

# MAHATHMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY, KOTTAYAM

Revised syllabi of UG Programme in Economics w.e.f. 2017 admission

<b>Semester 5</b>				
Core course No.	Course code	Course Title	No. of Credit	No. of teaching Hours
<b>09</b>	<b>EC5CRT09</b>	<b>Environmental Economics</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>90</b>

## **Learning Objectives**

The importance of environmental studies cannot be disputed. The need for sustainable development is key to the future of mankind. The various Earth summits and World summits on sustainable development have drawn attention of people around the globe to the deteriorating condition of environment and environmental threats and damages. In spite of the deteriorating status of the environment, study of environment has so far not received adequate attention in academic programs. This course aims at imparting knowledge of the conceptual and theoretical foundations of environmental economics as well as equipping students with economic methods and tools to analyse basic environmental issues. It will help the students develop tools to estimate cost and benefits of environmental regulations and to evaluate some current environmental policies.

### **Module I: Environment, Resources and Energy. (20hrs)**

Classification of resources - renewable and non-renewable resources - conservation of resources - material substitution - product life extension - recycling. Energy - sources of energy - renewable and non-renewable source of energy - conventional and nonconventional source of energy - direct and indirect energy - atomic energy - energy crisis and energy scenario in India - environmental issues.

### **Module II: Economics and Environment .(25 hrs)**

Environmental Economics - Definition - Scope - Meaning - importance - Environment- Economy interaction (linkages) - material balance model - ecosystem - structure and functions - relation between environment and development - Environment as a necessity and luxury - Biodiversity - meaning and importance - Hot-spots of biodiversity - Threats to biodiversity: habitat loss - poaching of wildlife - man wildlife conflicts - conservation of

biodiversity – in-situ and ex-situ conservation of biodiversity - endangered and endemic species in India – sustainable development – policy approach to sustainable development

### **Module III: Social Issues and the Environment. (23 hrs)**

Climatic change – global warming – ozone depletion – acid rain – nuclear accidents and

holocaust. Pollution – causes, effects and control measures of: air pollution – water pollution

– soil pollution – marine pollution – noise pollution – thermal pollution – nuclear hazards.

Solid waste management – control measure of urban and industrial waste.

Pollution control – socially optimum level of pollution – environmental policies and legislations in India. Deforestation –Stockholm Conference – Helsinki Convention – Montreal Protocol – Kyoto Protocol – Rio Summit – Paris Convention. Population growth and Environment – market failure – tragedy of commons.

### **Module IV: Human Rights. (22 hrs)**

#### **Unit 1 - Human Rights**

An Introduction to Human Rights, Meaning, concept and development –History of Human Rights-Different Generations of Human Rights- Universality of Human Rights- Basic International Human Rights Documents - UDHR ,ICCPR,ICESCR.-Value dimensions of Human Rights

#### **Unit 2 - Human Rights and United Nations**

Human Rights co-ordination within UN system- Role of UN secretariat- The Economic and Social Council- The Commission Human Rights-The Security Council and Human rights- The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination- The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women- the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights- The Human Rights Committee- Critical Appraisal of UN Human Rights Regime.

#### **Unit 3- Human Rights National Perspective**

Human Rights in Indian Constitution – Fundamental Rights- The Constitutional Context of Human Rights-directive Principles of State Policy and Human Rights- Human Rights of Women-children –minorities- Prisoners- Science Technology and Human Rights- National Human Rights Commission- State Human Rights Commission- Human Rights Awareness in Education.

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