

PAPER-II INDIAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

(Questions will be set from each unit / section)

Course Rationale :

Indian government and politics

The social and economic processes that underlie the functioning of the political system in India are the focus of this paper. One needs to understand that the Indian Constitution was intended to provide a framework for a modern, secular and democratic society and simultaneously perform the onerous task of bringing about development in a relatively impoverished and backward country. This hope and subsequent relative success and failure has to be analyzed in detail. The experience of last fifty years and the new challenges ahead on the context of globalization, liberalization and greater democratic expansion from below needs to be examined.

Course Content

- UNIT-I**
1. Background of Constituent Assembly : Composition and working
 2. Ideological context : Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy.
- UNIT-II**
1. Constitution as an instrument of social change : amendment process.
 2. Federalism and its working with reference to Centre- State relations and demands for state autonomy.
- UNIT-III**
1. Union Government : President, Prime Minister, Cabinet and Parliament.
 2. Supreme Court and the constitutional process, Judicial Activism.
- UNIT-IV**
1. Nature of the Party System : National and Regional parties, Pressure Groups.
 2. Impact of Caste, religion, regionalism and Language.
- UNIT-V**
1. Theoretical Framework for the study of state politics.
 2. Panchayati Raj system and its impact on state-politics.