



**Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani**  
Hyderabad Campus

## SECOND SEMESTER 2022-2023

### Course Handout Part II

Date: 16-01-2023

In addition to part-I (General Handout for all courses appended to the time table) this portion gives further specific details regarding the course.

Course No. : HSS F362  
Course Title : Local Governance and Participation  
Instructor-in-Charge : Dr. Lavanya Suresh  
Email ID of IC : lavanya@hyderabad.bits-pilani.ac.in

### **Scope and Objective of the Course:**

Strengthening local governments is one of the most important governance challenges in India today. A strong and empowered local government can bring together inclusive growth with inclusive governance. The course will introduce students to key concepts and ideas of decentralization with a focus on the constitutional framework for the same in the Indian context. This will include understanding the 73rd and 74th Constitutional amendments; the Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA); the idea and impact of reservations for women, scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other marginalized communities. State wise and sectoral case studies will be used to further engage and explain the idea of local governance and participation.

After course completion, students will be able to-

- Understand the larger political debate of devolving power to local governments
- Connect the national movement for an independent India to the ideas of direct democracy and participation
- Elaborate on means to include marginalized sections of society in policy making
- Discuss and analyze constitutional change and policy decisions that make government more accountable
- Analyse the challenges in participation of the common man in public policy and governance

### **Textbooks (TB):**

1. Raghunandan, T R (eds.) (2012). *Decentralisation and Local Governments: The Indian Experience*. New Delhi: Orient Blackswan Private Limited.

### **Reference books**

1. Jodhka (2002) Nation and Village Images of Rural India in Gandhi, Nehru and Ambedkar, EPW
2. Sivaramakrishnan (2013) Revisiting the 74th Constitutional Amendment for Better Metropolitan Governance, EPW, vol xlviii no 13, Pg 89-97



3. Gandhi, M.K. (1959) Panchayat Raj. Compiled by : R. K. Prabhu. Link : [http://www.mkgandhi.org/ebks/panchayat\\_raj.pdf](http://www.mkgandhi.org/ebks/panchayat_raj.pdf)
4. Crook, Richard and James Manor (2000) 'Democratic Decentralization', OED Working, Paper No. 11, Washington, DC: World Bank

### Course Plan:

Lecture No.	Learning objectives	Topics to be covered	Chapter in the Text Book
1-4	To understand the political role of panchayat raj	Decentralisation below state level	Chapter 2
5-7		Decentralized planning	Chapter 3
8-10		Panchayati Raj Bills, Acts and Constitutional amendments, Grassroots politics	Chapter 4
11-13	To discuss functional and financial devolution	Fiscal decentralisation to the sub-state level governments	Chapter 17 and ref.
14-16		Functional devolution to local bodies	Chapter 18 And ref.
17-20		Federalism, urban decentralisation and citizen participation	Chapter 16
21-23		Poverty alleviation and efforts of panchayats	Chapter 11
24-26	To examine inclusiveness and participation	Women in Panchayati Raj	Chapter 6 and ref.
27-30		Impact of reservation in local bodies	Chapter 14
31-33		Local democracy and clientelism	Chapter 23
34-36	To elaborate on the challenges and prospects of local government and participation	Neighborhood associations and local democracy	Chapter 19
37-39		Law of two-child norm in Panchayat	Chapter 15
40-42		Beyond feminine public altruism	Chapter 25

### Evaluation Scheme:

Component	Duration (Minutes)	Weightage (%)	Date & Time	Nature of Component
Assignment	NA	30	TBA	Open Book
Mid Semester Exam	90	30	16/03 9.30 - 11.00AM	Open Book
Comprehensive Exam	180	40	15/05 FN	Open Book



**Chamber Consultation Hour:** Will be shared on the CMS.

**Notices:** Notices will be displayed **only** on CMS

**Make-up:** The make-up for an evaluation component will be given only in genuine cases with documentary proof.

**Academic Honesty and Integrity Policy:** Academic honesty and integrity are to be maintained by all the students throughout the semester and no type of academic dishonesty is acceptable.

**Dr. Lavanya Suresh**

**INSTRUCTOR-IN-CHARGE**

