Contents

Foreword	υ
List of Abbreviations	viii
Making Sense of Democracy	ix
Part I: Seeking Accountability – Parliament Watch	
Introduction	3
Social Composition of Parliament	3
Time Management	4
Quorum	5
Cost of Parliament	6
Overall Performance of the Two Houses of Parliament	7
The Lok Sabha	7
The Rajya Sabha	10
Legislative Business	13
Working of Parliament: An Analysis	14
Question Hour	14
Assurance	16
Parliamentary Committees	17
Parliament's Commitment to Social Development	21
Part II : Rhetoric and Reality – Policy Watch	
Introduction	27
Health Care Scenario: A Background	28
National Health Policy 2002	31
Union Budget 2002–03	32
Pharmaceutical Policy, 2002	33
The Patents (Amendment) Bill, 2002	34
State of Education in India: Some Major Indicators	35
Poverty and its Correlates	39
Implications of Current Policies for Poverty Correlates	40
A Concluding Remark	44
Part III: Access to Justice – Watching the Supreme Court	
Part 1: Qualitative Review	47
Constitutional and Administrative Law	47
Judiciary	50
Labour and Service Laws	51
Education	52
Environmental Law	53

Redefining Criminal Law Jurisprudence	54
Change in Judicial Stances	56
Dominant Judicial Attitudes	56
Part 2: Quantitative Review	57
Pendency of Cases in Various Courts	57
Reasons for Delay in Justice Delivery	58
Benchmarking Productivity for Judges	60
Budgetary Allocation For Judiciary	60
Conclusion	61
Part IV: Grassroot Democracy – Watching Local Governance	
Perspective on Decentralised Governance	65
Constitutionalisation of Panchayati Raj Institutions	66
Operational Challenges in Strengthening PRIs	67
Annexures	
Information on Parliament (Annexure I to XVI)	77-100
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	77-100
Information on Health, Literacy and Poverty	101 115
(Annexure XVII to XXXII)	101-115
Information on Panchayati Raj (Annexure XXXIII to XXXVI)	116-126
People Involved	127
List of References	128