



CERTIFICATE COURSE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

January-June 2013

COURSE SYLLABUS

ASSOCIATIONS

Alexis Society



Alexis Society is an International Not-for-Profit and Non-Political Youth Organisation with Passion for Excellence. It promotes Creativity, Innovation, Peace, Harmony and Inclusive Development.

Research Foundation for Governance: in India



Research Foundation for Governance: in India (RFGI) is an Ahmedabad-based think-tank that aims to research, promote, and implement various reforms to improve the legal and political process in Gujarat and across India.



Module 1

1.1 Meaning of Accountability

1.2 Meaning of Public Accountability

1.3 Public Accountability as an Icon

1.4 Public Accountability as a Social Relation

1.5 Doctrine of Public Accountability

- Explanation
- Personal Liability
- Limitations
- Judicial Accountability

1.6 Public Accountability Protections under Administrative Law

- Public Accountability and Devolution
- Public Accountability and Elections
- Administrative Accountability & The Anti-Administrative Impulse



Module 2

2.1 Public Accountability and Crown Privilege/State

- Position in England
- Position in America
- Position in India
- Right to Know
- Freedom of Information Act

2.2 Public Accountability and Parliament

- Non-Confidence Motions
- The Opposition
- Parliamentary Committees

2.3 Public Accountability of Government Commissions & Institutions



MODULE 3

3.1 Public Accountability and Check on Corruption

- Robert Klitgaard's Equation : $C = M + D - A$

Where, C=Corruption, M=Monopoly, D=Discretion, A=Accountability

- Kaufmann (1999), who states that:

AC (Anti-corruption Efforts) = KI (Knowledge & Information) + LE (Leadership) + CA (Collective Action)

- Lord Acton: "All power tends to corrupt; absolute power corrupts absolutely."

3.2 Indian Perspective: Transparency and Accountability in Governance through Right to Information

- Role of Civil Society Organisations and Media
- Records Management for Effective Information Management and
- Implementation of the Act
- The importance of records management.
- The broad issues relating to the keeping, maintaining, managing and destructing

3.3 Institutional Changes and Legislative Responses

- Doctrine of Separation of Powers,
- Independence of Power
- Doctrine of Checks and Balances

3.4 Public Accountability and Lokpal: Signs of a Maturing Democracy



MODULE 4

4.1 Judicial Accountability: A Theoretical Understanding

4.2 Judicial Accountability and Independence of Judiciary

4.3 The Judiciary and the Right to Information

4.4 Present Scenario

4.5 Cases Decided by Indian Judiciary- Widening the Scope of Public Accountability

- *A.G. of India v. Amritlal Prajivandas*
- *DDA v. Skipper Construction Co.*
- *State of Bihar v. Subhash Singh*
- *Nilabati Behera v. State of Orissa*
- *Superintending Engineer, Public Health, Union Territory v. Kuldeep Singh*
- *P.V Narasimha Rao v. State (Jharkhand Mukti Morcha Bribery Case)*



Module 5

5.1 Development

- Concept of development
- Changing profile of development administration
- Bureaucracy and development

5.2 Personnel Administration

- Importance of human resource development
- Recruitment, training, career advancement, position classification, discipline, performance appraisal, promotion, pay and service conditions;
- Employer-Employee relation
- Grievance Redressal mechanisms
- Code of conduct
- Administrative ethics

5.3 Public Policy

- Models of policy making and their critique
- Processes of conceptualisation, planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and review and their limitations

5.5 Civil Services

- Constitutional position; Structure, recruitment, training and capacity-building
- Good governance initiatives
- Code of conduct and discipline
- Staff associations
- Political rights
- Civil service neutrality
- Civil service activism

5.6 Rights and Duties

- Rights of an Individual
- Duties towards the Society