

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA  
MA DEGREE IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND PUBLIC POLICY 2013/2014  
MARGA – THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA COLLABORATIVE  
PROGRAMME – LEVEL VII  
FINAL EXAMINATION - 2014  
SSP1222/1215 – CONCEPTS OF DEVELOPMENT



DURATION: THREE (03) HOURS

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Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2014

Time: 01.30p.m. – 04.30 p.m.

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Answer four (04) questions only. Each question carries 25 marks.

1. There were three important initiatives taken by UN and international agencies during the decade of the 1970s, which added new dimensions to the concept of development.

Answer the following questions:

- a) What were these initiatives and when did they take place?
  - b) What was the main focus in each of them?
  - c) How did each of them add to our understanding of the multi-dimensional nature of human development?
2. 'The definition of development given in the Human Development Report 1990 provides the best framework for the analysis of the multi-dimensional nature of development.'
- Comment with a brief examination of this definition and the different dimensions of development that are included in it.
3. a) Discuss the issues defining the role of land in economic, social and political development of Sri Lanka.
- b) 'Sri Lanka's land policy has been driven more by political rather than economic and social issues of development.'
- Discuss.
4. a) 'Participatory development is about the theory and practice of development in third world countries.' Discuss.
- b) 'Participatory development makes participation an objective of development.'
- Discuss.

5. The interdependent relationship between development and human rights is reflected in the 'rights-based approach to development'. This particular approach has been adopted by UN agencies such as the United Nations Development Programme. However, international financial institutions are yet to fully accept this approach.  
Discuss with reference to the main distinctions between UN development strategies and the development models of other multilateral agencies.
6. Human development encompasses a wide variety of development goals. The question of which goals to prioritise has led to the 'economic growth versus social equity' debate in many developing countries. Some scholars argue that rapid economic growth should be pursued first while others argue that social equity should be prioritised.  
Comment with reference to current development discourse in India.
7. Poverty alleviation is one of the central goals of development. However, the poor, as a distinct social group are often excluded from the planning and implementation of development policy. The poor are therefore seen as 'recipients of' rather than 'participants in' development.  
Explain the theory behind the 'pro-poor approach' to development with reference to the practical feasibility of placing the poor at the centre of development strategy.
8. Globalisation is both the cause and cure for many development-related problems in the world today.  
Discuss some of the positive and negative features of globalization and explain their impact on development goals.

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