

**B.A Political Science**  
**Semester IV**  
**Legislative Practices and Procedures**  
**(SEC)Paper IV**

**Course Description:-**

To acquaint the student broadly with the legislative process in India at various levels, introduce them to the requirements of peoples' representatives and provide elementary skills to be part of a legislative support team and expose them to real life legislative work. These will be, to understand complex policy issues, draft new legislation, track and analyse ongoing bills, make speeches and floor statements, write articles and press releases, attend legislative meetings, conduct meetings with various stakeholders, monitor media and public developments, manage constituent relations and handle inter-office communications. It will also deepen their understanding and appreciation of the political process and indicate the possibilities of making it work for democracy.

**MODULE-I: Powers and functions of people's representative at different tiers of governance**

Members of Parliament, State legislative assemblies, functionaries of rural and urban local self - government from Zila Parishad, Municipal Corporation to Panchayat/ward.

**MODULE-II: Supporting the legislative process**

How a bill becomes law, role of the Standing committee in reviewing a bill, legislative consultants, the framing of rules and regulations.

**MODULE-III: Supporting the Legislative Committees**

Types of committees, role of committees in reviewing government finances, policy, programmes, and legislation.

**MODULE-IV: Reading the Budget Document**

*Overview* of Budget Process, Role of Parliament in reviewing the Union Budget, Railway *Budget* Examination of Demands for Grants of Ministries, Working of Ministries.

**MODULE-V: Support *in* media monitoring and communication**

Types of media and their significance for legislators; Basics of communication in print and *electronic* media.

## **Suggested Readings:**

H. Kalra, (2011) *Public Engagement with the Legislative Process* PRS, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi

P. Mehta, 'India's Unruly Democracy: The Rise of Judicial Sovereignty', *Journal of Democracy*

Celestine, (2011) *How to Read the Union Budget* PRS, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi.

G. Rose, (2005) 'How to Be a Media Darling: There's No getting Away From it', *State Legislatures*

N. Jayal and P. Mehta (eds), (2010) *The Oxford Companion to Politics in India*, Oxford University Press: New Delhi,