

MPS-102

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME
IN POLITICAL SCIENCE(MAPS)**

**ASSIGNMENT
(First Year)**

July 2026 and January 2027 Sessions



**School of Social Sciences
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068**

M.A. (Political Science)
CORE COURSES

Dear learner,

As explained in the Programme Guide, you will have to do a Tutor Marked Assignment for each course in Political Science. This booklet contains the assignments of the first year courses of the Masters Programme in Political Science.

You need to submit all the assignments within the stipulated time for being eligible to appear in the term-end examination. Before you attempt the assignments, please read the instructions carefully provided in the Programme Guide.

It is important that you write the answers in your own words. Your answers should be within the approximate range of the word-limit set for a particular section. Remember, writing answers to assignment questions will improve your writing skills and prepare you for the term-end examination.

All assignments, including these, have to be **submitted to the Coordinator of your Study Centre**. Remember to obtain a receipt from the Study Centre for the assignments submitted and retain it. If possible, keep a Xerox copy of the assignments with you.

The Study Centre will have to return the assignments to you after they are evaluated. Please insist on this. The Study Centre will note down the marks awarded for each assignment and forward them to the Student Evaluation Division (SED) at IGNOU, New Delhi.

Submission:

The completed assignments should be submitted as per the following schedule.

Session	Last Date of Submission	To be Submitted to
For July 2026 Session	March 31, 2027	The Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you
For January 2027 Session	September 30, 2027	

Wishing you all the best,

Faculty of Political Science

**INDIAN POLITICAL SYSTEM: CONSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK AND
INSTITUTIONS (MPS-102)**

TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

Course Code: MPS-102

Assignment Code: ASST/TMA/2026-27

Marks: 100

Note: Answer five questions, selecting at least two questions from each section. Each question must be answered in about 500 words. Each carries 20 marks.

SECTION – I

1. Critically examine the ideological debates within the Constituent Assembly on the structure and goals of the Indian polity. How did these debates shape the Constitution's commitment to political, social and economic justice?
2. Critically examine the Basic Structure Doctrine. How does it seek to reconcile Parliament's constituent power under Article 368 with the preservation of constitutional identity?
3. Analyse the changing relationship between the legislature and the executive in India. How do party majorities, collective responsibility of the Cabinet, and the growing centrality of the Prime Minister influence parliamentary accountability?
4. Evaluate the role of judicial review, judicial activism and public interest litigation in India.
5. Write short notes on the following in about 250 words each:
 - (a) The Constitution as an instrument of socio-economic transformation
 - (b) Parliamentary committees and legislative accountability

SECTION – II

6. Examine the distinctive and asymmetrical features of Indian federalism. How does the legislative, administrative and financial division of powers shape Centre–State relations?
7. Critically assess the constitutional and political mechanisms for managing Centre–State tensions in India, with particular reference to emergency provisions.
8. Evaluate democratic decentralisation through the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments. Why does the effective devolution of functions, funds and functionaries to local governments remain uneven?
9. Evaluate the Election Commission, the Finance Commission and the Comptroller and Auditor General as institutions of democratic and fiscal accountability. What challenges affect their autonomy and effectiveness?
10. Write short notes on the following in about 250 words each:
 - (a) UPSC and State Public Service Commissions: merit, neutrality and accountability
 - (b) Non-constitutional bodies and democratic governance