



MANGALORE UNIVERSITY
Department of Political Science
MA POLITICAL SCIENCE

PSE456: DECENTRALISATION AND PANCHAYAT SYSTEM IN INDIA (OE)

Course 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.

Course 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
4. Understand the significance of the existence of the grass root institutions and associating with them

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. 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: 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.