**PAPER III**

**WOMEN EMPOWERMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE**

**MAX MARKS: 100**

**EXTERNAL: 70**

**INTERNAL: 30**

**PASS: 40%**

**CREDITS: 6**

**Objectives:** This module aims to examine women's empowerment through the lenses of education, economy, political participation, health and justice delivery. It seeks to analyze how structural inequalities and institutional mechanisms shape women's lived experiences and to critically evaluate contemporary challenges affecting gender justice.

**Course Outcomes:**

After completion of this module, learners will be able to:

CO1: Analyze the relationship between education, economic participation and women's empowerment.

CO2: Evaluate women's political representation and leadership structures.

CO3: Assess contemporary socio-legal challenges including violence, trafficking and cyber-crimes.

CO4: Examine barriers to reproductive health and justice.

**Section A**

Unit 1: Women and Education; Literacy and Gender Gap; Educational Inequality and Social Barriers

Unit 2: Digital Literacy and Emerging Opportunities

Unit 3: Women and Economic Empowerment; Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and Collective Mobilization

Unit 4: Women in Informal Sector; Wage Gap and Unpaid Care Work

**Section B**

Unit 5: Political Participation and Leadership; Panchayati Raj Institutions and Grassroots Democracy; Women's Reservation in Local Bodies; Challenges in Political Participation

Unit 6: Reproductive Rights and Health; Maternal Health and Public Policy; Gender and Public Health Frameworks

Unit 7: Violence, Trafficking and Cyber Crimes; Human Trafficking and Legal Responses; Cyber Harassment and Online Abuse

Unit 8: Access to Justice and Legal Aid; Legal Literacy and Awareness; Legal Aid Mechanisms; Barriers to Justice Delivery

**Suggested Readings:**


- Khatri, Rita. (2016). The role of education towards women empowerment in India. International Journal of Advanced Research, 4(11), 550–555.
- Neha GUPTA, (2024). Women Rights Under Various Family Laws In India, Educational Administration: Theory and Practice, 30(9) 1160-1168.
- Varghese, Aswathy Elsa. (2023). Protective discrimination in post-independent India: An analysis. *International Journal of Law Management & Humanities*, 6(1), 1533–1541.
- Varghese, M. L. Role of National Commission for Women in Women's Empowerment. *Galaxy International Interdisciplinary Research Journal*, *10*(3), 112-117.