

| Course Code | Course Name                              | Credits |
|-------------|------------------------------------------|---------|
| 26PL904     | ELECTION COMMISSION AND PROCESS IN INDIA | 4       |

### Course Objectives

- To develop an understanding of the constitutional and legal framework governing the electoral system and the functioning of the Election Commission of India.
- To examine the institutional structure, powers, roles, and responsibilities of the Election Commission in conducting free and fair elections in India.
- To analyse the processes and mechanisms of election management, including voter registration, electoral administration, election conduct, and monitoring procedures.
- To critically assess contemporary challenges affecting electoral integrity such as electoral malpractices, money power, criminalisation of politics, misinformation, and voter participation.

### Learning Outcome

After the completion of the course, the students will be able to

- Understand the constitutional framework related to election in India.
- Explain the stages of electoral process and role of election commission.
- Examine various electoral laws and reforms in India.
- Evaluate electoral participation in India.
- Assess challenges in the India electoral system.
- Develop analytical and research skills on election studies in India.

### Unit I: Introduction to Election and Democracy (12 hrs)

Importance of election in democracy; Types and features of India electoral system; Universal adult franchise and representation and acts; Evolution of the electoral process in India

### Unit II: Constitutional Framework and Election Commission of India (12hrs)

Article 324- 329 of the constitution; Structure and function of the Election Commission of India (ECI); Power and Functions of ECI; Autonomy and accountability of ECI.

### Unit III: Election Process in India (12hrs)

Delimitation of constituencies; Preparation and revision of electoral rolls; Nomination, Scrutiny, Withdrawal, counting and declaration of results; Code of conduct and its enforcement.

### Unit IV: Political Parties and Electoral Reforms in India (12 hrs)

Registration and recognition of political parties; Role of committees and commission in electoral reforms, Malpractices in electoral politics and legal provisions.

### Unit V: Challenges to the Electoral System (12hrs)

Money and muscle power; Media influence and misinformation; Future challenges of electoral democracy in India

### Suggested Readings

1. Katz, R. S. (1997). Democracy and elections. Oxford University Press.
2. Kundu, T. (2022). Equality Versus Excellence: Does Universal Adult Franchise Complement Democratic Values?. International Journal of Applied Ethics, 8.
3. SRIDHARAN, E. (2004). THE ORIGINS OF THE ELECTORAL SYSTEM. India's Living Constitution: Ideas, Practices, Controversies, 344.
4. McMillan, A. (2012). The election commission of India and the regulation and administration of electoral politics. Election Law Journal, 11(2), 187-201.
5. Manual on election law and procedure (ECI,2023)-Constitutional provisions.
6. Gopal Krishna (2021)- chapter on ECI structure and legal framework.
7. Constitution of India: Article 324-329(can be accessed Via India code website or PRS India)
8. Manual on election law and procedure (ECI,2023)-procedural chapter.
9. ECI website and SVEEP portal- official guidelines and training videos
10. Palshikar et al. (2017)- chapters on electoral process challenges
11. McMillan, A.(2012).The election commission of India and the regulation and administration of electoral politics. Election Law Journal,11(2),187-201
12. Suri, K.C.(2004). Democracy, economic reforms and election results in India. Economic and political Weekly,5404-5411.
13. Brass, P.R. (2019). Political parties and Electoral politics.In India Briefing,1989 (pp.6182). Routhledge.
14. Ziegfeld, A.(2012). Coalition government and party system change: Explaining the rise of regional political parties in India. Comparative Politics,45(1),69-87.
15. Suri, K.C.(2013). Party system and party politics in India. Political science,2,209-252

| <b>COs and Bloom's Taxonomy Level (BTL) Mapping- 26PL904</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Course Outcomes</b>                                       | <b>On completing U.G. course program the students will be able to</b>                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>BTL</b> |
| <b>CO1</b>                                                   | Define, recall and explain key concepts such as democracy, elections, universal adult franchise, and the constitutional provisions (Articles 324–329) related to elections in India and describe the structure of election commission. | K1, K2     |
| <b>CO2</b>                                                   | Apply knowledge of the electoral process, including delimitation, electoral rolls, nomination procedures, and the Model Code of Conduct, to practical and real-life electoral scenarios.                                               | K3         |
| <b>CO3</b>                                                   | Analyze the role of political parties, electoral reforms, and malpractices in shaping electoral outcomes, including the impact of money power, media, and misinformation.                                                              | K4         |
| <b>CO4</b>                                                   | Evaluate the autonomy, accountability, and effectiveness of the Election Commission of India, along with assessing various electoral reforms and legal provisions in India.                                                            | K5         |
| <b>CO5</b>                                                   | Propose reforms, policy suggestions, or strategies to address emerging challenges in India's electoral system, including strengthening transparency, fairness, and voter participation.                                                | K6         |

**BTL K1 and K2 – Remembering and Understanding, K3- Applying, K4 – Analyse, K5- Evaluate and K6- Create**

| <b>Relationship Matrix-26PL904</b> |                                 |            |            |            |            |            |                                           |             |             |             |             |              |                          |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Course Outcomes</b>             | <b>Programme Outcomes (POs)</b> |            |            |            |            |            | <b>Programme Specific Outcomes (PSOs)</b> |             |             |             |             |              | <b>Mean Score of COs</b> |
|                                    | <b>PO1</b>                      | <b>PO2</b> | <b>PO3</b> | <b>PO4</b> | <b>PO5</b> | <b>PO6</b> | <b>PSO1</b>                               | <b>PSO2</b> | <b>PSO3</b> | <b>PSO4</b> | <b>PSO5</b> | <b>PSO6</b>  |                          |
| <b>CO1</b>                         | 2                               | 2          | 2          | 2          | 1          | 2          | 1                                         | 2           | 2           | 2           | 2           | 1            | 1.8                      |
| <b>CO2</b>                         | 2                               | 3          | 2          | 1          | 2          | 2          | 2                                         | 3           | 3           | 2           | 3           | 1            | 2.1                      |
| <b>CO3</b>                         | 2                               | 3          | 3          | 2          | 2          | 2          | 2                                         | 3           | 2           | 2           | 3           | 2            | 2.3                      |
| <b>CO4</b>                         | 2                               | 3          | 3          | 2          | 2          | 2          | 2                                         | 3           | 2           | 2           | 3           | 2            | 2.3                      |
| <b>CO5</b>                         | 2                               | 3          | 3          | 2          | 2          | 2          | 2                                         | 3           | 3           | 2           | 3           | 2            | 2.4                      |
|                                    |                                 |            |            |            |            |            |                                           |             |             |             |             | <b>Total</b> | <b>2.18</b>              |

**Mean Score: 3- High, 2- Medium/Moderate, 1-Low**