SYLLABUS

PAPER I: (CEVPT1)

THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS OF ELECTORAL POLITICS, VOTING BEHAVIOUR AND POLITICAL MANAGEMENT

Objectives:

The paper aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the theoretical foundations of electoral politics, electoral systems, and political competition in India. It seeks to familiarize students with the constitutional and institutional framework governing elections and the role of political parties in democratic processes. The course develops analytical insights into voting behaviour, political participation, voter mobilisation, and contemporary campaign strategies. It also examines ethical, regulatory, and emerging trends in political management, including digital campaigning, media influence, and electoral reforms.

Course Outcomes (COs):

CO1: Understand the evolution and theoretical foundations of electoral politics and democratic processes.

CO2: Explain key concepts and theories of voting behaviour and political participation.

CO3: Analyze factors influencing voter behaviour, including social, economic, and psychological determinants.

CO4: Describe the role of political parties, leadership, and political management strategies in electoral systems.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PAPER SETTER/EXAMINER:

1. The syllabus prescribed should be strictly adhered to.
2. The question paper will consist of three sections: A, B, and C. Sections A and B will have four questions each from the respective sections of the syllabus and will carry 10 marks each. The candidates will attempt two questions from each section.
3. Section C will have fifteen short answer questions covering the entire syllabus. Each question will carry 3 marks. Candidates will attempt any 10 questions from this section.
4. The examiner shall give a clear instruction to the candidates to attempt questions only at one place and only once. Second or subsequent attempts, unless the earlier ones have been crossed out, shall not be evaluated.
5. The duration of each paper will be three hours.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE CANDIDATES:

Candidates are required to attempt any two questions each from the sections A, and B of the question paper, and any ten short answer questions from Section C. They have to attempt

questions only at one place and only once. Second or subsequent attempts, unless the earlier ones have been crossed out, shall not be evaluated.

CEVPT1	**Paper I: Theoretical Foundations of Electoral Politics, Voting Behaviour and Political Management** **SECTION – A** 1.Electoral Politics: Meaning, scope and significance of electoral politics in democratic systems, with special reference to India. 2. Constitutional Framework and Electoral Institutions: Constitutional provisions related to elections and the role of the Election Commission of India. 3. Electoral Systems and Political Competition: Types of electoral systems, representation, party competition, and their impact on electoral outcomes. 4. Role of Political Parties in Electoral Politics: Party organization, coalition politics and their influence on elections. **SECTION – B** 1. Voting Behaviour: Meaning, importance and approaches to the study of voting behaviour. 2. Emerging Trends in Voting Behaviour: Impact of social media, political communication, youth participation and changing voter preferences. 3. Political Participation, Campaign Strategies and Voter Mobilisation: Forms of political participation, campaign planning, voter outreach and mobilisation techniques. 4. Ethics, Regulation and Emerging Trends in Political Management: Model Code of Conduct, role of money and media, electoral reforms, digital campaigning and ethical challenges.	M.M - 100 Ext. - 70 Int. - 30 Pass -40%

Suggested Readings

1. Almond, Gabriel A., and Sidney Verba. *The Civic Culture*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1963.
2. Butler, David, Ashok Lahiri, and Prannoy Roy. *India Decides: Elections*. New Delhi: Sage Publications, 1995.

3. Yadav, Yogendra. “Understanding the Second Democratic Upsurge.” *Economic and Political Weekly*, 1996.
4. Kumar, Sanjay. *Changing Electoral Politics in India*. New Delhi: Sage Publications, 2014.
5. Kumar, Sanjay. *Post-Mandal Politics in India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2018.
6. CSDS–Lokniti. *National Election Studies (NES) Reports*. New Delhi: CSDS, various years.
7. Kothari, Rajni. *Politics in India*. New Delhi: Orient Blackswan, 2010.
8. Heywood, Andrew. *Politics*. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2019.
9. Norris, Pippa. *Electoral Engineering*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004.
10. Election Commission of India. *Handbook for Returning Officers* and Election Reports, Government of India, various years.