

2026

SOCIOLOGY

Course No. : SOC/C-06

(Political Sociology)*Full Marks : 60**Time : 3 hours**The questions are of equal value**The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions*Answer any **five** questions

1. a) Critically examine the theoretical context that define Political Sociology's subject matter, and assess how its 'distinctive approach' differs from conventional political science in its treatment of power, order, and legitimacy. **6+6**

Or

- b) Define political sociology. Compare and contrast the Durkheimian and the Foucauldian approaches to study power and politics in society. **5+7**

2. a) Interrogate the concept of political culture and its reproduction. Analyse its formation in reference to post-colonial Indian society. **12**

Or

- b) What is Political System? How does political system function differently in societies marked by deep ethnic pluralism, with special reference to Northeast India? **5+7**

(Turn Over)

3. a) Compare and contrast classical elite theorists' frameworks of elite circulation and power concentration, and critically examine whether Pareto's elite theory retains explanatory significance today. 6+6

Or

- b) Define Max Weber's concept of bureaucracy. Evaluate the characteristics of bureaucracy in India and its role in developmental governance. 6+6
4. a) Clarify the analytical distinction between pressure groups and interest groups and assess the sociological bases upon which such groups are constituted. To what extent do tribal civil society organizations and student unions in Northeast India function as pressure groups? 6+6

Or

- b) Discuss Gramsci's notion of Intellectuals. Analyse the key features of the relationship between intellectuals and power. Illustrate with suitable examples. 6+6
5. a) Critically examine how caste and religious identities have been strategically mobilized and institutionalized within democratic politics. Analyse the causes and sociological consequences of political apathy. 8+4

Or

- b) Assess the sociological dimensions of regionalism as a political force in India. Is regionalism a centrifugal threat to national politics, or a legitimate assertion of cultural politics? 6+6

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