

Value Added Course

Constitutional Government and Democracy in India

Course Objective

The aim behind introducing this course is to let the students to know the fundamentals of constitution and state mechanism. Indian Constitution is a unique one and our students will have an idea about various aspects like liberty, equality, fundamental rights and duties along with the system of administration in India. The organs like Legislature, Executive and Judiciary are the pillars of Democracy in India and study of these areas will enable students to understand the system of state function properly. It encourages a study of the mutual interaction of various institutions of the state as well as their interaction with the larger extra-constitutional environment. The course is expected to enable students to get themselves aware of their rights and duties and develop the ability to construct rigorous arguments on Indian politics. In addition, the course explains the complex ways in which the emergency provisions work and how security laws may be understood within the larger constitutional framework.

Course Learning Outcomes

With the successful completion of this course the students understood the origin and evolution of the Indian Constitution. They became aware of the system of government functions through its various organs and the division of power in Indian Democracy. The students were also enabled to understand the rural as well as urban local self-government and their role in various constructive measures of the country. The course also helped in understanding various emergency provisions of nation and state along with laws related to it.

Unit-I: The Constituent Assembly and the Constitution

1. The Preamble and Features of Constitution
2. Citizenship
3. Fundamental Rights, Directive Principles of State Policy
4. Fundamental Duties

Unit-II: Organs of the Government

1. Parliament and Legislative functions
2. The Executive

3. Independent Judiciary

Unit-III: Federalism and Decentralization

1. Centre State Relation
2. Rural-Local Self Government
3. Urban-Local Self Government

Unit-IV: Constitutional Provisions and National Security Law

1. National Emergency
2. State Emergency
3. Preventive Detention and National Security Law

Reading List-

1. G. Austin, *The Indian Constitution: Cornerstone of a Nation*, New Delhi, 2010.
2. M. Khosla, *The Indian Constitution*, New Delhi, 2012.
3. S. K. Chaube, *The Making and Working of the Indian Constitution*, New Delhi, 2010.
4. M. P. Singh and Rekha Saxena, *Federalising India in the Age of Globalisation*, New Delhi, 2013.
5. A. G. Noorani, *Challenges to Civil Rights Guarantees in India*, New Delhi, 2011.