

## PAPER - IV POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY

### Objective :

In modernized societies the political system has become one of the most dominant components of the total social structure, Accordingly, the major objectives of teaching this course are :

To acquaint the students with the nature and functioning of political system(s), and the political processes.

To generate in the minds of students an awareness of their status and role as citizens of the state.

To make the students aware of the prerequisites of sound democratic political system and its vulnerability.

**UNIT-I** Definition and subject matter of Political sociology, distinctive approach of Political Sociology. Interrelationship between political system and society.

**UNIT-II** **Democratic and totalitarian systems** - socioeconomic conditions - meaning, significance and agencies.

**UNIT-III** Elite theories of distribution of power in society (with reference to Mosca, Pareto, R. Mitchels and C.W. Mills and others)

Intellectuals - Political role of intellectuals - significance

Pressure groups and interests groups - Nature, bases, political significance  
Bureaucracy, its characteristics, its types, its significance in political development with special reference to India.

**UNIT-IV** **Political Parties** : Characteristics, social composition of parties, recruitment, mass participation, political apathy, its causes and consequences (with special reference to India.)

**UNIT-V** **Political Process in India** : Role of caste, Religion, Regionalism and language in Indian Politics.

**Public opinion** : Role of mass media, problems of communication in illiterate societies, its reference on parties and polity. Politicization of social life.