



renaissance

college of commerce & management

B.A. (HONS.) Mass Comm. III Semester

Sub. - Indian Government Politics & International Relations

SYLLABUS

Class – B.A. (HONS.) MASS COMMUNICATION

III Semester

Subject – Indian Government Politics & International Relations

Unit-I	Government Formation: State & Central
Unit-II	Current issues in governance at state and central level of state autonomy in India.
Unit-III	The electoral system – Process Panchayatiraj Local & self governance.
Unit-IV	Fundamental problems & solutions of our society.
Unit-V	UN & its main agencies and their functions: ASEAN, SAARC



UNIT-I

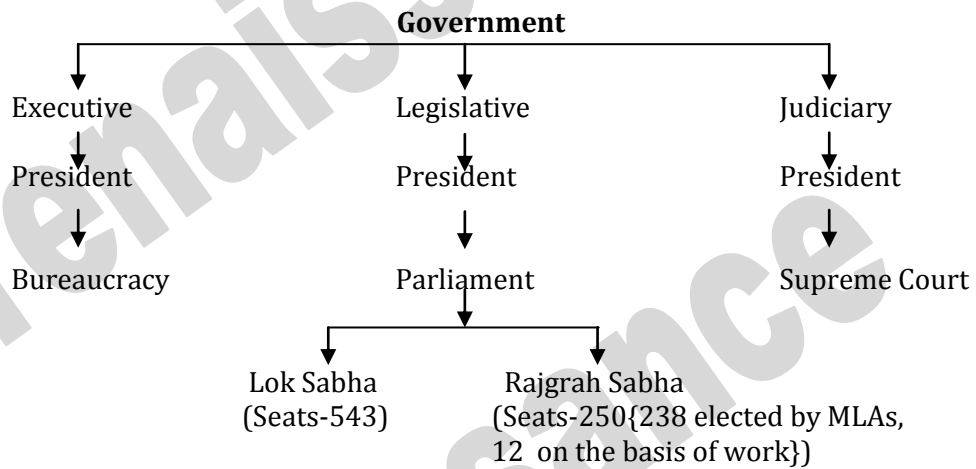
GOVERNMENT FORMATION

Democracy -

Is a form of government in which power ultimately comes from people who are governed whether through direct voting or through elected representatives.

(A) Central Government -

India is union of states and all the states (29) & UTs (7) are collectively called as republic of India. The republic of India is head by Union Government which is formed by the constitution of India. The government is made up of three branches - executive body, legislative body & judiciary.



President - The executive powers of Central Govt. are vested mainly on the president of India. He is the head of government & first person of India. The President is de jure commander in chief of Indian armed forces. He appoints governors of states, Chief & others justice of supreme & high courts, the attorney general, chief & other election commissioners, the CAG (Controller auditor & General), chairman & other members of UPSC (Union Public Service Commission) & ambassadors & others high commissioner.

Vice President - He is the second highest ranking officer in executive branch. He is the ex-officio chairman of Rajyasabha. His tenure is of 5 years.

Prime Minister - He is the actual executive head of the government and usually is the leader of that political party having majority in the parliament. He could be a member of either Lok Sabha or Rajyasabha.

Ministries - There are several ministries to help the PMO. The ministers could be cabinet ministers or state ministers.

(B) State Government -



The State Govt. is ruled by the chief minister & his cabinet. The head of the state is governor. The powers are divided between central & state government.



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The state government's legislature is bicameral in six states including UP, Maharashtra, Bihar, Karnataka, J&K & Andhra Pradesh. It is unicameral in the rest of the states. The bicameral states have an upper house known as Legislative Council or Vidhan Parishad & the lower house Legislative Assembly or the Vidhan Sabha. The unicameral states have only the Vidhan Sabha. The legislative council has limited legislative powers and its primary function is only consultation. The members of this house are not elected directly by the people.

On the other hand the legislative assembly (Vidhan Sabha) enjoys maximum legislative powers. Its members are elected directly by the people through Vidhan Sabha Election. The tenure of the Vidhan Sabha is normally 05 years.

Governor – The governor is appointed by the president and is the official head of the state. He is the first person of the state. He enjoys almost similar powers & functions at the state level that of a president at central level.

- Executive powers – Appointments & removals of various officials.
- Legislative powers – Law making and formation of state legislative.
- Discrete powers – It includes other important powers.

Types of Governments

Governments can be classified into several types. Some of the more common types of governments are:

1. Democracy

The word "democracy" literally means "rule by the people." In a democracy, the people govern.

2. Republic

A literal democracy is impossible in a political system containing more than a few people. All "democracies" are really republics. In a republic, the people elect representatives to make and enforce laws.

3. Monarchy

A monarchy consists of rule by a king or queen. Sometimes a king is called an "emperor," especially if there is a large empire, such as China before 1911. There are no large monarchies today. The United Kingdom, which has a queen, is really a republic because the queen has virtually no political power.

4. Aristocracy

An aristocracy is rule by the aristocrats. Aristocrats are typically wealthy, educated people. Many monarchies have really been ruled by aristocrats. Today, typically, the term "aristocracy" is used negatively to accuse a republic of being dominated by rich people, such as saying, "The United States has become an aristocracy."

5. Dictatorship

A dictatorship consists of rule by one person or a group of people. Very few dictators admit they are dictators; they almost always claim to be leaders of democracies. The dictator may be one person, such as Castro in Cuba or Hitler in Germany, or a group of people, such as the Communist Party in China.

6. Democratic Republic

Usually, a "democratic republic" is not democratic and is not a republic. A government that officially calls itself a "democratic republic" is usually a dictatorship. Communist dictatorships have been especially prone to use this term. For example, the official name of North Vietnam was "The Democratic Republic of Vietnam." China uses a variant, "The People's Republic of China."



UNIT-III

ELECTORAL SYSTEM IN INDIA

India is the biggest democracy of world. Here the public representatives are elected directly by the public through elections. In the democracy with a parliamentary system of government, it is highly needed to have a proper, fair and free electoral system. The free and objective electoral body conducts the election process which decides the composition of government, the membership of parliament, the state & union territory legislative assemblies the presidency of & vice-presidency. The conduct the electoral process fairly, smoothly & regularly, an election commission is formed in India.

The Election Commission -

As per the constitution of India, an independent election commission is formed on 25th January, 1950. The commission is responsible for the conduct of elections to parliament & state legislatures as well as for president & vice president. It prepares, maintains and updates the electoral poll, supervises the nominations of candidates, registers the political parties, monitors the election campaign, supervises funding & expenditure by individual candidate & political parties. It also looks after the counting of votes & final declarations of election results.

The election commission is headed by the chief election commissioner who is supported by more than one assistant election commissioners. Present CFC is V. Sundaram Sampath. Two other election commissioners are Harishankar Brahma and Syed Naseem Ahmed Zaidi. The CFC & others commissioner have tenure of six years or up to the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier, The CFC can be removed from office only through impeachment by parliament.



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Electoral process

Electoral Process in India starts with the declaration of dates by the election commission. Publishing of electoral rolls is a key process that happens before the elections and is vital for the conduct of elections in India. The Indian Constitution sets the eligibility of an individual for voting as any person who is a citizen of India and above 18 years of age. It is the responsibility of the eligible voters to enroll their names. The model code of conduct comes in force from the day the dates are announced.

The candidates are required to file the nomination papers following which the candidate list is published after scrutiny. No party is allowed to use the government resources for campaigning. No party is allowed to bribe the candidates before elections. The government cannot start a project during the election period. The campaigning ends at 6 PM of the second last day before the polling day.

The polling is held normally from 7 AM to 5 PM, whereas it might be changed under special circumstances. The Collector of each district is in charge of polling. Government employees are employed as poll officers at the polling stations. Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) are being increasingly used instead of ballot boxes to prevent election fraud via booth capturing, which is heavily prevalent in certain parts of India. An indelible ink is applied usually on the left index finger of the voter as an indicator that the voter has cast his vote. This practice has been followed since the 1962 general elections to prevent a bad vote. Re-polling happens if the initial polling is unsuccessful due to reasons such as adverse weather, violence etc. The polled votes are counted to announce the winner. India follows first past the post methodology to declare the winner.

Government expenditure

The cost per voter in the 2014 general elections was Rs 17, a twenty-fold increase over the first election, held in 1952. The total expenditure for the 2014 general election was Rs 3600 crores; the 1952 election cost Rs 104.5 million total.^[16]

Electronic voting machines

Balloting Unit(left), control unit (right)

Electronic voting machines (EVM) are being used in Indian general and state elections to implement electronic voting in part from 1999 elections and in total since 2004 elections. The EVMs reduce the time in both casting a vote and declaring the results compared to the old paper ballot system. After rulings of Delhi High Court and Supreme Court and demands from various political parties, Election Commission decided to introduce EVMs with Voter-verified paper audit trail (VVPAT) system.

Voter verifiable paper audit trail system

On 14 August 2013, the Government of India amended the elections rules to permit the use the Voter-verified paper audit trail (VVPAT) system. The first election to implement the new system was a by-election held in the 51 Noksen Assembly Constituency of Nagaland.^[17] Voter-verified paper audit trail (VVPAT) system is introduced in 8 of 543 parliamentary constituencies as a pilot project in Indian general election, 2014. VVPAT is implemented in Lucknow, Gandhinagar, Bangalore South, Chennai Central, Jadavpur, Raipur, Patna Sahib and Mizoram constituencies. Generated slip tells voter to which party or candidate vote has been given and also includes name of voter, constituency and polling booth.

NOTA

"None of the above"

is a proposed voting option in India that would allow voters who support none of the candidates available to them to register an official vote of "none of the above", which is not currently allowed under India election regulation.^[33] The Election Commission of India told the Supreme Court in 2009 that it wished to offer the voter a None of the above button on voting machines; the government, however, has generally opposed this option. On 27 September 2013, Supreme Court of India pronounced a judgement that citizen's of India have Right to Negative Vote by exercising None of the above (NOTA) option in EVMs and ballot papers. The judgment was passed on a PIL filed by the People's Union for Civil Liberties, an NGO in 2009.

The Election Commission has implemented this option of "none of the above" voting option in EVM machines w.e.f. five states polls starting from November 2013. However it does not mean that if 'NOTA'



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gets highest votes then election will be conducted again, rather even in that case, the candidate with the highest votes will be treated as elected candidate.

Absentee voting

An absentee ballot is a vote cast by someone who is unable or unwilling to attend the official polling station or to which the voter is normally allocated. Numerous methods have been devised to facilitate this. Increasing the ease of access to absentee ballots is seen by many as one way to improve voter turnout, though some countries require that a valid reason, such as infirmity or travel, be given before a voter can participate in an absentee ballot. Currently, India does not have an absentee ballot system for all citizens except in few exceptions. Section 19 of The Representation of the People Act (RPA)-1950 allows a person to register to vote if he or she is above 18 years of age and is an 'ordinary resident' of the residing constituency i.e. living at the current address for 6 months or longer. Section 20 of the above Act disqualifies a non-resident Indian (NRI) from getting his/her name registered in the electoral rolls. Consequently, it also prevents a NRI from casting his/her vote in elections to the Parliament and to the State Legislatures. In August 2010, Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill-2010 which allows voting rights to NRI's was passed in both Lok Sabha with subsequent gazette notifications on 24 November 2010. With this NRI's will now be able to vote in Indian elections but have to be *physically present* at the time of voting. Several civic society organizations have urged the government to amend the RPA act to allow NRI's and people on the move to cast their vote through absentee ballot system. People for Lok Satta has been actively pushing combination of internet and postal ballot as a viable means for NRI voting.



PANCHAYAT RAJ

Panchayat Raj is the oldest format of government in India which is the best example of decentralization of power. Since ages, the Panchayat Raj system is prevailing in India. Previously the term was used for the assembly of five elderly people who were authorized to hear and solve the problem and disputes between individuals and village. Presentably the Panchayat Raj is based on a well elected governing body. In this system, the gram Panchayat is the basic unit of governance. It has three levels -

- Gram Panchayat
- Janapad Panchayat
- District or Zila Pachayat

Mahatma Gandhi was also in favour of a decentralized form of government where each village is given power to solve its own problems, disputes & others affairs and can run on the track of development by its own means. He coined the term "Gram Swaraj" for such government.

Historical Perspectives -

- **Balwant Rai Mehta Committee** - Formed in 1957 to look into the problems of democratic decentralization in independent India.
- **Ashok Mehta Committee** - Made by Janta Government in 1977. It was asked to enquire causes responsible for poor success of Panchayat Raj in India and to suggest measures to straighten the Panchayat Raj Institution. It suggested two-tier systems of district & Mandal Panchayat.
- **73rd Amendment Act** - This act was passed 1992 & came into force in April 1993. It is considered as the millstone in Panchayat Raj System. It suggested a 3 tier system of Panchayat at village, Janapad & district level. The seats of all these three levels are filled by direct elections.

Functions of Panchayat

- The Panchayat looks after issues related with general administration, public work, health, education, agriculture & social welfare at local level.
- It prepares, implements & executes plans for social justice & economic development as per the eleventh schedule of the constitution.
- It has the right to levy and collect appropriate taxes, duties, tolls & fees.
- Development of cottage & small scale industries.

Local Self Governance

It is basically meant by the Panchayat Raj System. This governance is based on more de-centralization of governing powers. A three-tier system of local & self-governance is working in India-

- Gram Panchayat for a village.
- Block Panchayat for the Taluka.
- Zila Panchayat at district level.

The source of revenue for local self government is the fund & aids sanctioned by the central & state government. Similarly it also generates its revenue by taxes, tolls, duties & others faces at the local level.

Constitution of local self government- It is composed of **ex-official members** (including all sarpanchs of the Panchayat Samiti, the MPs & MLAs of that constituency, and the sub divisional officer), **the co-opt members** including representatives of SC, ST & women category the **associate members** including formers societies, elected member of co-operative society. This local self government is elected for a tenure of 05 years.



UNIT-V ASEAN

THE Association of South East Asian Nations is an association of ten leading countries of south east Asia. It is basically an economic and geo-political organization which works for multi-lateral cooperation, economic development, socio-cultural growth, protection of regional peace and stability and also provides a platform for multi-lateral talks.

ESTABLISHMENT- 08 August, 1967 in Bangkok.

MEMBERS- Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam.

SECRETARIAT- Jakarta, Indonesia.

SECRETARY GENERAL- Surin Pitsuwan

AIMS & OBJECTIVES-

- To promote peace, prosperity and stability in South East Asia.
- To hold talks on issues of common interests in social, economic, cultural, technical and administrative spheres.
- To provide research, development and training facilities in educational, technical and administrative sectors.
- To develop and maintain cooperation with existing international and regional organizations having similar aims and objectives.

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was formed in 1967 by Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand to promote political and economic cooperation and regional stability. The member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) are Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei Darussalam, Vietnam, Laos and Myanmar. The ASEAN Community is comprised of three pillars, the Political-Security Community, Economic Community and Socio-Cultural Community. Every year following the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting, ASEAN holds its Post-Ministerial Conference (PMC) to which the Secretary of State is invited. In 1994, ASEAN took the lead in establishing the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), which now has 27 members.

1.1 Objectives:

The ASEAN nations came together with three main objectives in mind:

- To promote the economic, social and cultural development of the region through cooperative programmers
- To safeguard the political and economic stability of the region against big power rivalry; and
- To serve as a forum for the resolution of intra-regional differences.

1.2 Activities:

ASEAN and its Member States reaffirm and adhere to the fundamental principles contained in the declarations, agreements, conventions, concords, treaties and other instruments of ASEAN. ASEAN and its Member States shall act in accordance with the following Principles:

- Respect for the independence, sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity and national identity of all ASEAN Member States;
- Shared commitment and collective responsibility in enhancing regional peace, security and prosperity;
- Renunciation of aggression and of the threat or use of force or other actions in any manner inconsistent with international law;
- Reliance on peaceful settlement of disputes;



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- Non-interference in the internal affairs of ASEAN Member States;
- Respect for the right of every Member State to lead its national existence free from external interference, subversion and coercion;
- Enhanced consultations on matters seriously affecting the common interest of ASEAN
- Respect for fundamental freedoms, the promotion and protection of human rights, and the promotion of social justice;
- Upholding the United Nations Charter and international law, including international humanitarian law, subscribed to by ASEAN Member States;
- Abstention from participation in any policy or activity, including the use of its territory, pursued by any ASEAN Member State or non-ASEAN State or any non-State actor, which threatens the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political and economic stability of ASEAN Member States;
- Respect for the different cultures, languages and religions of the peoples of ASEAN, while emphasizing their common values in the spirit of unity in diversity.

1.3 Contribution:

Cooperation in Industrial Development, Cooperation in Finance and Banking, Cooperation in Investment, Cooperation in Food, Agriculture and Forestry, Cooperation in Minerals, Cooperation in Energy, Cooperation in Transportation and Communications, Cooperation in Tourism, Cooperation in Services, Cooperation in Intellectual Property, Private Sector.



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UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION

The United Nations Organization was founded on Oct. 24, 1945 with an objective to facilitate cooperation in International law, security, social progress, economic development, social justice and world peace. It replaced the League of Nations. Which was formed in 1918 after first world war.

H.Q. – New York City

Official languages – Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian & Spanish.

Flag – A world map surrounded by two olive branches in white colour on a light blue background. This flag was adopted on December 7, 1946.

MAIN ORGANS OF UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION

United Nations Organization is made up of five main organs including-

- (A) **General Assembly** – Structurally it is similar with a greater parliament. It is an assembly of all United Nations Member states having regular annual meeting sessions.
- (B) **Secretariat** – It is the office of secretary general, assisted by a staff of international civil servants. It also carries out tasks directed by various United Nations Bodies. The secretary General in the senior most authority & spokes person of UNO. Trygve Lie (Norway) was first secretary general of United Nations Organization. Present Secretary General is Ban Ki Moon (South Korea) since 2007.
- (C) **Security Council** – The United Nations Security Council is a very powerful body having rights to make binding decisions on member countries as per the terms of Charter Article 25. It is made up of 15 members including five permanent members – USA, UK, Russia, China & France and 10 temporary members having terms of every two year.
- (D) **Economic & Social Council** – It promotes economic & social development and co-operation at international level. Currently it has 54 members.
- (E) **International Court of Justice** – It is primary judicial organ of United Nations Organization. Its Head Quarter is located at Peace Place in The Hague (Netherlands). It has 15 Judges. Official languages of the Court are English & French.

Specialised Agencies of United Nations Organization

FAO – H.Q. – Rome, 1945

Aim – To improve agriculture, forestry & fisheries services to ensure good nutrition and to ensure food security for every resident of member countries.

IACA- H.Q. – Vienna (Regional offices at Toronto & Tokyo)

An autonomous organization, established on 29th July, 1957.

Aim - To work as an intergovernmental forum for scientific & technical co-operation in peaceful use of nuclear energy & atomic technology.

ILO - 1919, H.Q. – Geneva

Works as an intergovernmental organization for the development of labours. Representatives of Government, employers and labourers in the meetings of this organization.



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UNESCO – 4 November, 1946, H.Q. Paris

It is aimed to world peace & security by promoting International Collaboration in order to universal respect for justice, human rights and fundamental freedom. It also works for peace building, eradication of poverty & illiteracy and to establish inter-cultural dialogue through the education, science, culture, communication & information.

UNIDO – 1967, H.Q. Vienna

It promotes & accelerates industrial development in developing countries. It also promotes industrial co-operation worldwide.

IMF – 1946, H.Q. – Washington DC

It fosters global growth & economic stability worldwide. It also provides financial help to the member countries in need.

World Bank – 1945, H.Q. – Washington DC

In chiefly provides loans to the developing countries. It is comprised of IBRD & International development Association.

WHO – 1948, H.Q. – Geneva

It is basically concerned with public health.

WIPO – 1967, H.Q. – Geneva

It promotes creative intellectual activities. It also facilitates transfer of technology related to industrial property to the developing countries in order to foster economic, social & cultural development.



South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)

Establishment - 8th Dec. 1985

H.Q. - Kathmandu

Members - India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal, Maldives, Bhutan, Sri Lanka.

Observers - Australia, China, European Union, Japan, Iran, Mauritius, Myanmar, South Korea, United States.

Present Secretary General - Ahmed Saleem

Aims & objectives -

- To promote progress & development of member countries & improve their quality of life.
- To ensure economic growth, social development & cultural progress.
- To establish atmosphere of self reliance & mutual co-operation among member countries.
- To develop mutual understanding on one-another's problems.
- To promote active collaboration & mutual assistance in social, economic, cultural, technical & scientific sectors.
- To support other regional & international organizations having similar aims & objectives
- To respect sovereignty, territorial integrity, political equality & independence of all member states.
- To ensure non-interference in the internal matters.
- To avoid prejudices for bilateral controversial issues & to have concern for multi lateral issues of all member nations.

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) comprises Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. SAARC is a manifestation of the determination of the peoples of South Asia to work together towards finding solutions to their common problems in a spirit of friendship, trust and understanding and to create an order based on mutual respect, equity and shared benefits. The main goal of the Association is to accelerate the process of economic and social development in member states, through joint action in the agreed areas of cooperation. The idea of regional cooperation in South Asia was first mooted in November 1980. After consultations, the Foreign Secretaries of the seven countries met for the first time in Colombo, in April 1981. This was followed, a few months later, by the meeting of the Committee of the Whole, which identified five broad areas for regional cooperation. The Foreign Ministers, at their first meeting in New Delhi, in August 1983, formally launched the Integrated Programme of Action (IPA) through the adoption of the Declaration on South Asian Regional Cooperation (SARC). At the First Summit held in Dhaka on 7-8 December 1985, the Charter establishing the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) was adopted.

8.1 Objectives:

The objectives are as follows:

- To promote the welfare of the peoples of South Asia and to improve their quality of life;
- To accelerate economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region and to provide all individuals the opportunity to live in dignity and to realize their full potentials;
- To promote and strengthen collective self-reliance among the countries of South Asia;
- To contribute to mutual trust, understanding and appreciation of one another's problems;
- To promote active collaboration and mutual assistance in the economic, social, cultural, technical and scientific fields;
- To strengthen cooperation with other developing countries;
- To strengthen cooperation among themselves in international forums on matters of common interests; and



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- To cooperate with international and regional organizations with similar aims and purposes
- Cooperation within the framework of the Association is based on respect for the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, political independence, non-interference in the internal affairs of other states and mutual benefit.
- Such cooperation is to complement and not to substitute bilateral or multilateral cooperation.
- Such cooperation should be consistent with bilateral and multilateral obligations of the member states.
- Decisions at all levels in SAARC are taken on the basis of unanimity.
- Bilateral and contentious issues are excluded from its deliberations.

8.2 Activities:

8.3 Contribution:

Cooperation with international and regional organizations designated SAARC years, *SAARC Regional Fund (SRF)*, SAARC funds, regional conventions/agreements), SAARC regional institutions, Promoting people-to-people contact, Trade and economic cooperation, poverty eradication, **Technical committee**, financial arrangements in SAARC.