



ILP - 2023

Integrated Learning Programme

NCERT MODULE (POLITY)
VAN - DAY 1



NCERT POLITY MODULE 1- DAY 1

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Introduction:

NCERT Modules are specifically designed to focus on basics. While covering NCERT's you will not only strengthen your foundation but also coverage and fodder for Essay, Prelims and Mains.

While covering the NCERT's focus on the following;

- Prelims Concepts
- Mains Fodder
- Essay- If you can pick up something for Essay!
- Language- you can follow the language and flow of NCERT books which is effective and lucid. This will help you in Mains Answer Writing.

Topics: Diversity, Unity in Diversity and Democracy and Diversity

Note- The given topics are extremely basic but important in many aspects. The overall understanding of these topics will also help you build the content for Essay paper.

Meaning of Diversity: the condition of having or being composed of differing elements, an instance of being composed of differing elements or qualities.

The term diversity is opposite of uniformity. Uniformity means similarity of some sort that characterizes a people. 'Uni' refers to one; 'form' refers to the common ways.

So, when there is something common to all the people, we say they show uniformity. When students of a school, members of the police or the army wear the same type of dress, we say they are in 'uniform'.

Like diversity, uniformity is also a collective concept. When a group of people share a similar characteristic, be it language or religion or anything else, it shows uniformity in that respect. But when we have groups of people hailing from different races, religions and cultures, they represent diversity

- India is a diverse country in terms of tradition, culture, religion, race, language, festivals, cuisines etc.
- Diversity also includes the dimensions of ethnicity, race, gender, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, physical abilities, age, political beliefs, religious beliefs, or other ideologies.

- India's diversity is reflected in its religions, ethnicities, customs, and social structures across a population of 1.3bn people and the country's secular and pluralist approach since its inception has arguably helped India being to realize a "Diversity Dividend".
- In addition to democracy (India being the world's largest) and demographics (it has the world's largest population of young people), **diversity is a key asset** in India's favour which adds a crucial qualitative layer to propel India's development and rise in global significance, which is expected to see the country cross US\$5tn of GDP by 2025.

Diversity also means variety. We have such a variety in abundance in India. We have here a variety of races, of religions, of languages, of castes and of cultures. For the same reason India is known for its socio-cultural diversity.

Note- Prepare a list of points that supports the idea and notion of Indian Diversity. This will be helpful in Essay.

Types of Diversity in India?

Geographic Diversity:

- Mountains
- Desert
- Ocean
- Sea
- Rivers
- Forests

Religious Diversity:

- According to the data on Population by Religious Communities of Census 2011, Hindu 96.63 crores (79.8%); Muslim 17.22 crores (14.2%); Christian 2.78 crores (2.3%); Sikh 2.08 crores (1.7%); Buddhist 0.84 crores (0.7%); Jain 0.45 crores (0.4%) are dispersed all over the nation forming cultural pockets.

Racial Diversity:

- The Negrito'
- The Proto-Australoids
- The Mongoloids
- The Mediterranean or Dravidian
- The Western Brachyphals
- The Nordic
- The Mongolian and Dravidian race majorly accounts for the racial composition of tribal India.

Caste Diversity:

- There are over 3,000 castes or Jatis in India. A caste is a similar social unit that is hereditary and practices a specific traditional occupation.
- The practice of the caste system in India has been prevalent for ages. This helps us in imagining and understanding the extent of caste diversity in India.

Linguistic Diversity:

- India is one of the most linguistically diverse countries, ranking 4th in terms of the number of languages spoken, according to the Ethnologue Language Catalogue of the world.
- Each state has its own commonly spoken language, and the spoken dialect of the language can change every hundred kilometres.
- According to the Census of India (2011), there are 121 languages spoken across India.
- Out of these, 22 are scheduled languages, which can be given official status by respective states or be used to conduct administrative work or used in the state legislature; the remaining 99 languages have the status of non-scheduled languages.
- The two official languages of India (federal government) are Hindi and English, while the states have the authority to designate their own official language.

STATEMENT - 4			
SCHEDULED LANGUAGES IN DESCENDING ORDER OF SPEAKERS' STRENGTH - 2011			
S. No.	Language	Persons who returned the language as their mother tongue	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4
1	Hindi	52,83,47,193	43.63
2	Bengali	9,72,37,669	8.03
3	Marathi	8,30,26,680	6.86
4	Telugu	8,11,27,740	6.70
5	Tamil	6,90,26,881	5.70
6	Gujarati	5,54,92,554	4.58
7	Urdu	5,07,72,631	4.19
8	Kannada	4,37,06,512	3.61
9	Odia	3,75,21,324	3.10
10	Malayalam	3,48,38,819	2.88
11	Punjabi	3,31,24,726	2.74
12	Assamese	1,53,11,351	1.26
13	Maithili	1,35,83,464	1.12
14	Santali	73,68,192	0.61
15	Kashmiri	67,97,587	0.56
16	Nepali	29,26,168	0.24
17	Sindhi	27,72,264	0.23
18	Dogri	25,96,767	0.21
19	Konkani	22,56,502	0.19
20	Manipuri	17,61,079	0.15
21	Bodo	14,82,929	0.12
22	Sanskrit	24,821	N
N - Stands for negligible.			

- The languages broadly belong to the following families: Indo-European (Indo-Aryan, Germanic (English), Iranian (Persian, Afghani)), Dravidian, Austro-Asiatic, and Tibeto-Burmese.
- These, along with Semito-Hamitic (Arabic), constitute the main languages in India. The most diverse language group is the Tibeto-Burmese group with 66 languages.
- The most spoken languages belong to the Indo-Aryan branch with 78% of the population, Dravidian 20%, Austro-Asiatic languages 1.1%, and Tibeto-Burmese just 1%, spoken in North-Eastern India.

Language Family and Speakers in India– 2011

Census 2011: Language Family of Scheduled and Non-Scheduled Languages

SI no	Language Family	Sub family	Number of Languages	Number of speakers	Percentage of Speakers
1	Indo-European	Indo-Aryan	21	945,052,555	78.05%
		Iranian	1	21,677	0%
		Germanic	1	259,678	0.02%
2	Dravidian		17	237,840,116	19.64%
3	Austro-Asiatic		14	13,493,080	1.11%
4	Tibeto-Burmese		66	12,257,382	1.01%
5	Semito-Hamitic		1	54,947	0%

Table: Shivakumar Jolad • Source: Census 2011 • Created with Datawrapper

- The most linguistically diverse states in India are Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh, followed by tribal areas and islands like Andaman and Nicobar.
- Small states with distinct ethnic and tribal groups show greater linguistic diversity than large, densely populated states like Uttar Pradesh and Kerala, where there is homogenisation induced by diffusion of people and culture over time.
- In Kerala, 97% of the population speaks one language: Malayalam.
- Recently you might have come across news articles related to imposition of Hindi. What's your opinion on the issue?

Essay Topic: 'One Nation, One Language'- Pros and Cons

Unity

- Unity means integration. It is a social psychological condition. It connotes a sense of one-ness, a sense of we-ness.
- It stands for the bonds, which hold the members of a society together.
- There is a difference between unity and uniformity. Uniformity presupposes similarity, unity does not. Thus, unity may or may not be based on uniformity.
- Unity may be born out of uniformity.
- We find this type of unity in tribal societies and in traditional societies. However, unity may as well be based on differences.

Unity does not have to be based on uniformity. Unity implies integration. Integration does not mean absence of differences. Indeed, it stands for the ties that bind the diverse groups with one another.

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Unity in Diversity

Unity in diversity is defined as the concept of showing unity without uniformity and diversity without fragmentation. The term unity in diversity relates to the togetherness or integrity shown by people despite the presence of infinite diversity.

In modern politics it was first used, as *In varietate unitas*, by **Ernesto Teodoro Moneta** in the context of Italian Unification.

Ernesto Teodoro Moneta was an Italian journalist, nationalist, revolutionary soldier and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate. He adopted the motto *In varietate unitas!* which later inspired Motto of the European Union. ***In varietate concordia (United in diversity) is the official motto of the European Union (EU)***

Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India and leader of the Indian National Congress, vigorously promoted unity in diversity as an ideal essential to national consolidation and progress. He wrote at length on this topic, exploring it in detail in his work '*The Discovery of India*'.

- The diversity of India is tremendous; it is obvious; it lies on the surface and anybody can see it. It concerns itself with physical appearances as well as with certain mental habits and traits. There is little in common, to outward seeming, between the Pathan of the North-West and the Tamil in the far South. Their racial stocks are not the same, though there may be common strands running through them... Yet, with all these differences, there is no mistaking the impress of India on the Pathan, as this is obvious on the Tamil. The Pathan and the Tamil are two extreme examples; the others lie somewhere in between. All of them have their distinctive features, all of them have still more the distinguishing mark of India.
- Though outwardly there was diversity and infinite variety among our people, everywhere there was that tremendous impress of oneness, which had held all of us together for ages past, whatever political fate or misfortune had befallen us.
- India's national anthem, composed by Rabindranath Tagore, is another expression of the unity of India.

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Think: Try to Write an Essay on India's Unity in Diversity-Threats and Challenges!

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Inequality and Discrimination

Inequality refers to the phenomenon of unequal and/or unjust distribution of resources and opportunities among members of a given society. Inequality may arise due to the differences in caste, creed, culture, language, economic status, education, religion and regional background etc., whereas discrimination takes place when one acts against an individual or community with a preconceived mindset.

PREJUDICE	STEREOTYPE
Prejudice means to judge other people negatively or see them as inferior.	Fixing people into one image creates a stereotype.
And start thinking that only one particular way is the best and right way to do things	People mentioning others belongingness to a particular country, sex, race, religion, background as criminal, lazy or stingy, they are using stereotypes.
Prejudice can be displayed in people's religious beliefs, colour of the skin, region they belong to, accent/language they speak in etc.	Stereotypes stop us from looking at each person as a unique individual with his special qualities/skills which are different from others.

Hundreds of millions of people suffer from discrimination in everyday life. This not only violates a most basic human right, but has wider social and economic consequences. Discrimination stifles opportunities, wasting the human talent needed for economic progress, and accentuates social tensions and inequalities. Combating discrimination is an essential part of promoting decent work, and success on this front is felt well beyond the workplace.

Note- You come across various instances of hatred, communal violence, discrimination based on caste and creed in newspapers. Prepare a list of them as examples that can be used in Mains Answers and Essay.

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Can you think of various FORMS in which Discrimination takes place?

B.R. Ambedkar and Discrimination

- He is considered as the father of our Indian Constitution and the best-known leader of the Dalits.
- He was born into the Mahar caste, which was considered untouchable as they were poor, owned no land and lived outside the main villages.
- His first caste-based discrimination took place in 1901 when he was 9 years old.
- B.R. Ambedkar was the first person from his caste who completed college education and studied law from England.
- He encouraged Dalits to educate their children, to take on government jobs to move out of the caste system.
- He later on converted to Buddhism in search of a religion which treated all members as equals.

Dr B. R. Ambedkar recognized the flaws of caste society and fought for Dalits' freedom from social discrimination, economic estrangement, and political exclusion for the rest of his life. He was a firm supporter of modernity, believing that future economic progress, democratic institutions, and republican values will serve as superstructures for ensuring the freedom of the untouchables.

French rebel Rousseau has rightly said that **"Man was born free, but he was in bonds everywhere,"**. France revolutionized his three terms ***justice, democracy, and fraternity in 1789.***

Ambedkar was strongly influenced by Rousseau's ideas, and he resolved to fight for justice based on equality. He worked tirelessly to guarantee that those who were oppressed were given a voice in society. In addition to political justice, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar advocated for economic and social equality.

For the American abolitionists who fought the U.S. Civil War in the 1860s to eradicate the enslavement, Jyotirao Phule in 1873 published his first essay on the caste system- “**Gulamgiri**”. This essay was a tribute to the American movement against slavery. Phule wrote in the genuine hope that Indians will follow the lead of their American abolitionist brethren in freeing their lower caste brethren from the shackles of upper caste captivity.

“The caste problem is a vast one, both theoretically and practically. Practically, it is an institution that portends tremendous consequences. It is a local problem, but one capable of much wider mischief, for as long as caste in India does exist, Hindus will hardly intermarry or have any social intercourse with outsiders; and if Hindus migrate to other regions on earth, Indian caste would become a world problem.”

Constitution and Equality

Article 14 of the Constitution of India provides for equality before the law or equal protection of the laws within the territory of India.

It states: "The State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India."

Note- You will study constitutional articles in detail in the coming days.

- The vision and goals of the Constitution makers was to ensure that all the people of India were considered equal.
- People were presented with equal rights and opportunities and with the advent of the Constitution, untouchability was legally abolished by law.
- Respect for diversity was a significant element in ensuring equality.
- The makers of the Constitution also felt that people must have the freedom to follow their religion, speak any language, move freely etc.
- India post-Independence became a secular country where people of different faiths and religions practice and follow their religion without the fear of discrimination.
- Inequalities still exist in the society and we need to keep striving to eliminate them from their root.

Note- Prepare a list of points where you see ‘Equality’ as the central theme.

Examples

- In the Hijab Controversy- What is the relation with 'Equality'? Which Rights are being covered here?
- New Criminal Procedure Bill violates many rights of an individual. Which are those rights?
- The meat ban controversy.

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Social Divisions and Inequality

Civil Rights movement in the United States

- Civil Rights Movement in the USA (1954-1968) refers to a set of events and reform movements aimed at abolishing legal racial discrimination against African-Americans.
- Led by Martin Luther King Jr., this movement practiced non-violent methods of civil disobedience against racially discriminatory laws and practices.

Black Power movement

- It emerged in 1966 and lasted till 1975, which was a more militant anti-racist movement, advocating even violence if necessary to end racism in the US.

Social inequality occurs when resources in a given society are distributed unevenly, typically through norms of allocation, that engender specific patterns along lines of socially defined categories of persons. It is the differentiation preference of access to social goods in society brought about by power, religion, kinship, prestige, race, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, and class.

In India, one of the most distinctive forms of social inequity come within the spheres of gender and caste, where, people coming from the marginalized sections of these social categories, are directly impacted in terms of their opportunities, access to essential utilities, and their potential as a whole.

In India, social inequalities are outcomes of inequalities in income, education, gender, caste, and class. For instance, preference of sons over daughters is an outcome of discrimination against girls, this has an impact on girl child education, her right to take decisions regarding her body and life, and eventually has an impact on the health and education of her family. For the marginalised communities like Dalits and Adivasis, they are not able to get

better jobs because of lack of access to proper education. This affects the *social mobility* and deepens the gap between the rich and the poor, the privileged and the marginalised.

Social inequality has been prevalent in India for a long time. There are various types of social inequalities existing in India. Some of the major inequalities are:

- Income inequality- lack of resources
- Caste based
- Religious
- Gender based

India has the third largest number of billionaires in the world after the US and China. Yet, the number of poor in India is estimated to have increased by 75 million due to Covid-19, accounting for nearly 60% of the global increase in poverty.

India accounts for 139 million of the total 689 million people (20.17%) living in extreme poverty in 2017 (World Bank 2020), with its population being 17.8% of the world population (World Bank 2019).

Origins of Social Differences

- Social differences are mostly based on accident of birth.
- Some differences are based on choices. E.g. - Some people are atheists who do not believe in God or religion, some people choose to follow a religion other than the one they're born in, etc.
- Every social difference does not lead to social division. Social differences divide similar people and unite different ones.
- People belonging to the same religion also feel that they don't belong to the same community because of their different sect or caste.

Overlapping and Cross-Cutting Differences

- Social division takes place when some social difference overlaps with other differences.
- E.g.- Difference between Whites & Blacks (usually poor and homeless) in the US form a common social division.
- In India, Dalits tend to be poor, landless and discriminated.

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- At time social differences cross cut, one another, meaning that the groups that share a common interest on one issue are likely to be in different sides of the issue.
- E.g.- Northern Ireland and Netherlands hold a majority of Christian population which is further divided into Protestants and Catholics.
- In Northern Ireland class and religion overlap one another. Catholics here are more likely to be poor and hold a history of discrimination.
- Overlapping social differences create possibilities of deep social divisions and tensions.
- Social divisions exist in almost all countries big or small, e.g. - India, Belgium, Germany or Sweden.
- Rapid changes are a common phenomenon in homogeneous societies. A society that has similar kinds of people, especially where there are no significant ethnic differences.
- Migrants (shifting from one region or country to another for work, economic opportunities) bring about their own culture forming a new social community.

Connecting the Dots:

Personalities: Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Dr. B. R. Ambedkar

Once you start the preparation, almost on a daily basis, you will come across new personalities from social, political, economic and historical perspective. Do not ignore them for later phases. There is no tomorrow!

Best way is to prepare and study them as and when you come across certain individuals.

You should prepare pointers about both these personalities from examination point of view.

Also, go through previous years question papers of Prelims and Mains and try to find out the questions asked on both these personalities.

Think:

- Contribution- Political, Social and Economic
- Relevance in Today's World
- Quotes and Sayings
- Famous Writings: Books etc.

Social Mobility:

Social mobility is the extent to which people are able to move between socio-economic strata during their lifetime and between generations.

- In societies with low social mobility, individual outcomes are strongly determined by their starting point in life.
- That is, children from privileged backgrounds tend to grow up to be privileged themselves in terms of education, income, wealth and occupation; on the other hand, children from poor families tend to grow up poor themselves.
- Low social mobility not only erodes the foundation of growth, it also reduces well-being and puts social cohesion and democratic participation at risk.
- In societies with high social mobility, individual life chances are not strongly determined by where you come from or who your parents are.
- In high-mobility societies, children from less well-off backgrounds will have the same chances of achieving their aspirations as those from more advantaged upbringings.
- Measures of social mobility capture the persistence of individual positions over time, and the extent to which people can escape those positions.

B. R. Ambedkar: Some

- He is called the chief architect of the Indian Constitution.
- He was the Chairman of the Constitution Drafting Committee for the constitution of independent India on August 29, 1947.
- He was the first law minister of India after independence.
- He was the first Indian to pursue a doctorate in economics abroad. He is also the first Ph.D in Economics and the first double doctorate holder in Economics in South Asia.
- He had started fortnightly and weekly papers named 'Excluded India', 'Mook Nayak', 'Janta' to raise voice against the atrocities on Dalits.
- Only Indian whose statue has been erected alongside Karl Marx in the London Museum.
- *Reserve Bank of India* was conceptualised according to the guidelines presented by B. R. Ambedkar to the Hilton Young Commission (also known as Royal Commission on Indian Currency and Finance) in his book, *The Problem of the Rupee – Its Origin and Its Solution*. He was the man behind the setting up of the Finance Commission of India.

- Mahad Satyagraha: He is the only Satyagrahi worldwide, who did Satyagraha for drinking water. *Mahad Satyagraha or Chavdar Tale Satyagraha* was a satyagraha led by B. R. Ambedkar on 20 March 1927 to allow untouchables to use water in a public tank in Mahad (currently in Raigad district), Maharashtra, India. The day (20 March) is observed as Social Empowerment Day in India.
- A 20-page autobiographical story written by Ambedkar in 1935-36 (after his return from America and Europe), *Waiting for a Visa* is a book that draws from his experiences with untouchability, starting from his childhood. The book is used as a textbook in the Columbia University.
- *Famous Quotes*
 - *"I like the religion that teaches liberty, equality and fraternity".*
 - *"Cultivation of mind should be the ultimate aim of human existence".*
 - *"...nothing will stabilize the rupee unless we stabilize its general purchasing power".*
- 'Annihilation of Caste', a fiery critique of the caste system is written by him.
- His personal library "Rajgirh" had more than 50,000 books and it was said to be the world's largest private library.

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