

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE NSS COLLEGE PANDALAM In association with Institute of Parliamentary Affairs, Govt. of Kerala

<u>One day National Seminar</u> <u>On</u>

Teaching Democracy: The Role of Public Institutions in Democratic societies

Seminar Theme

One of the basic precepts of imparting public education is to preserve and promote democratic societies and thereby inculcating a sense of civic responsibility among youths. In almost every society especially in third world countries this role is not performed effectively. Youths cannot be expected to develop a sense of civic responsibility if they don't understand the core institutions that preserve democracy. The increasing addiction of technology alienates the students in understanding and solving social issues. Teaching democracy and thereby learning about power to influence change in our government should be an important objective of education in public institutions. As Don Laws, rightly pointed, understanding politics is important to the basic survival of democracy. By assimilating democratic principles politics can be practiced as a group decision making and teaching young generation how to work together and make important decisions for the betterment of humanity. Educational institutions are the laboratories where democracy is experienced, not museum where it is just observed. In this context, the proposed seminar titled, "Teaching Democracy: The Role of Public Institutions in Democratic societies" will try to understand the context of democracy teaching among youths, the need for imparting knowledge about parliamentary democracy, flaws in present policies in achieving the goal of civic responsibilities etc.

Broad Areas of the Problem

- 1. Public education and promotion of democracy
- 2. Civic responsibility and democratic societies
- 3. Media in democratic societies
- 4. State and citizenship: mutual engagements
- 5. Technology and democratization of public sphere: Pros and cons

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Seminar Conveners

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