

Course Title: Economics of Social Sector

Course Code: 304

- 1. Welfare Economics:** Pareto optimality and competitive equilibrium; Fundamental theorems of welfare economics; Externalities and market inefficiency – externalities as missing markets; property rights and externalities, non-convexities and externalities; Pareto optimal provision of public goods – Lindahl’s equilibrium, preference revelation problem and impure and mixed public goods, common property resources. **(10 hours)**
- 2. Reforming Social Sector – I : Education and Health :** Allocation of resources to social sector : Issues relating allocation, allocative and redistributive efficiency. Education as an instrument for economic growth; Human capital – Human capital vs. Physical capital, components of human capital; Demand for education – private demand and social demand, Determinants of demand; cost of Education – Expenditure on education, private costs and social costs and wastage and stagnation; Benefits of education – Direct and indirect benefits, private and social benefits; Educational planning and economic growth Health- Social objectives of Health care services. Determinants of health - poverty, malnutrition and environmental issues; Financing of health care and resource constraints

(12 hours)
- 3. Reforming Social Sector – II : Poverty & Social Welfare:** Poverty & Nutrition : Relationship between income & human poverty, impact of public works programmes, role of micro credit in poverty alleviation – interconnection between poverty, food and nutrition, urban poor, gender and informal sector : implications for poverty alleviation. Urban poor Targeting food subsidies & nutrition security in India : Issues & policies. Civic amenities & social welfare : Pricing & financing, water supply & sanitation, housing, child labour & family welfare, empowerment of disadvantaged section of society.

(10 hours)
- 4. Introduction to Gender Studies :**

 - a.** Concept of gender and importance of women studies, gender in mainstream Economics. Gender bias in the theories of value, distribution and population. Review of ‘neo-classical’ economic basics and introduction to Becker’s economics of the family. Feminist economics; Approach and a critique of mainstream economic concepts and methodology.

- b. Policy Approaches - Issues and Implications :** Paradigm shifts from women's well being to women's empowerment. Mainstreaming gender in development policies. Gender planning techniques. Various socio-economic policies of Government of India with respects to credit and insurance, social security net, old age, empowerment, reservation, education and health etc. Budget and gender Audit. Review of legislation for women's entitlements and property rights. Role of voluntary organizations and self help groups. **(16 hours)**

5. Demography

- a. Population and Development:** Meaning and scope of demography; components of population growth and their interdependence; Measures of population change; Structure, distribution and sources of population data; Theories of population – Malthus, Optimum theory of population; theory of demographic transition – Views of Meadows, Enke and Simon; Population and development.
- b. Structure of Population:** Population trends in the twentieth century; Population explosion – Threatened or real, distant or imminent; international aspects of population growth and distribution; Pattern of age and sex structure in more developed and less developed countries; Determinants of age and sex structure; Demographic effects of sex and age structure, economic and social implications; Age pyramids and projections – Individual aging and population aging.

**(10
hours)**

Recommended books

K.Seeta Prabhu & R.Sudarshan, Reforming India's Social sector: Poverty, Nutrition, Health & Gender

Sinha, U. P., Economics of Social Sector and Environment