



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATI RAJ
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad – 500 030

POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(PGD-SRD)
9th Batch (2017), 1st Semester
Course SRD – 501: RURAL SOCIETY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

ASSIGNMENT QUESTIONS

Total Marks: 30

Note:

- i. **Answer any Five questions, at least one from each Block.**
 - ii. **Each question carries Six Marks.**
 - iii. **Length of an answer should ideally be 400-500 words.**
 - iv. **Write neatly in your own legible handwriting. The answers should not be copied from the study material.**
 - v. **The answers should be written on A4 size paper. A margin of one inch in the left side should be maintained.**
 - vi. **Write clearly your Name and Enrolment No. on top of the answer sheet. Do not bind it with other Assignments.**
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I. Block – 1: Understanding Rural Communities: Structure, Culture and Polity

1. What is the influence of social structure in the civil society? Also define social stratification.
2. How does caste play an important role in socio-economic milieu ?
3. Write on untouchability issue as prevailing in the society.
4. What is the impact of social exclusion in the economic development of the rural community?
5. What are the major causes for social conflicts in the rural areas?

II. Block – 2: Development Theories

1. Can economic growth be termed as joyless growth ?
2. Is growth and equity trade off a myth?
3. What is the significance of social development in general well being of a society?
4. What are the major components of human development ?
5. Why is inclusive growth so necessary ?

III. Block – 3: Sustainable Development: An Overview

1. What is the significance of social change in sustainable development ?
2. How will empowerment of women help in equitable growth of the society?
3. What is the ecological perspective of economic growth?
4. How can sustainable development be measured?

IV. Block – 4: Rural Development and Poverty: Concepts and Strategies

1. Write on the demarcation of poverty line.
2. What are the major recommendations of Tendulkar Committee on Poverty?
3. What are the major schemes implemented recently for eradicating rural poverty?
4. How have activities under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) impacted on rural development?

V. Block – 5: Decentralised Governance

1. What are the salient features of democratic decentralisation ?
2. What are major implications of 73rd Amendment of Constitution of India ?
3. What are main causes of success and failure of cooperative movement in India ?
4. What role have NGOs been playing in improving quality of rural life ?



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COURSE SRD – 502: DEVELOPMENT METHODS AND TECHNIQUES

ASSIGNMENT QUESTIONS

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I. Block – 1: Approach, Theory and Methods

1. Describe major National and Regional Development Models?
2. Is Gandhiji's Nai Taleem still relevant? If so, write on its possible implications on our education system?
3. What is environmental capital? How does it impact sustainable Development?
4. Should the government act as a regulator or facilitator for the rural development process?

II. Block – 2: Quantitative Methods and Techniques

1. What are major methods of central tendency?
2. Why is accurate data collection so important for planning process?
3. Describe concept of probability and explain it with commonly occurring examples
4. Describe main advantages and limitations of sampling.
5. What are Type I and Type II errors and how it can be minimized?
6. What is major difference between correlation analysis and regression analysis?

III. Block – 3: Quantitative and Qualitative Methods

1. Distinguish between participant and non-participant observation through examples?
2. Why should questionnaire be developed meticulously? What care should be taken in framing the questions?
3. How can people's participation be ensured in participatory planning?
4. Describe major features of quantitative and qualitative research?

IV. Block –4: Various Steps in Research Process

1. What is gained by scientific research? Give some examples.
2. What is the role of literature review in planning and conducting research?
3. How do you define a research problem?
4. Distinguish between primary and secondary data and how are these used in planning process?



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COURSE SRD – 503: POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

ASSIGNMENT QUESTIONS

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Block-1: Vision for India's Rural Development

1. Write a note on Swaraj and its impact on socio economic development of the country?
2. How did Nehru's approach towards development differ from Gandhiji's?
3. What did Jaya Prakash Narayan envision about the reconstruction of Indian Polity?
4. Describe the role of green revolution in enhancing foods security in India.
5. Describe the salient features of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).

II Block-2: Planned Rural Development

1. Analyse the role of Planning Commission in the rural development process?
2. Briefly analyze the impact of last three Five Year Plans (10th, 11th and 12th) on alleviation of rural poverty.
3. What is meant by Local Self Government and what is the role of Panchyati Raj Institutions (PRI's) in the rural development?
4. What is the importance of micro credit in meeting the financial requirements of rural people?

III Block-3: Rural Development Programmes for Sustainable Development and Poverty Alleviation

1. What have been the major wage employment programmes in India ?
2. What are the characteristics of self employment ?
3. Write a note on joint forest management.
4. What have been major constraints in the public distribution system?
5. What do you mean by demographic transition ?

IV Block-4: Vulnerable Groups and Rural Development

1. What are the major constraints in the empowerment of women?
2. What is gender based budgeting and what are its important objectives ?
3. What is tribal sub-plan and how it is different from earlier programmes undertaken by the government ?
4. What are the major causes for lower participation of women in developmental activities ?

V Block-5: Rural Development and Quality of Life

1. Describe the efforts made by the government in reducing high infant mortality rate.
2. Has the country been able to make a significant impact on primary education?
3. What are the Self Help Groups (SHGs) and what are major constraints in their functioning ?
4. What are the major differences between Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) and Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA) ?
5. Write a note on Social Audit.

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COURSE SRD – 504: LIVELIHOODS AND RESOURCES

ASSIGNMENT QUESTIONS

Total Marks: 30

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I Block-1: Livelihoods

1. Identify all the fourteen elements of livelihoods framework related to the household. Also bring out the inter-relationship that exists among these elements.
2. List five major principles which help us to understand livelihoods better.
3. Describe the salient features of DFID, CARE and IFAD frameworks for sustainable livelihoods.
4. What are major tools for assessing livelihoods situation?
5. What is a value chain and how does it help in improving the livelihoods?

II Block-2: Resources

1. What are major natural resources and what has been negative impact of their non- judicious exploitation?
2. List major applications dependant on water.
3. What is spiritual capital, describe how is it different from religion?
4. How does social capital impact on livelihood support system?
5. What have been major causes for the migration of rural people to urban areas?

III Block-3: Environment

1. Describe the concept of carrying capacity of earth.
2. How has climate change affected the livelihoods of the people in fragile areas?
3. What do you understand by biodiversity and what efforts need to be taken to conserve it?

4. What are the major causes of soil, air and water pollution?
5. What are important national missions launched by the Government of India for combating climate change?

IV Block-4: Farm-based Livelihoods

1. Distinguish between cropping system and farming system followed in India.
2. What are the major causes in the decline in productivity of dry land agriculture ?
3. Describe the role of artificial insemination in productivity of milch animals .
4. Describe major NTFPs in India. Give five examples of the NTFPs known to you?

V Block-5: Non-farm Livelihoods

1. What are major non-farm livelihoods of your region? What efforts are being made to improve the skills of rural artisans?
2. Describe the Minimum Wage Act enacted in 1948 and what have been the major changes in the minimum wages of farm labours?
3. Define entrepreneurship and describe its importance in income and employment generation.
4. What are the major constraints faced by women in undertaking self employment activities?

VI Block-6: Value Addition and Marketing

1. How does value addition help in increasing the agricultural profitability?
2. List major processing activities in your region. Also describe the existing levels of technology in processing of farm crops.
3. Describe salient features of Food Safety and Standards Act 2006.
4. What is the status of rural markets in your area? Suggest a few actions which need to be taken for improving the market facility for the benefit of local producers.
5. What are the advantages of cooperatives and also give major reasons for their success in some areas and failures in other areas?