

JANKI DEVI MEMORIAL COLLEGE University of Delhi



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

SEMINAR ON ASYMMETRICAL FEDERALISM REPORT

TOPIC: ACCOMODATING DIVERSITY THROUGH ASYMMETRICAL FEDERALISM

IN INDIA

DATE: 1 NOVEMBER 2022 TIME: 12 p.m. Onwards VENUE: SEMINAR ROOM

ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

Dr. Rekha Saxena is a professor at the Department of Political Science, University of Delhi, honorary Vice-Chairperson at Centre for Multilevel Federalism, New Delhi, and honorary Senior Advisor at the Forum of Federations, Ottawa.

Prof. Saxena completed her PG, M.Phil, and Ph.D. from the University of Delhi and specializes in Indian and Comparative Politics, particularly in the study of Political Institutions, Constitution, Federalism, Party Politics, and Elections. Her various publications on Indian Politics, Indian Judiciary, and Federal Governance are widely applauded. Prof. Saxena has delivered various lectures on political concepts, Indian democracy, the federal system of governance, gender and politics, in many national and international institutions. She has authored and co-authored several publications on the Indian Judiciary, Indian Politics, and Federal Governance. She has also worked as country Co-coordinator for India on two global dialogue programmes of the Forum of Federations, Canada on the themes of -

'Intergovernmental relations in Federal Countries' and 'Legislative, Executive and Judicial governance in Federal Countries.'

DESCRIPTION:

On 1 November 2022, the Department of Political Science of Janki Devi Memorial College organised a seminar on 'Accomodating Diversity through Asymmetrical Federalism in India'. The invited speaker was Prof Rekha Saxena. This session was attended by 75 students from the department.

The event began with the introduction of the topic for the session. Dr. Suman Gupta, the TIC of the department addressed the audience and welcomed the speaker by presenting a memento as a token of appreciation.

This was followed by the introduction of the speaker. Beginning with laying emphasis on the basic idea of Federalism, the speaker mentioned the various models of federalism like symmetrical federalism, asymmetrical federalism, executive federalism, centre-state federalism, inter-state federalism, UT model and much more.

The speaker stated that federalism, in its different forms, is becoming the ultimate choice for governments of different nations, like Nepal and Sri Lanka, to opt for, because of its feature of being inclusive and accommodating diversity.

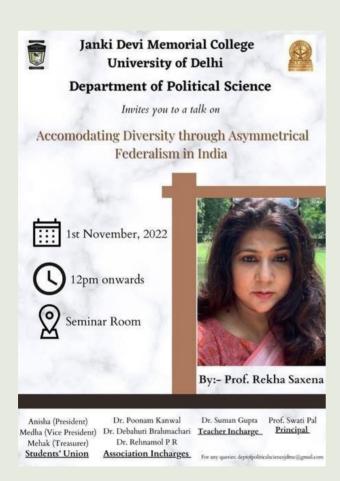
By drawing a comparison between different countries, she also cited the fact that India follows both, constitutional and political asymmetric federalism. Giving an insight about the nature of Indian Federalism, she mentioned that during the Pandemic times, the centre and the states were coordinating with each other which is an example of Cooperative Federalism. She discussed about her major works on Federalism and how diverse Federalism as a course of study is. In her concluding statements, she mentioned the 'historical/cultural background of a country' along with the 'political will of the leadership' as the most important factors that determine the federal model for any nation-state.

The key takeaways of the sessions include Federalism in India, its forms, the changes and how it is going to be shaped ahead.

After such an enlightening session, the students as well as faculty members engaged in an interactive question and answer round.

The session ended with the vote of thanks extended by the President of the department.

POSTER:



PICTURES:



