

## SECOND SEMESTER

### Specialisation Course-III: **Local Self Government and Federal Governance**

#### Objectives:

The idea of self-governance is now universally accepted. Through decentralization of power, decision making and service delivery can be brought closer to people. To strengthen decentralization the 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> amendments were brought to the Constitution providing opportunities for all sections of the society to participate in governance. The structural changes effected in the legal framework of the States to comply with these amendments have succeeded to provide credibility to the local bodies. This course is designed to introduce the students to the decentralized machinery in place, its functioning and the challenges place.

#### Course Content:

##### UNIT-I

Decentralization and Democracy-interrelationship; Conceptual Analysis- Local Self Governance and Federalism; Historical Background of Local Self Governance in India- Brief History – Ancient- Medieval- Pre and Post Constitutional Period; Thoughts on Local Governance- M.K.Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Dr.B.R.Ambedkar.

##### UNIT-II

Constitutional Dimensions of Local Self Governance; Constituent Assembly Debates on Self Governance; Constitution and Political Justice; Constructional (Amendment Act), 1992- Eleventh Schedule; Self Governance- Review of Central Acts- *Panchayath (Extension to Scheduled Area) Act, 1996*; 74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment.

##### UNIT-III

Rural Local Bodies- Panchayth Raj Institutions- Historical Overview of Karnataka; Karnataka Panchayth Raj Act, 1993- Basic features; Ward Sabha and Grama Sabha; Composition, Powers and Functions of Zila Panchayath, Taluk Panchayath, Gram Panchayath; Constitution of Panchayth; Strural issues of Panchayath Raj institutions- Election, finance, Reservation, Personnel Staff.

##### UNIT- IV

Urban Local Bodies- Urban Self Governance- Historical Overview of Karnataka- The Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1964, Corporation Act 1976- Basic features; Composition, Powers and Functions of Corporation, City Municipalities, Town Municipalities and Town Panchayats; Structural issues of Urban Local Bodies- Election, Finance, Reservation, Personnel Staff

## **UNIT- V**

Federalism and Democracy; Federalism and Decentralization; Federalism under Indian Constitution; Devolution of Administrative, Legislative, Financial powers to the Local Bodies.

### **Suggested Books:**

Mathew J and Jain L.C. (Eds), *Decentralisation and Local Governance*, (New Delhi: Blackswan, 2005).

Kuldeep Mathur, *From the Government to Governance*, (New Delhi: National Book Trust , 2009).

Ghosh, Budhadeb and Girish Kumar, *State Politics and Panchayaths in India*, (New Delhi: Monohar Publications, 2003).

### **References:**

*The Constitution of India*

*The Panchayath (Extension to Scheduled Area) Act, 1996*

*The Karnataka Panchayth Raj Act, 1993*

*The Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1964,*

*The Karnataka Corporation Act 1976*

UNDP Policy papers on Decentralization