Why Should You Enrol in this Course?

Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the villages, blocks and districts are the foundation of local self-governance in India. The Constitution of India envisages PRIs responsible for preparing local “plans for economic development and social justice”. Panchayats have established themselves as the embodiment of representative and participatory democracy and consensus decision-making through Gram Sabhas. Given the centrality of Panchayats in defining the processes that characterise nation’s development, it is pertinent to have a comprehensive understanding of their structure and functions as well as their relationships with the state and central governments.

This knowledge is essential to develop a comprehensive strategy to synergise interventions with local governance institutions for leveraging resources and building capacities within these institutions for greater impact and long term changes in favour of the most marginalised. This knowledge would set a foundation to develop competency for facilitating participatory local development planning in partnership with local governance institutions, local community based organisations (CBOs) and other stakeholders. The Panchayats are also being visualised as instrumental to achieving the SDGs by localising them and disaggregating national targets into village-level planning, implementation and monitoring.

The course on ‘Working with Panchayats’ aims at developing relevant knowledge and skills on the functioning of local governance institutions, ways to enable effective local governance and bring a clear perspective on the role of Panchayats in socio-economic development.

Objectives

- Understanding the constitutional framework, structure, functions and functionaries of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in India
- Developing knowledge and skills for effective planning, implementation and monitoring of local level development plans
- Comprehending the role of Panchayats towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Course Details - At A Glance

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course code: OC-E-105</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starts on: 17 June 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Type: Online Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language: English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duration: 6 Weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participants: CSO, CSR, University Student (Post Graduate &amp; Ph.D. Research Scholar), Think Tank, Foundation, Government, and Business Corporation</td>
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<td>Fees: INR 7,000/ US$ 100 (Inclusive of 18% Goods &amp; Service Tax)</td>
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Course Structure

- **Module 1: Introduction to Decentralization & Local Governance Institutions in India**
  - Local governance in India: Concepts, Evolution & Models
  - Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) & their Constitutional Framework
  - Local governance in select areas: Schedule Vth & VIth areas

- **Module 2: Constitutional bodies & Committees**
  - State Election Commission
  - Central Finance Commission & State Finance Commission
  - District Planning Committee
  - Standing Committees at Panchayat level

- **Module 3: Understanding Decentralized Participatory Planning & Citizen Participation**
  - Models of Participatory Planning, Citizen Engagement & Social Audit
  - Contemporary Framework: Gram Panchayat Development Plan

- **Module 4: Panchayati Raj Institutions & Socio-economic development**
  - Localising Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
  - E-enablement of Panchayats
  - Strategies to work with Panchayats

**Who we are?**

PIA offers a range of Online Courses on the most contemporary subjects relevant to the development sector. These Courses are designed and developed after rigorous research by an expert team of adult educators. Each course has four modules covered in six weeks. Each module provides readings, written in everyday language demystifying every concept and theoretical construct, video lectures, and podcasts. The learners get opportunities to reflect on key take away through short assignments. A quiz, at the end of each module, helps the learner to assess their own learning. In addition, webinar with the guest faculties and moderated peer exchanges through discussion forum ensure that each learner get supportive learning environment. PIA offers:

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