

SYLLABUS FOR JRF ENTRANCE EXAM  
SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH UNIT  
2010

**Issues in Rural Development**

Topics

1. Data base of the Indian Economy
2. Problems of social and economic development (including concept of human development)
3. Land reform and agrarian change
4. Anti-poverty programmes and their evaluation

Suggested Readings:

Ruddar Dutt and KPS Sundaram, The Indian Economy, latest edition.  
Jean Dreze and Amartya Sen, India: Economic Development and Social Opportunity (1999) and India, Development and Participation (2002)  
UNDP, Human Development Report, 1990 and recent years  
A. R. Desai, Introduction to Rural Sociology  
Bina Agarwal, A Field of One's Own: Gender and Land Rights in South Asia (1994), Cambridge University Press.  
Myron Weiner, The Child and the State in India (1991).  
Jean Dreze and Christian Oldiges, Frontline magazine, Feb 14-27, 2009 on NREGA  
Relevant articles from Economic and Political Weekly and Social Scientist.

**Statistics**

1. Descriptive statistics
2. Standard distributions and their properties.
3. Statistical inference (estimation and testing)
4. Design of experiments and sample survey

Note: Candidates are expected to know the main steps involved in calculation but not necessarily all the derivations.

Readings

A. M. Gun, M. K. Gupta and Dasgupta, Fundamental Statistics, volumes 1 and 2, relevant chapters  
A. M. Gun, M. K. Gupta and Dasgupta, Basic Statistics, relevant chapters  
Optional: G. W Snedecor and W. G. Cochran, Statistical Methods

**SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH UNIT  
SAMPLE QUESTIONS RXI**

**Paper I**

Objective questions and short answer-questions: 2 hours

Section 1

*Write down the letter of the correct answer in the answer script  
12 questions and 5 marks each (Total of 60 marks).*

1. At the Census of 2001, the proportion of Scheduled Castes in the Indian population was
  - (a) 16
  - (b) 6
  - (c) 30
  - (d) 60
  
2. Life expectancy in India is around
  - (a) 45 years
  - (b) 55 years
  - (c) 65 years
  - (d) none of the above
  
3. The Gini coefficient is a measure of
  - (a) central tendency
  - (b) correlation
  - (c) inequality
  - (d) none of the above
  
4. The highest female literacy in South Asia is found in
  - (a) Bhutan
  - (b) Bangladesh
  - (c) India
  - (d) Sri Lanka
  
5. Which of the following sources of data provides information on rural employment?
  - (a) National Sample Survey
  - (b) Rural Labour Enquiry
  - (c) Census of India
  - (d) All of the above

6. The Kyoto Protocol refers to an agreement on
- Indo-Japanese cooperation
  - Fisheries
  - Nuclear disarmament
  - Climate change
7. Population density is defined as
- number of persons in a village
  - number of persons per unit area
  - number of households per unit area
  - none of the above
8. The reference period for employment measured in terms of usual status by the National Sample Survey is
- one week
  - one month
  - one year
  - one day
9. Amartya Sen's discussion of 'Missing Women' refers to
- Women "missing" as a result of an adverse sex ratio
  - Women missing in accidents
  - Women missing in war zones
  - Women dying in child birth

10. Let

$$V_1 = (7^2 + 8^2 + 15^2 + 23^2) / 4 - \{(7+8+15+23)/4\}^2$$

$$V_2 = (16^2 + 18^2 + 32^2 + 48^2) / 4 - \{(16+18+32+48)/4\}^2$$

$$V_3 = (26^2 + 29^2 + 50^2 + 74^2) / 4 - \{(26+29+50+74)/4\}^2$$

Then

- $V_1 < V_2 < V_3$
- $V_3 < V_2 < V_1$
- $V_3 < V_1 < V_2$
- $V_2 < V_3 < V_1$

## Section 2

*Provide short definitions/ notes on any eight of the following questions.  
8 questions of 5 marks each (Total of 40 marks).*

1. Disguised unemployment
2. Human Development Index
3. Minimum Support Price
4. Sharecropping
5. Import substitution strategy
6. Terms of trade
7. Privatization
8. Main worker (Census of India)
9. Dominant caste
10. Famine
11. Piece rate wages
12. Normal distribution

**SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH UNIT**  
**SAMPLE QUESTIONS RXII**  
**Paper II**  
Descriptive or essay type questions

*Answer five of the following questions (at least one of the statistical questions must be answered) in not more than 350 words each.  
Each answer carries a maximum of 20 marks.*

1. How is the official poverty line measured in India? What are the limitations of this methodology?
2. Discuss ways of providing a stimulus to the economy in a time of recession.
3. What is meant by financial liberalization? How has it affected the flow of credit to the priority sectors?
4. "Education is of intrinsic and instrumental importance in the process of development." Explain.
5. Income is an adequate measure of well being. Comment.
6. Assess the strategy of agricultural development commonly termed as the "green revolution".
7. Discuss the nature of the Panchayat system in West Bengal. What has been its impact on village society?
8. In a certain distribution of  $N=25$  measurements, it was found that mean = 56 inches and standard deviation = 2 inches. After these results were computed it was discovered that a mistake has been made in one of the measurements which was recorded as 64 inches. Find the mean and standard deviation if the incorrect value, 64, is omitted.

9. Calculate the mean and standard deviation of the following wage distribution.

Hourly wages (in Rs)	Number of workers
5-9	2
9-13	4
13-17	9
17-21	12
21-25	6
25-29	4
29-34	3