



**Indraprastha College for Women
University of Delhi**

Work Plan for ODD SEMESTER – 2026

Course Name:	B.A. (Hons.) Political Science
Paper Title:	Political Process in India
Unique Paper Code:	DSC-15
Semester:	V-A
Faculty:	Priyamvada
Year:	2026

Work Plan			
Unit No.	Learning Objective	Lecture No.	Topics to be Covered
I	To Understand the evolution, organisation and changing nature of political parties and party competition in India.	1-4	Political parties in India: national and state parties; organisation, functions and patterns of competition.
I	To Trace major transformations in India's party system.	5-8	Trends in the party system: Congress System; decline of Congress dominance; coalition era; ascendancy of the Bharatiya Janata Party.
II	To Understand elections as mechanisms of representation and democratic participation.	9-11	Electoral process and political representation in India; patterns of participation and competition.
II	To Analyse the social determinants of voting behaviour.	12-13	Voting behaviour and its social determinants: caste, class, religion, region and other factors.
II	To Examine the institutional regulation of electoral competition.	14-15	Election Commission of India; electoral reforms and challenges of regulating the electoral domain.
III	To Understand the relationship between religion and democratic politics.	16-18	Religion and politics in India; conceptual and historical context of secularism.
III	To critically engage with debates on secularism and communalism.	19-23	Debates on Indian secularism; communalism, its political manifestations and implications for democracy.
IV	To Examine caste as a structure of social power and political mobilisation.	24-26	Caste in politics and the politicization of caste; caste

			associations, representation and democratic mobilisation.
IV	To Analyse intersectionality and policies of social justice.	27-31	Intersectionality of caste, class and gender; reservation and affirmative action policies; debates on equality and representation.
V	To Understand the constitutional framework governing tribal communities.	32-34	Tribes and politics; Fifth and Sixth Schedules; constitutional provisions for autonomy and self-government.
V	To Assess rights, development and displacement issues affecting Adivasi communities.	35-38	Forest Rights Act; development, land and forest rights; displacement and challenges of inclusion/exclusion.
VI	To Conceptualise the multiple dimensions of the Indian state.	39-40	Dimensions of the State in India: welfare, regulatory and coercive roles.
VI	To Examine the welfare role of the Indian state.	41-42	Welfare state, social policy, rights-based welfare and changing relations between citizens and the state.
VI	To Examine regulatory and coercive dimensions of state power.	43-45	Regulatory institutions and capacity; coercive power, policing and democratic accountability; comparative understanding of the three faces of the Indian state.

Unit	Contents/Syllabus
I	Political Parties and the Party System: National and State Parties; trends from the Congress System to the ascendancy of the Bharatiya Janata Party.
II	Elections and Electoral Processes: electoral process, representation, social determinants of voting behaviour, Election Commission and electoral reforms.
III	Religion and Politics: debates on secularism and communalism. IV. Caste and Politics: caste in politics and politicization of caste; intersectionality of caste, class and gender; reservation and affirmative action. V. Tribes and Politics: Fifth and Sixth Schedules; Forest Rights Act; development and displacement. VI. Dimensions of the State in India: welfare, regulatory and coercive.
S. No.	Kothari, R. (2002), "The Congress System"; Chibber, P. & Verma, R. (2019), "The Rise of the Second Dominant Party System in India"; Yadav, Y. & Palshikar, S. (2006), "Party System and Electoral Politics in the Indian States".
1.	Jayal, N. G. (2006), Representing India; Yadav, Y. (2010), "Representation"; Singh, U. & Roy, A. (2019), Election Commission of India: Institutionalising Democratic Uncertainties.

2.	Pantham, T. (2004), “Understanding Indian Secularism”; Chandhoke, N. (2010), “Secularism”; Kothari, R. (1970), Caste in Indian Politics; Galanter, M. (2002), “The Long Half-Life of Reservations”.
3.	Xaxa, V. (2019), “Isolation, Inclusion and Exclusion: the case of Adivasis in India”; Kothari, A., Pathak, N. & Bose, A. (2011), “Forests, Rights and Conservation: FRA Act 2006, India”; Chatterjee, P. (2010), “The State”; Khera, R. (2020), “India’s Welfare State”.

	Paper Components		
Credits	Lecture (L)	Tutorial (T)	Practical (P)
4	3	1	-
Assessment Scheme			
S.No.	Component	Marking Scheme	Total Marks
1	Internal Assessment - Assignment - Class Test - Attendance	30 Marks	30
		12 Marks	
		12 Marks	
		06 Marks	
2.	Continuous Assessment (Tutorial) - Activity 1 - Activity 2 - Attendance	40 Marks	40
		15 Marks	
		20 Marks	
		05 Marks	
3.	Practical - Continuous Assessment - End Term Written/Practical Exam - Viva	N.A.	
4.	End Semester Examination:		90