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Paper 2 – Volume 3

POLITICAL PROCESSES IN INDIA, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION & GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC POLICY IN INDIA

SIERRA INNOVATIONS

UGC NET PAPER – 2

POLITICAL SCIENCE

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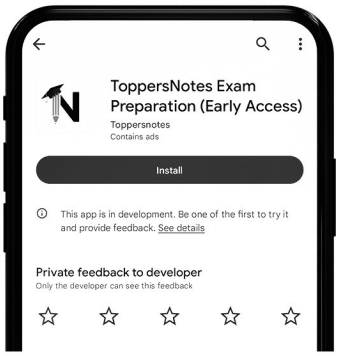

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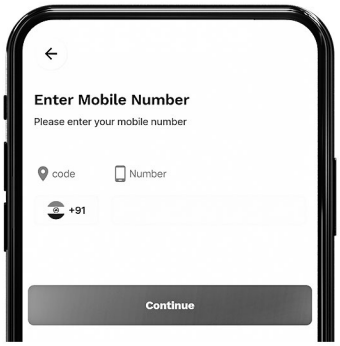

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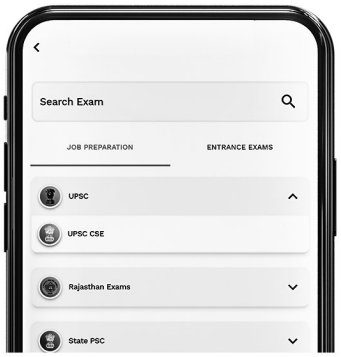

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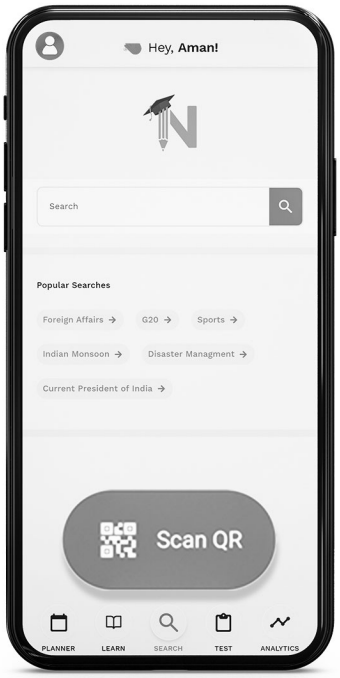

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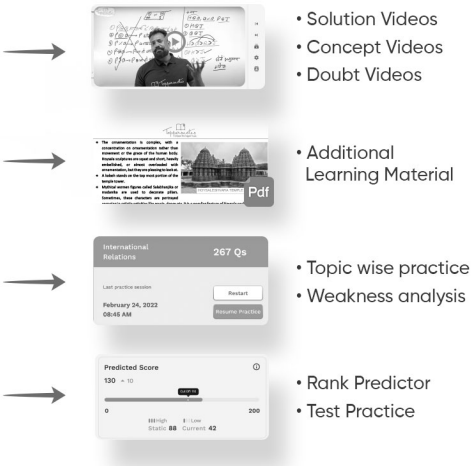

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8
Unit

Political Processes in India

Chapter -1
State, Economy, and Development

- The **state** is not a **satellite or an agency of the center.**
- They, have a **separate constitutional existence**.
- Within the state, both **economic growth and development raise peoples' standards of life and well-being.**

State

- An organization that has **sovereign power over its people** is known as a **"state."**
- It is the **government that symbolizes that sovereignty** as well as the **territory within its borders.**
- The following elements are what the **Indian Constitution defines as a state in Article 12.**
- The **Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha are the houses of the Indian Parliament** and the **Central Government of India.**
- The **state's legislative and executive branches.**
- Example: Local government units such as municipalities, panchayats, port trusts, etc.
- All units that are **existing in India or that are governed by the Indian Government.**

State of India's nature

- India is known to have a contentious nature. The Indian Constitution establishes a **democratic state with a contemporary institutional framework**, but detractors contend that the **Indian state is centralized, bureaucratic, and capitalist in nature.**
- Following are the primary traits of the Indian state, which emphasize the CIF's nature:

1. **<u>State of Liberal Democracy</u>**
    - The liberal democratic state model denotes a **political structure** where democracy—the rule of the people—**predominates in order to give the regime "legitimacy" in the truest sense of the word.**
    - The **liberal democratic state** is predicated on the **idea that a state is a tool for achieving the greatest good** for the most significant number of people rather than an end in and of itself.
    - The **laws provide limits on the government's power**, which is not absolute.
    - There are **multiple political parties.**
    - It is not a covert struggle for control.
    - The government **does not have a monopoly on the media** thanks to frequent elections with a broad franchise.
    - All of this points out tha**t India is a country that defends the preservation** of every aspect of a liberal democratic state.

2. **State centralized**
   - While Gandhiji spoke of a **decentralized government** in the context of India, in reality, a **central government has evolved** as a result of growth.
   - The state has complete authority over **social and economic development.**
   - The **state in India runs public sectors**, **ensures citizen safety**, and **upholds law and order** with the **help of extensive powers** granted to it in **agricultural and industrial growth areas**.
   - **According to Rajni Kothari**, "The cult of personality and the notion of a bigger, more centralized state have nearly driven everything to disaster. It is a delusion to believe that democracy still exists."
3. **State bureaucracy**
   - The **bureaucratic aspect of the Indian state** reflects the **importance of bureaucracy in contemporary states**.
   - It is **crucial to keep in mind** that **India's development began within the constraints of a highly developed administrative organization**, leaving an enduring legacy for later development.
   - **According to Appleby,** the **"bureaucratic process" is "the movement of paper in a hierarchical fashion**: **"petty bureaucratic refer the files, unable to accept responsibility even for trivial judgments, neatly bundled in red tape, but we have perfected it."**
   - **"Red tape becomes a tactic of self-preservation,"** claims **Kothari**.
4. **State of welfare**
   - The **idea of a welfare state represents a successful fusion of the two types of states**: **liberal democratic and communist totalitarian.**
   - The **Preamble of the Constitution** and **Part IV of the Constitution**, which **contains DPSP (**Directive Principles of State Policy**) Article 36,** both state that **"the state shall strive to promote the welfare of the people by securing and protecting as effectively as may be a social, order in which justice social, economic, and political, shall inform all the in government decisions and actions."**
5. **State of Bourgeois**
   - **According to AR Desai,** a state that does not guarantee the **right to work** forfeits its claim to be referred to as a **representative of propertyless classes**.
   - By guaranteeing property rights, the **Constitution acquired** the **decisive character of a bourgeois state.**
   - States that were **developed in accordance with the fundamental principles** of the **Constitution logically became bourgeois states**. With respect to the capitalist class in India, it represents that class through its postulates.
6. **State that intercedes**
   - The Indian government is very interventionist by nature.
   - An **interventionist state** has a **low level of economic development**, which is another **trait India and many other developing nations share**.
   - In India, the state is not only in charge o**f maintaining the political system;**
   - It is also in **charge of fostering socio-economic growth.**
   - Due to these two obligations, **the Indian state has become very interventionist.**

7. **Slave State**
   - The word "**Secular"** was **inserted into the preamble of the Constitution** by the **42nd Amendment Act,** describing **India as a "Sovereign Democratic Republic."**
   - India is a **secular state** that, in **accordance with its constitution**, **"guarantees the freedom of religion to all citizens** and does **not accord a special status to any specific religion,"** according to Alexandrowicz. There cannot be any sex, caste, caste-related, religious, or another type of discrimination. The law treats every citizen equally.
8. **A Unitary Biased Federal State**
   - The Indian state was declared a **"federal state with unitary bias"** by the Indian Constitution.
   - The **written constitution,** the **separation of powers, the supremacy clause**, **the dual polity**, etc. **are examples of federal traits**.
   - Unitary bias is **exemplified by single citizenship, state reorganization, a single constitutional framework, governor appointments**, etc.
9. **Democrat State**
   - People from many walks of life **participated in the national struggle**, although **leadership was typically reserved** for those who had **more advantages in terms of education, economic security, and social standing**.
   - The **first Parliament** was **extremely elitist,** made up of very wealthy individuals, highly educated individuals with foreign education backgrounds, and so on.
   - However, as **post-independence history advanced**, economic development advanced further, and gradually **individuals from the middle class/group came into Parliament and became elite.**
10. **State Advancing Socialism**
    - Since its **establishment in 1885,** the **Indian National Congress has influenced Indian economic and political systems**. The party's platform has **socialist undertones.**
    - The historic resolution stating that the **goal of the Congress** is "**the development of a socialistic pattern of society" was voted by the Avadi Session of the Congress in January 1955**
    - "Following the Avadi session of the congress, a **shift towards socialism**.
    - The **Imperial Bank of India** was **transformed into the publicly owned State Bank** of Jada under the leadership of the Congress Government, and insurance was nationalized.
    - Another significant moment in the development of the **Congress's ideology toward socialism was the Bhubaneswar Session,** which took place in January 1964.
    - The **Congress adopted a resolutio**n during this session that is the most thorough r**efutation of the Congress ideology since the Nehru era.**
    - "The Congress worldview may thus be **summed up as democratic socialism based on democracy, individual dignity, and social justice,**" the resolution states.
11. **Restraining State**
    - India's **structure is undoubtedly democratic,** but it does not stop it from **restricting freedom,** restricting rights, detaining innocent people without giving them a **chance to defend themselves**, and **executing opponents in the most undemocratic manner possible**.
    - The police are always called in to handle student protests, labor disturbances, peasant gatherings, and organized resistance. The poor, members of lower castes, and members of minority groups are the ones that suffer from police violence in India.

Model for Development Planning

- Since our independence, **planning has been a basis of our strategy** for **economic development** and **has served us well.**
- India has a dynamic, federalist, and democratic political system, forging a consensus during the decision-making process through talks with the federal government, state governments, and numerous governmental and non-governmental organizations.
- A **nation's welfare and standard of living** improve as its **economy develops. Benefits of economic development** through growth emerge when all societal segments have **economic efficiency and equity.**
- The following is a description of the suggested **planning model for development in India:**

Models of proposed plans

1. **The Bombay Scheme**
   - A plan for the **economic growth of India** was developed and **released in January 1944** by a **small group of significant business** leaders in **Bombay.**
   - The **Bombay Plan did not reflect** the views of the **whole corporate world.** The study's inception was primarily th**e fault of Mr. JRD Tata and Mr. GD Birla.**
   - The m**ain goals of the plan** are to **create economic balance and quickly enhance the standard of life for the vast majority of the population** by **doubling the current per capita income** or increasing it from $ 22 to around $ 45, within a period of 15 years from the start of the plan.
   - Although the **plan emphasizes the significance of fundamental structures**, it also calls for the early development of sectors producing consumer products.
   - Mining and metallurgy, engineering, chemicals, transport, and other basic sectors will develop in this. In addition to primary, secondary, vocational, and university education, **the plan includes provisions for adult education as well as scientific research and training.**

Sarvodaya Programme

- **Jaiprakash Narayan** wrote about the concept of the **Sarvodaya Programme**.
- Th**e Gandhian Plan offered by SN Agarwal** and the **Sarvodaya concept put forth by fellow Gandhian leader Vinoba Bhave** served as major inspirations for the strategy.
- In the **process of economic growth,** this **plan proposed and emphasized the significance of agricultural and village industries**, particularly small-scale textile and cottage industries.
- The **plan's emphasis on land reforms and decentralized participatory planning** for the people was its most significant and well-received component.

People's Plan

- **MN Roy** is the author of **The People's Plan,** which was **created by the Indian Federation of Labor's Post-War Re-Construction Committee**.
- Within **a ten-year timeframe**, the **plan's goal is to provide the basic necessities of the Indian population in the right way**.

- This goal will be attained through in**creasing output and making sure** that the **produced items are distributed fairly**. As a result, the strategy calls for **higher production in all sectors of the economy**. But because agriculture is the nation's largest industry, it received the most attention.
- Two strategies are proposed in th**e strategy to boost agricultural output:**
  - **Extension of the agricultural area** and **intensification of existing agricultural activity** are both possible.
  - **In a planned economy**, the **People's Plan places a high value on shipping, highways, and railroads.**
- In order to **deal with the growing movement of goods** and **traffic between towns and the countryside**, it **advises rapid growth** of the **means of communication and transportation.**

The PC Mahalanobis Model

- **In 1953, Indian statistician Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis** created it.
- Under this paradigm, **investments were made specifically** to **produce capital goods, particularly machines.**
- **Heavy industry** was the **main focus of the Mahalanobis Plan**.
- **Mahalanobis' import substitution-based development approach**. This tactic is supported by an **argument about a young industry.** Without subjecting **domestic companies to outside competition**, the **method helps emerging nations develop their industrial structures**.
- Therefore, **mechanizing agriculture and increasing food production** is the **first step toward progress**; once the **goal has been achieved**, one should implement **Mahalanobis' approach of heavy industrialization.**

The Model of Good Wages

- Leading economists like **CN Vakil and PR Brahmananda** promoted the **Wage Good Model** for the **growth and industrialization of the Indian economy**.
- In contrast to **Mahalanobis, Vakil and Brahmananda** held the opinion that **"At lower levels of consumption, the productivity of the employees relies on how much they consumed."**
- They **claimed that undernourishment** would **cause individuals to become less productive and efficient,** thus it was **vital to feed them in order to boost output.** Since not all consumer items boost worker productivity, they made a **distinction between wage goods and non-wage goods**

Changing Goals of Subsequent Plans

- **Initial 5-Year Plan (1951-56):** In 1951, the first five-year plan was introduced, with a **primary focus on the growth of the primary sector**. With little alterations, it was based on the **Harrod-Domar model**. Overall, the government's approach was **only marginally successful.**
- **Additional Five-Year Plan (1956-61) :**
  - The **growth of the public sector and industrialization were the main topics**.
  - **Five hydroelectric power projects** "With the assistance of Russia, Britain, and West Germany, quick **steel factories were built in Bhilai, Durgapur, and Raurkela**.
  - The **actual growth rate was 4.27%** compared to the target growth rate of 4.5 %.

- **Three-year Five-Year Plan (1961-66)**: It placed an **emphasis on agriculture and the Indian War of 1962** revealed **economic flaws and increased wheat output,** but it also **moved attention to the Indian Army** and the **defense sector.**
  - Although the **plans had significant flaws,** the **targets and actual growth rate were 2.4% rather than the 5.6% target growth rate.** Overall, the succeeding plans revised all **three of the five-year objectives.**
- **Third Five-Year Plan (1969- 74)/Fourth Five Years**: Although the **goal of independence was not abandoned,** the **focus was turned to economic expansion.**
  - The government has begun **emphasizing light industries**. With the use of **new technologies, enhanced seeds, and fertilizers,** was given
- **Fifth Five-Year Plan (1974-79)**:
  - The **government prioritized the Minimum Needs program under the Fifth Five-Year Plan,** and **attention switched to the goal of eradicating poverty.**
  - The **elimination of poverty has been given top priority in the plan**.
  - In their **own draught plan (1978–83)**, the **Janta Party outlined a new approach to development**. But the Janta government was short-lived, and when the new Congress government took office, it **abandoned the fifth plan and implemented the sixth five-year plan (1980-85).**
- **Sixth Five-Year Plan (1980-85):**
  - The Sixth Five-Year Plan's **goals included structurally restructuring the economy, achieving sustained high growth rates, raising the standard of living for the majority of people**, and **eliminating both poverty and unemployment**.
  - To **combat poverty and unemployment,** several **anti-poverty initiatives such as the Integrated Rural Development Program (IRDP) and National Resources Management (NREM)** were launched.
- **7th Five-Year Plan (1985-90):**
  - The Seventh Five Ye Plan outlined a **new long-term plan** that included **addressing the fundamental issues facing the populace a**s well as **establishing the prerequisites for self-sustaining growth**, including the **ability to finance expansion internally** and the advancement of technology.
  - The **adoption of modern technology** to **increase agricultural production** was given top attention.
  - **External factor liberalization** with a view **to boosting manufacturing sector productivity**
- **Eighth five-year plan (1992-97)** :
  - The **new approach of liberalization, privatization, and globalization**—which **includes significant policy efforts** including **macroeconomic stabilization, fiscal reforms, trade policy reforms, industrial policy reforms, and financial sector reforms**—was adopted under the Eighth Five Year Plan.
  - The new approach **favored globalization and was characterized by growth driven by exports.**
- **Nineteenth Five-Year Plan (1997-2002):**
  - implementing the **ninth five-year plan by managing the money supply.**
  - Its goals were to **mobilize resources and draw in foreign direct investment**.
- **Tenth Your Plan Five (2002-07):** The **emphasis of the Tenth Five-Year Plan** is on t**he new government's function.**
  - The areas where the **state must participate in a developing economic scenario are specified**.
  - **Priority was given to the social sector, infrastructure sector, equity, and social justice in the tenth five-year plan (2000-2007),** which had as its **goal an 8% GDP growth rat**e.

- **Eleventh Five-Year Plan(2007-12)** :
  - **The Eleventh Five Year** placed a **strong emphasis on a stronger, more diverse economy**.
  - The approach must be a **prerequisite for quick and inclusive growth,** according to the plan.
  - In this plan, it was also i**mportant to address the employment foundation on economic policies that create opportunities, environmental sustainability, and good governance.**
- **Twelth Five Year Plan (2012-17)**:
  - The theme of the **strategy is Faster, Sustainable and More Inclusive Growth"**.
  - Due to the **fragile global recovery, it aims to achieve a growth rate of 8.2%,** down from the originally anticipated rate of 9.
  - **In the Indian context, numerous development plans have been put forth with varying ideologies**, but the **goal of achieving rapid and inclusive progress** has remained constant.
  - The **new strategy of liberalization, privatization, and globalization—**which **favored globalization and industrial reforms**—brought about a significant transformation.

India's New Economic Policy

- The ongoing **economic liberalization of the nation's economic policies, which began in 1991,** is **referred to as new economic policy.**
- It was put into place to **increase the amount of private and international investment** and make the economy more oriented toward the market.
- The nation experienced a **severe economic crisis in 1991**, which was brought on by **a negative balance of payments, slower GDP growth,** and g**reater inflation.**
- The crisis was utilized as a **chance to implement some significant reforms** in the **nation's economic strategy.**
- **On July 24, 1991,** then-forme**r Prime Minister Manmohan Singh unveiled the New Economic Policy** and is **regarded as its "father" (NEP**).
- The following are the **primary goals of the New Economic Policy of 1991:**
  - One of the key goals was to **force the Indian economy** into the global market and give it a fresh look.
  - It sought to **lower the rate of inflation**.
  - It **aimed to increase economic growth rates** and amass **enough foreign exchange reserves.**
  - By **abolishing all superfluous regulations**, it hoped to **create economic stability and transform the economy** into a market economy.
  - It sought to open up the **world to unrestricted trade in products**, services, capital, technology, and human resources.
  - It **aimed to boost private firms' involvement** across all **economic sectors.**
  - As a result, the **New Economic Policy's main focus** has been on **fostering greater economic competition** as a way to **raise system productivity and efficiency.** By reducing entrance obstacles and constraints on business expansion, this was to be accomplished.

Measures the New Economic Policy adopted

- **Various controls** led to the **economy becoming flawed**.
- The **businessmen were reluctant to launch new enterprises**.

- Economic growth slowed down. **Economic reforms were therefore implemented** in this situation to **lessen the constraints placed on the economy.**
- The **three branches of the New Economic Policy**—liberalization, privatization, and globalization

Liberalisation

- The term **"liberalization"** refers to the **process of reducing or eliminating governmental limitations** on private industry and commerce.
- Social security and unemployment benefits were reduced.
- Except for certain businesses including alcohol, tobacco, defense products, industrial explosives, and medicines that require a license, the private sector has been **exempt from licensing requirements** and **other limitations under this strategy of liberalization.**

Impact of Liberalisation

Positive Effects	Negative Effects
Foreign investment was increased	Unemployment increased
There was an increase in Production	There was a decrease in Tax Receipts
Technological advancement	Decreases the human labor cost
Increase in GDP growth rate	Rise in inequality among population

Privatisation

- The **privatization strategy** allowed th**e private sector to establish industries** that were previously only **available to the governmental sector.**
- Th**e primary driver of privatization** was the fact tha**t PSUs were losing money as a result of political intervention**.
- **Privatization of PSUs** was inevitable in order to **boost efficiency and competition.**
- The following actions are conducted in order to privatize:
  - **PSU stock sales** and **PSU disinvestment**
  - **Reduction of the public sector**

Impacts of Privatisation

Positive Effects	Negative Effects
Private company cut cost and be more efficient	Public service
Increase in competition	Loss of jobs
More responsive to customers complaints	Privatisation is expensive

Human Development

- The **process of increasing people's freedom and possibilitie**s while also **enhancing their well-being** is known as **human development.**
- **Real freedom is vital to human development.** Every day humans must make decisions about who they are, what they do, and how to live.
- At the **World Bank in the 1970s,** economist **Mahbub Ul Haq** created the **human development idea.** Dr. Haq of Pakistan contended tha**t current measures of human advancement** did not take into consideration **development's true goal, which is to enhance people's lives.**

- He thought that the generally used GDP statistic, in particular, fell short of accurately capturing well-being. **In 1990, Dr. Haq** issued the **first Human Development Report**, which was **requested by the United Nations Development Programme,** in **collaboration with Amartya Sen** and other talented economists.
- **In 1990, the first Human Development Report** unveiled a novel strategy for **enhancing human well-being.** Instead of focusing only on the economic wealth of the society in which people live, **human development or the human development approach aims to increase the richness of human life**.
- It is a strategy that is **centered on individuals** and their possibilities and decisions.
- As a result, The **Human Development Index (HDI)** is described as a **composite statistic that ranks nations** according to their **level of human development.**
- **The HDI is a metric for income, education, and health**. It assesses a nation's **accomplishments** in relation to these three fundamental areas of human development using an index.

Dimensions and Indicators for HDI

- When the original **HDI was published in 1990**, most countries did not have access to the data and methodology used in the **2010 HD revision.**
- **Life Expectancy Index** is one of the **primary HDI metrics (LEI)** In this index, infant mortality is taken into account as a **separate metric**. Consequently, **life expectancy** is measured at **birth rather than at age one**.
- **Educational Attainment Index(EAI)** combines the enrolment ratio with the **adult literacy rate**. **Adult Literacy Rate (ALR)** is given a **weight of two-thirds**, while **Combined Enrollment Ratio (CER) i**s given a **weight of one-third.**
- Here, it is symbolized by the **idea of purchasing power parity (PPP)**. In terms **of the US dollar, per capita income** is **converted to purchasing power parity**. It also goes by the name **GDP Index**.
- The **HDI number is scaled from I, which represents the best, to (zero), which indicates the worst.**

Political Processes in India

- Every person has a stake in the **creation of the government in a democracy.**
- Each person has a **unique identity depending** on his or her **religion, caste, ancestry, gender, tribe, religion, occupation,** place of residence, and even age.

Chapter - 2
Globalisation

Social and Economic Implications

- It means the **interaction of the domestic economy** with the **rest of the world with regard to foreign investment, trade, production, and financial matters**.
- It is the **process of increasing economic integration between countries,** leading to the **emergence of a global marketplace or a single world market.**
- There are a few steps that are taken for globalization such as **reduction in tariffs, long-term trade policy, partial convertibility of Indian currency, and increase in equity of foreign investment.**

Impacts of Globalisation

Positive Effects	Negative Effects
Expansion of market	Rise in monopoly
Higher living standards	Take over of domestic firms
Development of infrastructure	Increase in inequalities
International cooperation	Cutthroat competition

Globalisation as a Process

- The **consequences of globalization are extensive, Social, economic, and cultural components of globalization** are all impacted, **either directly or indirectly**.
- The **economy, education, and liberal ideas** have all **expanded** as a result of **globalization**.
- Growing urbanization as a result has made it **easier for society to adopt secular patterns of living.**
- The **primary force behind globalization was India.**
- The Indian government made s**ignificant changes to the nation's economic strategy**.
- The **liberalization of the domestic economy** and the allowing of **direct foreign investment in 1991 boosted India's integration** into the world economy, which helped to **advance our Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** and provide us a **favorable position on the global scale.**
- Since this **procedure attracted significant amounts of foreign investment** into the business, particularly in the BPO, petroleum, pharmaceutical, and manufacturing sectors, its effects on **the Indian industry are evident.** As they **significantly enhanced the Indian economy**, it was noted that the **expansion of outsourced information technology** and business process outsourcing services was **India's primary emphasis on globalization.**
- Companies that have entered the **Indian market have benefited from globalization in India**.
- Researchers advise India to **concentrate on five key areas in order to improve its economic situation**.:
    - The topics covered include **technology entrepreneurship**, the **importance of quality management for small and medium-sized businesses, new opportunities in rural areas, and the privatization of financial institutions.**

- Globalization has altered how **individuals live their social and industrial lives,** and it has had **a significant impact on the Indian trading system**.
- **Economic, social, and cultural structures have all undergone globalization.** Prior to the development of information technology, **processes moved slowly,** but **new forms of communication have shrunk the world.**
- Innovations in the **economic and social spheres have increased** as a result of globalization.
- **Access to medical technology has improved** due to globalization. As a result, the **healthcare system has improved**. Therefore, globalization as a general phrase encompasses many facets, including political, economic, cultural, health, education, and technology.

Globalization's Social Effects

- Following are some social effects of globalization:
  - Family structure gradually shifting from **nuclear to extended households**.
  - The interaction between people of different castes expanded with the increased **use of contemporary communication tools**, which **reduced the feeling of casteism.**
  - **Due to globalization,** there has been **greater independence and self-sufficiency.**
  - It has **loosened our viewpoints and diminished our global prejudices** and predispositions toward various individuals, groups, and communities.

Effects of Globalization on the Economy

- There are certain financial repercussions of globalization:
  - Domestic economic development is impacted both domestically and wholly by domestic policies and market conditions, as well as by **foreign policies and economic conditions**.
  - Domestic economic development is not solely decided by **domestic policies and market conditions.**
  - **Globalization and privatization and economic liberalization policies** have a **significant impact on the Indian economy.**
  - Massive growth in industries like IT, telecommunications, and aviation.
  - An **increase in urbanization and industrialization** has also contributed to the **unplanned expansion of urban centers,** which has **resulted in the emergence of additional slums.**
  - Exclusively public sector industries have dramatically decreased.

Effects of Globalization That Are Negative

- Many established businesses that were **unable to compete with global competitors** following liberalization have suffered as a result of globalization.
- Indian industries changed from **labor-intensive to capital-intensive processes** as a **result of increased global rivalry** by implementing **advanced technologies and automated equipment.**
- As a result, there is **reduced demand for labor** in these industries, which **causes unemployment.**
- **Economic globalization has increased employment opportunities** and **created new work prospects**, but it has also **reduced income inequality**. Therefore, we might conclude that **globalization has increased uncertainty.**

Conclusion

- The **concept of globalization is widely accepted**. The appraisal of the positive and negative effects of globalization is varied. Globalization has connected every part of the planet.
- **Economic Development and Human Advancement**
- An **rise in the output of products and services** over a given time period is **referred to as economic growth**. The measurement must account for inflation in order to be as precise as possible.

Value of Goods and Services Rising

- The **value of the commodities and services** produced in a nation's economy over time is known as **economic growth**.
- When we hear the news that a **country's economic growth has increased to 6%** from 5% last year, it means that **t economic growth has occurred as a result of an increase of 1% in the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP)**. In actuality, we can say that the **percentage increase in a country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) over a period of time.**

A rise in the country's per capita income

- This **concept of per capita income** has been **criticized** by several economists as being **insufficient and unsatisfactory.** They presented evidence that suggested a **country's overall national income** may increase while its citizens' level of life might really be declining.
- Basically, this **circumstance used to occur** when the population of the country is **growing faster than its national revenue**.
- According to the latter definition, **economic growth is the long-term annual rise in a nation's real per capita income.**
- As a result**, according to professor Arthur Lewis, economic growth refers to an increase in output per person**.
- The second definition of economic growth is considered superior because **improving people's standards of living** is the **primary goal of economic growth.**
- An essential component of the definition of economic growth is that it must be **"maintained," which means that any rise in national income** or per capita income must be a **"sustained increase"**
- The steady increase in per capita income is **evidenced by the long-term upward trend in per capita income**. Any **increase in per-capita income** that happens quickly or during a business cycle cannot be said to as **economic growth.**
- As a result, both of these methods of economic growth are accepted in the **Annual World Development Reports of the world's top organizations**, including the **World Bank and the IMF**, for **comparing economic development and levels of living standards between developed and developing nations**.
- These **two indicators of economic growth** are also used in India by the **Planning Commission, Reserve Bank of India, and Central Statistical Organization (CSO).**

Chapter -3
Politics of identity

- **Identity politics** is a **result of a person standing up** for a **certain identity**, such as gender, tribe, religion, or occupation. Those who share a particular racial, religious, ethnic, social, or cultural identity are more likely to form exclusive political alliances than to participate in traditional, broad-based party politics or **to advance their own interests** without taking into account **those of a larger political group,** which is what is meant by the term **identity politics.**
- Instead of organizing exclusively around belief systems or party memberships, identity politics often **aims to regain greater self-determination** and **political freedom for marginalized groups** by acknowledging their **distinctive nature and opposing externally imposed characterizations.**

Indian identity politics

- Even though **liberal democratic politics was adopted in India** after independence, groups and **collective identities** have persisted and **still seek recognition.** In truth, Beteille has demonstrated how Indian politics have continuously attempted to negotiate with a commitment to a liberal spirit as well as communal concerns and consciousness.
- Many scholars were persuaded to assume that the **post-independent state,** its structure, and its **institutions** had created a tangible basis for the enunciation of identity claims as a result of India's claim to and acknowledgment of specific identities.
- **Identity politics of all stripes** are therefore prevalent in India, with those based on language, religion, caste, region, race, or tribal identity being the most spectacular.

Caste

- India is the only country where **social stratification** takes the shape of caste. However, it has also had an impact on other religions and sects on the Indian subcontinent. It is primarily a part of the Hindu fold.
- The exact **origin of the closed system of stratification** known as the **caste system,** which has been in place for more than **three thousand years,** is still unknown. It is primarily based on a system known as the **Varna system** which is part of the **Hindu Indian civilization.**
- It is believed that **caste is both a structural and cultural phenomenon**. It is a set of **cultural norms, attitudes, and behaviors connected to a specific social stratum.**
- In terms of structure, it alludes to a certain **set of relationships between the various castes** based on a variety of limitations and impairments

Caste system characteristics

- From a **structural, cultural, and attributional perspective,** caste is seen. The **attributional approach concentrates** on the characteristics of the caste system, and among these characteristics, **the principle of purity and contamination is the most important one.**
- **Ghurye** has identified **six characteristics**. **Three of these key** characteristics—**hierarchy, hereditary occupation, and mutual repulsion between pollution and purity**—were **recognized by Bougle.**

- **According to Dumont**, the fundamental elements of the **caste system are hierarchy and the division of the pure from the impure**.
- Some elements of the **caste system** that are well known are:
  - **Hierarchy: Castes are ranked according to their perceived superiority to one another,** and this is **one of their main characteristics.**
  - **Caste-Based Employment**: Based on the **concepts of contamination and purity,** occupations were rated. For instance, **Brahmins** are given the **responsibility of preaching and teaching**, while **Avarnas are assigned dirty jobs like scavenging.**
  - **Endogamy:** The practice of exclusively **marrying people who lived in the same local community**, clan, or tribe was one of its key characteristics. **It's called endogamy**.
  - **Restrictions on Feeding and Social Contact**: Little social engagement was placed. Inter-dining and Kachha and Pakka food serving regulations, which were even outlined in Smritis, were strictly adhered to.
  - **Religious and Civil Disabilities:** These **limitations included prohibitions on entering temples,** performing rituals, and separating wells and schools based on caste.
  - **Social Mobilization**: Although caste is typically thought of as a **closed institution, historians like Srinivas** show that there were paths for mobility by using the **idea of Sanskritization**. Other ways to move around included **royal patronage, conversions, and census activities.**
  - **Closed System:** Common name and common ancestry Sub-castes and castes frequently have a **common legendary personality as their ancestor.** The adjectival **person's caste is determined at birth** and is **fixed for the rest of their life**. Therefore, it is an institution that runs in a **closed manner.**

Gandhiji and Ambedkar's perspectives on caste

- **Gandhiji** opposed the **caste system f**rom a **high position**. Over the years, as he remained intensely spiritual and **worked for social change within Hinduism**, his **opinions on caste** eventually **changed**. Gandhiji believed that a **gradual shift in Hindus' attitudes would end untouchability**. He distinguished the **caste system's theoretical underpinnings from its empirical reality.** He **favored caste and Hindu societal reform.**
- **Ambedkar**, however, **fought against the caste system from the bottom up**. He **described** it as the **result of Brahmanical distortions and offered the Broken Men theory** to account for the **enslavement of untouchables.**
- He held extreme views on caste and contended tha**t people's beliefs cannot be changed.** He envisioned a **political-economic solution through structural reform.** Ambedkar wished to **eradicate caste.**

Civics and Caste

- The **democratic political system** and caste represent**, theoretically, opposing value systems. Caste has a hierarchy.** The **democratic political system**, on the other hand, **supports equality of position** and **personal freedom**. In reality, caste and other ideas like kinship try to **create new identities and compete for positions of power in a society** like ours that has few resources.

- **During the British era**, caste and religion were frequently used as **emotional tools to control the populace**, but on the plus side, there were many organizations like the **Justice Party in the South and leaders like Ambedkar who pushed for the political empowerment of the underprivileged castes** in order to create a just society.
- The **Republican Party, founded in 1956 by Dalit leaders** led by Ambedkar, was possibly the **first official political initiative** to **mobilize Dalits after independence.**
- The study of Tamil Nadu's Nadars serves as an example of the **beneficial influence that politics has in relation to caste**.
- **According to Andre Beteille,** while Westernization is displacing people's sense of caste identity, **caste's role in politics is bringing people back to their caste identification and strengthening it**.
- **Political processes impacted the caste system**:
  - **Following independence,** caste and politics interacted in various ways. A **few caste associations** were **established in the early stage with the intention of running for office**.
  - **For the nomination of party candidates** and **election mobilization in the second phase,** certain political parties **aligned with specific castes**.
  - **With the emergence of democracy and decentralized politic**s in the s**hape of a three-tier Panchayati Raj system**, politics were brought to the **grassroots in the fourth phase**, which began more recently. **Since the 1980s**, the third phase has seen the **formation of openly caste-based political parties.**
- Therefore**, caste, and politics in modern India** have **two crucial components:** the **substantialization of caste and identity politics**. Caste is currently utilized for both **pecuniary gains and as a means of identifying a group** during elections.
- **Elections** are frequently **sensationalized** around **caste-related concerns rather than being contested over fundamental ones**. Castes compete against one another, and th**e caste with the lower numerical strength loses.**
- **Caste cohesion** has **weakened** as a result of the **competitive political process.** Members of the same caste cast ballots for various political parties or figures. As a result**, caste is not the only factor that affects politics**, the political system also has an **impact on caste and causes changes in it.**

Politics and Religion

- **Religion** can be defined in a **variety of ways**, but to be more specific, it is a **core collection of practices** and ideas that are **broadly accepted by a population.**
- These beliefs, which center on the origin, character, and function of the world, **incorporate ritualistic observances and acts of devotion.** They also have a moral code that governs how human matters should be conducted.

Political and religious affiliation

- One type of **identity politics, which is religion**, is one in which a **community is built** around a **common religious relationship.** There are many different types of identity politics. Hinduism, Islam, and Sikhism are all practiced in India. Some of the primary religions that are practiced by the populace include **Christianity and Zoroastrianism.**