

## UPSC SOCIOLOGY (MAIN) SYLLABUS

### PAPER – I

#### FUNDAMENTALS OF SOCIOLOGY

##### 1. Sociology – The Discipline:

- (a) Modernity and social changes in Europe and emergence of sociology.
- (b) Scope of the subject and comparison with other social sciences.
- (c) Sociology and common sense

##### 2. Sociology as Science:

- (a) Science, scientific method and critique. -
- (b) Major theoretical strands of research methodology
- (c) Positivism and its critique.
- (d) Fact value and objectivity
- (e) Non- positivist methodologies.

##### 3. Research Methods and Analysis:

- (a) Qualitative and quantitative methods.
- (b) Techniques of data collection.
- (c) Variables, sampling, hypothesis, reliability and validity.

##### 4. Sociological Thinkers:

- (a) Karl Marx- Historical materialism, mode of production, alienation, class struggle.
- (b) Emile Durkheim- Division of labour, social fact, suicide, religion and society.
- (c) Max Weber- Social action, ideal types, authority, bureaucracy, protestant ethic and the spirit of capitalism.
- (d) Talcolt Parsons- Social system, pattern variables.
- (e) Robert K. Merton- Latent and manifest functions, conformity and deviance, reference groups
- (f) Mead - Self and identity.

##### 5. Stratification and Mobility:

- (a) Concepts- equality, inequality, hierarchy, exclusion, poverty and deprivation
- (b) Theories of social stratification- Structural functionalist theory, Marxist theory, Weberian theory.
- (c) Dimensions – Social stratification of class, status groups, gender, ethnicity and race.
- (d) Social mobility- open and closed systems, types of mobility, sources and causes of mobility.

##### 6. Works and Economic Life:

- (a) Social organization of work in different types of society- slave society, feudal society, industrial /capitalist society.
- (b) Formal and informal organization of work
- (c) Labour and society.

##### 7. Politics and Society:

- (a) Sociological theories of power
- (b) Power elite, bureaucracy, pressure groups, and political parties.
- (c) Nation, state, citizenship, democracy, civil society, ideology.
- (d) Protest, agitation, social movements,

collective action, revolution.

##### 8. Religion and Society:

- (a) Sociological theories of religion.
- (b) Types of religious practices: animism, monism, pluralism, sects, cults.
- (c) Religion in modern society: religion and science, secularization, religious revivalism, fundamentalism.

##### 9. Systems of Kinship

- (a) Family, household, marriage.
- (b) Types and forms of family.
- (c) Lineage and descent
- (d) Patriarchy and sexual division of labour
- (e) Contemporary trends.

##### 10. Social Change in Modern Society: -

- (a) Sociological theories of social change.
- (b) Development and dependency.
- (c) Agents of social change.
- (d) Education and social change.
- (e) Science, technology and social change.

### PAPER - II

#### INDIAN SOCIETY: STRUCTURE AND CHANGE

##### A. Introducing Indian Society:

- (i) Perspectives on the study of Indian society
  - (a) Indology (GS. Ghurye).
  - (b) Structural functionalism (M N Srinivas).
  - (c) Marxist sociology ( A R Desai).
- (ii) Impact of colonial rule on Indian society :
  - (a) Social background of Indian nationalism.
  - (b) Modernization of Indian tradition.
- (c) Protests and movements during the colonial period.

##### (d) Social reforms

##### B. Social Structure:

- (i) Rural and Agrarian Social Structure:
  - (a) The idea of Indian village and village studies
  - (b) Agrarian social structure - evolution of land tenure system, land reforms.
- (ii) Caste System:
  - (a) Perspectives on the study of caste systems: GS Ghurye, M N Srinivas, Louis Dumont, Andre Beteille
  - (b) Features of caste system.
  - (c) Untouchability - forms and perspectives

##### (iii) Tribal communities in India:

- (a) Definitional problems.
- (b) Geographical spread.
- (c) Colonial policies and tribes.
- (d) Issues of integration and autonomy.
- (iv) Social Classes in India:
  - (a) Agrarian class structure.
  - (b) Industrial class structure.
  - (c) Middle classes in India.
- (v) Systems of Kinship in India:
  - (a) Lineage and descent in India.
  - (b) Types of kinship systems.
  - (c) Family and marriage in India.

##### (d) Household dimensions of the family.

(e) Patriarchy, entitlements and sexual division of labour.

##### (vi) Religion and Society:

- (a) Religious communities in India.
- (b) Problems of religious minorities.

##### C. Social Changes in India:

- (i) Visions of Social Change in India:
  - (a) Idea of development planning and mixed economy.
  - (b) Constitution, law and social change.
  - (c) Education and social change.
- (ii) Rural and Agrarian transformation in India:
  - (a) Programmes of rural development, Community Development Programme, cooperatives, poverty alleviation schemes.
  - (b) Green revolution and social change.
  - (c) Changing modes of production in Indian agriculture .
  - (d) Problems of rural labour, bondage, migration.

##### (iii) Industrialization and Urbanisation in India:

- (a) Evolution of modern industry in India.
- (b) Growth of urban settlements in India.
- (c) Working class: structure, growth, class mobilization.
- (d) Informal sector, child labour
- (e) Slums and deprivation in urban areas.
- (iv) Politics and Society:
  - (a) Nation, democracy and citizenship.
  - (b) Political parties, pressure groups , social and political elite.

(c) Regionalism and decentralization of power.

(d) Secularization

(v) Social Movements in Modern India:

- (a) Peasants and farmers movements.
- (b) Women's movement.
- (c) Backward classes & Dalit movement.
- (d) Environmental movements.
- (e) Ethnicity and Identity movements.

##### (vi) Population Dynamics:

- (a) Population size, growth, composition and distribution.
- (b) Components of population growth: birth, death, migration.
- (c) Population policy and family planning.
- (d) Emerging issues: ageing, sex ratios, child and infant mortality, reproductive health.

##### (vii) Challenges of Social Transformation:

- (a) Crisis of development: displacement, environmental problems and sustainability.
- (b) Poverty, deprivation and inequalities.
- (c) Violence against women.
- (d) Caste conflicts.
- (e) Ethnic conflicts, communalism, religious revivalism.
- (f) Illiteracy and disparities in education.