

BPS-9603.

2) Human Rights Gender and Environment

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.

Expected Learning Outcome: The study of the course will equip the students with theoretical and conceptual understanding of socio – economic and political problems of marginalized groups in society such as women, dalits, minorities and adivasis and repercussions of contemporary developments on globalization on them.

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.

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.

III Gender

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

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

Essential 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.

