PSE 510: DECENTRALISATION AND PANCHAYAT SYSTEM IN INDIA (OE)

Course Objectives:

1. Acquaint students with the rich discursive thought and operational experience of Self-government and Community development at local levels.
2. Help students to identify the resources and obstacles in building self-governing communities.
3. Impart skills and capacities to students to build effective local institutions
4. To enable students to involve and relate to the mechanisms of self-governing institutions.

Course Outcomes:

The course will equip students to –

1. Develop a comprehensive understanding of the philosophy, logic and operation of local governments
2. Assess the challenges confronting local administration
3. Understand the significance of the existence of the grass root institutions and associating with them
4. Appreciate the value and develop interest in local governing bodies and prepares them to take up responsibilities at local level

UNIT 1: Introduction

1.1 Development, Democracy and Decentralisation
1.2 Decentralisation – Meaning and significance; Local and local self-government
1.3 The idea of Panchayat Raj - Constituent Assembly Debate
1.4 Gandhi – Ambedkar - Lohia Debate

UNIT 2: Policy Framework

2.1 Constitutional Provisions
2.2 Committees for Decentralisation
2.3 Decentralisation and Constitutional Amendments, Legislative acts
2.4 Political Parties and decentralisation

UNIT 3: Institution of Panchayats

3.1 Nature and forms of Panchayat systems in India with special reference to Karnataka
3.2 Programmes, Functions and Finances of Panchayats
3.3 Government, bureaucracy and Panchayats – Support and control
3.4 Panchayat's role in Democratisation, Rural development and social change

UNIT 4: Decentralisation in practice – Issues and Concerns

4.1 Rural social structure – Influence on composition and operation of Panchayats
4.2 Government programmes and priorities of Panchayats
4.3 Concerns of Panchayats – Finance; Apathetic attitudes of people; Governance, Transparency and Accountability; Corruption; Caste, Patriarchy and Challenges to democratisation; Limited devolution of power; Perspectives on development
4.4 Panchayat system in India – An evaluation; Facilitating panchayat system in India

Basic Readings:

1. Aziz, Abdul., *Decentralization : Mandal panchayat System in Karnataka*, Hyderabad: NIRD, 1994.
2. Bajpai, A., *Panchayat Raj and Rural Development*, Delhi: SahityaPrakashan, 1997.
3. Bhargava,B.S., *Panchayat Raj System and Political Parties*, Delhi: Ashish, 1979.
4. Mathew, George., *Panchayat Raj : From Legislation to Movement*, New Delhi: Concept, 1994.
5. Mathew, George., ed., *Panchayat Raj in Karnataka Today : Its National Dimensions*, New Delhi: Institute of Social Sciences, 1986.
6. Palanithurai, G.P., ed., *Dynamics of New Panchayati Raj system in India*, New Delhi: Concept, 2006
7. Rajneesh, Shalini., *Democratic Decentralisation and Rural Development*, New Delhi: Deep & Deep, 2002.

Suggested Readings:

1. Adiseshiah, M.S., et.al, *Decentralised Planning and Panchayat Raj*, New Delhi: Institute of Social Sciences, 1994.
2. Bhargava, B.S. and Subha, K., *Development Planning and Administration*, New Delhi: Deep and Deep, 1992.
3. Biddle, W.William. and Biddle, L.J., *Community Development Process : Rediscovery of Local Initiative*, New Delhi: Amerind, 1970.
4. Bhargava,B.S., *Grassroots Leadership : A Study of Leadership in Panchayat Raj Institutions*, Delhi: Ashish, 1979.
5. Jha, S.N., and Mathur,P.C., *Decentralization and Local Politics*, New Delhi: Sage,1999.
6. Jain,R.B., ed., *Panchayat Raj*, New Delhi: Indian Institute of Public Administration, 1981.
7. Jain, L.C., *Grass Without Roots*, New Delhi: Sage, 1987.
8. Khanna, B.S., *Panchayat Raj in India*, Delhi: Deep and Deep, 1994.
9. Krishnan,M.G., *Panchayat Raj in India : An Analytical Study of Karnataka*, New Delhi: Mittal, 1992.
10. Mishra,S.N., *Panchayat Raj, Bureaucracy and Rural Development*, New Delhi: Indian Institute of Public Administration, 1986.
11. Rama Reddy,G., *Pattern of Panchayat Raj in India : A Study of Politico – Administrative Dynamics*, Delhi: Macmilan, 1977.
12. Raghavan Biju, Mootheril., *Panchayati Raj System in India: A symbol of participatory democracy and decentralised development*, Kanishka, 2008
13. Sham Bhat, V.K., *New Panchayat Raj System: A Study of Politico – Administrative Dynamics*, Jaipur: Rupa, 1995.
14. Sivanna, N., *Panchayat Raj Reforms and Rural Development*, Allahabad: Chugh, 1990.
15. Thakur ,D., and Singh, S.N., eds., *District Planning and Panchayat Raj*, New Delhi: Deep and Deep, 1991.