

5th SEMESTER
SKILL ENHANCEMENT COURSE (SEC)

PSC517S: DEMOCRATIC AWARENESS WITH LEGAL LITERACY

Credits: THEORY: 02, TUTORIAL: 02

Course Objective: The Proposed course aims to acquaint student with the structure and manner of functioning of the legal system in India. It aims to familiarize student should be aware of the institutions that comprise the legal system □ the courts, police, jails and the system of criminal justice administration. Have a brief knowledge of the Constitution and laws of India, an understanding of the formal and alternate dispute redressal (ADR) mechanisms that exist in India, public interest litigation.

Theory (02 Credits)

Unit I:

- 1.1 Outline of the Legal System in India.
- 1.2 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.
- 1.3 Role of the Police and Executive in Criminal Law Administration.
- 1.4 Alternative Dispute Mechanisms such as Lok-Adalats, Non-formal Mechanisms.

Unit II:

- 2.1 Brief Understanding of the Laws applicable in India.
- 2.2 Constitution- Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties, other Constitution Right sand their manner of Enforcement, with emphasis on Public Interest Litigation and Expansion of Certain Rights under Article 21 of the Constitution
- 2.3 Laws Relating to Criminal Jurisdiction - Provision relating to filing an FIR, Arrest, Bail Search and Seizure.
- 2.4 Important offences under the Indian penal Code: Offences against Women, Juvenile Justice, Prevention of Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Tutorial (02 Credits)

Unit III:

3.1 Access to Courts and Enforcement of Rights

- (i) Critical Understanding of the Functioning of the Legal System.
- (ii) Legal Services Authorities Act and Right to Legal Aid, ADR systems.

Unit IV:

Practical application

- 4.1 **What to do if you are Arrested:** if you are a Consumer with a Grievance; if you are a Victim of Sexual Harassment: Domestic Violence, Child Abuses, Caste, Ethnic and Religious Discrimination; Filling a Public Interest Litigation. How can you challenge Administrative **Orders** that Violate Rights, Judicial and Administrative Remedies?
- 4.2 **Using a Hypothetical Case:** of (for example) Child Abuse or Sexual Harassment or any other Violation of a Rights, Preparation of an FIR or writing a Complaint addresses to the appropriate Authority.

Suggested Readings:

- 1 Kamala Sankaran and Ujjawal Singh (Ed.), **Creating Legal Awareness**, (Delhi: OUP, 2007).
- 2 **Legal Literacy: A** available amongst Interdisciplinary Courses on Institute of Life Long Learning(Delhi University) Virtual Learning Portal namely vle.du.ac.in
- 3 Multiple Action Research Group, **Our Laws Vols 1-10**, Delhi. Available in Hindi also.
- 4 Indian Social Institute, New Delhi, **Legal Literacy Series Booklets**.
- 5 S.K. Agarwala, **Public Interest Litigation in India**, K.M. Memorial Lecture, Second Series, Indian Law Institute, Delhi, 1985.
- 6 S.P. Sathe, **Towards Gender Justice**, Research Centre for Women's' Studies, SNTD Women's University, Bombay, 1993.
- 7 Asha Bajpai, **Child Rights in India: Law, Policy, and Practice**, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2003.
- 8 Agnes, Flavia Law and Gender Equality, OUP, 1997.
- 9 Sagade, Jaga, **Law of Maintenance: An Empirical Study**, ILS Law Collage, Pune 1996.
- 10 B.L Wadhwa, **Public Interest Litigation- A Handbook**, University Delhi, 2003.
- 11 Nomita Aggarwal, **Women and Law in India**, New CENTURY, Delhi, 2002.
- 12 P.C Rao and William Sheffiled **Alternative Dispute Resolution: What it is and how it works**, Universal law Books and Publisherd, Delhi, 2002.
- 13 V.N.Shukla's **Constitution of India Eastern Book CO**. 10th edition 2001.
- 14 Parmanand Sing, 'Access to Justice and the Indian Supreme Court, 10 & 1 Delhi Law RAW Review 156, 1981-82.