| REC-001 |

RESEARCH DEGREE PROGRAMME IN ECONOMICS

00299   **Term-End Examination**

June, 2016

REC-001 : RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Time : 3 hours   *Maximum Marks : 100*

Note : *Answer the questions from each section as per instructions.*

SECTION A

*Attempt any **two** questions from this section in about 700 words each.*   *2×20=40*

1. "A scholar's view of the nature of reality has a major impact on the research he or she does." Comment. Give illustrations in support of your viewpoint.

2. "Research Design is a logical rather than a logistical exercise." In the light of this statement, form a project proposal consisting of the objectives, research methodology and expected outcome.

3. "The essence of science lies in convergent thinking and consensus." Comment.

4. How does quantitative approach differ from qualitative approach in research ? Do you think that a case study is necessarily of qualitative nature ? Why ? Give illustration.

SECTION B

Attempt any five questions from this section in about 500 words each. 5x12=60

5. Why do we need to make the estimates of macroeconomic aggregates at current as well as constant prices ? Why is the base year changed from time to time ?

6. You are asked to conduct a study to determine the problem of unemployment in a district. How would you choose the most appropriate method of enquiry in this case ? What tools of data collection would you employ ?

7. What is composite index ? Distinguish between Range Equalization method and Mean Standardization method of composite index. State the merits and limitations of composite index.

8. Write short notes on any *three* of the following :

   (a) Methodological Dualism

   (b) Economics and Ethics

   (c) Goodness of fit

   (d) Content Analysis

   (e) Instrumentalism in Economics

9. What is the difference between Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) and Rapid Rural Appraisal as a qualitative research approach ? Explain the various methods of PRA approach.

10. Do you think that stratified sampling is a special case of multistage sampling ? Why ?

11. Consider the following wage determination model for an economy during the period 2000 − 2009 :

$$W_t = 8.582 + 0.364 \, (PF)_t + 0.004 \, (PF)_{t-1} - 2560 \, U_t$$
$$\quad\ (1.129) \quad (0.080) \qquad\quad (0.072) \qquad\qquad (0.658)$$

where

    W = Wages and salaries per employee

    PF = Prices of final output at factor cost

    U = Unemployment in the economy as a percentage of total number of employees of the economy

    t = Time

  (a) Interpret the above model.

  (b) Are the estimated coefficients individually significant ?

12. Explain the various steps involved in the computation of estimates of parameters of multiple regression model of Q. No. 11 given above by using SPSS software.

13. What is multi-collinearity ? In what manner does it vitiate the empirical results ?