No. of Printed Pages : 3

RECE-003

00465

RESEARCH DEGREE PROGRAMME IN ECONOMICS (REC)

Term-End Examination

December, 2015

RECE-003 : AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Time : 3 hours | *Maximum Marks : **100***

Note : *Answer **any two** questions from **Section A** and **any five** questions from **Section B**. Questions in **Section A** carry **20** marks each (to be answered in about **600** words each) and those in **Section B** carry **12** marks each (to be answered in about **350** words each). In numerical or mathematical questions word limit do **not apply**.*

SECTION A

1. 'In a dual economy, growth of agriculture plays a crucial role in shaping the overall economic development of the country'. Justify this statement.

2. (a) What are the three situations in a factor-product relationship ?

   (b) Discuss :

   (i) factor-factor relationship, and

   (ii) product-product relationship

3. Explain the major issues of policy concern for rural labour in India. How far these issues have been taken care of by NCRL ?

4. Why do cyclical price movements occur in case of agricultural commodities ? Explain with the help of the Cobweb theorem.

SECTION B

5. How are the problems faced by the small-marginal farmers different from those of the large farmers ? Has a significant dent been made in making the access of institutional credit accessible to this important segment of Indian agriculture ?

6. Explain the time series approach to forecasting agricultural prices. How can Box-Jenkin's ARIMA improve the efficiency of your forecasts ?

7. Present the derivation for estimating the price elasticity of 'marketed surplus' proposed by Behrman. Do you agree that this is an improvement over the model suggested by Raj Krishna ? Why ?

8. Given that :
   (i) Output-labour ratio is 0.5 ;
   (ii) Incremental Output-labour ratio is 0.1 ;
   (iii) Land-labour ratio is 0.1 ;
   (iv) Incremental Land-labour ratio is 0.01 ; and
   (v) Share of land in income is 0.75.
      (a) Calculate Solow's Measure of technical change; and
      (b) If returns to scale is 1.1, labour usage is 100 units and incremental labour usage is 10 units, will the above measure of technical change be affected ?

9. Describe the process of Policy making in the context of reforms in the agricultural sector.

10. What is the difference between 'Hedging' and 'Speculation'? What is the policy thrust of 'forward trading' in agricultural commodities ?

11. Distinguish between the four types of 'efficiency'. Can 'technical efficiency' be equal to 'economic efficiency' ? Discuss.

12. What is the significance of 'decomposition analysis' in the context of change in agricultural output ?

13. What is the significance of spatial market integration in agriculture ? How can spatial market integration be promoted ?