

CENTRE FOR POLITICAL STUDIES
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY
MONSOON SEMESTER 2021

M.A. COMPULSORY COURSE: PO 411

COURSE TITLE: **INDIAN POLITICS II: POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS**

INSTRUCTOR: PROFESSOR ANUPAMA ROY & DR TAPAN BIHARI

Credits 4

Scheme of Evaluation: Class participation; Assignments; Mid semester (50%); End semester exam (50%)

Parliamentary and representative institutions traverse a distinctive course in India. By and large, these institutions have held their own and guided the course of India's complex polity. However, they have also been transformed in significant respects when confronted with the demands of Indian democracy and the challenges of development. The relations between some of these institutions, such as the Legislatures and Courts, and Union Government and State Governments have been highly tortuous at times but such tensions have often led to redefine the scope of these institutions without necessarily leading to their breakdown. Several new institutions and modes of accountability have arisen to take charge of demands that have been mounted from time to time. This course introduces the student to the leading institutions of Indian polity and the change that has taken place overtime.

1. Making of Political Institutions

(i) Constitutionalism in the Postcolonial Context

(ii) Constituent Assembly Debates

(iii) Constitutional Law and Change

Required Readings:

Constituent Assembly Debates (Selections).

Austin Granville, *The Indian Constitution: Cornerstone of a Nation*, Oxford University Press, Delhi, 1966.

Baxi, Upendra, 'Outline of a 'Theory of Practice' of Indian Constitutionalism', in Rajeev Bhargava ed., *Politics and Ethics of the Indian Constitution*, New Delhi, Oxford University Press, 2008, pp.93-118.

2. Judicial Power and Rule of Law

(i) Judicial Independence, Judicial Review

(ii) Judicial Activism, Public Interest Litigation

(iii) Civil Liberties, Preventive Detention and Extraordinary Laws (MISA, TADA, POTA, NSA etc.).

Required Readings:

Hasan Zoya et al., eds., *India's Living Constitution: Ideas, Practices, Controversies*, Permanent Black, New Delhi, 2002.

Bhuwania, Anuj, *Courting the People: Public Interest Litigation in Post-Emergency India*, New Delhi, Cambridge University Press, 2017.

Singh Ujjwal Kumar, *State, Democracy and Anti-Terror Laws*, Sage Publications, New Delhi, 2007.

3. Executive and Political Leadership

(i) President: Modes of exercise of powers

(ii) Prime Minister and the Cabinet: Collective Responsibility and Accountability to the Parliament. The PMO

(iii) Governors and Chief Ministers: Changing Role and Institutional Relationship

Required Readings:

Manor James, ed., *Nehru to the Nineties: The Changing Office of Prime Minister in India*, Viking Press, New Delhi, 1994.

Mehra Ajay K. and V. A. Pai Panandiker, *The Indian Cabinet: A Study in Governance*, Konark Publishers, New Delhi, 1996.

MorrisJones W.H., *Parliament in India*, University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia, PA, 1957.

Rudolph Lloyd and Susanne, *The Realm of Institutions: State Formation and Institutional Change*, Vol II, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2008.

4. Legislatures and Representation

(i) Composition, Powers, Reservations

(ii) Antidefection Provisions, and Parliamentary Committees

(iii) Election Commission and Electoral Reforms

Required Readings:

Shankar, B.L. and Valerian Rodrigues, *The Indian Parliament: A Democracy at Work*, New Delhi, Oxford University, 2011.

Ujjwal Kumar Singh and Anupama Roy, *The Election Commission of India: Institutionalising Democratic Uncertainties*, New Delhi, Oxford University Press, 2019.

5. Federal Institutions

(i) Strong Centre Framework and Commissions on Centre state Relations

(ii) Central Interventions and State Rights

(iii) Autonomy and Devolution: Federal Reforms and multilevel Federalism

Required Readings:

Arora Balveer and Douglas Verney, eds., *Multiple Identities in a Single State: Indian Federalism in Comparative Perspective*, Konark Publishers, New Delhi, 1995.

Brass Paul R., *The Politics of India since Independence*, Cambridge University Press, London, 1991.

Kapur Devesh and Pratap B Mehta., eds., *Public Institutions in India: Performance and Design*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2007.

Mukherji Nirmal and Balveer Arora, eds., *Federalism in India: Origins and Development*, Vikas Publishing House, New Delhi, 1992.

Saez Lawrence, *Federalism without a Centre: The Impact of Political and Economic Reforms on India's Federal System*, Sage, New Delhi, 2002.

6. New Institutions and Governance

(i) Transparency and Accountability: CVC, NHRC, CIC.

(ii) Inclusion and Accommodation: NCSC, NCST, NCM, NCLRM.

Required Readings:

Frankel Francine et al., eds., *Transforming India: Social and Political Dynamics of Democracy*, Oxford University Press, Delhi, 2000.

Galanter Marc, *Law and Society in Modern India*, edited with an introduction by Rajeev Dhavan, Oxford University Press, Delhi, 1989.

Hardgrave Robert L., *India: Government and Politics in a Developing Nation*, Harcourt, Jovanovich, New York, 1980.

Keith A.B., *Constitutional History of India*, Methuen and Co, London, 1936.

Kohli Atul, ed., *The Success of India's Democracy*, Cambridge University Press, London, 2001.

MorrisJones W.H., *The Government and Politics in India*, B.I. Publications, New Delhi, 1971.

Noorani A.G., *Constitutional Questions in India: The President, Parliament and the States*, Oxford University Press, Delhi, 2000.

Pylee M.V., *India's Constitution*, Asia Publishing House, New Delhi, 1962.

Rao K.V. and K.M. Munshi, *Parliamentary Democracy of India*, The World Press Private Ltd, Calcutta, 1965.

Weiner Myron, *The Indian Paradox: Essays in Indian Politics*, edited by Ashutosh Varshney Ashutosh, Sage Publications, New Delhi, 1989.

" Please note that the course content is intended for a regular one semester course (four months). If there are changes in the duration of the semester, corresponding modifications will be applied with reference to the topics, class lectures and readings"