



General Studies- II Detailed Syllabus
(Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International Relations)

POLITY	
Indian Constitution	
Topics	Focus areas
<p>Indian Constitution—Historical Underpinnings, Evolution, Features, Amendments, Significant Provisions and Basic Structure.</p>	<p><u>Historical Underpinning & Evolution</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulating Act (1773) to Independence Act (1947) • Constituent Assembly • Objective Resolution • Enactment & Enforcement of Constitution <p><u>Features</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written • Flexible & Rigid • Federal & Unitary • Parliamentary Form of Government (Presidential vs. Parliamentary Type of Government) <p><u>Amendments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of Significant Amendments & Their Provisions • Procedure for Amending Constitution <p><u>Significant Provisions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundamental Rights • Directive Principles of State Policy • Judicial Review • Universal Adult Franchise • Single Citizenship • Separation of Powers <p><u>Basic Structure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Doctrine • Judgments & Cases
Functions & Responsibilities of the Union and the States	
<p>Functions and Responsibilities of the Union and the States, Issues and Challenges Pertaining to the Federal Structure, Devolution of Powers and Finances up to Local Levels and Challenges Therein.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 7th Schedule ▪ Legislative Functions ▪ Financial Functions ▪ Administrative & Quasi-Judicial Functions
Issues & Challenges Pertaining to the Federal Structure	
<p>Functions and Responsibilities of the Union and the States, Issues and Challenges Pertaining to the Federal Structure, Devolution of Powers and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Federal Structure in India - Is India truly Federal? ➤ Cooperative & Competitive Federalism



<p>Finances up to Local Levels and Challenges Therein.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Centre-State Relations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative Relations • Administrative Relations • Financial Relations • Trends in Centre-State Relations ➤ Inter-State Relations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-state Water Disputes • Inter-State Councils • Public Acts, Records and Judicial Proceedings • Inter-State Trade and Commerce • Zonal Councils ➤ Emergency Provisions ➤ Role of Governor ➤ Reports of Various Commissions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd ARC, Punchhi, Sarkaria, etc.
<p>Devolution of Powers & Finances to Local Levels & Challenges Therein</p>	
<p>Functions and Responsibilities of the Union and the States, Issues and Challenges Pertaining to the Federal Structure, Devolution of Powers and Finances up to Local Levels and Challenges Therein</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Role of State Government ▪ Role of State Finance Commission ▪ 11th & 12th Schedule ▪ Reasons for Ineffective Performance ▪ Panchayat Devolution Index (NITI Aayog) ▪ Steps That Can Be Taken to Improve Their Performance
<p>Separation of Powers Between Various Organs</p>	
<p>Separation of Powers between various organs Dispute Redressal Mechanisms and Institutions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Doctrine of Separation of Power ▪ Separation of Power in Indian Constitution ▪ Doctrine of Checks & Balances ▪ Provisions for Checks & Balances in Indian Constitution ▪ Related Judgments - Golaknath case, Kesavananda Bharati, Indira Gandhi Vs Raj Narain, Ram Jawaya vs Punjab
<p>Dispute Redressal Mechanisms and Institutions</p>	
<p>Separation of Powers between various organs Dispute Redressal Mechanisms and Institutions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RTI ▪ PIL ▪ Tribunals, etc.
<p>Comparison of the Indian Constitutional Scheme With That of Other Countries Parliament & State Legislatures</p>	
<p>Comparison of the Indian Constitutional Scheme with that of Other Countries</p>	<p>Structure, Functioning, Conduct of Business, Powers & Privileges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Written Constitution ▪ Blend of Rigidity and Flexibility ▪ Federal System with Unitary Bias



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parliamentary Form of Government ▪ Synthesis of Parliamentary Sovereignty and Judicial Supremacy ▪ Integrated and Independent Judiciary ▪ Fundamental Rights, Directive Principles of State Policy, Fundamental Duties ▪ Secular State ▪ Universal Adult Franchise ▪ Single Citizenship ▪ Emergency Provisions ▪ Three-tier Government ▪ Due Process of Law vs. Procedure Established by Law ▪ Impeachment of President, etc.
Structure, Organization & Functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary	
<p>Structure, Organization and Functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary— Ministries and Departments of the Government; Pressure Groups and Formal/Informal Associations and their Role in the Polity.</p>	<p>Executive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <u>Union:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President • Prime Minister • Council of Ministers • Cabinet Secretariat ➤ <u>State:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor • Chief Minister • Council of Ministers ▪ Secretariat <p>Judiciary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Three-Tier Structure ▪ Chief Justice of India ▪ SC & HC Judges ▪ Jurisdiction
Ministries and Departments of the Government	
<p>Parliament and State Legislatures— Structure, Functioning, Conduct of Business, Powers & Privileges and Issues Arising out of these</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cabinet Ministries ▪ Other Ministries ▪ Parliamentary Secretaries
Pressure Groups & Formal/informal Associations & Their Role in Polity	
<p>Structure, Organization and Functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary— Ministries and Departments of the Government; Pressure Groups and Formal/Informal Associations and their Role in the Polity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Characteristics of Pressure Groups ▪ Pressure Groups & Political Parties ▪ Pressure Groups & Interest Groups ▪ Types of Pressure Groups ▪ Functions, Role & Importance of Pressure Groups ▪ Techniques/Methods of Pressure Groups ▪ Pressure Groups in India ▪ Shortcomings of Pressure Groups
Salient Features of Representation of People's Act	



Appointment to Various Constitutional Posts	
Appointment to various Constitutional Posts, Powers, Functions and Responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies	Appointment, Powers, Functions & Responsibilities of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Election Commission▪ Union Public Service Commission▪ State Public Service Commission▪ Finance Commission▪ National Commission for SCs▪ National Commission for STs▪ Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities▪ Comptroller and Auditor General of India▪ Attorney General of India▪ Advocate General of the State
Statutory, Regulatory & Quasi-Judicial Bodies	
Statutory, Regulatory and various Quasi-judicial Bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ NITI Aayog▪ RBI▪ National Human Rights Commission▪ State Human Rights Commission▪ Central Information Commission▪ Central Vigilance Commission▪ Central Bureau of Investigation▪ Lokpal and Lokayuktas▪ National Commission for Women▪ National Commission for Backward Classes▪ National Commission for Minorities▪ Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority▪ Securities and Exchange Board of India▪ Competition Commission of India▪ Telecom Regulatory Authority of India▪ Central Electricity Regulatory Commission▪ Atomic Energy Regulatory Board▪ Central Pollution Control Board▪ Medical Council of India▪ Inland Waterways Authority of India▪ Central Ground Water Authority▪ Directorate General of Civil Aviation▪ Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority▪ Food Safety and Standards Authority of India▪ Bar Council of India▪ University Grants Commission▪ Financial Stability and Development Council▪ All India Council for Technical Education



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Green Tribunal ▪ Competition Appellate Tribunal ▪ Income-Tax Appellate Tribunal ▪ Cyber Appellate Tribunal ▪ Intellectual Property Appellate Board
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GOVERNANCE

Government Policies & Interventions for Development

Topics	Focus areas
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<p>Government Policies and Interventions for Development in various sectors and Issues arising out of their Design and Implementation</p>	<p>Government Policies & Interventions in Various Sectors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Health, Gender, Education, Poverty, Economic etc <p>Issues Arising Out of Their Design & Implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Concerns/Issues ▪ Suggestions for Improvement ▪ Critical Assessment of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) ▪ Rationalisation of CSS ▪ Analysis of Main Schemes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Beti Bachao Beti Padhao ▪ Smart City ▪ Swachh Bharat Abhiyan ▪ MGNREGA ▪ Digital India ▪ Make in India ▪ Skill India ▪ PM Jan Dhan Yojana ▪ Start-up India etc.
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Development Processes & the Development Industry

<p>Development Processes and the Development Industry — the Role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Role of Social Capital Organisations ▪ Indian Context ▪ Classification ▪ Provisions for the Third Sector in the Indian Constitution ▪ National Policy on the Voluntary Sector 2007 <p>Non-Governmental Organisations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Role and Impact of Non-governmental Organizations ▪ Issue Areas: Accreditation, Legitimacy & Accountability, Foreign Funding etc. <p>Self Help Groups (SHGs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need for SHGs ▪ Benefits of SHGs ▪ Weaknesses of SHGs ▪ Challenges
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Measures to Make SHGs Effective▪ Case Studies: Kudumbashree (Kerala), Mahila Arthik Vikas Mahamandal (Maharashtra) <p>Societies, Trusts and Cooperatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Societies• Trust• Religious Endowments• Cooperatives –• Need for Cooperatives• Constitutional Provisions• National Policy on Co-operatives, 2002• Issues and Challenges in the Cooperatives Sector
Important Aspects of Governance, Transparency & Accountability	
<p>Important Aspects of Governance, Transparency and Accountability, E-governance- applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; Citizens Charters, Transparency & Accountability and institutional and other measures</p>	<p>Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Dimensions of Governance▪ Good Governance (GG)▪ Aspects of GG▪ Barriers to GG▪ Necessary Pre-conditions for GG▪ How to Ensure GG <p>E-Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Applications▪ Models▪ Successes▪ Limitations▪ Potential▪ Recent e-governance Initiatives by Government <p>Citizens Charters (CC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Components of CC▪ Features of CC▪ Six Principles of CC▪ Shortcomings of CC▪ Measures to Make CC Effective▪ Sevottam Model➤ Aspects of Transparency➤ Elements & Types of Accountability➤ Means to ensure Transparency & Accountability▪ RTI▪ Social Audit▪ Whistleblower Protection Bill▪ Lokpal & Lokayuktas Act



Role of Civil Services in a Democracy

Role of Civil Services in a Democracy

Relationship Between Civil Service And Democracy

➤ **Role Played By Civil Services**

- Advisory Role in Policy Making
- Institutionalise Socio-economic change
- Discharge Delegated Functions
- Administer Law of the Land
- Watchdogs
- Continuity in times of Political Instability
- Record-Keeping
- Channel of Communication

➤ **Ailments/Issues Afflicting Indian Civil Services**

- Lack of Professionalism & Poor Capacity Building
- Inefficient Incentive Systems
- Outdated Rules & Procedures
- Systemic Inconsistencies in Promotion
- Lack of Adequate Transparency & Accountability Procedures
- Arbitrary & Whimsical Transfers
- Political Interference & Administrative Acquiescence
- Gradual Erosion in Values & Ethics
- Redtapism
- Elitist in Nature
- Poor Pay
- Tendency to Capture Power

➤ **Reforming Bureaucracy to Strengthen Democracy**

- Setting Right the Asymmetry of Power
- Insulating Civil Servants from Undue Political Interference
- Professionalisation with Stability of Tenure & Competition
- Citizen-Centric Administration
- Accountability
- Outcome Orientation
- Promoting Public Service Values & Ethics

SOCIAL JUSTICE	
Welfare Schemes for Vulnerable Sections	
Topics	Focus areas
<p style="text-align: center;">Welfare Schemes for Vulnerable Sections of the population by the Centre and States and the Performance of these Schemes; Mechanisms, Laws, Institutions and Bodies constituted for the Protection and Betterment of these Vulnerable Sections</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Schemes for the Following Vulnerable Sections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCs & STs • Minorities • Children • Elderly • Disabled • Women • Transgender ➤ Performance of These Schemes ➤ Mechanisms, Laws, Institutions & Bodies Constituted for Protection & Betterment of These Vulnerable Sections <p><u>SCs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Protection of Civil Rights Act • The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act • National Commission for Scheduled Castes • Scheduled Castes Sub Plan <p><u>Disabled:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Rehabilitation Council of India Act • The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act • Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act • The National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act • Rights of the Persons with Disabilities Act <p><u>STs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Commission for Scheduled Tribes • Tribal Sub Plan • TRIFED • Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act • <u>Minorities:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Commission for Minorities • National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities



	<p><u>Women & Children:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act• The Indecent Representation of Women (Prevention) Act• The Dowry Prohibition Act• The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act• The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act• Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act• Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act• Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA)• The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act• Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal)• Pre-Conception and Pre Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PC&PNDT) Act• Gender Budgeting• National Policy for Women• Domestic Violence Act• Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Act <p><u>Elderly:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act
<p>Issues Relating to Development & Management of Social Sector/Services</p>	
<p>Issues Relating to Development and Management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources</p>	<p><u>Health:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ India's Performance on Various Health Indicators▪ Weaknesses of Indian Healthcare System▪ Health Infrastructure in India▪ Universal Health Coverage▪ 12th FYP Strategy▪ Universal Health Coverage▪ Health Insurance▪ National Family Health Survey▪ National Health Policy▪ National Health Mission▪ Maternal & Adolescent Health▪ Child Health▪ Antimicrobial Resistance▪ Disease Burden in India▪ Measures to Ensure Good Health Outcomes▪ Government Initiatives



	<p><u>Education:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Status of Literacy in India▪ Education Structure in India▪ Challenges Faced by Education Sector in India▪ Reforms Required▪ Government Initiatives▪ ASER Report▪ Financing Education▪ Subramanian Panel Report <p><u>Human Resource:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Need For Skill Development▪ Skill Development Initiatives▪ Challenges in Skilling Landscape in India▪ Shortcomings of Current Skill Development Initiatives▪ Reforms Required▪ Steps that can Be Taken
Issues Relating to Poverty & Hunger	
Issues relating to Poverty and Hunger	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Relation between Poverty & Hunger▪ Distribution of Poverty & Hunger▪ Magnitude & Trends of Poverty & Hunger▪ Causes of Poverty & Hunger▪ Cost/Impact of Poverty & Malnutrition▪ MDGs & SDGs▪ Food and nutrition insecurity - a consequence of structural inequities▪ Constraints in Reducing Poverty & Hunger▪ Measure to Reduce Poverty & Hunger – National Food Security Act, Mid-day Meal Scheme, MGNREGA etc.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	
India and its Neighborhood – Relations	
India and its Neighborhood-Relations	<p><u>India's Relations With</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ China▪ Pakistan▪ Myanmar▪ Bhutan▪ Bangladesh▪ Sri Lanka▪ Afghanistan▪ Nepal▪ Maldives



Bilateral, Regional & Global Groupings & Agreements Involving India and/or Affecting India's Interests	
<p>Bilateral, Regional and Global Groupings and Agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests</p>	<p>India's Major Foreign Policy Doctrines Since 1947</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Non-aligned Movement (NAM)▪ Nuclear Doctrine▪ Gujral Doctrine▪ Look East to Act East▪ Think West, etc. <p>Bilateral Relations With</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Major Powers Like – USA, Russia, Japan▪ Central Asian Countries▪ West Asian Countries▪ African Countries▪ Australia & New Zealand▪ EU & European Countries▪ Latin American Countries▪ Pacific Countries <p>Regional & Global Groupings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ SAARC▪ BRICS▪ BBIN & BCIM▪ BIMSTEC▪ IBSA▪ ASEAN & RCEP▪ India-Africa Forum▪ SCO▪ Ashgabat Agreement▪ FIPIC▪ IOR-ARC▪ Mekong Ganga Cooperation (MGC)▪ Raisina Dialogue▪ Heart of Asia Conference▪ East Asia Summit▪ G-20▪ Asian Development Bank▪ National Security Summit▪ Multilateral Nuclear Export Regulatory Regimes: Wassenaar, MTCR, Australia Group▪ Asian Development Bank▪ APEC, etc
Effect of Policies & Politics of Developed & Developing Countries on India's Interests	
<p>Effect of Policies and Politics of Developed and Developing Countries on India's interests, Indian Diaspora</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ One Belt One Road▪ International North–South Transport Corridor



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Global Trade War▪ Global Currency War▪ Syrian Crisis▪ UN Reforms▪ WTO Reforms▪ South China Sea Conflict▪ Brexit▪ Deglobalisation & Protectionism – US Sanctions on Iran, US Pullout from Paris Agreement, H-1B Visa Issue etc.▪ OPEC Oil Prices Manipulation, etc.▪ Other Major Issues
Indian Diaspora	
Effect of Policies and Politics of Developed and Developing Countries on India's interests, Indian Diaspora	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Spread of Indian Diaspora▪ India's Diaspora Policy & Engagement Initiatives▪ OCI▪ Pravasi Bharatiya Divas▪ Know India Programme, etc.▪ LM Singhvi High Level Committee on the Diaspora▪ Role played by Indian Diaspora▪ Issues Concerning the Diaspora▪ Dual Nationality▪ Remittances, etc.
Important International Institutions	
Important International Institutions, agencies and flora - their Structure, Mandate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ UN & its Agencies▪ WTO▪ World Bank▪ IMF▪ World Economic Forum▪ Commonwealth of Nations, etc.