

VAJIRAM & RAVI
PSIR WORKSHOP

BY Dr. Sushant Verma and Dr. Iqbal Sandhu

**Why choose Political Science & International
Relation (PSIR) as optional?**

PSIR is **one of the most suitable optional** in the current scenario. PSIR CONTRIBUTES **1000 plus MARKS** IN CURRENT PATTERN OF CSE.

- Optional-I- 250 marks
- Optional-II – 250 marks
- G.S. Essay- 250 marks
- GS I, II, III and IV- 150 plus marks
- Personality Test/Interview- 150 Plus marks

PSIR is the best performing optional in the changed scenario with Predictability in Question Pattern.

- One can score 60 to 70 percent of 750 Marks (PSIR + Essay) with basic understanding of PSIR.
- The syllabus of PSIR is **inter-linked with General Studies Syllabus** and is application based in both the papers.
- **Every year there is at least one Essay topic related with PSIR syllabus.**
- PSIR is extremely helpful in Personality Test/Interview.
- Comprehensiveness and greater Predictability in Question Pattern makes it the **'Most Suitable Subject'** for Students with **Science (Engineering and Medicine) and Commerce Background.**

Convergences with GS syllabus

Political Science &IR helps you in multiple ways due to its greater convergences with GS syllabus as enumerated below-

GS Paper I-

- The Freedom Struggle - its various stages and important contributors or contributions from different parts of the country.
- Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country.
- History of the world topics like- colonization, decolonization, **political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism** etc. - their forms and effect on the society.
- Role of women and women's organization, developmental issues
- Effects of **globalization** on Indian society.
- Social empowerment, **communalism, regionalism & secularism**

GS paper II-

Entire GS Paper II excluding some governance and Social Justice issues

GS PAPER III-

- **Land reforms** in India and Green Revolution
- Effects of **liberalization** on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects

- Issues relating to intellectual property rights.
- Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation
- Linkages between development and spread of extremism.
- **Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security.**
- Challenges to internal security through communication networks,
- **Security challenges** and their management in border areas; linkages of organized crime with terrorism

GS PAPER IV-

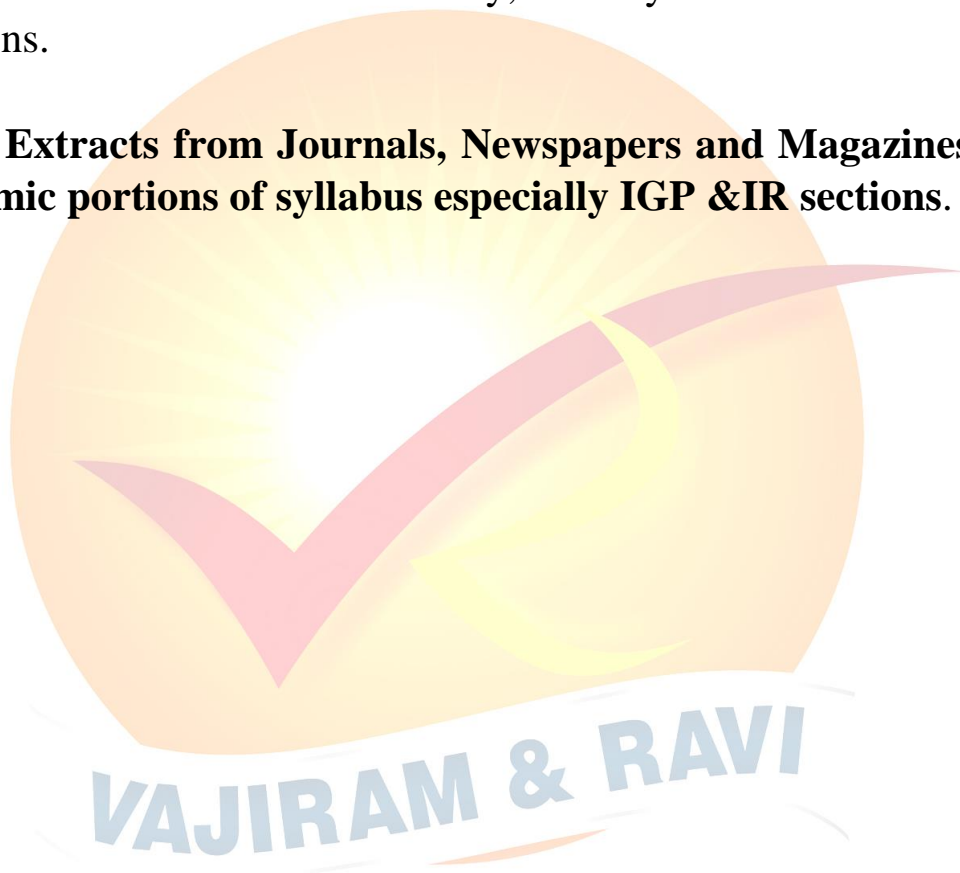
- Contributions of **moral thinkers and philosophers** from India and world.
- Ethical issues in international relations and funding

VAJIRAM & RAVI

SPECIAL FEATURES OF OPTIONAL CLASSROOM PROGRAMME-

- Our aim is to provide ONE STOP SOLUTION for students for optional preparation
- Strategic Classroom Preparation with special focus on Conceptual clarity and understanding of trends and issues.
- **FOCUS ON LUCID EXPLANATION INSTEAD OF MERE DICTATION** with "Exam Focused Approach" that will inculcate in student the competency to deal with the unexpected questions.
- **TIMELY AND COMPREHENSIVE COVERAGE OF SYLLABUS IN 26 WEEKS INSTEAD OF NEARLY 1YEAR DURATION WHICH WASTES VALUABLE TIME OF ASPIRANTS. PURPOSE OF TEACHING IS TO KEEP EXAMINATION REQUIREMENT IN MIND INSTEAD OF MAKING ASPIRANTS A SCHOLAR IN PSIR!**
- Concise, Well-researched and Exam ready study material on each and every topic.
- We focus on inter-linkages among both optional papers, Paper I and II.
- **Personalised Guidance and Mentorship** for benefit of students especially from non-political science background.
- Interactive class to bring out the best in student

- **COMPREHENSIVE DISCUSSION OF PYQS AND REGULAR TESTS INCLUDED IN THE COURSE. NO NEED TO TAKE ADMISSION FOR THESE IN A SEPARATE PROGRAMME!**
- **Holistic Training in Art of Answer Writing to improve Writing Skill with precision and brevity.** Regular answer writing practice for students.
- Classroom Session of 2.5 hours daily, six days a week of teaching, and Discussions.
- Updated Extracts from Journals, Newspapers and Magazines relevant for dynamic portions of syllabus especially IGP & IR sections.



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Syllabus Of Political Science

PAPER - I : POLITICAL THEORY AND INDIAN POLITICS

SECTION A- Political Theory

1. Political Theory: meaning and approaches.
2. Theories of the State: Liberal, Neo-liberal, Marxist, Pluralist, Post-colonial and feminist.
3. Justice: Conceptions of justice with special reference to Rawls' theory of justice and its communitarian critiques.
4. Equality: Social, political and economic; relationship between equality and freedom; Affirmative action.
5. Rights: Meaning and theories; different kinds of rights; concept of Human Rights.
6. Democracy: Classical and contemporary theories; different models of democracy: representative, participatory and deliberative.
7. Concept of power, hegemony, ideology and legitimacy.
8. Political Ideologies: Liberalism, Socialism, Marxism, Fascism, Gandhism and Feminism.

Political Thought

9. Indian Political Thought: Dharamshastra, Arthashastra and Buddhist traditions; Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Sri Aurobindo, M.K. Gandhi, B.R. Ambedkar, M.N. Roy.
10. Western Political Thought: Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, John S. Mill, Marx, Gramsci, and Hannah Arendt.

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 workers' movements.
- b. Perspectives on Indian National Movement: Liberal, Socialist and Marxist; Radical humanist and Dalit.

2. Making of the Indian Constitution: Legacies of the British rule; different social and political perspectives.

3. Salient Features of the Indian Constitution: The Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Duties, Directive Principles; Parliamentary System and Amendment Procedures; Judicial Review and Basic Structure doctrine.

4. (a) **Principal Organs of the Union Government:** Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and Supreme Court.
(b) **Principal Organs of the State Government:** Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and High Courts.

5. Grassroots Democracy: Panchayati Raj and Municipal Government; significance of 73rd and 74th Amendments; Grassroot movements.

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.

7. Federalism: Constitutional provisions; changing nature of centre-state relations; integrationist tendencies and regional aspirations; inter-state disputes.

8. Planning and Economic Development : Nehruvian and Gandhian perspectives; role of planning and public sector; Green Revolution, land reforms and agrarian relations; liberalization and economic reforms.

9. Caste, Religion and Ethnicity in Indian Politics.

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 Legislators

11. Social Movements: Civil liberties and human rights movements; women's movements; environmentalist movements.

SECTION A

- Political theory – An introduction to political theory by OP Gauba (8th edition)
- Political theory by Andrew Heywood
- Western Political Thought – Subroto Mukherjee and Sushila Ramawsamy
- Indian Political Thought – Ignou MA booklet on political thought + classroom handouts

SECTION B

- Indian Government and Politics – Oxford handbook on Indian politics (edited) By Pratap Bhanu Mehta and Niraja Jayal
- Indian government and politics by AS Narang + class handouts
- Selected articles in *The Hindu* and *The Indian Express*, and other reputed journals like EPW etc

Section A: Comparative Politics and International Relations

- Comparative Politics: Nature and major approaches; Political economy and political sociology perspectives; Limitations of the comparative method.
- State in Comparative Perspective: Characteristics and changing nature of the State in capitalist and socialist economies, and advanced industrial and developing societies.
- Politics of Representation and Participation: Political parties, pressure groups and social movements in advanced industrial and developing societies.
- Globalization: Responses from developed and developing societies.
- Approaches to the Study of International Relations: Idealist, Realist, Marxist, Functionalist and Systems theory.
- Key concepts in International Relations: National interest, Security and power; Balance of power and deterrence; Transnational actors and collective security; World capitalist economy and globalization.
- 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 and achievements;
 - c) Collapse of the Soviet Union; Unipolarity and American hegemony; relevance of non-alignment in the contemporary world.
- Evolution of the International Economic System: From Bretton woods to WTO; Socialist economies and the CMEA (Council for Mutual Economic

Assistance); Third World demand for new international economic order; Globalization of the world economy.

- United Nations: Envisaged role and actual record; specialized UN agencies- aims and functioning; need for UN reforms.
- Regionalization of World Politics: EU, ASEAN, APEC, SAARC, NAFTA.
- Contemporary Global Concerns: Democracy, human rights, environment, gender justice, terrorism, nuclear proliferation.

Section B: India and the World:

- Indian Foreign Policy: Determinants of foreign policy; institutions of policy-making; continuity and change.
- India's Contribution to the Non-Alignment Movement: Different phases; current role.
- 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 co-operation: river water disputes; illegal cross-border migration; ethnic conflicts and insurgencies; border disputes.
- India and the Global South: Relations with Africa and Latin America; leadership role in the demand for NIEO and WTO negotiations.
- India and the Global Centres of Power: USA, EU, Japan, China and Russia.
- India and the UN System: Role in UN Peace-keeping; demand for Permanent Seat in the Security Council.
- India and the Nuclear Question: Changing perceptions and policy

Section A: Comparative Politics and International Relations

- “The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations” by John Baylis, Steve Smith and Patricia Owens.
- “Global Politics” by Andrew Heywood.
- “The Oxford Handbook of International Relations” by Christian Reus-Smit and Duncan Snidal.

Section B: India and the World

- “Does the Elephant Dance: Contemporary Indian Foreign Policy” by David M. Malone.
- “India’s Foreign Policy since Independence” by V P. Dutt.
- “Challenge and Strategy: Rethinking India’s Foreign Policy.” by Rajiv Sikri.
- IDSA website should be followed for articles.
- MEA website should be regularly followed for updates and articles.
- IR editorials should be followed in *The Hindu* and *The Indian Express*.
- The Oxford Handbook of Indian Foreign Policy” by David M. Malone, C Raja Mohan and Srinath Raghvan.
- “India’s Foreign Policy: Retrospect and Prospect” by Sumit Ganguly.
- “Foreign Policy of India” by V N. Khanna.