

ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET

**Post Graduate Certificate in
Agriculture Policy
(PGCAP)**

**Assignments for
January 2010
and
July 2010 Sessions**



**School of Agriculture
Indira Gandhi National Open University
New Delhi -110068**

Dear Student,

As you are aware that the weightage to the term-end examination will be 75% and the weightage to the continuous assessment (assignment) will be 25%. There is one assignment for each course, thus a total four assignments for the programme. Each assignment will be of 50 marks which ultimately will be converted to have weightage of 25% of the total marks.

Before attempting the assignments, please read the following instructions carefully

1. First of all read the assignment /questions and instructions carefully and identify the components of an assignment. You should read the relevant sections and sub-sections of a unit while preparing your responses and write answers in your own words. Your responses should not be a verbatim reproduction of the textual materials/blocks provided for self-learning purposes. We also suggest that, you may read additional materials available in your study centre or in any other library before preparing your responses. But extra reading is not a must to answer these assignments.
2. **On the top of the first page of your answer sheet, please write the details exactly in the following format.**

Enrolment no.:.....

Name:

Address:

.....

.....

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Course Code:

Course title:

Study Centre:

Date:

(Name and Code)

3. Use foolscap size paper for writing your answer.
4. Leave 4 cm margin on the top, bottom and left of your answer sheet.
5. Clearly indicate question number and part of the question being solved while writing your answers.

Assignment No.	Last Date of Submission	
	January, 2010 Session	July, 2010 Session
Assignment 1 (MNR-001)	28 th February, 2010	31 st August, 2010
Assignment 2 (MNR-002)	31 st March, 2010	30 th September, 2010
Assignment 3 (MNRE-015)	15 th April, 2010	15 th October, 2010
Assignment 4 (MNRE-016)	31 st May, 2010	30 th October, 2010

6. Assignments have to be sent to the Programme Coordinator of your study centre.
7. **We strongly suggest that you should retain a copy of your assignment responses.**

Wishing you good luck.

Assignment -1
Course Code: MNR-001
Course title: Indian Agricultural Development

Maximum Marks: 50

Note: Attempt any five questions. All questions carry equal marks.

(5x10=50)

- Q.1 Describe the areas of reforms and technological changes which led to the development of Indian Agriculture.
- Q.2 There is an urgent need to accelerate the pace of agricultural growth in order to fulfill the need of food, feed, fiber and raw materials. Explain.
- Q.3 (a) What do you mean by biodiversity? Briefly explain the importance of biodiversity in crop improvements.
(b) Explain the methods of germplasm conservation.
- Q.4 Describe the important livestock resources which contribute significantly in the national economy.
- Q.5 Explain the need of insurance in agriculture. Discuss the various insurance schemes implemented in agriculture.
- Q.6 (a) Discuss the present position of agricultural taxation in India. Write the arguments in favour and against the progressive taxation of agricultural income.
(b) What are the important guidelines for decentralized procurement scheme of foodgrains.
- Q.7 Explain the relationship between agriculture and industrial sector. Explain the characteristics of small scale industries.
- Q.8 Describe the agricultural export and import scenario in India. Briefly explain the WTO Agreement on Agriculture.

Assignment -2
Course Code: MNR-002
Course title: Agriculture Policy: Formulation, Components, Implementation and Comparative Analysis

Maximum marks: 50

Note: Attempt any five questions. All questions carry equal marks.

(5x10=50)

- Q.1 Define the term "Agricultural policy". Discuss various instruments of Agricultural policy.
- Q.2 Explain the steps in preparation of draft policy document.
- Q.3 What do you mean by impact assessment? Explain the need of impact assessment of policy. Briefly explain the approaches of impact assessment.
- Q.4 (a) Explain the basic aspects which need to address adequately in agriculture policy process.
(b) What needs to be done in order to improve the policy governance in India?
- Q.5 (a) Explain the need of water use policies.
(b) Discuss the public and private sector investment pattern in Agriculture in India.
- Q.6 Describe the agricultural input use pattern in India.
- Q.7 Discuss the rural poverty alleviation strategy being implemented during 11th five year plan.
- Q.8 Explain how variation in factor endowments affect the level of agricultural development.

Assignment -3
Course Code: MNRE-015
Course title: Cooperatives and Farmers' Organizations

Maximum marks: 50

Note: Attempt any five questions. All questions carry equal marks.

(5x10=50)

- Q.1 Explain the concept and evolution of cooperatives. Briefly discuss the forms of cooperatives.
- Q.2 Explain the important parameters where innovations are essential in order to make cooperatives a successful.
- Q.3 Briefly discuss on any two:
(a) Democratization of cooperatives
(b) Cooperatives for economic and social empowerment
(c) Economic reforms in cooperatives
- Q.4 Discuss the need and essential features of National Policy on Cooperatives.
- Q.5 (a) Write the basic principles and key paradigm of participatory development approach.
(b) Explain the role of Self Help Group in financing to poor.
- Q.6 Explain the concept of Non-Government Organizations (NGO)? Discuss different types of NGOs. What are advantages of NGOs over Government organizations?
- Q.7 Discuss about the organizations involved in cooperatives policy decisions.

Assignment -4
Course Code: MNRE-016
Course title: Project Analysis

Maximum marks: 50

Note: Attempt any five questions. All questions carry equal marks.

(5x10=50)

- Q.1 Define the term 'Project'. What are the essential features of project? Explain why the project is important for planning.
- Q.2 Describe the different phases of project cycle. Briefly mention about the various aspects to be considered in project preparation.
- Q.3 Explain the important methods of finding appropriate market prices for project inputs and output. Also discuss the problem in finding the appropriate market prices.
- Q.4 What do you understand by Farm Investment Analysis? Explain the Farm Budget, Net benefit Increase and Unit Activity Budget concept of financial analysis.
- Q.5 Write short notes on the followings:
a) Shadow prices
b) Economic valuation of labour
c) WTP
d) Gross Domestic Capital Formation
- Q.6 Explain how aggregate measures are useful in socio-economic development of a country. Discuss the various concepts used and difficulties in measuring the national income.
- Q.7 Explain the concepts of time value of money in project analysis. Differentiate between undiscounted and discounted measures of project worth.
- Q.8 Explain the meaning and significance of sensitivity analysis. Discuss the techniques of sensitivity analysis.