

BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE-PILANI HYDERABAD CAMPUS
INSTRUCTION DIVISION
FIRST SEMESTER 2015-16
Course Handout (Part II)

01/08/2016

In addition to part - I (General Handout for all courses appended to the timetable) this portion gives further specific details regarding the course.

Course No. : **GS F332**
Course Title : **Contemporary India**
Instructor-in-charge : **Arup Maharatna**

- 1. Scope and Objective of the Course:** In the recent past India has witnessed many socio-economic changes. It would be useful for students to have greater insights into the key factors related to contemporary issues pertaining to trends in political, social, economic and cultural fields in Indian society. The object of the course is thus to acquaint students with the major trends, patterns and paces in the major social, economic, cultural and demographic spheres in the post-independence India.

2. Text Book: 1) Drèze, Jean and Sen, Amartya, *An Uncertain Glory: India and Its Contradictions*, London: Allen Lane, 2013 (DS); 2) Chandoke, Neera and Praveen Priyadarshi, eds., 2009. *Contemporary India: Economy, Society, Politics*, New Delhi: Pearson Education.

3. Reference Books (RB):

Dreze, J. and Sen, A. (2002), *India: Development and Participation*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press
Kundu, A. (2003), 'Urbanization and Urban Governance', *Economic and Political Weekly* July 19, 2003
1 Bhagat, R 'Emerging Pattern of Urbanisation in India', *Economic and Political Weekly* Vol - XLVI No. 34, August 20, 2011 ;
2 Bhagat, R.B. 'Changing Pattern of Internal Migration in India' In: **Christophe Z. Guilmoto And Gavin W. Jones Editors (2016) Contemporary Demographic Transformations in China, India and Indonesia, Springer**
Motiram, S. and Vakulabharanam (2011), 'Poverty and Inequality in the Age of Economic Liberalization', In Nachane, D. M (ed): *India Development Report 2011*, Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Additional references might be suggested during lectures.

4. Course Plan:

No of Lectures	Learning Objectives	Topics to be covered	Reference
4	To evaluate India's growth and development in a comparative perspective	Growth Rates of GDP, Human Development Index and its various components in the post-independence period in comparison with other countries in South Asia and beyond	DS:Ch.2 and Ch.3.
6	To present an overview of the magnitude of poverty and issues related to social support	Pre-liberalization and post-liberalization periods, determination of 'poverty line', public/social policies for poverty eradication – critical evaluation	DS:Ch.7
6	To present an overview of contemporary India's educational sector, its performance and challenges	Progress in Literacy Rates, Challenges of Higher Education, Educational Standards, Privileged Excellence, Private Schools and Quality Question	DS:Ch.5.

6	To evaluate India's Health Care Sector	Public Health, Child Health, Immunization, and Nutrition; Various indications of a Health Care Crisis, Lessons from Tamil Nadu's experience	DS:Ch.6
10	To assess the reach and grip of inequality in India	Income Inequalities, Caste-Based Inequalities, Gender-Based Inequalities – Trends, Implications and Remedies	DS:Ch.8; Dreze and Sen 2002, Ch. 7.
6	To illuminate India's urbanization patterns, processes and implications	Urbanization in post-Independence India, trends, spatial patterns, major drivers, urban governance, implications for future	Bhagat (2011); Bhagat (2016)
4	India's Democracy, Inequality and Public Reasoning	Democratic Practices and Functioning of Democratic Institutions, Public Reasoning and Democratic Engagement, Strengths and Limits of Indian Media	DS:Ch.9

5. Evaluation Scheme:

Evaluation Component	Weightage (%)	Duration	Nature of Component	Date & Time
Test 1	20	1 Hour	CB	13/9, 1.00--2.00 PM
Test 2	20	1 Hour	CB	21/10, 1.00--2.00 PM
Assignment	20		OB	
Comprehensive Exam	40	3 Hours	CB	08/12 FN

6. **Chamber Consultation Hour:** Room D 214 (Time would be announced in class)

7. **Course Notices:** Notices, if any, concerning the course will be displayed on the LTC Notice Board and CMS Website.

8. **Make-up:** The make-up for an evaluation component will be given only in genuine cases.

