democracy that started in Tunisia spread throughout the Muslim-dominated Arab countries in West Asia. Hosni Mubarak, who had been in power in Egypt since 1979, also collapsed as a result of the massive democratic protests. In addition, the influence of Arab Spring could also be seen in Yemen, Bahrain, Libya and Syria where similar protests by the people led to democratic awakening throughout the region.

Chapter-2: Contemporary Centre's of Power

Sub-Topic: 'BRICS'

The term BRICS refers to Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa respectively. BRIC was founded in 2006 in Russia. BRIC turned into BRICS after the inclusion of South Africa in its first meeting in the year 2009. The key objectives of BRICS are primarily to cooperate and distribute mutual economic benefits among its members besides non-interference in the internal policies of each nation and mutual equality. The 11th conference of the BRICS concluded in Brazil in 2019, chaired by Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro.

Expansion (BRICS+): In 2024, the bloc expanded beyond the original five members.

Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and the UAE became full members. Indonesia officially joined in early 2025.

India is scheduled to assume the BRICS Chairmanship and host the **18th BRICS Summit in 2026**.

Sub-Topic: 'Russia'

Russia has been the largest part of the former Soviet Union even before its disintegration. After the dissolution of the Soviet Union in late 1980s and early 1990s, Russia emerged as the strong successor of USSR [Union of Soviet Socialist Republics].

Russia's GDP is currently 11th in the world. Russia has reserves of minerals, natural resources and gases that make it a powerful country in the global world. In addition, Russia is a nuclear state with

a huge stock of sophisticated weapons. Russia is also a permanent member of the UN Security Council, called P-5.

Sub-Topic: 'India'

The 21st century India is being seen as an important emerging global power. The world is experiencing the power and rise of India in a multidimensional way. The economic, cultural, strategic position of the country with a population of more than 135 crores is very strong. From an economic perspective, targeting the goal of a \$5 trillion economy, a competitive huge market, an ancient inclusive culture with 200 million people of Indian Diaspora spreading across the globe impart distinct meaning and salience to India as a new Centre of power in the 21st century.

From a strategic perspective, the military of India is self-sufficient with indigenous nuclear technology making it another nuclear power. 'Make in India' scheme in technology and science is another milestone of Indian economy. All these changes are making India an important Centre of power in the present world.

Sub-Topic: 'European Union'

Founded in 1993, the European Union (EU) has emerged as one of the most effective regional blocs in the 21st century, promoting peace, prosperity and stability among its member nations. With its 27 members, EU stands among the pioneers of the conception of a globalized world, presenting a supranational structure that promotes global peace and cooperation through active collaboration across political, economic, social, and cultural fronts. Its common market, which enables free movement of people and commodities alike, and euro as a common currency, along with border-free travel across the Schengen Area, strengthen socio-economic integration, facilitate trade and promote cultural exchange. The European Union also guarantees fundamental rights, social security, and equal opportunities for its citizens, transcending national boundaries and fostering a shared foundation for human rights. As a giant trade bloc, the EU is also a leading provider of development aid and humanitarian assistance and has taken up initiatives to meet contemporary global issues such as climate change, sustainable energy, and technological advancement.

Chapter-4: International

Organisations Sub-Topic: 'UNESCO'

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) was established on 4 November 1946. With its headquarter in Paris, France, UNESCO is a special body of the United Nations whose main objective is to promote education, natural science, society and anthropology,

culture and communication. During past several years, the special work done by UNESCO has been to promote literacy, technical and educational training and independent media etc. all across its member nations.

Sub-Topic: 'UNICEF'

The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) was established in 1946 by the United Nations General Assembly as a body whose main task was to collect emergency funds for children and to help in their development work all across the world. Apart from this, UNICEF helps and encourages the works that promote children's health and better life in all parts of the world. With its' headquarter in New York, United States, UNICEF has been working successfully in almost all 193 countries of the world.

Sub-Topic: 'ILO'

The International Labour Organization (ILO), founded in October 1919 with its headquarter in Geneva, Switzerland, is a body of the United Nations which aims to promote efficient conditions of social justice and work for workers through international labour standards at the global level. In addition, there is an incentive for women and male workers to engage in productive work and to create safety, parity and self-respectful conditions for them at the workplace.

Chapter-5: Security in the Contemporary World

Sub-Topic: 'Terrorism'

Terrorism refers to systematic use of brutal violence that creates an atmosphere of fear in society. It is used for many purposes, very prominently the politico-religious purposes.

There could be three broad meanings of terrorism:

- A systematic use of terror, often violent, especially as a means of coercion.
- Violent acts which are intended to create fear (terror); are perpetrated for a religious, political or, ideological goal; and deliberately target or disregard the safety of non-combatants (civilians).
- Acts of unlawful violence and war.

There is not a single nation in the world that does not suffer from terrorism. Although some countries have tried to divide terrorism into good and bad terrorism, India has always denied this distinction. India's current Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also clarified that terrorism cannot be divided into good or bad; it is a global problem and should be combated collectively.

Part B

Politics in India since Independence

Chapter-1: Challenges of Nation Building

Sub-Topic: 'Patel and National Integration'

The first deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister of India, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, emerged as a major leader of the freedom movement after the Kheda Satyagraha (1918) and the Bardoli Satyagraha (1928).

At the time of independence, the problem of integration of princely states was a big challenge for the national unity and integrity of India. Under such difficult times, Sardar Patel undertook the daunting tasks of uniting all 565 princely states of India. Known as an 'Iron Man' of India, Patel's approach to the question of the merger of princely states into independent India was very clear. He was not in favour of any compromise with the territorial integrity of India. By his political experience, diplomatic prowess and foresightedness, out of India's 565 princely states many had already given their consent to merge with India even before achieving the independence.

Sardar Patel faced key challenges of integration from three states, viz., Hyderabad, Junagarh and Kashmir. It was under his leadership that Indian forces compelled Hyderabad and Junagarh to merge with India. Keeping well-versed with Pakistan's intentions from Jinnah's divisive 'Two Nation Theory', Sardar Patel's opinion on Kashmir was different from other leaders. Like Hyderabad, he also wanted Kashmir's integration with India through military operations. But due to various reasons, Sardar Patel could not succeed in integrating Kashmir fully with India. However, Patel will always remain as an astounding leader who combined in himself the features of a true 'Nationalist', 'Catalyst' and 'Realist' – popularly characterised as NCR in Indian political history.

Chapter-3: Politics of Planned Development

Sub-Topic: 'NITI Aayog'

After independence, a Planning Commission based on socialist model was formed for the planned development of India. But in the era of globalization, especially in the 21st century, it was becoming ineffective and irrelevant, particularly in terms of coping with the pressing challenges of development. Hence, during his Independence Day speech on 15 August 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi talked about the abolition of the Planning Commission. NITI Aayog was constituted in place of Planning Commission on 1 January 2015 with the objective of providing the necessary and technical advice to the Union Government regarding policy making at the Central and State

levels.

The Prime Minister of India is the ex-officio Chairman of NITI Aayog and he appoints the Vice Chairperson of NITI Aayog. The first Vice Chairperson of NITI Aayog was Arvind Panagariya. Shri Suman Bery is the current Vice Chairperson of NITI Aayog.

To harmonise the interests of national security and economic policy and to prepare strategic and long-term framework of policy and program, NITI Aayog acts as a think tank of the Union Government. By adopting a 'Bottom-Up Approach', the NITI Aayog acts in the spirit of cooperative federalism as it ensures equal participation of all states in the country.

Sub-Topic: National Development Council (NDC)

The National Development Council (NDC) or Rashtriya Vikas Parishad is the apex body for decision creating and deliberations on development matters in India, presided over by the Prime Minister. It was set up on 6 August 1952 under the chairmanship of India's first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to strengthen and mobilise the effort and resources of the nation in support of the Five Year Plans made by Planning Commission. The Council comprises the Prime Minister, the Union Cabinet Ministers and Chief Ministers of all States or their substitutes, representatives of the Union Territories and the members of the NITI Aayog (erstwhile Planning Commission).

Objectives of the Council:

- To secure cooperation of the states in the execution of the plan
- To strengthen and mobilise the effort and resources of the nation in support of the Plan
- To promote common economic policies in all vital spheres and
- To ensure the balanced and rapid development of all parts of the country.

Functions of the Council:

- To prescribe guidelines for the formulation of the National Plan, including the assessment of resources for the Plan;
- To consider the National Plan as formulated by the NITI Aayog.
- To make an assessment of the resources required for implementing the Plan and to suggest measures for augmenting them.
- To consider important questions of social and economic policy affecting national development; and
- To review the working of the Plan from time to time and to recommend such measures as are necessary for achieving the aims and targets set out in the National Plan.
- To recommend measures for achievement of the aims and targets set out in the national Plan.

Chapter-4: India's External Relations

Sub-Topic: 'India and European Union relations'

India and the EU have emerged as global collaborators united in their commitment to upholding shared values like democracy, rule of law, and multilateralism, in areas such as trade, security, climate action, technology, and cultural dialogues. Conventionally, the India-EU trade has been focused on mainly machinery and appliances, chemicals, base metals, mineral products, textiles and transport equipment. Over the years, the EU has emerged among India's largest trading partners with focus on fair market access and predictable investment conditions. Collaboration in space research, clean energy, connectivity projects, skilled workers' mobility, digital innovation etc. has consistently increased. Recent initiatives like the Trade and Technology Council and progress in Free Trade Agreement negotiations have shown signs of a more outward-looking and future-oriented partnership. The EU and India have also advanced a new Security and Defence partnership, strengthening cooperation in key areas including maritime security, cybersecurity, cyber defence, and counterterrorism

Sub-Topic: 'India's Nuclear Program' (Updates)

India's nuclear policy has always been peace-oriented, whose clear impression is reflected in the policy of No First Use. But in view of contemporary regional security challenges, the present government has made it clear that the policy of no first use can be reviewed and changed in consonance with India's regional and national security. In addition, India is committed to ensuring its membership in the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) and opposing partisan and unjust nuclear treaties like CTBT and NPT.

Chapter-6 The Crisis of Democratic Order

Sub-Topic: Jaya Prakash Narayan

Jaya Prakash Narayan is known for three key contributions: Fight against Corruption, Principle of Communitarian Socialism and Championing of 'Total Revolution'.

Jaya Prakash Narayan was the first leader in post-independence India who undertook a tirade against corruption through the participation of youth, particularly in Gujarat and Bihar. He the office of Lokpal against corruption. His principle of Communitarian Socialism views India as a society of communities encompassing three key layers, viz., community, region and rashtra – all combining together as an example of true federation.

Based on the above principles, Jaya Prakash Narayan advocated transformation of individual,

society and state through his call for 'Total Revolution'. His call for total revolution sought to encompass moral, cultural, economic, political, educational and ecological transformations. His political transformation included the right to recall, the importance of village/ mohalla samities in democratic politics, and his call for Upper Ke Log to join political struggle for a clean politics in the country.

The essence for transformation according to Jaya Prakash Narayan revolves around 'Man' who could be the real catalyst of change in India.

Sub-Topic: 'Ram Manohar Lohia and Socialism'

Ram Manohar Lohia has been one of the main proponents of socialism in India. He championed the idea of 'Democratic Socialism' while associating his socialism with democracy. Lohia considered both capitalism and communism equally irrelevant for Indian society. His principle of Democratic Socialism has two objectives - the economic objective in form of food and housing. And the non-economic objective in form of democracy and freedom.

Lohia advocated Chouburja Rajneeti in which he opines four pillars of politics as well as socialism: Centre, Region, District and Village – all are linked with each other. Giving consideration to affirmative action, Lohia argued that the policy of affirmative action should not only be for the downtrodden but also for the women and the non-religious minorities.

Based on the premise of Democratic Socialism and Chouburja Rajneeti, Lohia supported a 'Party of Socialism' as an attempt of merging all political parties. The Party of Socialism according to Lohia should have three symbols, viz., Spade [prepared to make efforts], Vote [power of voting], and Prison [Willingness to make sacrifices].

Sub-Topic: 'Deendayal Upadhyaya and Integral Humanism'

Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya was a philosopher, sociologist, economist and politician. The philosophy presented by him is called 'Integral Humanism' which was intended to present an 'indigenous socio-economic model' in which human being remains at the centre of development. The aim of Integral Humanism is to ensure dignified life for every human being while balancing the needs of the individual and society. It supports sustainable consumption of natural resources so that those resources can be replenished. Integral Humanism enhances not only political but also economic and social democracy and freedom. As it seeks to promote diversity, it is best suited for a country as diverse as India.

The philosophy of Integral Humanism is based on the following three principles:

- Primacy of whole, not part
- Supremacy of Dharma
- Autonomy of Society

Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya opposed both Western 'capitalist individualism' and 'Marxist socialism'. According to Deendayal Upadhyaya, capitalist and socialist ideologies only consider the needs of the human body and mind, so they are based on materialistic purpose whereas spiritual development is equally considered important for the complete development of human being which is missing in both capitalism and socialism. Basing his philosophy on the internal conscience, pure human soul to be called Chhitti, Deendayal Upadhyaya envisaged a classless, casteless and conflict-free social system.

DeenDayal Upadhyaya advocated Indianization of Democracy, particularly with a focus on Economic Democracy. For him, decentralization & Swadeshi are the foundation of Economic Democracy. His philosophy broadly revolved around the principle of Arthayaam which states that both the absence and prominence of artha lead to the destruction and denigration of Dharma which is so central to Integral Humanism.

Sub-Topic: 'Democratic Upsurges'

Increasing participation of the people in the democratic politics of the country is broadly characterised as democratic upsurge. Based on this principle, social scientists have characterised three democratic upsurges in post- independence history of India.

The 'First Democratic Upsurge' could be attributed from the 1950s till 1970s which was based on the participation of Indian adult voters to the democratic politics both at the Centre and in states. Falsifying the western myth that the success of democracy requires modernization, urbanization, education and access to media, the successful holding of elections to both Lok Sabha and legislative assemblies all across states on the principle of parliamentary democracy were the testimony of India's first democratic upsurge.

During the 1980's, the increasing political participation of the lower classes of the society such as SCs, STs and OBCs has been interpreted as 'Second Democratic Upsurge'. This participation has made Indian politics more accommodative and accessible for these classes. Although this upsurge has not made any major change in the standard of living of these classes, especially Dalits, the participation of these classes into the organizational and political platforms gave them the opportuni

ty to strengthen their self-respect and ensure empowerment in the democratic politics of the country. The era of Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization from the early 1990s is attributed to the emergence of a competitive market society encompassing all important sectors of economy, society and polity thus paving way for the 'Third Democratic Upsurge'. The Third Democratic Upsurge represents a competitive electoral market which is based not on the principle of survival of the fittest but rather the survival of the ablest. It underlines three shifts in India's electoral market: from State to Market, from Government to Governance, from State as Controller to State as Facilitator. Moreover, the Third Democratic Upsurge seeks to promote the participation of the youth who constitute a significant chunk of Indian society and have emerged as the real game changers in view of their increasing electoral preference for both development and governance in India's contemporary democratic politics.

Chapter-7: Regional Aspiration

Sub-Topic: 'The Kashmir Issue'

Since its integration with the Union of India, Kashmir has remained one of the burning issues in post-independence India. The problem became more complicated when it was accorded a special status in the Constitution through Article 370 and Article 35A – the former giving it special powers like having its separate Constitution/Constituent Assembly/Flag, new nomenclature for Chief Minister as Prime Minister and Governor as Sadr-e-Riyasat, and the non-enforcement of most of the Union laws in the state while the later imparting it special citizenship rights prohibiting the non-Kashmiris from buying property in the state.

It was against the special status of the state of Jammu and Kashmir that there was a clarion call for abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A. Others equated Article 370 and 35A as 'constitutionally recognised separatism'.

It was against this backdrop that NDA Government presented the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Bill in Rajya Sabha on 5 August 2019 for the abolition of Section 370 and 35-A from Kashmir, which was passed by a majority. The bill was passed by the Lok Sabha on 6 August 2019. After the President's assent on 9 August 2019, Sections 370 and 35A were repealed and Jammu and Kashmir got divided into two Union Territories of Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir.

Chapter-8: Recent Development in Indian Politics

Sub-Topic: 'NDA III, IV & V'

The Bharatiya Janata Party led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi got an absolute majority in the Lok Sabha elections held in May 2014 and after nearly 30 years in Indian politics, a government with an

absolute majority was established at the Centre. Though called NDA III, the BJP-led coalition of 2014 was largely different from its predecessor coalition governments. Where the previous coalitions were led by one of the national parties, the NDA III coalition was not only steered by a national party, i.e., BJP it was also dominated by BJP with an absolute majority of its own in Lok Sabha. It was also called a 'surplus majority coalition'. In that sense a major transformation could be seen in the nature of coalition politics which could be seen from one party led coalition to one party dominated coalition.

The 2019 Lok Sabha elections, the 17th since independence, once again brought back BJP led NDA [NDA IV] to the centre of power by winning more than 350 seats out of 543. The BJP on its own won 303 seats in Lok Sabha, the biggest number any single party has won in the lower house since 1984 when Congress swept the elections in the aftermath of Mrs Indira Gandhi's assassination. Based on the tumultuous success of the BJP in 2019, Social Scientists have started equating the contemporary party system with the 'BJP System' where an era of one-party dominance, like the 'Congress System' has once again started appearing on the democratic politics of India.

In the 2024 elections for 18th Lok Sabha with 240 of the 543 seats, the BJP again emerged as the strongest party. NDA (V) Govt. was formed after the election with the BJP taking support from its partners to achieve 294 seats and form the government. The oppositional Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance was able to achieve 232 seats.

Sub-Topic: 'Issues of Development and Governance'

In addition to schemes already existing, several socio-economic welfare schemes have been initiated to make development and governance accessible to the masses such as –

Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Jan-Dhan Yojana, Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana, Kisan Fasal Bima Yojna, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Ayushman Bharat Yojana, etc. All these schemes are intended to take administration to the doorstep of the common man by making the rural households, particularly the women, real beneficiaries of the Central Government schemes.
