

## **PSE456: DECENTRALISATION AND PANCHAYAT SYSTEM IN INDIA**

### Learning Objectives :

1. *Acquaint students with the rich discursive thought and operational experience on 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.*

### Learning Outcomes: *The course will enable students to –*

1. *Develop a comprehensive understanding of the philosophy, logic and operation of local governments*
2. *Assess the challenges confronting local administration*
3. *Have a sense of belonging to the neighbourhood*

### **Block I: Introduction**

- Unit 1 Development, Democracy and Decentralisation
- Unit 2 Decentralisation – Meaning and significance; Local and local self government
- Unit 3 The idea of Panchayat Raj - Constituent Assembly Debate
- Unit 4 Gandhi – Ambedkar - Lohia Debate

### **Block II: Policy Framework**

- Unit 5 Constitutional Provisions
- Unit 6 Committees for Decentralisation
- Unit 7 Decentralisation and Constitutional Amendments, Legislative acts
- Unit 8 Political Parties and decentralisation

### **Block III: Institution of Panchayats**

- Unit 9 Nature and forms of Panchayat systems in India with special reference to Karnataka
- Unit 10 Programmes, Functions and Finances of Panchayats
- Unit 11 Government, bureaucracy and Panchayats – Support and control
- Unit 12 Panchayat's role in Democratisation, Rural development and social change

### **Block IV : Decentralisation in practice – Issues and Concerns**

- Unit 13 Rural social structure – Influence on composition and operation of Panchayats
- Unit 14 Government programmes and priorities of Panchayats

Unit 15        Concerns of Panchayats – Finance; Apathetic Peoples Participation;  
Governance,  
transparency and Accountability; Corruption; Caste, Patriarchy and  
Challenges to  
democratisation; Limited devolution of power; Perspectives on development

Unit 16        Panchayat system in India – An evaluation; Facilitating panchayat system in  
India

### **Basic Reading**

1. Aziz, Abdul., *Decentralization : Mandal panchayat System in Karnataka*, Hyderabad: NIRD, 1994.
2. Bajpai, A., *Panchayat Raj and Rural Development*, Delhi: Sahitya Prakashan, 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. Adishesiah, 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: Macmillan, 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.