

## **Polity Class 01**

**16th May, 2023 at 10:00 AM**

### **INTRODUCTION TO THE EXAMINATION JOURNEY (10:17 AM):**

- Students must congratulate themselves for resolving to start on a journey whose final outcome is desired by everyone, but very few can gather the courage to start the journey of preparation.
- The examination cycle, along with the preparation time is very long and students will certainly see ups and downs in the journey.
- Students must focus more on the process rather than on the final outcome- 0.1 % success rate.
- This is necessary because the final objective must be to be a rational, well-informed, and compassionate member of society.
- Students must try to restrict their efforts to the demand of the examination, rather than attaining expertise on any specific topic.
- Self -Study is going to be the most important part of the preparation.
- Students are not expected to lead a life of a monk and cut off all socialization.
- Students must choose their socialization circle and evaluate how useful(or useless) their social interactions are.

### **UTILITY OF THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION FOR THE EXAM (10:45 AM):**

- We expect around 10-15 questions in prelims from the Indian Constitution.
- Most of these questions, if not all are going to be easily solvable only from the common sources.
- Apart from that, Constitution is very important for the most part of General Studies Paper II.
- We also expect at least one Essay topic that could be related to the Indian Constitution.

### **Syllabus:**

- Good command of the syllabus is very important for effective utilization of the limited time every aspirant has.
- For all the subjects, we must remember that "if you need to memorize it, the concept has been learned in the wrong way".
- The exam is not a test of knowledge or memory but a test of application.
- We do not expect questions based on trivial factual information.
- The knowledge of the syllabus will also suggest what topics and what details we can avoid.

- **For example:**
- We know that after the recent elections in **Karnataka**, there have been some issues regarding who will be the Chief Minister.
- **We do not expect questions based on:**
- I. The internal politics going on in parties.
- II. The individual backgrounds of politicians in the news.
- **We expect questions based on:**
- I. The conditions(majority) needed for forming a government.
- II. Role of Governor in government formation.
- III. Powers/Eligibility of the Chief Minister and the Council of Ministers.

#### **Class structure:**

- We expect to cover the class in around 42 classes.
- Around 4-5, initial classes will be for making the academic base.
- These classes might appear too slow for some students who have some background in the subject.
- The pace will be picked up after 5 classes after all the students have some minimum level of background.
- After the basics( including Preamble), around 2 classes will be taken for covering the **Union & Its Territories**.
- **Fundamental Rights & Directive Principles of the State Policy(DPSPs)** were going to be the most important part of the polity syllabus and we will take some 10-12 classes for covering them.

#### **SOURCES (11:15 AM):**

- **I. Social And Political Life- NCERT class VIII.**
- **II. Democratic Politics-I NCERT Class IX.**
- **III. Democratic Politics-II NCERT Class X.**
- The above three NCERTs are of a very basic level and aspirants can cover them very soon.
- **IV. Indian Constitution at Work- NCERT Class XI.**
- The above NCERT must be compulsorily completed by all aspirants.
- **V. Political Theory NCERT Class XI.**
- The above NCERT is very helpful, but it is advised that it must be done after around 20 classes.

- **VI. Our Political System by Subhash Kashyap.**
- The book is very comprehensive, but it might appear bland for some aspirants; it is not advised at the initial stages of the preparation.
- **VII. Bare Act: Indian Constitution.**
- Students can use any edition from any publisher; it is advised that this book must be with the students during the class.
- **VIII. Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth.**
- The book is good, but it is not inevitable if we are confident with the NCERTs and other materials.
- **IX. The introduction to the constitution of India by D.D. Basu.**
- The book is very good, but students must develop a strong base for reading the book.
- **X. Visionias reading materials & handouts.**
- **XI. 10 years previous years questions from both Prelims and Mains.**
- Students can refer to any publication for this.

#### **STATE & CONSTITUTION(11:45 AM):**

- The **Constitution** is understood as the supreme rule book of the nation.
- The people have chosen some persons among themselves and delegated them the responsibility to handle the affairs of the nation(the government).
- For rendering this responsibility, the government has been accorded certain powers.
- Against this backdrop, the Constitution gets very important because the constitution limits the powers of the government and it prevents the misuse of the powers against the citizens.
- The state is a political entity that is created with the purpose of governing a territory and its people.
- We may also say that the state is a political entity comprising people who are united together to govern the territory and its people.
- In the modern time, the role of the state has expanded from its earlier role of policing alone to its present role of ensuring welfare and policing.
- The powers of the state in modern times are divided into three organs of the state:
- **I. Legislature:**
- This organ is responsible for making the laws.
- **II. Executive/Government:**
- This organ is responsible for the execution/implementation of the laws.

- **III. Judiciary:**
- It decides the disputes related to the law and interprets them.

**Need and Concept of a Constitution:**

- There always exists an inherent danger of the misuse of the powers by the state against its own citizens.
- Therefore, it is important to limit the powers of the state with the help of a set of rules, according to which the state should function.
- This basic law, apart from defining the powers and the limitations on the powers of the state should also define the rights of the citizens and the relationship between the state and the citizens.
- This rule book for governing a territory is referred to as the **Constitution**.

**The topic for the next class is the continuation of the basics of the Constitution.**