**FYUGP 3RD SEMESTER**

**SUB- POLITICAL SCIENCE (MAJOR)**

**PAPER TITLE- INDIAN GOVT AND POLITICS**

**UNIT- II**

**Directive Principles of State Policy**

The DPSPs are written in **Part IV of the Indian Constitution, from Article 36 to 51**. They are like directions or instructions to the government to make laws and policies in the interest of the people. Though they are **not legally enforceable by courts**, they are very important because they show the path for creating a welfare state in India.

**Features of DPSP**

1. **Non-justiciable** – They cannot be enforced by any court of law. If the government does not follow them, no one can go to court.
2. **Positive obligations** – They are instructions to the state to take positive steps for the welfare of people.
3. **Moral and political duty** – Though not legally binding, they are considered a duty of the government.
4. **Source of inspiration** – They guide the government in law-making and public policies.
5. **Reflect ideals of justice and equality** – They aim to reduce poverty, inequality, and promote social, economic, and political justice.

**Classification of Directive Principles**

For easy understanding, the DPSPs are divided into three categories:

**1. Socialist Principles**

These aim to establish social and economic justice in society and reduce inequality.

1. Adequate means of livelihood (Article 39a).
2. Equal pay for equal work for men and women (Article 39d).
3. Protection of workers, children, and youth against exploitation (Article 39e & f).
4. Provision for just and humane conditions of work and maternity relief (Article 42).
5. Living wage and decent standard of life for all workers (Article 43).

**2. Gandhian Principles**

These reflect the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi and his dream of self-reliant villages.

1. Organization of village panchayats (Article 40).
2. Promotion of cottage industries on individual and cooperative basis (Article 43).
3. Promotion of educational and economic interests of weaker sections, especially Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Article 46).
4. Prohibition of intoxicating drinks and drugs harmful to health (Article 47).
5. Protection of cows and other milch cattle (Article 48).

**3. Liberal Principles**

These are inspired by liberalism and ideas of modern democracy.

1. Provide equal opportunities for men and women in employment and social life.
2. Ensure the right to work, education, and assistance in case of unemployment, old age, sickness, or disability.
3. Secure just and humane working conditions for workers.
4. Protect the health and strength of workers, especially children and women.
5. Promote equal justice and free legal aid for weaker sections.
6. Encourage uniform civil laws for all citizens to promote equality.
7. Protect the environment and improve public health.
8. Ensure participation of workers in the management of industries.

4. **International Principles of DPSP**

1. Promote international peace and security.
2. Maintain just and honourable relations between nations.
3. Encourage respect for international law and treaty obligations.
4. Support settlement of international disputes by peaceful methods.
5. Foster goodwill, friendship, and cooperation among nations.

**Importance/Significance of DPSP**

1. **Guidelines for Government** – They give directions to the government in making laws and policies.
2. **Welfare State** – They aim to make India a welfare state where the government works for the good of all.
3. **Balance to Fundamental Rights** – Fundamental Rights focus on individuals, while DPSPs focus on the whole society. Together, they bring balance.
4. **Source of Social Justice** – They aim at reducing inequality, protecting weaker sections, and ensuring fair opportunities for all.
5. **Instrument of Change** – Many reforms like land reforms, minimum wage laws, free education, and health policies are based on DPSPs.

**Limitations of DPSP**

1. **Not enforceable** – They are only moral instructions, not legal obligations.
2. **Conflict with Fundamental Rights** – Sometimes, DPSPs clash with Fundamental Rights (e.g., right to property vs. land reforms).
3. **Dependence on resources** – Their implementation depends on financial capacity of the government.
4. **Slow progress** – Many DPSPs like uniform civil code or prohibition of liquor have not been fully implemented

**Implementation of DPSPs in India**

Though they are not enforceable, many DPSPs have been implemented through laws and policies:

1. **Right to education** – Free and compulsory education became a Fundamental Right under Article 21A (2002).
2. **Panchayati Raj** – 73rd and 74th Amendments gave constitutional status to Panchayats and Municipalities.
3. **Land reforms** – Abolition of zamindari and distribution of land to the landless.
4. **Equal pay for equal work** – Implemented in government services.
5. **Welfare schemes** – MGNREGA (rural employment), Right to Food Act, healthcare schemes, etc.
6. **Environment protection** – Laws for forest conservation, wildlife protection, and pollution control.
7. **International peace** – India’s foreign policy promotes friendly relations and peaceful coexistence.

**Conclusion**

The Directive Principles of State Policy are like the **conscience of the Constitution**. They may not be enforceable by courts, but they act as a constant reminder to the government that its duty is not only to rule but to serve the people and create a just society.

The success of DPSPs can be seen in many social reforms, welfare schemes, and development programs. However, some goals like uniform civil code, prohibition of liquor, or removal of inequality are still incomplete.

In simple words, DPSPs show us the **path** to achieve the ideals of justice, equality, and welfare. The government must continuously work to fulfill them so that India truly becomes a **welfare state** as envisioned by the Constitution makers.