

**Don't just Read, Write to Succeed!**



**INSIGHTSIAS**  
SIMPLIFYING IAS EXAM PREPARATION

# **INSIGHTS IAS PSIR YEAR LONG TEST SERIES 2024**

<b>Course Features</b>	<b>Fee</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Test series starting from 25<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2023</li><li>• Total 19 tests:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 15 short tests of 100 marks</li><li>• 12 short tests before prelims</li><li>• 7 tests after prelims</li><li>• 4 full length papers</li></ul></li><li>• Copy correction strictly by faculty Nikhil Sir only</li><li>• One to one interaction with faculty in person</li><li>• Discussion Session &amp; video after every test</li><li>• Access to current affairs related to IR</li><li>• Toppers Answer script will be shared</li><li>• Only limited number of students taken</li><li>• Past result: Akshat Aayush(AIR 106), Saurabh Narendra ( AIR 197) , Garima(AIR 220), Sravan Kumar(AIR 222) Netra Meti (AIR 326)</li></ul>	Rs. 15000/-

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## About Faculty

**NIKHIL K GOWDA** is doing his Masters of Public Policy (2019-2021) from National law School India University (NLSIU) Bengaluru.

- Interned as a Political consultant to various parties in Karnataka
- Co-ordinated with Ballari District administration with respect to study of utilization of DMF in mining affected regions
- Interned with Sakhi Trust in Hospet on Gender workshop
- Has written article on India's No First use policy Published in Lokniti & Organizer
- Currently Researching on Impact of India's Neighborhood First policy as part of his Dissertation
- Has written 4 Mains, 2IFS Mains, given 2 UPSC Interviews
- Has been guiding students with respect UPSC preparation from past 4 years, his area of expertise are PSIR optional, Polity, IR, and Modern India.

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Tests	Date	Syllabus
Test 1	25 <sup>th</sup> Sept. 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Western Political Thought: Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke (<b>Short Test – 100 marks</b>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional Reading: Western Political thought by Prem Arora &amp; Brij Grover</b></p>
Test 2	8 <sup>th</sup> Oct. 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Western Political Thought: John S. Mill, Marx, Gramsci, and Hannah Arendt. (<b>ST – 100 marks</b>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional Reading: Western Political thought by Prem Arora &amp; Brij Grover</b></p>
Test 3	22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct. 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Political Ideologies: Liberalism, Socialism, Marxism, Fascism, Gandhism and Feminism. ,</li> <li>➤ Theories of state: Liberal, Neo-liberal, Marxist, Pluralist, post-colonial and Feminist.(<b>ST- 100 marks</b> )</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional reading: OP Gauba-Western Political thought, Political Ideologies by Andrew Heywood</b></p>
Test 4	5 <sup>th</sup> Nov. 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Concept of power: hegemony, ideology and legitimacy</li> <li>➤ Democracy: Classical and contemporary theories; different models of democracy—representative, participatory and deliberative.(<b>ST – 100 marks</b>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional reading: OP Gauba-Western Political thought</b></p>
Test 5	19 <sup>th</sup> Nov. 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Equality: Social, political and economic; relationship between equality and freedom;</li> <li>➤ Affirmative action. Justice: Conceptions of justice with special reference to Rawl's Theory of justice and its communitarian critiques.</li> <li>➤ Rights: Meaning and theories; Different kinds of rights; Concept of Human Rights.(<b>ST – 100 marks</b>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional reading: OP Gauba-Western Political thought</b></p>
Test 6	3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec. 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Indian Political Thought: Dharamshastra, Arthashastra and Buddhist Traditions; Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Sri Aurobindo, M. K. Gandhi, B. R. Ambedkar, M. N. Roy. (<b>ST- 100 marks</b>)</li> </ul>

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		<p><b>Optional Reading: Indian Political thought by Prem Arora &amp; Brij Grover</b></p>
Test 7	17 <sup>th</sup> Dec. 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Indian Nationalism: Political Strategies of India's Freedom Struggle: Constitutionalism to mass Satyagraha, Non-cooperation, Civil Disobedience; Militant and Revolutionary Movements, Peasant and Workers Movements.</li> <li>➤ Indian National Movement; Liberal, Socialist and Marxist; Radical Humanist and Dalit.</li> <li>➤ Making of Indian Constitution: Legacies of the British rule; different social and political perspectives</li> <li>➤ Salient Features of the Indian Constitution: The Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Duties, Directive Principles; Parliamentary System and Amendment Procedures; Judicial Review and Basic Structure doctrine <b>(ST- 100 marks)</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Optional Reading: Bipan Chandra: India's struggle for Independence, Indian Government and Politics - B L Fadia</b></p>
Test 8	31 <sup>st</sup> Dec. 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Comparative Political Analysis and International Politics: Comparative Politics: Nature and major approaches; Political economy and political sociology perspectives; limitations of the comparative method.</li> <li>➤ State in Comparative Perspective: Characteristics and changing nature of the State in capitalist and socialist economies, and advanced industrial and developing societies.</li> <li>➤ Politics of Representation and Participation: Political parties, pressure groups and social movements in advanced industrial and developing societies.</li> <li>➤ Globalization : Responses from developed and developing societies <b>( ST – 100 Marks )</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Optional Reading: Comparative Politics by J.C. Johari (Author)</b></p>
Test 9	14 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Approaches to the Study of International Relations: Idealist, Realist, Marxist, Functionalist and Systems theory.</li> <li>➤ Key Concepts in International Relations: National interest, security and power; Balance of power and deterrence; Transnational actors and collective security;</li> <li>➤ World capitalist economy and globalization.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Contemporary Global Concerns: Democracy, human rights, environment, gender justice terrorism, nuclear proliferation. <b>(ST- 100 marks)</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Optional Reading: Andrew Heywood Global Politics.</b></p>
Test 10	28 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Changing International Political Order: Rise of super powers; Strategic and ideological Bipolarity, arms race and cold war; nuclear threat.</li> <li>➤ Non-aligned Movement: Aims and achievements. Collapse of the Soviet Union; Unipolarity and American hegemony; Relevance of non-alignment in the contemporary world.</li> <li>➤ Evolution of the International Economic System: From Bretton woods to WTO; Socialist economies and the CMEA (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance); Third World demand for new international economic order;</li> <li>➤ Globalization of the world economy. United Nations: Envisaged role and actual record; Specialized UN agencies— aims and functioning; need for UN reforms.</li> <li>➤ Regionalization of World Politics: EU, ASEAN, APEC, AARC, NAFTA <b>(ST- 100 marks)</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Optional Reading: Andrew Heywood Global Politics.</b></p>
Test 11	11 <sup>th</sup> Feb. 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Principal Organs of the Union Government: Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and Supreme Court.</li> <li>➤ Principal Organs of the State Government: Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and High Courts.</li> <li>➤ Grassroots Democracy: Panchayati Raj and Municipal Government; Significance of 73rd and 74th Amendments; Grassroots movements.</li> <li>➤ Federalism: Constitutional provisions; changing nature of center-state relations; integrationist tendencies and regional aspirations; inter-state disputes. <b>(ST- 100 marks)</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Optional Reading: The Oxford Companion to Politics in India by Pratap Bhanu Mehta , Current Affairs</b></p>
Test 12	25 <sup>th</sup> Feb. 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Statutory Institutions/Commissions: Election Commission, Comptroller and Auditor</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ General, Finance Commission, Union Public Service Commission,</li> <li>➤ National Commission for Scheduled Castes, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, National Commission for Women; National Human Rights Commission, National Commission for Minorities, National Backward Classes Commission.</li> <li>➤ Social Movement: Civil liberties and human rights movements; women's movements; environmentalist movements.<b>(ST- 100 marks)</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Optional Reading: The Oxford Companion to Politics in India by Pratap Bhanu Mehta , Current Affairs</b></p>
Test 13	10 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Planning and Economic development : Nehruvian and Gandhian perspectives; Role of planning and public sector;</li> <li>➤ Green Revolution, land reforms and agrarian relations; liberalization and economic reforms.</li> <li>➤ Caste, Religion and Ethnicity in Indian Politics.</li> <li>➤ Party System : National and regional political parties, ideological and social bases of parties; Patterns of coalition politics; Pressure groups, trends in electoral behaviour;</li> <li>➤ Changing socio-economic profile of Legislators.<b>(ST- 100 marks)</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Optional Reading: The Oxford Companion to Politics in India by Pratap Bhanu Mehta , Current Affairs</b></p>
Test 14	23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ India and the World .Indian Foreign Policy: Determinants of foreign policy; the institutions of policy-making; Continuity and change.</li> <li>➤ India's Contribution to the Non-Alignment Movement Different phases; Current role.</li> <li>➤ India and South Asia: Regional Co-operation: SAARC-past performance and future prospects. South Asia as a Free Trade Area.</li> <li>➤ India's "Look East" policy. Impediments to regional co-operation: River water disputes; illegal cross border migration; Ethnic conflicts and insurgencies; Border disputes.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ India and the Global South: Relations with Africa and Latin America; Leadership role in the demand for NIEO and WTO negotiations.</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional Reading: The Oxford Handbook of Indian Foreign Policy -Edited by David M. Malone, C. Raja Mohan, and Srinath Raghavan, Current Affairs</b></p>
Test 15	14 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ India and the Global Centers of Power: USA, EU, Japan, China and Russia.</li> <li>➤ India and the UN System: Role in UN Peace-keeping; Demand for Permanent Seat in the Security Council.</li> <li>➤ India and the Nuclear Question: Changing perceptions and policy.</li> <li>➤ Recent developments in Indian Foreign Policy: India's position on the recent crises in Afghanistan, Iraq and West Asia, growing relations with US and Israel;</li> <li>➤ Vision of a new world order.</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional Reading: The Oxford Handbook of Indian Foreign Policy -Edited by David M. Malone, C. Raja Mohan, and Srinath Raghavan, Current Affairs</b></p>
Test 16	28 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	PSIR Paper 1 (Full Length)
Test 17	11 <sup>th</sup> Aug. 2024	PSIR Paper 2 (Full Length)
Test 18	1 <sup>st</sup> Sept. 2024	PSIR Paper 1 (Full Length)
Test 19	1 <sup>st</sup> Sept. 2024	PSIR Paper 2 (Full Length)