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**BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE, Pilani**  
**Hyderabad Campus**  
**First Semester, 2023-2024**

**Date: 11:08:2023**

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. : GS F233**  
**Course Title : Public Policy**  
**Instructor- In- Charge : Harsh Mittal**

### **1. Scope and objective of the course:**

This course seeks to introduce the participants to the field of public policy that is concerned with studying how policies, regulations, state institutions, and laws at various levels get made, implemented and contested as part of ongoing processes. We shall explore a few inter-connected policy fields - energy, environment, health, and digital society. This exploration would bring out the unique role that institutions such as the Parliament, the political parties, the bureaucracy, and the higher judiciary play in policy processes in the Indian context. The course shall also briefly introduce policy process theories, models and approaches that claim to explain how policies are made and are acted upon. These include the Policy stages/cycle mode, the Multiple-Streams Framework, the Policy Feedback Approach, and the Discursive Policy analysis. While engaging with each of these policy analysis approaches, we would have an in-depth engagement with a specific case of Indian context. Through the exploration of various policy fields and theoretical approaches to policy process, the course would essentially attempt building preliminary skills to conduct policy analysis that is sought after by governments and various other organizations.

### **2. Pedagogy:**

The course would work with a minimal set of lectures. In classroom, there would be mostly exercises (individual and group) that would feed into all assessments.

### **3. Text Book (TB)**

Colebatch, H. (2009). *Policy (third edition)*. McGraw-Hill Education (UK).

### **4. Reference Book (RB):**

RB1: Ayyar, R. V. (2009). *Public policymaking in India*. Pearson Education India

RB2: Mathur, K. (2013). *Public policy and politics in India: How institutions matter*. OUP Catalogue.



RB3: Vishal Narain (2018). *Public policy: a view from the South*. Cambridge, England, Cambridge University Press, 2018, 220 pp., ISBN 9781108429580

RB4: Chakrabarti, R., 2017. *Shaping policy in India: Alliance, advocacy, activism*. Oxford University Press.

## 5. Course Plan

Lect . No.	Learning Objectives	Topics to be covered	Reference
1-3	To familiarize with the use of policy in everyday life and appreciate Policy as a Social Science concept	<b>Public Policy-meaning nature and types</b>	Preface of Textbook, pg. ix-x. Textbook, Chapter One: Why worry about it. Pg. 1-6.
4-6	To differentiate between Policy and other closely related concepts: politics, administration, management, regulation, governance	<b>Policy and Politics</b> <b>Policy and Administration</b> <b>Policy and management</b> <b>Policy and regulation</b>	Textbook, Chapter Two: What's the idea? pg. 7-22. Textbook, Chapter Five: What's going on? Pg. 23-33. Textbook, Chapter Five: What else is there? Pg. 63-79.
7-9	To learn basic concepts useful for analyzing policy process	<b>Policy process</b> <b>Interest groups</b>	Reference Book 1, Chapter three: Policy Process. Reference Book 2, Chapter seven: Policy Environment: Interest Groups.
10-13	To situate policies, politics, regulations, administrations as part of policy process unfolding through interactions at multiple sites	<b>Approaches and models of public policy</b> <b>Case: Formulation of Environment Impact Assessment Guidelines in India</b>	Turaga, R. M. R. (2016). The politics of formulation of environmental impact assessment regulation in India: A case study. <i>Journal of Environmental Assessment Policy and Management</i> , 18(02), 1650016.
14-16	To understand how agenda-setting happens within pluralist setups	<b>Kingdon's Multiple Streams Approach</b>	Zahariadis, N. (2016). Bounded rationality and garbage can models of policy-making. <i>Contemporary approaches to public policy: theories, controversies and perspectives</i> , 155-174.



		<b>Nature of public process-process in the executive;</b> <b>Case: Coal plant regulation</b>	Turaga, R. M. R., & Mittal, H. (2023). The policy process of adopting environmental standards for coal plants in India: accommodating transnational politics in the Multiple Streams Framework. <i>Policy &amp; Politics</i> , 51(2), 334-361.
17-21	To understand the role of institutions within policy process	<b>Parliamentary processes</b> <b>Judicial policy making.</b> <b>Case: Delhi CNG mandate</b>	Reference Book 2, Chapter four: Battling for clean environment: Supreme Court, Technocrats, and populist politics in Delhi.
22-25	To understand how public policy shapes politics	<b>Processes to manage the ruling party-government interfaces</b> <b>Case: Asha Workers</b>	Mettler, S., & SoRelle, M. (2018). Policy feedback theory. In <i>Theories of the policy process</i> (pp. 103-134). Routledge.  Nichols, Carly, Falak Jalali, and Harry Fischer. 2022. "The 'Corona Warriors'? Community Health Workers in the Governance of India's COVID-19 Response." <i>Political Geography</i> 99 (November): 102770.
29-32	To learn about the participation of corporations and other non-state actors in policy process	<b>Consultants in policy process</b> <b>Strategic thinking on the process of policymaking</b>	Reference Book 2, Chapter eight: Governance as Networks: Emerging relationships among the state, business, and NGOs in India.
34-36	To understand coalition building in policy fields	<b>Discourse-coalitions</b> <b>Case: Water supply</b> <b>Case: Urban Transport</b>	Hajer, M. A. (1993). Discourse coalitions and the institutionalization of practice: the case of acid rain in Great Britain. In <i>Argumentative turn in policy analysis and planning</i> (pp. 51-84). Routledge.  Asthana, V. (2011). The urban water reform project: a critical discourse analysis of the water policy making process in Delhi, India. <i>Water Policy</i> , 13(6), 769-781.  Mittal, Harsh, and Arpit Shah. "Discursive politics and policy (im) mobility: Metro-TOD policies in India." <i>Environment and Planning C: Politics and Space</i> 40.2 (2022): 463-480.



<b>38-40</b>	To learn about the globalized nature of contemporary policy processes	<b>Global policy processes</b> <b>Case: Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules</b>	Reference Book 3, Chapter three: Where does policy change come from? Context, ideas, and People.
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#### 6. Evaluation Scheme: 100%

Sl. No.	Component	Duration	Weightage (%)	Date & Time	Nature of Component
01.	Project - 1 <sup>st</sup> submission	-	15	TBA	Open Book; Involves group work
02.	Mid term	90 minutes	25	13/10 - 9.30 - 11.00AM	Closed Book
03.	Project- final submission	-	30	TBA	Open Book; Involves group work
04.	Comprehensive	180 minutes	30	18/12 FN	Partially Open Book

**7. 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.

**8. Chamber Consultation Hour:** Chamber Number K-101, HSS Department, Time: 3:30-5 pm, Tuesday and Thursday

**Course Notices:** Notices, if any, will be displayed on the HSS Notice Board.

**Make-up:** Make-up components will be allowed provided there would be documentary support from SWD to prove the case. For health-related emergencies, a letter from the Health Centre is required. Prescriptions will not do.

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**Harsh Mittal**  
**INSTRUCTOR-IN-CHARGE**

