

MPSE-008

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

Assignments

(M.A. Second Year Courses)

July 2025 and January 2026 Sessions



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

ELECTIVE COURSES: M.A. II Year (POLITICAL SCIENCE)

Dear Student,

As mentioned in the Programme Guide, you will have to do one Tutor Marked Assignment for each of the courses in the Master's Degree Programme in Political Science. Each assignment has descriptive and short category questions. Descriptive Category Questions (DCQs) are meant for writing essay type answers, with an introduction and a conclusion. These are intended to test your ability to describe your understanding/knowledge about the topic in a systematic, to-the-point and coherent manner. Short Category Questions (SCQs) require you to first analyse the topic in terms of arguments and explanations and then write the answers in a concise manner. They are meant to test your understanding of the concepts and processes, and your capacity to critically analyse them.

Before you attempt the assignments, please read the instructions carefully. It is important that you write the answers to all the TMA questions 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.

This booklet has assignments of all II year courses of Master's in Political Science. Do the assignments of only those courses for which you are enrolled and leave the rest.

You need to submit all the assignments within the stipulated time for being eligible to appear in the term-end examination. The completed assignments should be submitted as per the following schedule.

Last date of Submission	Whom to submit
March 31, 2026 for July 2025 Session September 30, 2026 for January 2026 Session	The Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you

Please 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 return the assignments to you after they are evaluated. Please insist on this. The Study Centre has to send the marks to the Student Evaluation Division (SED) at IGNOU, New Delhi.

STATE POLITICS IN INDIA (MPSE-008)

TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT

Course Code: MPSE-008

Assignment Code: ASST/TMA/2025-26

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. Trace the historical evolution of state politics in India since 1947. How have state-level political configurations changed over time?
2. Discuss the main features of Indian federalism. How do asymmetrical federal arrangements influence state politics?
3. Compare and contrast the Marxist and pluralist approaches to the study of state politics. Illustrate with relevant examples.
4. How have movements for linguistic and regional autonomy shaped state politics in India? Provide a critical account.
5. Write short notes on the following in about 250 words each:
 - a) Sub-nationalism in Indian states
 - b) Nationalist responses to ethnic diversity

SECTION – II

6. Evaluate the role of regional parties in shaping coalition politics at the Centre and in the states.
7. Discuss how caste-based mobilisation and backward class assertion have transformed electoral politics in Indian states.
8. Examine the impact of liberalisation and globalisation on the political economy and governance of Indian states.
9. Analyse the nature and causes of inter-state river water disputes in India. Suggest possible mechanisms for resolution.
10. Write short notes on the following in about 250 words each:
 - a) Protest politics and democratic deepening in states
 - b) Role of civil society in sub-state politics