

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



**INSIGHTS IAS PSIR YEAR LONG  
TEST SERIES 2024 - 25**

| <b>Course Features</b>  | <b>Fee</b>         |
|---|--------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Test series starting from 6<sup>th</sup> October 2024</li><li>• Total 19 tests:<br/><br/>(10 short tests before prelims &amp; 7 tests after prelims)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 15 short tests of 100 marks</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>• Topper answer script will be shared</li><li>• Only a limited number of students taken</li><li>• Past result: Akshat Aayush (AIR 106), Saurabh Narendra (AIR197) Garima (AIR 220), Sravan Kumar (AIR 222), Netra Meti (AIR 326)</li></ul> | <b>Rs. 15000/-</b> |

# Don't just Read, Write to Succeed!

## 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.

# Don't just Read, Write to Succeed!

| Tests  | Date                       | Syllabus   |
|--------|----------------------------|--|
| Test 1 | 6 <sup>th</sup> Oct. 2024  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Western Political Thought: Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke<br/>(Short Test – 100 marks)</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional Reading: Western Political Thought by Prem Arora &amp; Brij Grover</b></p>   |
| Test 2 | 20 <sup>th</sup> Oct. 2024 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Western Political Thought: John S. Mill, Marx, Gramsci, and Hannah Arendt. (ST – 100 marks)</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional Reading: Western Political Thought by Prem Arora &amp; Brij Grover</b></p>  |
| Test 3 | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov. 2024  | <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. (ST- 100 marks)</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional reading: OP Gauba-Western Political thought, Political Ideologies by Andrew Heywood</b></p>   |
| Test 4 | 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov. 2024 | <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.<br/>(ST – 100 marks)</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional reading: OP Gauba-Western Political thought</b></p>   |
| Test 5 | 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec. 2024  | <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. (ST – 100 marks)</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional reading: OP Gauba-Western Political thought</b></p> |
| Test 6 | 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec. 2024 | <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. (ST- 100 marks)</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional Reading: Indian Political Thought by Prem Arora &amp; Brij Grover</b></p>  |

# Don't just Read, Write to Succeed!

|        |                            |  |
|--------|----------------------------|--|
| Test 7 | 29 <sup>th</sup> Dec. 2024 | <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</li> <li>❖ 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<br/><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 | 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 2025 | <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<br/><b>(ST – 100 Marks)</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Optional Reading: Comparative Politics by J.C. Johari (Author)</b></p>  |
| Test 9 | 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 2025 | <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> <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>  |

# Don't just Read, Write to Succeed!

|         |                            |  |
|---------|----------------------------|--|
| Test 10 | 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb. 2025  | <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. The 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<br/><b>(ST- 100 marks)</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Optional Reading: Andrew Heywood Global Politics.</b></p> |
| Test 11 | 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb. 2025 | <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 | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar. 2025  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Statutory Institutions/Commissions: Election Commission, Comptroller and Auditor</li> <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>   |

# Don't just Read, Write to Succeed!

|         |                            |  |
|---------|----------------------------|--|
| Test 13 | 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2025  | <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 | 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2025 | <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> <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> |

# Don't just Read, Write to Succeed!

|         |                            |   |
|---------|----------------------------|---|
| Test 15 | 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2025 | <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 | 13 <sup>th</sup> July 2025 | PSIR Paper 1 (Sectional Test)   |
| Test 17 | 27 <sup>th</sup> July 2025 | PSIR Paper 2 (Sectional TEST)   |
| Test 18 | 7 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2025   | PSIR Paper 1 (full length)  |
| Test 19 | 7 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2025   | PSIR Paper 2 (full length)  |

□