



**Drishti IAS**

# UPSC MAINS TEST SERIES 2025

## POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

(Optional Subject)

Available in **English & Hindi Medium**

**STARTING : 12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2025**

**Total 16 Tests**

**12 Sectional**

**4 Full Syllabus**

Available in **Online** and **Offline** Mode

**FEE : ₹ 16,000/-**

**MUKHERJEE NAGAR BRANCH**

641, MUKHERJEE  
NAGAR, DELHI

**KAROL BAGH BRANCH**

21, PUSA ROAD,  
NEW DELHI

**PRAYAGRAJ BRANCH**

13/15, TASHKENT MARG,  
PATRIKA CHAURAHA,  
CIVIL LINES,  
UTTAR PRADESH

**JAIPUR BRANCH**

PLOT NO. 45 & 45A, HARSH  
TOWER-2, MAIN TONK ROAD,  
VASUNDHARA COLONY  
RAJASTHAN

**LUCKNOW BRANCH**

47/CC, BURLINGTON  
ARCADE MALL,  
VIDHAN SABHA MARG,  
UTTAR PRADESH

**INDORE BRANCH**

12, MAIN AB ROAD,  
BHAWAR KUAN,  
MADHYA PRADESH

**NOIDA BRANCH**

C-171/2, BLOCK-A,  
SECTOR 15,  
UTTAR PRADESH

**Contacts:** 87501 87501 **E-mail :** [care@groupdrishti.in](mailto:care@groupdrishti.in) **Website :** [www.drishtiiias.com](http://www.drishtiiias.com)



### **Salient Features**

- The language-style and nature of the questions are in line with the questions asked by the Union Public Service Commission and based on deep understanding and knowledge.
- The topics asked in the question are based on the important and relevant topics asked by the Commission which will be directly and indirectly helpful in the main examination.
- Simple and effective presentation of model answers with interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approach.
- Emphasis on preparing better answers through illustrations, examples, graphic analysis, etc. required in answer writing by adopting scientific approach.
- Use of only standard books and sources during model answer writing.
- Necessary interval between each test for proper preparation.

Test Code	Date	Syllabus
Test-1 OPT-PSIR-2501	12 January, 2025 (Sunday)	Western Political Thought
Test-2 OPT-PSIR-2502	19 January, 2025 (Sunday)	Political Theory, Political Ideologies, Theories of State; Concept of power, Democracy, Equality, Justice, Rights
Test-3 OPT-PSIR-2503	02 February, 2025 (Sunday)	Indian Political Thought
Test-4 OPT-PSIR-2504	16 February, 2025 (Sunday)	Indian Nationalism, Making of the Indian Constitution, Salient Features of the Indian Constitution; Principal Organs of the Union Government, Principal Organs of the State Government, Grassroot Democracy, Federalism, Constitutional and Statutory Institutions/Commissions, Social Movement; Planning and Economic Development, Caste, Religion and Ethnicity in Indian Politics, Party System
Test-5 OPT-PSIR-2505	2 March, 2025 (Sunday)	<b>Comparative Political Analysis and International Politics:</b> Comparative Politics, State in Comparative Perspective, Politics of Representation and Participation, Globalization, Approaches to the Study of International Relations, Key Concepts in International Relations, Contemporary Global Concerns
Test-6 OPT-PSIR-2506	16 March, 2025 (Sunday)	Changing International Political Order, Evolution of the International Economic System, United Nations, Regionalization of World Politics; <b>India and the World:</b> Indian Foreign Policy, India's contribution to NAM in different phases and current role, India and South Asia, India and the Global South; India and the Global Centers of Power, India and the UN System, India and the Nuclear Question, Recent developments in Indian Foreign Policy

*\*For detailed breakup of syllabus, kindly refer to the subsequent pages.*



Test Code	Date	Syllabus
Test-7 OPT-PSIR-2507	01 June, 2025 (Sunday)	Western Political Thought
Test-8 OPT-PSIR-2508		Political Theory, Political Ideologies, Theories of State; Concept of power, Democracy, Equality, Justice, Rights
Test-9 OPT-PSIR-2509	15 June, 2025 (Sunday)	Indian Political Thought
Test-10 OPT-PSIR-2510		Indian Nationalism, Making of the Indian Constitution, Salient Features of the Indian Constitution; Principal Organs of the Union Government, Principal Organs of the State Government, Grassroot Democracy, Federalism, Constitutional and Statutory Institutions/Commissions, Social Movement; Planning and Economic Development, Caste, Religion and Ethnicity in Indian Politics, Party System
Test-11 OPT-PSIR-2511	29 June, 2025 (Sunday)	<b>Comparative Political Analysis and International Politics:</b> Comparative Politics, State in Comparative Perspective, Politics of Representation and Participation, Globalization, Approaches to the Study of International Relations, Key Concepts in International Relations, Contemporary Global Concerns
Test-12 OPT-PSIR-2512		Changing International Political Order, Evolution of the International Economic System, United Nations, Regionalization of World Politics; <b>India and the World:</b> Indian Foreign Policy, India's contribution to NAM different phases and current role, India and South Asia, India and the Global South; India and the Global Centers of Power, India and the UN System, India and the Nuclear Question, Recent developments in Indian Foreign Policy
Test-13 OPT-PSIR-2513	13 July, 2025 (Sunday)	<b>Full Length Paper-I</b>
Test-14 OPT-PSIR-2514		<b>Full Length Paper-II</b>
Test-15 OPT-PSIR-2515	27 July, 2025 (Sunday)	<b>Full Length Paper-I</b>
Test-16 OPT-PSIR-2516		<b>Full Length Paper-II</b>



### Test Schedule

Test Code	Test Date	Subject
Test-1 OPT-PSIR-2501	12 January, 2025 (Sunday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Western Political Thought: Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, John S. Mill, Marx, Gramsci, Hannah Arendt.</li> </ul>
Test-2 OPT-PSIR-2502	19 January, 2025 (Sunday)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Political Theory: meaning and approaches.</li> <li>Theories of state: Liberal, Neo-liberal, Marxist, Pluralist, post-colonial, and Feminist.</li> <li>Justice: Conceptions of justice with special reference to Rawls's theory of justice and its communitarian critiques.</li> <li>Equality: Social, political, and economic; the relationship between equality and freedom; Affirmative action.</li> <li>Rights: Meaning and theories; different kinds of rights; Concept of Human Rights.</li> <li>Democracy: Classical and contemporary theories; different models of democracy—representative, participatory and deliberative.</li> <li>Concept of power: hegemony, ideology, and legitimacy.</li> <li>Political Ideologies: Liberalism, Socialism, Marxism, Fascism, Gandhism, and Feminism.</li> </ol>
Test-3 OPT-PSIR-2503	02 February, 2025 (Sunday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indian Political Thought: Dharmashastra, Arthashastra, and Buddhist Traditions; Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Sri Aurobindo, M.K. Gandhi, B.R. Ambedkar, M.N. Roy.</li> </ul>
Test-4 OPT-PSIR-2504	16 February, 2025 (Sunday)	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Indian Government and Politics</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Indian Nationalism:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Political Strategies of India's Freedom Struggle: Constitutionalism to mass Satyagraha, Non-cooperation, Civil Disobedience; Militant and Revolutionary Movements, Peasant and Workers Movements.</li> <li>Perspectives on Indian National Movement; Liberal, Socialist, and Marxist; Radical Humanist and Dalit.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Making of the Indian Constitution: Legacies of the British rule; different social and political perspectives.</li> <li>Salient Features of the Indian Constitution: The Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Duties, Directive Principles; Parliamentary System and Amendment Procedures; Judicial Review and Basic Structure doctrine.</li> <li> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Principal Organs of the Union Government: Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature, and Supreme Court.</li> <li>Principal Organs of the State Government: Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature, and High Courts.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>



		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Grassroots Democracy: Panchayati Raj and Municipal Government; Significance of 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> Amendments; Grassroot movements.</li> <li>6. Statutory Institutions/Commissions: Election Commission, Comptroller and Auditor General, Finance Commission, Union Public Service Commission, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, National Commission for Women; National Human Rights Commission, National Commission for Minorities, National Backward Classes Commission.</li> <li>7. Federalism: Constitutional provisions; changing nature of center-state relations; integrationist tendencies and regional aspirations; inter-state disputes.</li> <li>8. Planning and Economic Development: Nehruvian and Gandhian perspectives; Role of planning and public sector; Green Revolution, land reforms and agrarian relations; liberalization and economic reforms.</li> <li>9. Caste, Religion, and Ethnicity in Indian Politics.</li> <li>10. Party System: National and regional political parties, ideological and social bases of parties; Patterns of coalition politics; Pressure groups, trends in electoral behavior; changing socio-economic profile of Legislators.</li> <li>11. Social Movement: Civil liberties and human rights movements; women’s movements; environmentalist movements.</li> </ol>
<p>Test-5 OPT-PSIR-2505</p>	<p>2 March, 2025 (Sunday)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Comparative Political Analysis and International Politics</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Comparative Politics: Nature and major approaches; Political economy and political sociology perspectives; Limitations of the comparative method.</li> <li>2. State in Comparative Perspective: Characteristics and changing nature of the State in capitalist and socialist economies, and advanced industrial and developing societies.</li> <li>3. Politics of Representation and Participation: Political parties, pressure groups, and social movements in advanced industrial and developing societies.</li> <li>4. Globalization: Responses from developed and developing societies.</li> <li>5. Approaches to the Study of International Relations: Idealist, Realist, Marxist, Functionalist and Systems theory.</li> <li>6. Key Concepts in International Relations: National interest, security, and power; Balance of power and deterrence; Transnational actors and collective security; World capitalist economy and globalization.</li> <li>7. Contemporary Global Concerns: Democracy, human rights, environment, gender justice terrorism, nuclear proliferation.</li> </ol>



<p>Test-6 OPT-PSIR-2506</p>	<p>16 March, 2025 (Sunday)</p>	<p><b>Comparative Politics and International Relations</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Changing International Political Order:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Rise of superpowers; Strategic and ideological Bipolarity, arms race and cold war; Nuclear threat;</li><li>(b) Non-aligned Movement: Aims and achievements.</li><li>(c) The collapse of the Soviet Union; Unipolarity and American hegemony; Relevance of non-alignment in the contemporary world.</li></ol></li><li>2. Evolution of the International Economic System: From Bretton Woods to WTO; Socialist economies and the CMEA (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance); Third World demand for new international economic order; Globalization of the world economy.</li><li>3. United Nations: Envisaged role and actual record; Specialized UN agencies—aims and functioning; the need for UN reforms.</li><li>4. Regionalisation of World Politics: EU, ASEAN, APEC, AARC, NAFTA.</li></ol> <p><b>India and The World</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Indian Foreign Policy: Determinants of foreign policy; the institutions of policy-making; Continuity and change.</li><li>2. India's Contribution to the Non-Alignment Movement Different phases; Current role.</li><li>3. <b>India and South Asia:</b><ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Regional Cooperation: SAARC-past performance and future prospects.</li><li>(b) South Asia as a Free Trade Area.</li><li>(c) India's Look East policy.</li><li>(d) Impediments to regional cooperation: River water disputes; illegal cross-border migration; Ethnic conflicts and insurgencies; Border disputes.</li></ol></li><li>4. India and the Global South: Relations with Africa and Latin America; Leadership role in the demand for NIEO and WTO negotiations.</li><li>5. India and the Global Centres of Power: USA, EU, Japan, China, and Russia.</li><li>6. India and the UN System: Role in UN Peace-keeping; Demand for Permanent Seat in the Security Council.</li><li>7. India and the Nuclear Question: Changing perceptions and policy.</li><li>8. Recent developments in Indian Foreign Policy: India's position on the recent crises in Afghanistan, Iraq, and West Asia, growing relations with US and Israel; Vision of new world order.</li></ol>
---------------------------------	------------------------------------	---



<p>Test-7 OPT-PSIR-2507</p>	<p>01 June, 2025 (Sunday)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Western Political Thought: Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, John S. Mill, Marx, Gramsci, Hannah Arendt.</li> </ul>
<p>Test-8 OPT-PSIR-2508</p>	<p>01 June, 2025 (Sunday)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Political Theory: meaning and approaches.</li> <li>2. Theories of state: Liberal, Neo-liberal, Marxist, Pluralist, post-colonial, and Feminist.</li> <li>3. Justice: Conceptions of justice with special reference to Rawl’s theory of justice and its communitarian critiques.</li> <li>4. Equality: Social, political, and economic; the relationship between equality and freedom; Affirmative action.</li> <li>5. Rights: Meaning and theories; different kinds of rights; Concept of Human Rights.</li> <li>6. Democracy: Classical and contemporary theories; different models of democracy—representative, participatory and deliberative.</li> <li>7. Concept of power: hegemony, ideology, and legitimacy. Political Ideologies: Liberalism, Socialism, Marxism, Fascism, Gandhism, and Feminism.</li> </ol>
<p>Test-9 OPT-PSIR-2509</p>	<p>15 June, 2025 (Sunday)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Indian Political Thought: Dharmashastra, Arthashastra, and Buddhist Traditions; Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Sri Aurobindo, M. K. Gandhi, B. R. Ambedkar, M. N. Roy.</li> </ul>
<p>Test-10 OPT-PSIR-2510</p>	<p>15 June, 2025 (Sunday)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Indian Government and Politics</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Indian Nationalism:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Political Strategies of India’s Freedom Struggle: Constitutionalism to mass Satyagraha, Non-cooperation, Civil Disobedience; Militant and Revolutionary Movements, Peasant and Workers Movements.</li> <li>(b) Perspectives on Indian National Movement; Liberal, Socialist, and Marxist; Radical Humanist and Dalit.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Making of the Indian Constitution: Legacies of the British rule; different social and political perspectives.</li> <li>3. Salient Features of the Indian Constitution: The Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Duties, Directive Principles; Parliamentary System and Amendment Procedures; Judicial Review and Basic Structure doctrine.</li> <li>4. (a) Principal Organs of the Union Government: Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature, and Supreme Court.             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(b) Principal Organs of the State Government: Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature, and High Courts.</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Grassroots Democracy: Panchayati Raj and Municipal Government; Significance of 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> Amendments; Grassroot movements.</li> </ol>



		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Statutory Institutions/Commissions: Election Commission, Comptroller and Auditor General, Finance Commission, Union Public Service Commission, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, National Commission for Women; National Human Rights Commission, National Commission for Minorities, National Backward Classes Commission.</li> <li>7. Federalism: Constitutional provisions; changing nature of center-state relations; integrationist tendencies and regional aspirations; inter-state disputes.</li> <li>8. Planning and Economic Development: Nehruvian and Gandhian perspectives; Role of planning and public sector; Green Revolution, land reforms and agrarian relations; liberalization and economic reforms.</li> <li>9. Caste, Religion, and Ethnicity in Indian Politics.</li> <li>10. Party System: National and regional political parties, ideological and social bases of parties; Patterns of coalition politics; Pressure groups, trends in electoral behavior; changing socio-economic profile of Legislators.</li> <li>11. Social Movement: Civil liberties and human rights movements; women's movements; environmentalist movements.</li> </ol>
<p>Test-11 OPT-PSIR-2511</p>	<p>29 June, 2025 (Sunday)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Comparative Political Analysis and International Politics</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Comparative Politics: Nature and major approaches; Political economy and political sociology perspectives; Limitations of the comparative method.</li> <li>2. State in Comparative Perspective: Characteristics and changing nature of the State in capitalist and socialist economies, and advanced industrial and developing societies.</li> <li>3. Politics of Representation and Participation: Political parties, pressure groups, and social movements in advanced industrial and developing societies.</li> <li>4. Globalization: Responses from developed and developing societies.</li> <li>5. Approaches to the Study of International Relations: Idealist, Realist, Marxist, Functionalist and Systems theory.</li> <li>6. Key Concepts in International Relations: National interest, security, and power; Balance of power and deterrence; Transnational actors and collective security; World capitalist economy and globalization.</li> <li>7. Contemporary Global Concerns: Democracy, human rights, environment, gender justice terrorism, nuclear proliferation.</li> </ol>





<p>Test-12 OPT-PSIR-2512</p>	<p>29 June, 2025 (Sunday)</p>	<p><b>Comparative Politics and International Relations</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Changing International Political Order:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Rise of superpowers; Strategic and ideological Bipolarity, arms race and cold war; Nuclear threat;</li><li>(b) Non-aligned Movement: Aims and achievements.</li><li>(c) The collapse of the Soviet Union; Unipolarity and American hegemony; Relevance of non-alignment in the contemporary world.</li></ol></li><li>2. Evolution of the International Economic System: From Bretton Woods to WTO; Socialist economies and the CMEA (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance); Third World demand for new international economic order; Globalization of the world economy.</li><li>3. United Nations: Envisaged role and actual record; Specialized UN agencies—aims and functioning; the need for UN reforms.</li><li>4. Regionalisation of World Politics: EU, ASEAN, APEC, AARC, NAFTA.</li></ol> <p><b>India and The World</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Indian Foreign Policy: Determinants of foreign policy; the institutions of policy-making; Continuity and change.</li><li>2. India's Contribution to the Non-Alignment Movement Different phases; Current role.</li><li>3. <b>India and South Asia:</b><ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Regional Cooperation: SAARC-past performance and future prospects.</li><li>(b) South Asia as a Free Trade Area.</li><li>(c) India's Look East policy.</li><li>(d) Impediments to regional cooperation: River water disputes; illegal cross-border migration; Ethnic conflicts and insurgencies; Border disputes.</li></ol></li><li>4. India and the Global South: Relations with Africa and Latin America; Leadership role in the demand for NIEO and WTO negotiations.</li><li>5. India and the Global Centres of Power: USA, EU, Japan, China, and Russia.</li><li>6. India and the UN System: Role in UN Peace-keeping; Demand for Permanent Seat in the Security Council.</li><li>7. India and the Nuclear Question: Changing perceptions and policy.</li><li>8. Recent developments in Indian Foreign Policy: India's position on the recent crises in Afghanistan, Iraq, and West Asia, growing relations with US and Israel; Vision of new world order.</li></ol>
----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	---



Test-13 OPT-PSIR-2513	13 July, 2025 (Sunday)	● Full Length Paper-I
Test-14 OPT-PSIR-2514		● Full Length Paper-II
Test-15 OPT-PSIR-2515	27 July, 2025 (Sunday)	● Full Length Paper-I
Test-16 OPT-PSIR-2516		● Full Length Paper-II

### UPSC (2023) & Drishti Mains Test Series (PSIR Optional) Comparative Analysis

#### Paper I

Test Series (Code)	Question Code	Drishti IAS Test Series Question	UPSC Question Number	UPSC Question	Marks
PSIR-2308	3. (b)	● Distinguish between Empirical and Normative approach to the study of politics.	1. (a)	● Normative Approach in Political Science.	10
PSIR-2313	3. (a)	● Critically examine the multi-culturalism perspective of rights. Does it hold true in an Indian Context?	1. (b)	● Multicultural perspective on rights.	10
PSIR-2301	8. (b)	● “Man is neither a social animal nor a political animal, but only an isolated beast” Discuss this Hobbesian statement.	1. (c)	● State of Nature as State of War (Hobbes).	10
PSIR-2307 PSIR-2315	8. (a) 4. (c)	● Give a comparative account of power in theories of Gramsci and Foucault. ● “Power is everywhere” and “comes from everywhere” Explain with reference to Foucault’s theory of Power.	1. (d)	● Foucault's concept of power .	10



PSIR-2308	4. (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Political theory has a long tradition, spreading over two and a half millenniums. However, the exponents of new political science began to question the continued relevance of traditional political theory. Discuss.</li> </ul>	1(e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Decline of political theory .</li> </ul>	10
PSIR-2315	4. (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss: Rawls "Theory of Justice" and various criticisms associated with it.</li> </ul>	2(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Rawls' idea of the liberal self' is too individualistic. Explain, in this context, the communitarian critique of Rawls' theory of justice.</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2313	2. (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● "Nothing above the state, nothing against the state, nothing outside the state" encapsulate the core principles and ideology of Fascism. Discuss.</li> </ul>	3(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fascism displays an ambivalent stance towards parliamentary democracy. Explain.</li> </ul>	20
PSIR-2302	5. (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss the changing discourse of Affirmative action, as a means to attain equality.</li> </ul>	3 (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Affirmative Action Policies draw as much strong criticism as strong support. Analyze this statement in the context of equality.</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2311	8. (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● "What are key principles and concepts of Post Colonialism Theory? Examine the effects of neocolonialism on African economies?"</li> </ul>	3(c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Eurocentrism is both the target and the motive force of the post-colonial political theory. Discuss.</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2307	7. (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● "John Stuart Mill was a champion of women rights. Drawing inspiration from his essay on "The subjection of women", comment on his advocacy for women rights."</li> </ul>	4 (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● "The legal subordination of one sex to another is wrong in itself, and now one of the chief hindrances to human development." (J. S. Mill). Comment.</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2309	2. (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Comment on Sri Aurobindo's vision of spiritual nationalism. How did he view spirituality and its relationship with the idea of a nation?</li> </ul>	4(c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sri Aurobindo's idea of Swaraj has deep significance in the Indian social, political and cultural history. Analyze.</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2315	8. (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Explain how the legacy of the British Rule forms the foundation of the Constitution of India and influences its structure.</li> </ul>	5(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Imprint of the British Constitution on the Indian Constitution.</li> </ul>	10
PSIR-2303	3. (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Gandhi with his personal and historical experiences delineated his departure from passive resistance and proposed the idea of satyagraha. Discuss the difference between the two in the words of Gandhi.</li> </ul>	5 (d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Satyagraha and Indian Nationalism.</li> </ul>	10



PSIR-2313	5. (e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyze the role of National Minority Commission in ensuring full protection of minority rights as well as harmony in India's multicultural society.</li> </ul>	5 (e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Commission for Minorities.</li> </ul>	10
PSIR-2304	2. (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional amendment is half-baked. In this context, discuss the desired changes to realize the envisaged goal of 74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act 1992.</li> </ul>	6(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss the major provisions of the 74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act. Do you think that the Act remains an 'unfulfilled dream'? Argue your case.</li> </ul>	20
PSIR-2304	3. (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss the essential ingredients of the political horoscope of the Indian constitution</li> </ul>	6(c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Constitution of India is the 'cornerstone of a nation'. (Granville Austin). Analyze.</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2310	2. (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comment on the mechanism of cooperation, conflict, and competition in Indian federalism.</li> </ul>	7(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the actual working of Indian federalism conform to the centralizing tendencies in Indian polity? Give reasons for your answer.</li> </ul>	
PSIR-2304	5. (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify the legal provisions for the implementation of fundamental duties.</li> </ul>	7 (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The main goal of the Fundamental Duties in the Indian Constitution is to generate civic responsibility among the citizens. Explain.</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2310	4. (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To what degree can it be argued that in India, people prioritize voting based on their caste affiliation rather than casting their vote on other considerations? Support your explanation with reference to two general elections.</li> </ul>	8(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The rise of caste politics is to be attributed to both regional aspirations and electoral manifestations. Comment.</li> </ul>	20
PSIR-2310 PSIR-2310	1. (c) 1. (d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comment: "More than coalition, we need coalition ethics."</li> <li>Examine the factors leading to the fragmentation of party system in India.</li> </ul>	8 (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The decade 1989-1999 has created an epochal shift in the Indian party system at the national level. Identify the major national trends in the party system during this era.</li> </ul>	15
<b>Paper II</b>					
Test Series (Code)	Question Code	Drishti IAS Test Series Question	UPSC Question Number	UPSC Question	Marks
PSIR-2311	8. (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Coparcenary rights to daughters in Hindu Undivided Family is a corrective step to end gender based discrimination in India." Discuss.</li> </ul>	1 (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the crucial functions of empirical political theory in Comparative Politics ?</li> </ul>	10



PSIR-2316	2. (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Political scientists were in their ivory towers perfecting their methodology unconcerned with the normative and relevant issues that had arisen.” Discuss in context of traditional comparative politics.</li> </ul>	1(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What are the difficulties faced by a political theorist in comparing the States?</li> </ul>	10
PSIR-2316	4. (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss: Only reformed multilateralism with a reformed United Nations Security Council at its Centre can meet the aspirations of humanity.</li> </ul>	1(e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss the structure and functions of UN Security Council.</li> </ul>	10
PSIR-2312	2. (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Non-Alignment has been the basic principle of India’s foreign policy since independence. Discuss its relevance in the present context.</li> </ul>	2 (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss the relevance of the normative ethos of the Non-Aligned Movement in magnifying India's soft power in pursuit of her national Interest.</li> </ul>	20
PSIR-2305	5. (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss functionalist approach to the study of international relations.</li> </ul>	2(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In what ways does the functionalist approach in International relations help in maintaining peace and order in global politics?</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2312	1. (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Comment: Myanmar serves as the crucial lynchpin of India’s Act East Policy.</li> </ul>	2(c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How does the regime change and political crisis in Myanmar threaten regional security and peace?</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2305	6. (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How do you evaluate gender discrimination in the context of female foeticide?</li> </ul>	3 (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Narrate the various ways in which rapid environmental degradation is posing a serious threat to human security. Illustrate your answer with suitable examples.</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2311	6. (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Bring out the major differences and similarities between Defensive Realism of Kenneth Waltz and Offensive Realism of John Mearsheimer.</li> </ul>	4(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What do you mean by offensive and defensive realism?</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2312	4. (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Critical examine the decline of the United States of America as a hegemon in rapidly evolving international political order?</li> </ul>	4 (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss the various constraints on American hegemony today. Which of these are likely to become more prominent in the future?</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2316	8. (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss: India’s Foreign policy post 2014 represent a departure from traditional approaches.</li> </ul>	5 (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Explain the major features of India's Foreign Policy in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.</li> </ul>	10
PSIR-2306 PSIR-2312	8. (b) 5. (e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What are the major impediments to India’s regional Cooperation? Discuss.</li> <li>● SAARC was formed to imitate the successes of ASEAN in South Asia, however it fell of the cliff with no substantial successes. Discuss.</li> </ul>	5(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What are the reasons for lack of 'regionness' in South Asia?</li> </ul>	10



PSIR-2306	8. (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the major impediments to India's regional Cooperation? Discuss.</li> </ul>	5(d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why do ethnic conflicts and insurgencies continue to remain major impediments to regional co-operation in South Asia?</li> </ul>	10
PSIR-2306 PSIR-2312	8. (a) 4. (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate India's case as the leader of Global South. Comment: India-centric order in South Asia.</li> </ul>	5(e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What diplomatic steps has India taken to articulate the interests of the Global South in International Politics?</li> </ul>	10
PSIR-2312	7(c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyze the significance of India's peacekeeping operations with the United Nations.</li> </ul>	6 (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss the importance of India's role in UN peacekeeping operations as a ground for its claim to a permanent seat in the UN Security Council.</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2312	2. (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comment: The center of gravity of international politics is shifting towards Indo-Pacific. Also, highlight the role of QUAD in advancing cooperation and mutual interest in the region.</li> </ul>	6 (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD) performs an important role in India's strategic balancing act to withstand the dominance of China in Asia. Discuss.</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2306	3. (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss the term 'No First Use' mentioned in India's Nuclear Doctrine and why there is a consensus on revising this component. Explain.</li> </ul>	7(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"India's Nuclear policy is deeply influenced by its cultural beliefs and the pragmatic approach of its foreign policy."</li> </ul>	20
PSIR-2312	7. (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyze the elements of change in India's foreign policy towards Afghanistan following the Taliban takeover.</li> </ul>	7(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What steps has India taken to regain its foothold in Afghanistan since the Taliban has taken over the country in August 2021?</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2312 PSIR-2306	6. (a) 6. (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How have the US sanctions impacted India-Iran relations, and do you believe that there is a need to restart and strengthen ties between India and Iran in light of these sanctions?</li> <li>India and Iran share a historical bond; however, the two players have not been able to conduct their bilateral relations as expected, due to diplomatic compulsions. In the light of this statement discuss their mutual importance, issues, and ways for improving ties.</li> </ul>	7(c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the challenges and limitations in India - Iran relations?</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2316	8. (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A country that demands moral perfection in its foreign policy will achieve neither perfection nor security". Discuss the key determinants of Foreign policy in context of India.</li> </ul>	8(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the external determinants of the Foreign Policy of a State?</li> </ul>	20
PSIR-2314	6. (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the key constraints in India's Look West Policy? Discuss.</li> </ul>	8(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss the significance of "West Asia Quad" in the light of India's 'Look West' policy.</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2312	7. (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In what ways is India utilizing the Asia-Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC) to pursue its foreign policy objectives and counter China's growing influence in the Asia-Africa region?</li> </ul>	8(c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss the major drivers of India's interests in Africa.</li> </ul>	15



## UPSC (2024) & Drishti Mains Test Series (PSIR Optional) Comparative Analysis

### Paper I

Test Series (Code)	Question Code	Drishti IAS Test Series Question	UPSC Question Number	UPSC Question	Marks
PSIR-2402	7. (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● “Because Society is federal, the authority must also be federal”. Examine this statement in the light of Pluralist theory of state.</li> </ul>	1. (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pluralist theory of State</li> </ul>	10
PSIR-2408	3. (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Explain, as per Gramsci, the distinction between power and hegemony.</li> </ul>	1. (e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Linkage between Power and Hegemony</li> </ul>	10
PSIR-2401	2. (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Explain the Marxian theory of Development and determine the extent to which it has been outdated and out-molded by recent developments.</li> </ul>	2. (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Marxism is a political theory of action demanding strict compliance with its core principles. Comment.</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2408	5. (d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Explain Deliberative Democracy.</li> </ul>	3. (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Deliberative democracy seeks to promote democratic decision making about public issues among the citizens. Discuss.</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2413	5. (d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss the radical humanist perspective of Indian national movement.</li> </ul>	4. (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Manabendra Nath Roy’s political thought highlighted the humanistic aspects of Marxism. Discuss.</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2404	1. (d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dalit perspective of Nationalism.</li> </ul>	7. (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss the contribution of the Dalit struggle to establish egalitarianism in Indian society during freedom movement.</li> </ul>	20
PSIR-2409	5. (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Criticism of Gandhi’s Swaraj.</li> </ul>	7. (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The blueprint of Gram Swaraj is the key to understand the Gandhian perspective on planning. Discuss.</li> </ul>	15
PSIR-2415	7. (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The role of the pressure groups has evolved from the basic premise of inclusive development to the notion of making India as an economic hub. Examine.</li> </ul>	7. (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Critically assess the role of pressure groups in the decision-making process of the government.</li> </ul>	15



**Paper II**

Test Series (Code)	Question Code	Drishti IAS Test Series Question	UPSC Question Number	UPSC Question	Marks
PSIR-2414	6. (b)	● “Weapons of war must be abolished before they abolish us.” – John F. Kennedy. Comment.	1. (e)	● The changing global order and ongoing regional conflicts, with the global powers taking sides, have jeopardised the progress made towards disarmament in the past. Comment.	10
PSIR-2406	7. (a)	● Differentiate between the respective mandates of NAFTA and USMCA.	2. (c)	● What were the limitations of NAFTA? How did its replacement by the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement counter them? Explain.	15
PSIR-2404	1. (a)	● Analyse the women movement in post-independent India.	3. (a)	● Discuss the major recent social movements related to the physical rights of women in various countries of the world.	20
PSIR-2402	3. (c)	● Give a distinctive account of power and Hegemony in the words of Gramsci.	4. (a)	● The Gramscian theory of hegemony provides many valuable insights into the nature of global power.” Comment.	20
PSIR-2406	6. (c)	● Discuss the underlying principle of functioning of WTO and the key objectives in ensuring a liberal Trade order.	4. (b)	● The return of trade barriers and economic sanctions has diminished the spirit of GATT. In this context, discuss the factors contributing to the decline of WTO in recent times.	15
PSIR-2406	3. (c)	● The European Union is the earliest and most successful model of regional integration. Comment. Highlight the current challenges faced by the EU.	4. (c)	● Do you agree with the view that the EU has thus far proved to be the most successful experiment in the regional integration processes ? Account for its successes and also some of the recent challenges that it is faced with.	15
PSIR-2416	8. (c)	● Evaluate India’s case as the leader of Global South.	6. (c)	● Discuss the potential role that India could play as the leader of the Global South in realising the goal of establishing a new international economic order in the 21 <sup>st</sup> century.	15
PSIR-2406	5. (e)	● Comment: Importance of ASEAN for India.	7. (a)	● Discuss the future of SAARC in the light of India’s increased focus on other regional groupings like ASEAN and BIMSTEC.	20
PSIR-2406	3. (b)	● Non-Alignment Movement (NAM) was a benevolent idea that went into coma, Discuss. Also, assess the relevance of NAM for India in the present time.	8. (c)	● “India has of late, chosen to debunk non-alignment in its pursuit of multi-alignment.” Comment.	15