

Kerala Legislative Assembly

Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST)

The Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training, an integral division of the Kerala Legislature Secretariat, is a premier institution providing opportunities for systematic study and training in various disciplines related to parliamentary institutions, processes and procedures. The Centre has embarked upon various programmes of study for imparting professionalism, expertise and orientation to those who work as part of the parliamentary system in addition to providing insight to all stakeholders of parliamentary democracy including school and college students, academicians and general public about the role played by elected representatives in law making and governance in a parliamentary democracy.

AIMS

- To promote exchange of ideas between Legislators and experts in various fields, including the fast paced world of technological developments and electronic media, through interactive sessions, seminars, study tours etc leading to enhanced quality of governance and to promote the well being and quality of life of the citizens of the State.
- To provide all stakeholders in a parliamentary democracy the opportunity to understand the importance of the role each of them plays in ensuring development of the nation.
- To provide opportunities for study and research to enhance legislation and rule making.
- To enhance public participation in law-making by imparting the necessary orientation and knowledge.
- To ensure optimum benefit to the public by providing training in parliamentary procedures to Government Officials of various departments.
- To ensure efficiency of the staff of the Legislature Secretariat through training programmes, discussions, seminars etc.
- To give the youth and children a practical experience of the parliamentary procedures through organising Student Parliaments and Model Assemblies.

ACTIVITIES

Highlights

- 'Festival on Democracy' was inaugurated on 6th August 2018 by the Honourable President, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, consisting of several National Conferences on various topics of national interest.
- National Legislators Conference on Challenges in the Empowerment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Independent India was held on August 6th and 7th, 2018. Elected representatives from all over India deliberated on various issues and brought out the Thiruvananthapuram Declaration on the topic.

- National Students' Parliament was held from 23rd to 25th February, 2019 with the participation of over 2000 young men and women from Universities all over India and interaction with over 50 eminent leaders from all walks of life. The youth on India voted and passed resolutions in the various sessions and pledged to work for the unity, integrity and prosperity of all citizens.
- Classes on Constitution of India for High School and Higher Secondary School students in over 1000 schools in the State of Kerala. The programme continues.
- 'Model Legislative Assembly' by School and College students in various districts of the State as part of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of Kerala Legislative Assembly.
- 'Constitution Literacy Programme' jointly organized by Kerala Legislative Assembly and Kerala State Literacy Mission Authority.
- CPST-UNICEF Initiative

With the aim of contributing to the welfare of children, youth, women and the marginalized sections of the society, CPST has been associating with the UNICEF Office for Tamil Nadu and Kerala since the launch of the CPST-UNICEF Joint Initiative on 5th August 2015. Honourable members of the House have actively participated in the seminars and discussions held on various topics including child rights, rights of women, progress towards sustainable development goals etc. UNICEF is a partner in the 'Festival on Democracy' being organized by the Kerala Legislative Assembly and various other activities aimed at promoting democracy and sustainable development.

- Certificate Course in Parliamentary Practice and Procedure

The Certificate Course in Parliamentary Practice and Procedure conducted by the Centre in distance education mode is an innovative and pioneering effort by a State Legislative Assembly to impart knowledge to all stakeholders of parliamentary democracy, the role played by elected representatives in Parliament and State Legislatures and the contribution of each person in promoting welfare of the citizens. Awareness, interaction and contribution to the democratic method of governance can only lead to the strengthening of our democratic institutions and imparting such awareness is one of the chief objectives of the course.

- Parliamentary Internship Programme

The Parliamentary Internship Programme (PIP) aims to provide an opportunity to students of Law Colleges to acquaint themselves with the functioning of parliamentary democracy and democratic institutions in general, Indian parliamentary system and specifically about the legislative procedure and activities of Kerala Legislative Assembly. The Programme also aims at imparting requisite skills and knowledge to enable the interns to develop a proper perspective about the role of Legislature in the parliamentary system

which, in turn, will help them while working in their own fields in future. A number of college students, from all over India regularly do their internship from the Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training.

- Media Awards

Another innovative step taken by the Kerala Legislative Assembly to strengthen the efforts of the Legislature and media for social development is the institution of media awards in print and visual mode in three categories:

- The 'R.Sankaranarayanan Thampi Niyamasabha Media Award' for excellence in strengthening Malayalam language and its culture.
- The 'E.K.Nayanar Niyamasabha Media Award' given to the best entry for investigative reporting which is widely discussed and which influences society.
- The 'G.Karthikeyan Niyamasabha Media Award' given for the best reporting on the procedures in the House

General Activities

- Orientation programmes for newly elected Members of the Kerala Legislative Assembly.
- Discussions and Seminars on a variety of current issues for Members of the Legislative Assembly.
- Visit by Members of Parliament of various nations to the Kerala Legislature.
- Training for Officials of Government Departments and Central Secretariat.
- Seminars and discussions for Members of Kerala Legislative Assembly and Youth in co-operation with UNICEF.
- Training Programmes for Officials of Legislature Secretariat of Kerala, as well as other State Legislatures.
- Attachment Training Programmes with Institute of Management in Government, Kerala.
- Attachment Training Programmes with the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training, New Delhi
- Attachment Training Programmes with the Institute of Secretariat Training and Management, New Delhi.
- Training Programmes for media personnel.
- Training Programmes for Watch and Ward personnel.
- Visit and study programmes for College Students.
- Visit and study programmes for School Students.
- Study Programmes on Constitution of India, its importance and its manifestation in the daily lives of Indian citizens.
- Essay writing, quiz and debate competitions for school and college students.

The Centre aims to come up with a number of schemes to further contribute to the strengthening of our democracy

Certificate Course in Parliamentary Practice and Procedure

INTRODUCTION

Indian parliamentary democracy has no match in the world and democratic values are part and parcel of the life of the common man in India. A democratic parliament will seek to foster a vibrant civil society and to work closely with it in finding solutions to problems facing the country and in improving the quality and relevance of legislation. Informing citizens about the work of Parliament is not just a concern for the fourth estate, but a responsibility of Parliaments themselves. The Open and Distance Learning System with its inherent flexibility and affordability has emerged as an important mode for providing education and awareness to various sections of the society in the present day educational scenario. Being the forerunner in many democratic innovations in India, the Kerala Legislative Assembly successfully conducts a Certificate Course in Parliamentary Practice and Procedure in the distance education stream to propagate the idea, principle, virtues, philosophy and practice of parliamentary democracy.

NATURE OF THE COURSE

- The Course shall be an awareness and learning programme designed for those who have no experience with parliamentary procedure and for those who are interested in learning parliamentary practices and procedure.
- It shall be a basic level certificate course on parliamentary practice and procedure.
- It shall be conducted in distance education mode and shall include contact classes along with assignments and workshops.
- The Course shall be managed, regulated, conducted and controlled by the CPST which was established as an integral division of the Secretariat of the Kerala Legislature.

ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION

- Minimum qualification for applying for the Course will be a pass in Higher Secondary or equivalent qualification as approved by the Universities in Kerala. (Pre-Degree/Plus Two or equivalent).
- Those who are awaiting results of the qualifying examinations are also eligible to apply.
- Maximum number of seats shall ordinarily be 500 (Five hundred) for an

academic session or as decided by the Governing Body for the Course.

- Minimum number of students to commence a batch shall be 10 (Ten).
- There shall be Admission fee and Tuition fee for admission to the Course
- Admission will generally be open to all eligible candidates and there will be no upper age bar for admission to the course.

DOCUMENTS/MATERIALS TO BE PRODUCED WITH DULY FILLED UP APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

1	Self attested copy of the Certificate of higher secondary or equivalent examination to prove qualification.
2	Self attested copy of address proof.
3	Copy of Community Certificate (from revenue authority concerned) attested by a gazetted officer for fee exemption for SC/ST learners.
4	Copy of Identity Card issued by the Institution (for students of Government Approved Colleges/institutions) for fee concession.
5	Three copies of passport size photograph (Name of the candidate should be written at the back of the photographs.)

Note: Do NOT send original certificate to the CPST along with the application.

REGISTRATION

A student shall be considered to have 'Registered' in the Course only if he/she remits the Examination fee and submits the Application for Examination on time. Registered Students can avail up to four consecutive chances for appearing for the Examination, without having to re-register. However, he/she will be required to pay exam fee everytime he/she wishes to appear for exams within this period.

DURATION OF THE COURSE

Duration of the course shall be six months.

CONTACT CLASSES

- Personal Contact Programmes (PCPs) shall be arranged by the CPST to facilitate interaction between the learners and subject experts, who give due academic counselling to the learners.
- Contact classes shall be arranged by the Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training at Thriuvananthapuram and Kozhikode. Days (5-6 in total) of contact classes will be notified on the official website as well as via SMS to registered mobile numbers of learners.

MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

Medium of instruction shall be English and Malayalam.

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Unlike regular programmes this Distance Programme is self-paced and learner centred. It will essentially be based on the supply of reading materials for home study by the learner.

STUDY MATERIALS

Printed study materials are supplied to the learners. While these Self Learning Materials (SLMs) give the learners the required academic guidance, learners are advised to supplement their reading at home by thoroughly going through the books suggested for reading. Study materials for the Course shall be prepared and circulated by the CPST.

EXAMINATIONS

- Examinations will be conducted at the end of the course and the centre of examination shall ordinarily be at Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam & Kozhikode.
- Application for examination shall be made in the prescribed form along with the prescribed fees.
- Medium of examination shall be English or Malayalam.
- A minimum of 5 marks out of 10 (50%) is necessary for a pass in the internal assessment of each paper. However a total of 40% out of maximum 90 marks is necessary [marks obtained for internal assessment (maximum 10) PLUS marks obtained for written examination (maximum 80)] for a pass in each paper. A minimum of 20 marks out of 40 (50%) is necessary for a pass in viva voce, which will be considered separately.

CERTIFICATE

Certificate shall be issued by and under the name and seal of the Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training.

FEES AND FINES		
Item	Amount	Remarks
Fee for Application Form and Prospectus	₹ 100	
Fee for Admission	₹ 250	
Tuition Fee		Single instalment or in Two equal instalments
General	₹ 2000	
Students of Government approved Colleges / Institutions, Personal staff of representatives of the Kerala Legislative Assembly/ staff of Kerala Legislature Secretariat	₹ 1500	
Learners belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are exempted from Tuition Fee and Examination fee		
Late fine for tuition fee and admission fee	₹ 50	
Examination fee	₹ 100	For each paper
Examination Fee-Late Fine	₹ 25	For each paper
Revaluation fee	₹ 100	For each paper

Note:-

- The bank charges for remitting the fee should be borne by the student. Fees and fines once paid will not be refunded.**
- Students belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes are eligible for fee concession as applicable to the students undergoing studies under the Institute of Distance Education of the University of Kerala. However all applicants are required to pay the fee for Application Form and Prospectus(₹ 100) and the fee for admission (₹ 250).
- Fees and fines are to be remitted via Online transfer to the account No 37005174195 at SBI, Vikas Bhavan Branch with IFS code SBIN0070415 or by way of Demand Draft drawn in favour of "THE SECRETARY, KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY" payable at Thiruvananthapuram or directly at Vikas Bhavan Branch of the State Bank of India, Thiruvananthapuram in the Account No.37005174195.

VERIFICATION OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS FOR FINALISATION OF ADMISSION

- A learner's enrolment shall remain purely provisional and may be cancelled subsequently on grounds of non-fulfilment of minimum eligibility criteria,

dependent on the verification of his/her original documents to the satisfaction of the Center. Learners are therefore required to produce the original documents (copies of which must have been submitted with the application form during admission) for verification on such dates as will be notified.

- Admit Cards for appearing at the Examination will in no case be issued until all the documents in original are submitted and verified and all fees and fines are remitted.

CANCELLATION OF ADMISSION

Apart from the non-fulfillment of basic eligibility criteria, admission of a learner may be cancelled by the CPST (without refund of the fees and fines deposited) on any of the grounds mentioned below:

- Suppression of information or detection of false information found at any stage after admission;
- Misconduct/indiscipline; and
- Adoption of unfair means at the examination hall and any other matter found objectionable by the CPST.

SYLLABUS

Paper No	Name
Paper-I	Parliamentary Democracy
Paper-II	Legislature, Executive & Judiciary- Constitutional Provisions
Paper-III	Laws and Rules regulating Practice and Procedure of Parliament and State Legislature
Paper-IV	Legislative Procedure & Procedure in Financial Matters

WEBSITE

Learners may go through the official website of the Kerala Legislative Assembly - **www.niyamasabha.org**. The notification for admission for course, schedule of contact classes, examination, result of examination etc. will be published in the Website.

Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST)

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