

**UPSC 2021**  
**CIVIL SERVICES OPTIONAL SYLLABUS ANALYSIS**  
**POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL REALTIONS**

**PAPER-I**

**SECTION-A (Political Theory and Indian Politics)**

**1. Political Theory :**

- meaning and
- approaches

**2. Theories of the State:**

- Liberal
- Neoliberal
- Marxist
- Pluralit
- Post-colonial
- feminist

**3. Justice :**

- Conceptions of justice with special reference to, Rawl's theory of justice and its communitarian critiques.

**4. Equality:**

- Social
- political and
- economic
- relationship between equality and freed
- Affirmative action

**5. Rights :**

- Meaning and theories
- different kinds of rights
- concept of Human Rights

**6. Democracy :**

- Classical and
- different models of democracy
- representative,
- participatory and
- deliberative.

**7. Concept of :**

- power

It will be useful  
in writing Essay  
and Ethics case  
studies

"The best way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing."

– Walt Disney

- hegemony
- ideology and
- legitimacy

**8. Political Ideologies :**

- Liberalism
- Socialism
- Marxism
- Fascism
- Gandhism and
- Feminism

*it covers GENERAL STUDIES - I*  
(world history)

**9. Indian Political Thought:**

- Dharamshastra
- Arthashastra and Buddhist traditions
- Sir Syed Ahmed Khan
- Sri Aurobindo
- M.K.Gandhi
- B.R.Ambedkar
- M.N.Roy

India  
political  
thinkers

*it covers GENERAL STUDIES - IV*

(contributions of  
philosophers &  
Moral thinkers from  
India and World)

**10. Western Political Thought :**

- Plato
- Aristotle
- Machiavelli
- Hobbes
- Loke
- John S.Mill
- Marx
- Gramsci
- Hannah Arendt

western  
political  
thinkers

The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty." – Winston Churchill



## SECTION-B (Indian Government and Politics)

### 1. Indian Nationalism :

#### a) Political Strategies of India's Freedom Struggle :

- Constitutionalism to mass Satyagraha
- Non-cooperation
- Civil Disobedience
- Militant and revolutionary movements.
- Peasant and worker's movements.

#### b) Perspectives on Indian National Movement :

- Liberal
- Socialist
- Marxist
- Radical humanist and
- Dalit

*it covers GENERAL STUDIES - I*  
(Modern Indian history - significant events & the freedom struggle)

### 2. Making of the Indian Constitution :

- Legacies of the British rule
- different social and political perspectives.

*it covers GENERAL STUDIES - II*  
(Historical underpinnings & evolution of Indian constitution)

### 3. Salient Features of the Indian Constitution :

- The Preamble
- Fundamental Rights and Duties
- Directive Principles
- Parliamentary system
- Amendment Procedures
- Judicial Review and
- Basic structure doctrine

(Features, amendments, significant provisions & basic structure)

### 4. a) Principal Organs of Union Government :

#### 1. Envisaged role and actual working of the

- Executive,
- Legislature
- Supreme Court.

*it covers GENERAL STUDIES - II*

#### b) Principal Organs of State Government :

#### 2. Envisaged role and actual working of the

- Executive
- Legislature
- High Courts.



**5. Grassroots Democracy :**

- Panchayati Raj
- Municipal Government
- Significant of 73rd and 74th Amendments.
- Grossroot movements.

*it covers GENERAL STUDIES - II*

(Devolution of powers and finances upto local levels and challenges there in)

**6. Statutory Institutions Commissions :**

- Election Commission
- Comptroller and Auditor General
- Finance Commission
- Union Public Service Commission
- National Commission for Scheduled Castes
- National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
- National Commission for Women
- National Human Rights Commission
- National Commission for Minorities
- National Backward Classes Commission.

*it covers GENERAL STUDIES - II*

Statutory, regulatory and various quasi judicial bodies & appointment to various constitutional posts powers, functions and responsibilities.

**7. Fedaralism :**

- Constitutional provisions
- changing nature of centre-state relations
- Integrationist tendencies and regional aspirations
- Inter-state disputes.

*it covers GENERAL STUDIES - II*

issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure

**8. Planning and Economic Development:**

- Nehruvian and Gandhian perspectives
- ole of planning and public sector
- Green Revolution
- Land reforms and agrarian relations
- liberalization and economic reforms.

*it covers GENERAL STUDIES - III*

(Economic development)

**9.**

- Caste,
- religion and In Indian Politics
- Ethnicity

*it covers GENERAL STUDIES - III*

(Salient features of Indian Society)

"Failure will never overtake me if my determination to succeed is strong enough." – Og Mandino



## 10. Party System :

- National and regional political parties
- Ideological and social bases of parties.
- patterns of coalition politics
- Pressure groups
- trends in electoral behaviour
- changing socio economic profile of legislator

## 11. Social Movements:

- Civil liberties and human rights movements
- women's movements
- environmentalist movements.

*it covers GENERAL STUDIES - III*

(pressure groups and informal / formal associations and their role in polity)]

## PAPER-II

### Comparative Politics and International Relations

#### SECTION-A (Comparative Political Analysis and International Politics)

#### 1. Comparative Politics :

- Nature and major approaches ;
- political economy and
- political sociology perspectives ;
- limitations of the comparative method.

#### 2. State in comparative perspective :

- Characteristics and changing nature of the State in capitals and socialist advanced industrial and developing societies.

#### 3. Politics of Representation and Participation :

- Political parties,
- pressure groups and
- social movements in

} advanced industrial and developing societies

#### 4. Globalisation :

- Responses from developed developing societies.

} *it covers GENERAL STUDIES* (effects of global Indian society)

#### 5. Approaches to the Study of International Relations.

- Idealist
- realist
- Marxist
- Functionalist and
- Systems theory

#### 6. Key concepts in International Relations:

- National interest

**"We may encounter many defeats but we must not be defeated."**

**– Maya Angelou**



- Security and power
- Balance of power
- deterrence
- Transnational actors and collective security
- World capitalist economy and globalization.

#### 7. Changing International Political Order:

(a)

- Rise of super powers
- strategic and Ideological Bipolarity
- arms race and cold war
- nuclear threat

(b) **Non-aligned movement:**

- Aims
- Achievements

(c)

- Collapse of the Soviet Union
- Unipolarity and American hegemony
- relevance of non-alignment in the contemporary world.

*Useful in  
General*

#### 8. Evolution of the International Economic System :

- From Brettonwoods to WTO
- Socialist economies and the CMEA (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance)
- Third World demand for new international economic order
- Globalisations of the world economy.

*Usefull in  
writing  
General  
Essay*

#### 9. United Nations:

- Envisaged role and actual record ;
- specialized UN agencies-aims and functioning;
- need for UN reforms.

#### 10. Regionalization of World Politics :

- EU
- ASEAN
- APEC
- SAARC
- NAFTA

*it covers GENERAL STUDIES - III (Bilateral regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and affecting India's interests)*

**"Imagine your life is perfect in every respect; what would it look like?"**

**- Brian Tracy**

### 11. Contemporary Global Concerns :

- Democracy
- human rights
- environment
- gender justice
- terrorism
- nuclear proliferation

**ISSUES covered in all  
GENERAL STUDIES  
PAPERS & CURRENT  
AFFAIRS**

### SECTION-B (India and the World)

1.

- Indian Foreign Policy
- Determinants of foreign policy ;
- Institutions of policy -making;
- continuity and change.

2. **India's Contribution to the Non-Alignment Movement:**

- Different phases
- current role.

3. **India and South Asia :**

(a) **Regional Co-operation :**

SAARC - past performance and Future prospects.

(b) **South Asia as a Free Trade Area.**

(c) **India's 'Look East' policy.**

(d) **Impediments to regional cooperation**

- river water disputes
- illegal cross-border migration
- ethnic conflicts and
- insurgencies
- border disputes

4. **India and the Global South :**

- Relations with Africa and Latin America
- leadership role in the demand for NIEC

**it covers GENERAL  
STUDIES - II**

(India & its  
neighborhood  
Relations)

**it covers GENERAL  
STUDIES - II**

(Dispute redressal  
mechanism and instit--  
**it also covers GENERAL  
STUDIES - III**

(Security Issues)

**"We generate fears while we sit. We overcome them by action."**

**– Dr. Henry Link**



**5. India and the Global Centres of Power:**

- USA
- EU
- Japan
- China and
- Russia

*it covers GENERAL STUDIES - II*  
(Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing Countries on India's interests)

**6. India and the UN System :**

- Role in UN Peace-keeping :
- demand for permanent Seat in the Council.

**7. India and the Nuclear Question :**

- Changing perceptions and policy

**8. Recent developments in Indian Foreign policy:**

*India's position on the recent crisis in*

- Afghanistan
- Iraq
- and West Asia
- growing relations with US and Israel
- vision of a new world order.

*Essential for  
INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS-  
Preparation*

"The man who has confidence in himself gains the confidence of others." – Hasidic Proverb