

# **Department of Political Science**

**West Bengal State University**



## **Syllabus**

**For 4-year UG Honours/ Honours with Research Programme in  
POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**And  
3-Year Multidisciplinary UG Programme in POLITICAL  
SCIENCE**

**Semesters 1 & Semester 2**

Under Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programmes  
(CCFUP)  
Based on National Education Policy, 2020 (NEP 2020) Course Structure and  
Syllabus for the

**2023-2024**

Department of Political  
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University

### **Important Note:**

1. 'Select Readings' in the syllabus may be complemented by relevant online materials available in academic, legal and authentic websites. If required, relevant books from the

- UGC-prescribed CBCS list may also be consulted.
2. Major and Minor/Multidisciplinary share same course title but their course content varies. The course load has been reduced for Minor/Multidisciplinary courses. For AECC and VAC see university Guidelines.
3. Question Pattern and Evaluation:
- (a) Major and Minor / Core Course: 5 Credit = 4 Cr (End-Semester) + 1 Cr (Internal) = 50 Marks (End-Semester) + 50 Marks (Internal) = 100 marks.
- Internal Component (Evaluation):** Total Marks = 50
- 10 marks (Attendance)
- 20 marks (Home Assignment/Presentation) 20 marks (Written Examination) marks (2 options) 2 questions x 10 marks (4 options) = 50 Marks = 50 Marks
- End-Semester (Evaluation):**
- Total Marks = 50 1 question x 5
- (b) MDC and SEC Course: 3 Credit = 50 Marks (Evaluation by College) Suggested Modes: (i) Term Paper – Upto 1000 words for one Term Paper/upto 500 words for each of the two Term Papers (ii) Field Work based on syllabus related and/or current topics (may be done in groups) (iii) Report/ Poster Presentation (may be done in groups) (iv) Written Examination.
- (c) AECC and VAC Course: 3 Credit = 50 Marks (Evaluation by University) AECC: MCQ questions to be set by University VAC: MCQ questions to be set by Colleges in English.
4. For further details please follow West Bengal State University 'Advisory for Evaluation' and 'Regulations' of UG Programmes under NEP 2020 (2023 -24).
5. Further communication about any change may be made by the UG Board of Studies only on receiving specific instructions from appropriate authorities of the University.

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**Major Papers for 4 -year Honours/ Honours with Research Programme**

Semester	Paper	Title	Remark
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I	DS-1	Political Theory: Concepts	5	Draft Syllabus attached
II	DS-2	Indian Constitution and Government	5	Draft Syllabus attached
III	DS-3	Political Theory: Approaches	5	Work in Progress
IV	DS-4	Politics in India: Structures and Processes	5	Work in Progress
	DS-5	Comparative Government and Politics	5	Work in Progress
	DS-6	International Relations: Theory and Approaches	5	Work in Progress
	DS-7	Public Administration: Theory and Concepts	5	Work in Progress
V	DS-8	Public Administration and Public Policies in India	5	Work in Progress
	DS-9	International Relations: Indian Foreign Policy	5	Work in Progress
	DS-10	Western Political Thought – 1	5	Work in Progress
	DS-11	Indian Political Thought – 1	5	Work in Progress
VI	DS-12	Political Sociology	5	Work in Progress
	DS-13	Gender and Politics	5	Work in Progress
	DS-14	Western Political Thought – 2	5	Work in Progress
	DS-15	Indian Political Thought – 2	5	Work in Progress
VII	DS-16	Research Methodology in Social Science	5	Work in Progress
	DS-17	Political Theory: Contemporary Debates	5	Work in Progress
VIII	DS-18	International Relations: Global Politics	5	Work in Progress
	DS-19	Understanding Governance	5	Work in Progress

	DS-20	Human Rights and Politics	5	Work in Progress
	DS-21	Environment and Politics	5	Work in Progress

\*Students of Honours with Research will have to take courses DS-18 and DS-19 only.

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## **4 Year Degree UG Programme (Honours /Honours with Research)**

### **Course Details – Major Paper**

#### **Semester 1**

#### **Major/DS 1 (5 Credits)**

#### **Political Theory: Concepts**

**Credit: 5 (4 + 1)**

#### **Course Objective**

This course is designed to develop a sound understanding of Political Science with the different meanings of politics and how it is interpreted differently by diverse ideological positions. It would further help students to have an understanding of how politics can be theorized. It would introduce them to different concepts of the subject, the interrelationships between the concepts and different theoretical positions related to the concepts. Contemporary debates on key concepts like equality, rights, democracy, citizenship, and justice will allow the students to understand the expanding horizons of discourses in the discipline.

#### **Unit 1**

1. Meaning of the Political - What is Political Theory?
2. Sovereignty – Monism and Pluralism
3. Nation and State – Social Contract Theory
4. Power and Authority – Types and Linkages

#### **Unit 2**

5. Rights, Law, Liberty, Equality (Inter-relationships)
6. Justice - Theory of Rawls
7. Democracy - Models of Democracy (David Held)
8. Citizenship - Nature and Types

#### **Select Readings:**

Leftwich, A. ed. (2005) What is Politics? Polity Press, USA.

Hay, C. (2009) Political Analysis, Palgrave Macmillan, NY, USA.  
 Marsh, D. & G. Stoker, (2010) Theory and Methods in Political Science, Basingstoke, UK, Palgrave  
 Bhargava, R. (2008) 'What is Political Theory', in Bhargava, R and Acharya, A. (eds.) Political Theory: An Introduction. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 2-16. Bellamy, R. (1993) Introduction: The Demise and Rise of Political Theory', in Bellamy, R. (ed.) Theories and Concepts of Politics. New York: Manchester University Press, pp. 1-14. Bellamy, R. Theories and Concepts in Politics: An Introduction.  
 Heywood, A. The Basic Political Concepts.  
 Ramaswamy, S. Political Theory --- Ideas and Concepts.

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Menon, K. (2008) 'Justice', in Bhargava, Rajeev and Acharya, Ashok. (eds.) Political Theory: An Introduction, pp. 74-86.  
 Daniels, N. Reading Rawls.  
 Mandle, J. Rawls's Theory of Justice: An Introduction  
 Menon, N. (2008) 'Power', in Bhargava, Rajeev and Acharya, Ashok. (eds.) Political Theory: An Introduction, pp. 148-157.  
 Held, D. Models of Democracy  
 Bellamy, R. Citizenship – A very short Introduction  
 Verma, S.P. Modern Political Theory  
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## Semester 2

**Major /DS 2 (5 Credits)**  
**Indian Constitution and Government**  
**Credit: 5 (4 + 1)**

### Course Objective

The objective of the course is to familiarize the students with the key elements of the Constitution of India and enable them to critically assess the working of government institutions in the broader framework of constitutionality and factors and forces which attempt to influence them. The course has been designed to let the students have an understanding of the process of evolution of the Constitution and the line of debates in the Constituent Assembly regarding the various provisions of the constitution. On completion of the course the students will have an in-depth knowledge of the functioning of the government, rights and duties of citizens.

## Unit 1

1. Evolution of the Indian Constitution: Constitutional Assembly Debates–Preamble
2. Citizenship -- Fundamental Rights and Duties – Directive Principles of State Policy
3. Indian Federalism: Union – State Relations
4. Constitutional Amendment

## Unit 2

5. Union Executive: President, Vice-President, Prime Minister, Council of Ministers—election, position, functions (Emergency Powers and relationship of Prime Minister and President).
6. Union Legislature: Rajya Sabha, Lok Sabha: Organisation, Functions – Lawmaking procedure, Parliamentary Procedure, Privileges, Committee system—Speaker.
7. Government in States: Governor, Chief Minister and Council of Ministers: position and functions -- State Legislature: composition and functions.
8. Judiciary: Supreme Court and the High Courts: composition and functions – Judicial activism.

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### Select Readings:

Constitution of India: Government of India Latest edition).  
The Constitution of India: Bare Act with Short Notes, (2011).  
Austin, G. The Indian Constitution: Cornerstone of a Nation.  
Austin, G. Working a Democratic Constitution  
Chaube, S.K. The Constituent Assembly--- Springboard of a Revolution (latest edition). Pylee, M.V. India's Constitution.  
Kashyap, S.C. ed. Perspectives on the Constitution.  
Bhargava, R. (ed.) 'Introduction: Outline of a Political Theory of the Indian Constitution', in R. Bhargava (ed.) Politics and Ethics of the Indian Constitution. 2008.  
Basu, D. Introduction to the Constitution of India.  
Chaube, S.K. The Making and Working of the Indian Constitution.  
Shankar, B. and V. Rodrigues The Indian Parliament: A Democracy at Work Kapur, D. and P. B. Mehta (eds.) Public Institutions in India. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. 2005.  
Kirpal, B. et.al (eds.) Supreme but not Infallible: Essays in Honour of the Supreme Court of India.  
Arora, G. and D. Verney (eds.): Multiple Identities in a Single State: Indian Federalism in a Comparative Perspective.  
Dhavan, R. and Saxena R. (2006). The Republic of India', in K. Roy, C. Saunders and J. Kincaid (eds.) A Global Dialogue on Federalism, Volume 3, Montreal: Queen's University Press.  
Baxi, U. (2010) The Judiciary as a Resource for Indian Democracy', Seminar, Issue 615.  
Choudhry, S. Madhav Khosla, and P.B Mehta (Eds.) The Oxford Handbook of the Indian Constitution, OUP (2016).

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**Minor Papers for 4-year UG (Honours/ Honours with Research Programme)**

Semester	Paper	Title		Remark
I	M (A/B) - 1	Political Theory: Concepts	5	Draft Syllab us attach ed
II	M (A/B) - 2	Indian Constitution and Government	5	Draft Syllab us attach ed
III	M (A/B) - 3	Comparative Government and Politics	5	Work in Progre ss
VII	SM – 1	International Relations: Indian Foreign Policy	5	Work in Progre ss
	SM – 2	Politics in India: Structures and Processes	5	Work in Progre ss

**Minor Papers for 3-year UG Multidisciplinary Programme**

Semester	Paper	Title		Remark
I	M (A/B/C) - 1	Political Theory: Concepts	5	Draft Syllab us attach ed
II	M (A/B/C) - 2	Indian Constitution and Government	5	Draft Syllab us attach ed

III	M (A/B/C) - 3	Comparative Government and Politics	5	Work in Progre ss
IV	M (A/B/C) - 4	International Relations: Indian Foreign Policy	5	Work in Progre ss
V	M (A/B/C) - 5	Politics in India: Structures and Processes	5	Work in Progre ss
VI	M (A/B/C) - 6	Public Administration and Public Policies in India	5	Work in Progre ss

### **Course Details – Minor Paper**

#### **Semester 1**

**Minor /MA 1 (5 Credits)**  
**Political Theory: Concepts**  
**Credit: 5 (4 + 1)**

#### **Course Objective**

This course is designed to develop a sound understanding of Political Science with the various different meanings of politics and political and how it is interpreted differently by different ideological positions. The critical engagements will allow the students to develop their own understanding of politics. It would help them to have an understanding of how politics can be theorized. It would introduce the students to different concepts of the subject, the interrelationships between the concepts, and let them have an idea of the different theoretical positions related such concepts. Contemporary debates on equality, rights, democracy, and justice will allow the students to understand the expanding horizons of discourses in the discipline.

#### **Unit 1**

1. Meaning of the Political – What is Political Theory?
2. Sovereignty – Monism and Pluralism
3. Nation and State – Social Contract Theory



4. Rights, Law, Liberty, Equality (Inter-relationships)
5. Justice - Theory of Rawls
6. Democracy - Models of Democracy (David Held)

Bhargava, R. (2008) 'What is Political Theory', in Bhargava, R and Acharya, A. (eds.) Political Theory: An Introduction. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 2-16. Bellamy, R. (1993) Introduction: The Demise and Rise of Political Theory', in Bellamy, R. (ed.) Theories and Concepts of Politics. New York: Manchester University Press, pp. 1-14. Bellamy, R. Theories and Concepts in Politics: An Introduction.

Heywood, A. The Basic Political Concepts.

Ramaswamy, S. Political Theory --- Ideas and Concepts.

Menon, K. (2008) 'Justice', in Bhargava, Rajeev and Acharya, Ashok. (eds.) Political Theory: An Introduction, pp. 74-86.

Daniels, N. Reading Rawls.

Mandle, J. Rawls's Theory of Justice: An Introduction

Menon, N. (2008) 'Power', in Bhargava, Rajeev and Acharya, Ashok. (eds.) Political Theory: An Introduction, pp. 148-157.

Held, D. Models of Democracy

Bellamy, R. Citizenship – A very short Introduction

Verma, S.P. Modern Political Theory

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**Minor /MA 2 (5 Credits)**  
**Indian Constitution and Government**  
**Credit: 5 (4 + 1)**

The objective of the course is to familiarize the students with the key elements of the Constitution of India and enable them to critically assess the working of government institutions in the broader framework of constitutionality and factors and forces which attempt to influence them. The course has been designed to let the students have an idea of the various provisions of the Constitution. On completion of the course the students will have an in-depth knowledge of the functioning of the government, rights and duties of citizens.

1. Significance of the Indian Constitution: The Preamble
2. Citizenship -- Fundamental Rights and Duties

3. Directive Principles of State Policy
4. Indian Federalism: Union – State Relations

## Unit 2

5. Union Executive: President, Vice-President, Prime Minister, Council of Ministers— election, position, functions (Emergency Powers and relationship of Prime Minister and President).
6. Union Legislature: Rajya Sabha, Lok Sabha: Organisation, Functions, Committee system. Speaker.
7. Government in States: Governor, Chief Minister and Council of Ministers: position and functions -- State Legislature: composition and functions.
8. Judiciary: Supreme Court and High Courts: composition and functions – Judicial activism.

## Select Readings:

Constitution of India: Government of India (Latest edition).  
The Constitution of India: Bare Act with Short Notes, (2011).  
Pylee, M.V. India's Constitution.  
Kashyap, S.C. ed. Perspectives on the Constitution.  
Bhargava, R. (ed.) 'Introduction: Outline of a Political Theory of the Indian Constitution', in R. Bhargava (ed.) Politics and Ethics of the Indian Constitution. 2008.  
Basu, D. Introduction to the Constitution of India.  
Shankar, B. and V. Rodrigues The Indian Parliament: A Democracy at Work. Kapur, D. and P. B. Mehta (eds.) Public Institutions in India. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. 2005.  
Kirpal, B. et.al (eds.) Supreme but not Infallible: Essays in Honour of the Supreme Court of India.  
B. Arora, B. and D. Verney (eds.): Multiple Identities in a Single State: Indian Federalism in a Comparative Perspective.  
Dhavan, R. and Saxena R. (2006). The Republic of India', in K. Roy, C. Saunders and J. Kincaid (eds.) A Global Dialogue on Federalism, Volume 3, Montreal: Queen's University Press.  
Baxi, U. (2010) The Judiciary as a Resource for Indian Democracy', Seminar, Issue 615.  
Choudhry, S., Madhav Khosla, and P.B Mehta (Eds.) The Oxford Handbook of the Indian Constitution, OUP (2016).

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## MDC Papers for 4-year Honours/ Honours with Research Programme

Semester MDC	Title Credit Remark
Paper	

I/II/III	MD – 1/2/3	Gender and Politics	3	Draft Syllab us attach ed
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**MDC Papers for 3-year UG Multidisciplinary Programme**

Semester MDC		Title Credit Remark		
Paper				
IV/V/VI	MD – 1/2/3	Gender and Politics	3	Draft Syllab us attach ed

**Course Details – MDC Paper**

**MDC—MD 1/2/3**  
**Gender and Politics**  
**Credit - 3**

**Course Objective**

This course aims to sensitize the students on gender issues and its emerging perspectives and diverse dimensions. It would help them to have a critical understanding of different gender issues, gender discriminations and their underlying causes. Students from different disciplines would develop a conscious understanding of the cross-cutting issue of gender.

1. Conceptualizing Gender: (a) Distinction between sex and gender, (b) Biologism and Social Constructivism, (c) Patriarchy, (d) Equality and Difference, (e) Understanding masculinity and femininity.
2. Theoretical foundations of Feminism: Waves of Feminism.
3. Women's Movement in post-independent India: A critical overview.
4. Gender and Development
5. Gender and Ecology

**Select Readings:**

Geetha, V. Stree.  
Heywood, A. Political Ideologies, Palgrave Mcmillan.  
Menon, N. (2008) 'Gender', in R. Bhargava and A. Acharya (eds), Political Theory: An Introduction, New Delhi: Pearson, pp. 224-233.  
Bryson, V. (1992) Feminist Political Theory, London: Palgrave-MacMillan, pp. 175-180; 196-200.

Khullar, M. Writing the Women's Movement : A Reader, Zubaan.  
 Forbes, G. Women in Modern India, Cambridge University Press.  
 Agnihotri, I., & Mazumdar, V. (1997). Changing the Terms of Political Discourse: Women's Movement in India, 1970s-1990s. Economic and Political Weekly, 30(29), pp. 1869-1878.  
 Kumar, R. History of Doing: An Illustrated Account of Movement for Women's Rights and Feminism in India, Kali for Women.  
 Kalpagam, U. (2000). The Women's Movement in India Today-New Agendas and Old Problems. Feminist Studies, 26(3), pp. 645-660.  
 Ray, R. Handbook of Gender, OUP,

রাজশ্রী বসুও বাসবী চক্রবর্তি (সম্পা.), প্রসঙ্গ মানবতাবাদ, উবঅপ্রকাশন, কলকাতা, ২০০৮।  
 খুসিসন সচৌধুরী (সম্পা.), নারীবাদের নানা ঐতিহ্য, আনন্দ, কলকাতা, ২০২১।

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বাসবী চক্রবর্তি (সম্পা.), নারী ঐতিহ্য: বহুস্বর, উবঅপ্রকাশন, কলকাতা, ২০১১।  
 রাজশ্রী বসু, নারীবাদ, ঐতিহ্যবাহু রাজ্য ঐতিহ্য ঐতিহ্য , কলকাতা, ২০১২।

#### SEC Papers for 4-year Honours/ Honours with Research Programme

Semester MDC		Title Credit Remark		
Paper				
I/II/III	SE – 1/2/3	Democratic Awareness through Legal Literacy	3	Draft Syllabus attached

#### SEC Papers for 3-year UG Multidisciplinary Programme

Semester MDC		Title Credit Remark		
Paper				
III/IV	SE – 1/2	Democratic Awareness through Legal Literacy	3	Draft Syllabus attached
V/VI	SE – 3/4	Survey Research in Social Science	3	Draft Syllabus attached

## **Course Details – SEC Paper**

**Semester 1/ Semester 2/ Semester 3**

**SEC/ SE 1/2**

**Democratic Awareness through Legal Literacy**

**Credit - 3**

### **Course Objective**

This course has the objective of enhancing the skill of students in legal matters by introducing them to the legal system in India, the institutions attached with jurisprudence, and the crucial laws that govern their public and personal lives. It is designed to make the students aware of basic legal matters like, filing an First Information Report (FIR), understand the meaning and process of legal issues like bail, seizure etc.

1. Outline of the Legal system in India - system of courts/tribunals and their jurisdiction in India - criminal and civil courts, writ jurisdiction, specialized courts such as juvenile courts, mahila courts and tribunals.
2. Role of the police and executive in criminal law administration – Laws relating to criminal jurisdiction - provision relating to filing an FIR, arrest, bail search and seizure and some understanding of the questions of evidence and procedure in Cr. P.C. and related laws, important offenses under the Indian Penal Code.
3. Alternate dispute redressal mechanisms – Lok Adalats, Shalishi.
4. Offenses against women, juvenile justice, prevention of atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

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5. Brief understanding of the laws in India – (a) Laws relating dowry, sexual harassment and violence against women, (b) Laws relating consumer rights, cyber crimes, anti terrorist laws.

### **Select Readings:**

Pandey, (2008) 'Laws Relating to Criminal Justice: Challenges and Prospects', in K. Sankaran and U. Singh, Towards Legal Literacy, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp.61-77.

SAHRDC, (2006) 'Reporting a Crime: First Information Report', in Oxford Handbook of Human Rights and Criminal Justice in India - The System and Procedure, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp.16-26.

SAHRDC, (2006) 'Bail', in Oxford Handbook of Human Rights and Criminal Justice in India -The System and Procedure, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp.59-71. SAHRDC, (2006) 'Detention', in Oxford Handbook of Human Rights and Criminal Justice in India- The System and Procedure. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp.72-84. Mathew, P. (2003) Your Rights if you are Arrested, New Delhi. Indian Social Institute. P. Mathew, (2002) The Law on Atrocities Against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, New Delhi: Indian Social Institute.

Saxena, K. (2011) 'Dalits', in M. Mohanty et al., Weapon of the Oppressed, Inventory of People's Rights in India. Delhi: Danish Books, Pp.15-38

Saxena, K. (2011) 'Adivasis', in M. Mohanty et al., Weapon of the Oppressed, Inventory of People's Rights in India, Delhi: Danish Books, Pp.39-65

Durrany, S. (2006) The Protection of Women From Domestic Violence Act 2005, New Delhi:

<https://wcd.nic.in/act/2314>

<https://consumeraffairs.nic.in/acts-and-rules/consumer-protection>

<https://rti.gov.in/>

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## SEC/ SE 2 (3 Credits)

### Survey Research in Social Science

#### Credit - 3

#### Course Objective

The course has been designed to enhance the skill level of students regarding survey work in social science. It would help them develop an idea of what is survey, methods of survey, how to do a sampling, how to prepare a questionnaire and conduct a survey. It would enable them to learn the practical applications of the methodology of survey research in social science.

1. Survey method: (a) Definition and Types, (b) Techniques of survey research: interviewing techniques and types, qualities of a good interviewer, questionnaire – framing a questionnaire, problem of no-response, (c) Advantages and disadvantages of survey method.
2. Sampling: (a) What is sampling? Why do we need to sample? Sample design, Sampling error and non-response. (b) Types of sampling: Non random sampling (quota, purposive and snowball sampling); random sampling: simple and stratified.

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3. Aggregate Data Analysis: (a) Sources of aggregate data, uses of aggregate data, advantages of aggregate data, fallacy of inference. (b) Key concepts in Experimental Design—steps and planning the research, issues of equivalence and validity, classical experimental design.
4. Quantitative Data Analysis: (a) Introduction to quantitative data analysis, (b) Basic concepts: correlation research, causation and prediction, descriptive and Inferential Statistics.

#### Select Readings:

Neuman, W.L. Social Research Methods: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches, Pearson.

McNabb, D.E. (2004) Research Methods for Political Science-Quantitative and Qualitative Methods, New Delhi: Prentice-Hall of India Pvt. Ltd.

Chatterjee, R. (1979) Methods of Political Enquiry, Calcutta: The World Press Pvt. Ltd., 1979.

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ড. সুরতি বশন্দাধ্যাপক, গণবর্ণনা: প্রকরণ ও প্রদত্ত, সদজীবনতঃ, কলকাতা,

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