

University of Pune

Human Rights and Duties Education Programme

To be commenced from 2011-2012

Introduction

In response to the initiative of the Human Rights Commission of the State of Maharashtra's proposal to start Human Rights Education in the State of Maharashtra, it has organized a one day State Level Seminar on Human Rights Education on August 12, 2010 in Mumbai. During the Presentation of the proposal of the University of Pune, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of the University declared that the University of Pune will introduce a Human Rights Education Awareness Programme in the University from the Academic Year 2011-2012 which will be compulsory to all the students of the Post Graduation in the University later to extend to colleges in the University area. Accordingly, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor constituted a committee on November 10, 2010 to discuss the modalities.

Objective's of the Programme.

In response to the call given by the UN to states parties to take steps to propagate the ideals of the Human Rights Education to develop a citizen friendly value based society both nationally and internationally, the Government of India being a party to the various declarations and other legal instruments constituted a number of committees to draw independent plans. In response to the call of the National Human Rights Commission in 1999, the UGC adopted a model curriculum to be adopted by various Universities in the country with an aim to promote the Human Rights Education.

To equip the students of the University of Pune as future citizens of the State and the Country, in discharging their duties before exercising their rights, the University authorities have taken the decision to implement the Human Rights Education in its Post Graduate Programme across the board with a uniform syllabi and pattern. Accordingly, it has been decided to have four papers in each semester of 2 credits each for all the students apart from their regular credits. Taking into consideration of varied disciplines, it has been decided that the course content should be general in nature to make it easy and attractive covering various aspects of Human Rights Education. The available models and other aspects will be consulted to draw a final syllabus. The course will be taught in a basic perspective with the help of cartoons, figure and question answer modules for easy understanding. The available materials may be incorporated or new ones may be prepared. Once the Committee finalises the materials and course, it will be placed before the respective bodies of the University for its Implementation. The new teaching techniques of e-material and or any other suitable pattern may be adopted.

Course I

Introduction to Human Rights and Duties

Credits: 2

I Basic Concepts

- a) Human Values-Dignity, Liberty, Equality, Justice, Unity in Diversity, Ethics, and Morals
- b) Meaning and Significance of Human Rights Education

II Perspectives of Rights and Duties

- a) Rights: Inherent-Inalienable –Universal- Individual and Groups
- b) Nature and Concept of Duties
- c) Interrelationship between Rights and Duties

III Introduction to Terminology of various Legal Instruments

- a) Meaning of a Legal Instrument- Binding Nature
- b) Types of Instruments-Covenant-Charter-Declaration-Treaty-Convention-Protocol- Executive Orders and Statues

IV United Nations and Human Rights

- a) Brief History of Human Rights-International and National Perspectives
- b) Provisions of the Charter of the United Nations
- c) Universal Declaration of Human Rights-significance-Preamble
- d) Civil and Political Rights- (Art.1-21)
- e) Economic, Social and Cultural Rights(Arts.22-28)
- f) Duties and Limitations (Art29)
- g) Final Provision (Art.30)

Course II

Human Rights & Vulnerable Groups

- I. **General introduction:**
 - a) Meaning and Concept of vulnerable groups.
 - b) Customary, Social, Economic & Cultural Problems of Vulnerable Groups.

- II. **Status of Women & Children in International and National Perspectives:**
 - a) Human rights and Women's Rights-International and National standards.
 - b) Human rights of Children—International and National Standards

- III. **Status of Socially and Economically Disadvantaged People:**
 - a) Status of Indigenous People and the Role of the UN.
 - b) Status of SC/ST and other Indigenous People in the Indian Scenario.
 - c) Human rights of Aged and disabled
 - d) The Minorities and Human Rights

- IV. **Human rights special category of Vulnerable Groups:**
 - a) Stateless persons
 - b) Sex workers
 - c) Migrant workers
 - d) HIV/ AIDs victims

Course III

Human Rights & Duties in India: Law, Politics, Society and Enforcement Mechanism -An Overview

- I. **Human Rights in Indian Context**
 - a) Indian Bill of rights of Gokhale and Sarvodaya
 - b) Preamble-Fundamental Rights-Directive Principles-Fundamental Duties
- II. **Human Rights – Enforcement Mechanism**
 - a) Human Rights Act, 1993.
 - b) Judicial Organs -Supreme Court (Art 32) and High Courts (Art226)
 - c) Human Rights Commission – National and State of Maharashtra.
 - d) Commissions of Women, Children, Minority, SC/ST
 - e) Survey of International mechanism
- III. **Human Rights Violations and Indian Polity**
 - a) Inequalities in society-Population-illiteracy--Poverty- caste-inaccessibility of legal redress
 - b) Abuse of Executive Power- Corruption-Nepotism and favoritism
 - c) Human rights and Good governance
- IV. **Role of Advocacy Groups**
 - a) Professional Bodies: Press, Media , Role of Lawyers--Legal Aid
 - b) Educational Institutions
 - c) Role of Corporate Sector
 - d) NGO'S

Course IV

Subject Specific paper or dissertation or Project work or Model Awareness programme to be adopted