

B.A Political Science

Semester VI

Human Rights Gender and Environment

(Generic Electric) Paper II

Course Objective: This course aims at enabling the students to understand the issues concerning the rights of citizens in general and the marginalized groups in particular, and assess the institutional and policy measures which have been taken in response to the demands of various movements. Conceptual dimensions, international trends and the Indian experience form the contents of the course.

MODULE-I: Understanding Social Inequality

Caste, Gender, Ethnicity and Class as distinct categories and their interconnection.
Globalisation and its impact on workers, peasants, dalits, adivasis and women.

MODULE-II: Human Rights

Human Rights: Various Meanings
UN Declarations and Covenants
Human Rights and Citizenship Rights
Human Rights and the Indian Constitution
Human Rights, Laws and Institutions in India; the role of the National Human Rights Commission.
Human Rights of Marginalized Groups: Dalits, Adivasis, Women, Minorities and Unorganized Workers.
Consumer Rights: The Consumer Protection Act and grievance redressal mechanisms. □
Human Rights Movement in India.

MODULE-III: Gender

Analysing Structures of Patriarchy
Gender, Culture and History
Economic Development and
The issue of Women's Political Participation and Representation in India
Laws, Institutions and Women's Rights in India
Women's Movements in India

MODULE-IV: Environment

Environmental and Sustainable Development
UN Environment Programme: Rio, Johannesburg and after.
Issues of Industrial Pollution, Global Warming and threats to Bio – diversity
Environment Policy in India
Environmental Movement in India

Suggested Readings

- Agarwal, Anil and Sunita Narain (1991), *Global Warming and Unequal World: A Case of Environmental Colonialism*, Centre for Science and Environment, Delhi.
- Baxi, Upendra (2002), *The Future of Human Rights*, Oxford University Press, Delhi.
- Beteille, Andre (2003), *Antinomies of Society: Essays on Ideology and Institutions*, Oxford University Press, Delhi.
- Geetha, V. (2002) *Gender*, Stree Publications, Kolkata.
- Ghanshyam Shah, (1991) *Social Movements in India*, Sage Publications, Delhi.
- Guha, Ramachandra and Madhav Gadgil, (1993) *Environmental History of India*, University of California Press, Berkeley.
- Haragopal, G. (1997) *The Political Economy of Human Rights*, Himachal Publishing House, Mumbai.
- Menon, Nivedita (ed) (2000) *Gender and Politics in India*, Oxford University Press, Delhi.
- Patel, Sujata et al (eds) (2003) *Gender and Caste: Issues in Contemporary Indian Feminism*, Kali for Women, Delhi.
- Shah, Nandita and Nandita Gandhi (1992) *Issues at Stake: Theory and Practice in the Contemporary Women's Movement in India*, Kali for Women, Delhi.