



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYATI RAJ
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad- 500 030
Centre for Post Graduate Studies & Distance Education
POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT (PGD-SRD)
Batch-12, (2020), Ist Semester
Course: SRD 501: Rural Society and Sustainable Development

ASSIGNMENT QUESTIONS

Total Marks: 30

Instructions:

- Answer any Five Questions, at least one from each Block.
- Each question carries Six marks.
- Length of an answer should ideally be 400-500 words.
- Write neatly in your own legible handwriting. The answers should not be copied from the study material.
- The answers should be written on A4 size paper. A margin of one inch in the left side should be maintained.
- Write clearly your Name and Enrolment No. on top of the answer sheet. Do not bind it with other assignments.

I. Block – 1: Understanding Rural Communities: Structure, Culture and Polity

- Discuss the major socio-economic issues and challenges in a village recently visited by you
- Discuss the evolution of caste systems over centuries in India and how is it affecting regional politics?
- What is social inequality and social exclusion? Discuss how social exclusion has affected the growth of Rural Economy?
- What is social mobility? How social mobility has been important for the development of society?
- What is social conflict? Has the traditional conflict redressal mechanism has been able to resolve social conflicts in the rural areas?

II. Block – 2: Development Theories

- What are the key differences between economic growth and economic development? Discuss the key determinants of economic growth.
- What do you understand by Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and how does it help in understanding of the economic scenario of a country?
- What is the significance of social development? Discuss key methods for social development.
- What is human development? What is human Development Index (HDI)? Discuss the major components of human development.
- Discuss the concept of inclusive growth. Discuss the key anchors of inclusive growth strategy.

III. Block – 3: Sustainable Development

- Why is there so much emphasis on sustainable development for any community/society?
- To what extent has the economic development been helpful in reducing the drudgery faced by rural women in the pursuit of livelihoods?
- Write a note on synergy between ecology and economic growth?

4. What is Human Development Index (HDI) and what are the steps taken by the Government to improve it?

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

1. How does poverty affect the capacity of a person in earning livelihood ? How are the Poorest of Poor (PoPs) identified in a village ?
2. What is sustainable development? Discuss the underlying principles of sustainable development.
3. What is Rural Development? Discuss the key challenges for development of rural areas. Describe different schemes and programmes introduced in Rural areas by Government.
4. Discuss the different parameters for measuring sustainable development. Discuss the different indicators for used for sustainable development of rural areas.
5. Discuss the importance of CSR in Rural Development. Discuss few import schemes introduced by corporate under CSR.

V. Block – 5: Decentralised Governance

1. What is Democratic Decentralisation? How Democratic Decentralisation has been put into practice for past few decades?
2. What do you understand by participatory governance and how does it help rural society?
3. What is the concept of Cooperation? What are main causes of success and failure of cooperative movement?
4. What kind of Civil Society Organisation (CSO) and Community Based Organisations (CBOs) are functioning in your area? Discuss how these organizations are playing an important role in development of the society?
5. Discuss the importance of NGO in in taking an active part in Rural Development.

Note:

1. Last date for submission of Assignments (Hard copies) is **May 30, 2020.**
Addressed to the Regional Coordinator, Centre for PG Studies & Distance Education, NIRD&PR, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500030. Also, scanned copies of the same are sent to dec.nird@gov.in email ID.
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POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT (PGD-SRD)
Batch-12, (2020), Ist Semester
Course: SRD 502: Development Methods and Techniques

ASSIGNMENT QUESTIONS

Total Marks: 30

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I. Block – 1: Understanding Rural Communities: Structure, Culture and Polity

1. Describe various types of national, regional and local development models.
2. What do you mean by regional development? Why more emphases is being given to Regional Development today?
3. Why the safe environment is important for sustainable development?
4. What is the importance of database management for developmental planning?
5. What are the advantages and disadvantages of top down and bottom up approaches of planning?

II. Block – 2: Quantitative Methods and Techniques

1. What are primary and secondary data and how are they collected?
2. What is measure of central tendency? Discuss the different methods of measurement of central tendency and their applications.
3. What is the importance of probability distributions in decision making?
4. What are the key differences between Population and sample? Discuss different sampling methods commonly used for the collection of data.
5. How does the correlation and regression analysis help in the analysis of data?
6. What is test of hypothesis and how is it useful? Discuss the procedures followed in testing of hypothesis.

III. Block – 3: Quantitative and Qualitative Methods

1. You are assigned to collect primary data on the girl dropouts from the school to find out the reasons of such dropouts. Prepare a questionnaire for collecting the information.
2. What is Participatory Rural appraisal (PRA) technique? Discuss how PRA Technique is helpful in better understanding of the rural community and rural issues for village level planning?
3. What is the importance of collecting qualitative data and what are data collection

4. Techniques in qualitative research?
5. Why is it important to mix quantitative and qualitative research methods to get better results in social science research?
6. Discuss the importance of Case study method of research. Discuss different approaches to conduct study.

IV. Block –4: Various Steps in Research Process

1. What is the purpose of scientific social research and how is it conducted ? Discuss the different steps involved in conducting scientific research.
2. What are the functions of literature review? Discuss different components of review of literature.
3. Discuss the importance and application of Internet in rural development research.
4. What is a research problem? Discuss the technique of identifying a good research problem. Write a research problem of the following study: 'Psychological impact of COVID-19 lockdown upon the school going children.'
5. Give one example each of univariate, bivariate and trivariate tables other than given in the Course Book.

V. Block-5: Project proposal preparation and report writing

1. Discuss the important characteristics of a good project proposal. Why Donor' perception is important and to be taken into account while writing a proposal?
2. Discuss the steps involved in writing a good project proposal.
3. What are the key steps involved in report writing?
4. Discuss the key components of explanatory report writing

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Batch-12, (2020), Ist Semester
Course: SRD 503: Policies and Programmes of Rural Development

ASSIGNMENT QUESTIONS

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I. Block-1: Vision for India's Rural Development

- What are the salient features of Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of Swaraj (self-rule) and its role in our fight for independence? Write a note on the vision of Mahatma Gandhi for rural development?
- Discuss Nehruvian approach of development and how it differed Gandhiji's Vision.
- What is the Western Model of democracy and how is it still relevant in the modern day politics?
- What is the importance of Green revolution and agricultural development in the post independence era? Discuss the development of agriculture and allied sectors in the different plan periods.
- Discuss the limitations of Green Revolution.

II. Block-2: Planned Rural Development

- What is the role of planning in rural development and poverty alleviation of a country?
- Discuss the key features of 73rd Constitutional Amendment. What is the importance of Gram Sabha in village level planning? Design a strategy to make the role of Gram Sabha more effective.
- What is Micro finance? Discuss some of the important Micro Finance programmes across the world.
- How can Self Help Groups be used for upscaling small loans for generation of rural livelihoods?
- What is Right Based approach to Development? What are the fundamental assumptions of Right Based approach to Development?

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

- What is the need for wage employment programme? Discuss the weaknesses of wage employment programmes.
- Do you agree that the Self Employment is always better than the Wage Employment? If so, how?

3. Discuss the importance of convergence between wage employment programme with other programmes. Give some live examples of convergence.
4. What is the concept of watershed development? Discuss its importance in Draught proofing and Rural Development.
5. What are the different safety net programmes in India? Discuss how they help the poorest of the poor ?

IV. Block-4: Vulnerable Groups and Rural Development

1. What is Vulnerability? Discuss different vulnerable groups existing in the society.
2. What are the approaches to women development? How is women's development closely related with the societal development ?
3. Write salient features of gender based budgeting and its application.
4. Why child labour is a international issue today? What can be done to reduce this problem?
5. What is tribal sub-plan approach? Discuss the detailed strategy of a tribal sub-plan approach.

V. Block-5: Rural Development and Quality of Life

1. Discuss the major challenges for health care system in Rural Areas?
2. Describe the status of primary education. Why has absenteeism, especially of the girl students has become a major problem in achievement of 100% literacy?
3. Discuss the importance of Thrift and savings. Describe the role of self help groups in promoting thrift and savings.
4. Why is credit the life line for the livelihood support system?
5. What is group dynamics and how is it helpful for the progress of the Self help groups?

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Batch-12, (2020), Ist Semester
Course: SRD 504: Livelihoods and Resources

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I. Block-1: Livelihoods

1. Discuss the concept of livelihood and indicate the characteristics of livelihood with examples.
2. What is livelihood frame work? Discuss the major capitals used by households in their activities?
3. What is livelihood assessment? Discuss LEAP tool for assessing the livelihoods.
4. What is a value chain? Give an example of a value chain for any agri- produce working in your area
5. What is livelihood intervention? Differentiate between a sub project cycle and a large project cycle.
6. Discuss the key principles of DAY-NRLM.

II. Block-2: Resources

1. What are common property resources? How do the resources help and obstruct livelihood systems?
2. What is the importance of forests in an eco- system and how can these be useful in promoting socio-economic activities of the neighborhood population?
3. What are the major key differences between natural and physical capital?
4. Discuss the importance of human capital for development. What are the different components of human capital?
5. Write on the formal and informal sources for the finance as available in your area.
6. What are the cognitive and structural dimensions through which social capital can be looked at?

III. Block-3: Environment

1. What do you understand by ecology? And how does an ecosystem influence/affect the environment?
2. Do you agree that nothing is waste and wealth can be created from anything?
3. What are the key environmental concerns? Write a note on climate change and its effect on rural livelihoods.

4. Discuss the environmental concerns in your place. Prepare a plan how community can be mobilised for conservation of environment in the area.
5. What are the major causes for pollution? Write a detailed note on causes and effect of water pollution.

IV. Block-4: Farm-based Livelihoods

1. Differentiate between a cropping system and a farming system. Also indicate the paradigm shifts in agriculture as basic livelihoods.
2. What are the broad types of agriculture? Differentiate between market based agriculture and subsistence agriculture with examples from your area.
3. What is the importance of livestock in the rural livelihood?
4. Write a detailed note on the Forest- Based Livelihoods from the perspective of NTFP.
5. How can the productivity of ponds, tanks and lakes be increased for fish culture and production?

V. Block-5: Non-farm Livelihoods

1. What are Non-farm livelihoods? What are the traditional non-farm livelihoods practiced in the villages.
2. What are the latest trends on the increasing importance of non-farm livelihoods in rural areas?
3. What are the major characteristics of wage and self employment?
4. Develop a strategy for promotion of self employment in your area?
5. Write a note on micro- credit and its importance in promoting rural livelihoods.

VI. Block-6: Value Addition and Marketing

1. What is value addition? How can value addition help in improving the farmers' income?
2. How is food grain stored in your area? Give details about the most popular storage device used there and what improvements needed in it.
3. What is Agro Processing? Discuss the importance of Agro Processing of agricultural commodities.
4. What kind of processed food is being sold in your area? Do you think that the processing of farm produce should be promoted?
5. Visit a village market and describe the methods practiced for sale and purchase of farm produce there. Discuss for further improvements of the system.
6. What are the various organizational structures which are available to undertake collective marketing?

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