

ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET

Post Graduate Certificate in Agriculture Policy (PGCAP)

**Assignments for
January 2012
and
July 2012 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:

.....

Course Code:

Course title:

Study Centre:

(Name and Code)

Date:

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, 2012 Session | July, 2012 Session |
| Assignment 1 (MNR-001) | 31 st January, 2012 | 31 st July, 2012 |
| Assignment 2 (MNR-002) | 17 th February, 2012 | 17 ^h August, 2012 |
| Assignment 3 (MNRE-015) | 2 nd March, 2012 | 07 th September, 2012 |
| Assignment 4 (MNRE-016) | 23 st March, 2012 | 21 st September, 2012 |

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. Answer the question in about 700 words. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Agriculture is a primitive step of human civilization. Explain. 10
2. (a) Discuss the status and importance of livestock in Indian Agriculture. 5
(b) Discuss the current status of agricultural production in India 5
3. Explain the factors that influence farmers' decision on choice of crops and cropping pattern. 10
4. Write short notes on the followings:
(a) Importance of the germplasm exchange 3
(b) Intellectual property rights 3
(c) Causes of the growth of agricultural labour 4
5. Discuss the steps undertaken to improve the availability of agricultural finance in India. 10
6. Describe the current scenario of agricultural education in India. 10
7. Describe the followings:
(a) Forms of agricultural subsidy. 5
(b) Special characteristics of agriculture. 5
8. (a) Define the rural non-farm sector. What are the types of rural industries? 5
(b) Explain the impact of ICT based initiatives in agriculture. 5

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

Maximum marks: 50

Note: Attempt any five questions. Answer the question in about 700 words. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Explain the concept of policy in general and agriculture policy in particular. Why integration of policies of the various sub-sectors is necessary? 10
2. Discuss the relevant goal of agriculture sector which are critical for the formulation of good agricultural policies in India. 10
3. What is meant by policy implementation? Discuss the approaches of policy implementation. 10
4. (a) Discuss the various aspects need to be addressed adequately for good agriculture policy formulation. 5
(b) Define the good governance and explain its key elements. 5
5. Discuss the objectives of agricultural price policy in India. Also discuss the major interventions in the pricing of agricultural commodities in India. 10
6. Explain the concept of agricultural investment. Briefly discuss the pattern of investment in agriculture sector. 10
7. (a) Explain, how non-farm sector contributes to the development of farm sector. 5
(b) Discuss the strategy followed for rural poverty alleviation during XI five year plan. 5
8. (a) Discuss the Rostow's stages of economic development. 5
(b) Discuss the trade reforms in agriculture in India 5

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

Maximum marks: 50

Note: Attempt any five questions. Answer the question in about 700 words. All questions carry equal marks.

1. What is meant by cooperatives? Discuss the different form of agricultural and rural development cooperatives. 10
2. (a) Discuss the contribution of cooperatives in Indian economy. 5
(b) Explain the role of cooperatives in social empowerment. 5
3. (a) Discuss the role of the Registrar of the Cooperatives in proper functioning of the Cooperatives Societies. 5
(b) Who are principal functionaries responsible for the management of a cooperative? Explain the major problem relating to management of cooperatives. 5
4. Discuss the economic reforms adopted by Cooperatives to face the challenges of open market economy. 10
5. Discuss the concept and principles of people's participation. 10
6. What is meant by Self Help Group (SHG)? Discuss the process of SHG formation. 10
7. Discuss the salient features of Non-Government Organizations. Differentiate between government and non-government organizations 10
8. Briefly discuss various policy making bodies related to cooperatives and farmers organizations along with their roles. 10

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

Maximum marks: 50

Note: Attempt any five questions. Answer the question in about 700 words. All questions carry equal marks.

1. What it meant by project? Explain its main features and importance. 10
2. Discuss the aspects to be considered at various stages in the project planning and implementation. 10
3. Explain the followings:
 - (a) Tangible and intangible costs and benefits? 4
 - (b) Marginal value product 3
 - (c) Opportunity cost 3
4. (a) Discuss the problems in finding market prices of agricultural inputs and outputs in project analysis. 5
(b) Explain important guidelines for the preparation of farm investment analysis 5
5. What is farm budget? Prepare a farm budget using hypothetical data. 10
6. Discuss the followings:
 - (a) Difficulties in measuring domestic products 5
 - (b) Uses of aggregate measures 5
7. (a) Discuss the different types of mutually exclusive projects in agriculture with examples. 5
(b) Briefly discuss various undiscounted measures of project worth. 5