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Politics in India-2
(Structure and Processes)

SEMESTER-V

Political Science

BLOCK-I

KRISHNA KANTA HANDIQUI STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY

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BACHELOR OF ARTS
POLITICAL SCIENCE

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COURSE INTRODUCTION

The first course of the Fifth Semester of BA Programme in Political Science of KKHSOU is titled "Politics in India-2 (Structure and Processes)". It is designed to help the learners to have a deep understanding of the various dimensions of the Indian Political System. It is supposed that the learners of the Bachelor Degree Programme in Political Science should have thorough knowledge about various aspects of the political system of the country where he/she resides. Keeping in view of the above, the Course begins with the political structure and processes of Indian political system. The first unit of the course deals with the President of India who is regarded as the Constitutional head of Indian political system. In this unit, we have discussed the election procedure, powers and functions of the President. The second unit of the course discusses the powers, functions and position of the Vice-President of India.In the third unit, explanations are made about the Prime Minister and Union Council of Ministers. Through this unit, the learners will be familiar with the powers and functions of the Prime Minister and the Union Council of Ministers along with the relationship of Prime Minister with the Indian President.The fourth and fifth unit is related with the Indian Parliament and Legislative Procedure of the Indian Parliament. Composition, powers and functions of the Indian Parliament, relationship of the two Houses, powers, functions and position of the Speaker are discussed in the fourth unit. Similarly, different stages of the passage of the Bill in the Indian Parliament including Money Bill are analysed in the fifth unit. The sixth unit deals with the election procedure, powers and functions and position of the Governor. This unit is related with role of the Governor in the administration of a State.The seventh unit discusses the Chief Minister and State Council of Ministers. Here, powers and functions of the Chief Minister and State Council of Ministers are elaborately explained. The unit eight deals with the Legislature at the State level. Through this unit, the learners will be familiar with the composition, powers and functions of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council of a State.

The Judiciary plays an important role in Indian political system. Therefore, the composition, powers and functions of the Indian Judicial system namely- Supreme Court and the High Courts are discussed in Unit 9. Besides, various measures to ensure the independence of the Judiciary are also analysed in the this unit. Another important aspects of Indian Political System namely-Judicial Review and Judicial Activism are discussed in the tenth unit. Meaning, nature and importance of Judicial Review and Judicial Activism are explained in this unit. The eleventh unit deals with the Centre-State relations. The divisions of power

between the Centre and States and the executive, legislative and financial relations between them are discussed in this unit. Local self-government plays an important role in India. Therefore, in the unit twelve, growth of Local Government in India, 73rd and 74th Amendments, Local Self Government in Assam are explained. The thirteenth unit highlights the composition, powers and functions of the Election Commission and Electoral Reforms in India. The fourteenth unit focuses the meaning and various forms of Regionalism in India and the causes responsible for the growth of Regionalism in India.The fifteenth unit deals with the concepts of Casteism and Communalism in Indian politics. Here, politicisation of caste, religion and politics, problem of communalism in India are discussed.

The course “Politics in India-2 (Structure and Processes)” is divided into two blocks- Block 1 and Block 2. Block 1 contains eight units (Unit 1 - 8) and Block 2 contains seven units (Unit 9 - 15).

INTRODUCTION TO BLOCK 1

This is the first block of the first course or paper of Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University's B. A. Fifth Semester Programme in Political Science.The first course or paper of the BA Fifth Semester Programme in Political Science is titled "Politics in India-2 (Structure and Processes)". The first block of this course contains eight units- (Units 1-8).

The first unit of the course deals with the President of India who is regarded as the Constitutional head of Indian political system. In this unit, we have discussed the election procedure, powers and functions of the President. The second unit of the course discusses the powers, functions and position of the Vice-President of India. In the third unit, explanations are made about the Prime Minister and Union Council of Ministers. Through this unit, the learners will be familiar with the powers and functions of the Prime Minister and the Union Council of Ministers along with the relationship of the Prime Minister with the Indian President.The fourth and fifth units are related to the Indian Parliament and Legislative Procedure of the Indian Parliament. Composition, powers and functions of the Indian Parliament, relationship of the two Houses, powers, functions and position of the Speaker are discussed in the fourth unit. Similarly, different stages of the passage of the Bill in the Indian Parliament including Money Bill are analysed in the fifth unit. The sixth unit deals with the election procedure, powers and functions and position of the Governor. This unit discusses the role of the Governor in the administration of a State. The seventh unit discusses about the Chief Minister and the State Council of Ministers. Here, powers and functions of the Chief Minister and State Council of Ministers are elaborately explained. The Unit eight deals with the Legislature at the State level. Through this unit, the learners will be familiar with the composition, powers and functions of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council of a State.

While going through the units of the block, you will find that the units are further divided into certain sections and sub-sections, wherever necessary, for your better understanding. Besides, in order to give you additional information on certain relevant topics, you will find a category called "LET US KNOW"after the sections in each unit. Another category that has been included at the end of each section of a particular unit is "CHECK YOUR PROGRESS". The purpose of this category is to help you asses yourself as to how thoroughly you have understood a particular section. You may then match your answers with "ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS" given at the end of each unit. The section "FURTHER READING" in each unit contains the names of a few books which you might want to consult if you are interested in learning more elaborately about the concepts discussed in a particular unit. Furthermore, the category called "MODEL QUESTIONS" is intended to give you a hint of the type of questions you are likely to get in the examination.

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