KRISHNA KANTA HANDIQUI STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY

Two Year Postgraduate Programme

Value Added Courses (VACs)

2023

VAC 102

Essentials of Indian Constitution

UNIT 1: MAKING OF THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION

Formation of the Constituent Assembly, Drafting Committee, Adoption of the Constitution of India

UNIT 2: PHILOSOPHY AND IDEALS OF THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION

Philosophy and Ideals of the Indian Constitution: The Preamble of the Constitution of India; Sources of the Indian Constitution

UNIT 3: FEATURES OF THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION

Salient Features of the Indian Constitution

UNIT 4: FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL DUTIES

Meaning, Historical Background, Nature, Importance, Categories of Fundamental Rights, Limitations of Fundamental Rights; Fundamental Duties: Background, Types and Significance of Fundamental Duties

UNIT 5: DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES OF STATE POLICY

Meaning, Nature and Classification of Directive Principles of State Policy; Difference between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy

UNIT 6: GOVERNMENT AT THE UNION AND STATE LEVELS

Government at the Union level: The President of India, The Vice-President of India, The Union Council of Ministers, The Prime Minister; Government at the State level: The Governor, The State Council of Ministers and the Chief Minister

UNIT 7: THE PARLIAMENT OF INDIA AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE

Composition of the Parliament of India: The President, The Rajya Sabha, The Lok Sabha; Powers and Functions of the Parliament; Relation between the two Houses of the Parliament; Legislative Procedure: Procedure for a Money Bill; The State Legislature: The Legislative Assembly or Vidhan Sabha, The Legislative Council or Vidhan Parishad

UNIT 8: JUDICIARY IN INDIA

Supreme Court and High Courts; The Supreme Court; The High Court: Subordinate Courts; Judicial Review, Judicial Activism and Independence of the Judiciary in India: Judicial Review, Judicial Activism, Independence of the Judiciary in India

Reading List

Basu, D. D. (2009). Introduction to the Constitution of India. New Delhi: Prentice Hall of India.

Brass, Paul R. (1997). The Politics of India Since Independence. New Delhi: Cambridge University Press.

Chander, Prakash (2000). Indian Government and Politics. New Delhi: Cosmos Bookhive Pvt. Ltd.

Dev, B.J and Lahiri, D.K. (1985). Assam Muslims- Politics and Cohesion. Delhi: Mittal Publication.

Ghai, K. K. (2007). Indian Government and Politics. New Delhi: Kalyani Publishers.

Kapur, Anup Chand &Misra, K. K. (2006). Select Constitutions. New Delhi: S. Chand and Company.

Kothari, Rajni. (2009). Politics in India. New Delhi: Orient BlackSwan Private Limited.
Palanithurai, G. (2000). Grass-root Democracy in Indian Society. New Delhi: Concept Publishing Company.
Pylee, M. V. (2006). Constitutional Government in India. New Delhi: S. Chand and Company.
Singh Sisodia, Yatindra (2005). Functioning of Panchayati Raj System. Jaipur: Rawat Publication.
Jayal, Niraja Gopal; Mehta Pratap, Bhanu (eds) (2010). Oxford Companion to Politics in India. New Delhi. Oxford University Press.