

FIFTH
EDITION



**INDIAN
POLITY**

For Civil Services Examinations

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M LAXMIKANTH

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INDIAN POLITY

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Fifth Edition

M Laxmikanth

Former Founder-Director

Laxmikanth's IAS Academy (closed)

Hyderabad



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*Dedicated
to
my wife
M Vidya*

Preface to the Fifth Edition

I am pleased to place before the readers a thoroughly revised, enlarged and updated edition of this widely read book on Indian Polity.

In 2011 and 2013, the UPSC changed the pattern and syllabus of the preliminary and main examinations, respectively. Both times, the scope of Indian Polity has been considerably increased. Hence, this new edition of the book is more relevant now and is aimed to meet the expanded needs of the aspirants.

In the course of revision and updation of this edition of the book, various new developments related to the subject, like recent constitutional amendments, parliamentary legislations, executive decisions and supreme court judgments, have been taken into account.

Changes in this Edition:

1. Addition of 7 new chapters.
2. Addition of 4 new appendices.
3. Inclusion of 2014, 2015 and 2016 preliminary questions with answers.
4. Inclusion of 2013, 2014 and 2015 mains questions.
5. Updation of the year-wise break-up of the UPSC questions in the preliminary and main examinations.
6. Inclusion of additional updated information on a number of topics.
7. New items included in various chapters.

New Chapters:

1. Parliamentary Group
2. Judicial Review
3. Judicial Activism
4. Public Interest Litigation

5. NITI Aayog
6. Voting Behaviour
7. Election Laws

New Appendices:

1. Sections of the Representation of the People Act, 1950
2. Sections of the Representation of the People Act, 1951
3. Chairpersons of the National Commissions
4. Sections of the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir

I firmly believe that this is now a very comprehensive and updated manual. It is a matter of immense satisfaction that the previous four editions of this book have received an overwhelming response from readers. I am confident that readers would continue to repose their faith in this edition as well.

Constructive comments and concrete suggestions to further improve the book are welcome and shall be gratefully acknowledged.

M. LAXMIKANTH

Preface to the First Edition

I have great pleasure in placing this book before the aspirants of the top administrative services. The book has been written to meet the growing requirements of the candidates appearing for the Civil Services Examinations (Preliminary and Main) conducted by the Union Public Service Commission. It directly and fully covers the Indian Polity section of the paper on General Studies and is also useful for certain optional subjects like Public Administration, Political Science, Law, Sociology and Anthropology.

This comprehensive volume would enable the readers to acquire a complete and detailed understanding of the subject. It covers all dimensions (constitutional, non-constitutional, political and administrative) of the subject. My first-hand experience of coaching the candidates for the Civil Services Examinations has been a great source of inspiration and has helped me immensely in writing this book.

An effort has been made to make the contents of the book relevant, authentic, and up-to-date. The constitutional provisions are explained in the light of the debates of the Constituent Assembly of India as well as the judgements of the Supreme Court and the high courts. I have also used tables to make the presentation more clear. The Appendices, provided at the end of the book, serve as a reference section.

I welcome all constructive comments and concrete suggestions from the readers of this book.

M. LAXMIKANTH

Acknowledgements

During the course of writing this book, I have received help, encouragement and assistance from my teachers, students, family members, colleagues, friends, library staff and others. I am thankful to all of them.

I am particularly grateful to my wife, Smt. M Vidya, for the encouragement and support that she provided during the preparation of the book.

I am deeply indebted to the eminent political scientists and constitutional experts (Granville Austin, Moris Jones, K C Wheare, Rajni Kothari, Paul Appleby, K Santhanam, N A Palkhivala, Soli Sorabji, D D Basu, V N Shukla, M P Jain, Subhash Kashyap) and other scholars of repute whose valuable works have been highly useful in the writing of this book.

My thanks are also due to Mr Tanmoy Roychowdhury, Ms Shukti Mukherjee, Ms Gargi Bhattacharya and Ms Medha Arora of McGraw Hill Education India Private Limited for their unstinted cooperation in bringing out this updated edition on time.

M. LAXMIKANTH

Year-wise Break-up of the UPSC Marks on Indian Polity (General Studies-Mains)

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Marks Allotted</i>
1.	1993	89
2.	1994	89
3.	1995	89
4.	1996	89
5.	1997	89
6.	1998	89
7.	1999	89
8.	2000	130
9.	2001	100
10.	2002	130
11.	2003	100
12.	2004	100
13.	2005	100
14.	2006	100
15.	2007	100
16.	2008	130
17.	2009	66
18.	2010	66

19.	2011	111
20.	2012	47
21.	2013	180
22.	2014	150
23.	2015	187

Note I: In 2013, the UPSC changed the pattern and syllabus of the Main Examination. In the new scheme, a separate and full paper on “Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International Relations” has been introduced. It carries 250 marks.

Note II: In the above table, the number of marks allotted to the questions relating to the “International Relations” (since 2013) are not included.

Year-Wise Break-up of the UPSC Questions on Indian Polity (General Studies-Prelims)

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Marks Allotted</i>
1.	1993	14
2.	1994	14
3.	1995	17
4.	1996	10
5.	1997	12
6.	1998	05
7.	1999	09
8.	2000	09
9.	2001	12
10.	2002	19
11.	2003	19
12.	2004	22
13.	2005	10
14.	2006	13
15.	2007	12
16.	2008	13
17.	2009	14
18.	2010	10

19.	2011	12
20.	2012	20
21.	2013	18
22.	2014	13
23.	2015	15
24.	2016	05

Note : In 2011, the UPSC changed the pattern and syllabus of the Preliminary Examination. In the new scheme, the Indian Polity section has been renamed as “Indian Polity and Governance”. It covers Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc. Also, now each question carries two marks (previously one mark).

About the Civil Services Examination

The Civil Services examination comprises two successive stages:

- (i) Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination (Objective Type) for the selection of candidates for Main Examination; and
- (ii) Civil Services (Main) Examination (Written and Interview) for the selection of candidates for the various services and posts.

Scheme and subjects for the Preliminary and Main Examination.

A. PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

The Examination shall comprise two compulsory Papers of 200 marks each.

Note:

- (i) Both the question papers will be of the objective type (multiple choice questions).
- (ii) The question papers will be set both in Hindi and English. However, questions relating to English Language Comprehension Skills of Class X level will be tested through passages from English language only without providing Hindi translation thereof in the question paper.

B. MAIN EXAMINATION

The written examination will consist of the following papers:

Qualifying Papers:

Paper A: (One of the Indian Language to be selected by the candidate from the Languages included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution).

300 Marks

Paper B: English

300 Marks

The papers on Indian Languages and English (Paper A and Paper B) will be of Matriculation or equivalent standard and will be of qualifying nature. The marks obtained in these papers will not be counted for ranking.

Papers to be counted for merit

Paper I: Essay **250 Marks**

Paper II: General Studies-I **250 Marks**
(Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society)

Paper III: General Studies-II **250 Marks**
(Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International Relations)

Paper IV: General Studies-III **250 Marks**
(Technology, Economic Development, Bio-diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management)

Paper V: General Studies-IV **250 Marks**
(Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude)

Paper VI: Optional Subject - Paper 1 **250 Marks**

Paper VII: Optional Subject - Paper 2 **250 Marks**

Sub Total (Written test): **1750 Marks**

Personality Test: **275 Marks**

Grand Total: 202 **5 Marks**

Candidates may choose any one of the optional subjects from amongst the list of subjects given below:

List of optional subjects for Main Examination:

- (i) Agriculture
- (ii) Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science
- (iii) Anthropology
- (iv) Botany

- (v) Chemistry
- (vi) Civil Engineering
- (vii) Commerce and Accountancy
- (viii) Economics
- (ix) Electrical Engineering
- (x) Geography
- (xi) Geology
- (xii) History
- (xiii) Law
- (xiv) Management
- (xv) Mathematics
- (xvi) Mechanical Engineering
- (xvii) Medical Science
- (xviii) Philosophy
- (xix) Physics
- (xx) Political Science and International Relations
- (xxi) Psychology
- (xxii) Public Administration
- (xxiii) Sociology
- (xxiv) Statistics
- (xxv) Zoology
- (xxvi) Literature of any one of the following

Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Dogri, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Santhali, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu and English.

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