

**ASSIGNMENT NO.: MASS-1/PGDSS-2024 (TEE June 2025 and December 2025)**

**Post Graduate Diploma in Sustainability Science (PGDSS)  
And  
Master of Arts in Sustainability Science (MASS)**

**Assignments (ASSIGNMENT NO.: MASS-1/PGDSS-2025)**

**(2025)**



**School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies  
Indira Gandhi National Open University  
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi -110068**

## ASSIGNMENT NO.: MASS-1/PGDSS-2024 (TEE June 2025 and December 2025)

Dear Learner,

Please ensure that you download the most recent assignments from the designated resources, specifically the official website at <https://webservices.ignou.ac.in/assignments/> or the WEAS portal at <https://sites.google.com/ignou.ac.in/mass/about>.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and best wishes,

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. The first page of your response sheet should look like this (**Prepare separate file for different courses**):
  - i. **Assignment No.**
  - ii. **Your name**
  - iii. **Enrolment No.**
  - iv. **Email (mandatory):**
  - v. **Phone No.**
- b. **Second Page should have your IGNOU ID Card (Compulsory)**
- c. **Third Page should have the assignment questions**
2. Use A-4 size papers for responses, write on both sides with margin, and secure all the pages carefully.
3. Write the question with each answer. **Each question to be answered in around 500 words in your own handwriting.**
4. **Last date for submitting the assignments for June Term End Examination is 30<sup>th</sup> March and for December Term End Examination is 30<sup>th</sup> September.**
5. Submit the assignment responses to the Concern Regional Centre.

Note: In the Envelop, write the programme code PGDSS (for PGDSS) and MASS (for MASS)

### GUIDELINES

- **Planning:** Read the assignments carefully. Go through the self learning material on which they are based. Make some points regarding each question and then rearrange them in a logical order.
- **Organization:** Give attention to your introduction and conclusion. The introduction must offer your brief interpretation of the question and how you propose to develop it. The conclusion must summarize your response to the question. Make sure that your answer is: logical and coherent; has clear connections between sentences and paragraphs, and; is written correctly giving adequate consideration to your expression, style and presentation.
- **Presentation:** Once you are satisfied with your answers, you can write down the final version for submission. Write each answer neatly and underline the points you wish to emphasize.

By following this structured approach, you will be able to produce well-organized and articulate responses to your assignments. This process not only aids in better understanding and retention of the material but also enhances the quality of your submissions.

**Please contact the Programme coordinator for any academic help / clarification**  
: [pgdss@ignou.ac.in](mailto:pgdss@ignou.ac.in) (for PGDSS) and [mass@ignou.ac.in](mailto:mass@ignou.ac.in) (for MASS)

## PGDSS/MASS-1

- MSD-011: Sustainability Science
- MSD-012: Ecosystem and Natural Resources
- MSD-013: Socio-Cultural System
- MSD-014: Ecological Economics
- MSD-015: Institutions, Governance and Policies
- MSD-016: Strategies and models for sustainability
- MSD-017: Challenges to Sustainable Development
- MSD 019: Global Strategies to Sustainable Development
- MSD 020: Population, Health and Sustainability

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**MSD-011: Sustainability Science**

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**Course Code: MSD-011**  
**Maximum Marks: 100**

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**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. Discuss the concept of Sustainable Development and its evolution.
  2. Explain the 5 stages of Maslow's hierarchy of needs.
  3. Describe the different tools for the effective utilization of communication in public participation.
  4. Analyze the role of formal and non-formal sectors in environmental education in India during the last three decades.
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**MSD-012: Ecosystem and Natural Resources**

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**Course Code: MSD-012**  
**Maximum Marks: 100**

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**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. What are the major factors responsible for the loss of biodiversity in developing countries?
  2. Discuss the global rainfall patterns and their ecological implications.
  3. Elucidate the concept of maximum sustainable yield in the context of resource crises during this era of climate change.
  4. Explain the role of agrobiodiversity in climate change-food security nexus.
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**MSD-013: Socio-cultural System**

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**Course Code: MSD-013**  
**Maximum Marks: 100**

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**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. Explain the nature-culture-personality triangulation.
2. Analyse the philosophical basis of environmental movements in India.
3. Discuss the role of traditional organizations in the process of achieving sustainable development.
4. Elucidate the linkages between environmental justice, equity, and sustainability with suitable examples.

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**MSD-014: Ecological Economics**

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**Course Code: MSD-014**

**Maximum Marks: 100**

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**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. Underline the thermodynamic, absolute scarcity, and sustainability interlinkages.
  2. Explain the concept of overshoot and dangers of collapse.
  3. Define Common Pool Resources. Underline the significance of CPRs in rural economy.
  4. Is the Kyoto Protocol a strong instrument for achieving sustainable development? Justify your answer.
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**MSD-015: Institution, Governance and Policies**

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**Course Code: MSD-015**

**Maximum Marks: 100**

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**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. Discuss the role of global finance and trade institutions in sustainable development.
  2. What is participatory governance? Explain its role in the development process with suitable examples in your country or region.
  3. Elaborate on Agenda 21 and its outcomes.
  4. Write an essay on regulatory structure for environmental protection in India.
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**MSD-016: Strategies and Models for Sustainability**

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**Course Code: MSD-016**

**Maximum Marks: 100**

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**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. Explain the concept of value addition and its role in livelihood improvements in rural India.
2. Write essay on Environment Information System Network in India.
3. Elaborate on the gender-market linkages and self-help groups with suitable examples.
4. Discuss the Prism model and the Egg model of sustainable development.

**MSD-017: Challenges to Sustainable Development**

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**Course Code: MSD-017**

**Maximum Marks: 100**

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**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. Write essay on the impacts of climate change on water-food-agriculture nexus in India.
  2. Discuss the major tangible and intangible impacts of urbanization in India.
  3. Define sanitation. Elucidate the role of sanitation in sustainable development, with special reference to India.
  4. Analyse the different approaches to combating desertification in India.
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**MSD-019: Global Strategies to Sustainable Development**

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**Course Code: MSD-018**

**Maximum Marks: 100**

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**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. Discuss any three social protection measures of the Government of India for poverty reduction in India.
  2. Explain any three major targets of SDG 5- Gender equality and its indicators with special reference to India.
  3. Highlight India's progress on any two targets of SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities.
  4. Analyse SDG-17 as an essential approach to the SDGs.
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**MSD-020: Population, Health and Sustainability**

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**Course Code: MSD-018**

**Maximum Marks: 100**

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**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. Discuss any three theories of internal migration.
2. Analyse the features of Population policies across the world.
3. Explain the major causes and consequences of undernutrition.
4. Explore the historical occurrence of global pandemics.