

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
SSP1120/1113 – POST INDEPENDENCE DEVELOPMENT HISTORY OF SRI
LANKA



DURATION: THREE (03) HOURS

Date: 22nd March 2014

Time: 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

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

1. a) What do you understand by the term “development history”?
 b) How is development history different from other types of history?
 c) What is the framework of analysis and indicators you would use in a study of development history?

2. “At the time of independence, Sri Lanka was in a better position, economically socially and politically compared to most other South and South East Asian countries. Nevertheless there were several structural weaknesses both in the economy and the political institutions that were to pose serious challenges to policy makers in the period 1948-56.” Discuss.

3. Critically review and assess the social welfare programme in health, education and poverty alleviation during the period 1948 to 1977 using indicators to measure the performance.

4. The period 1948 to 1977 witnessed an alternation of power between the two major political parties.
 a) Name the parties and the periods they were in power and discuss the changes of policy that followed.
 b) What was the overall impact of these changes on development policy as a whole?

5. “The change of government in 1977 was a break with the past. The wide ranging reforms economic, political and social , were designed to take the country along a period of high economic growth and sustainable development ” Critically assess this statement in relation to the overall performance during the period 1977 to 1990 applying the criteria of human development with particular reference to the economic, political and social developments during this period.

6. "Sri Lanka maintained a steady rate of growth in the region of 5% during the period 1990-2000 despite the heavy military expenditure and the disruption caused by the war." Comment and analyse the factors that contributed to the economic performance.
7. Write notes on 4 of the following items, placing each in its historical context and analyzing their social, economic and political impact:
 - (a) The Hartal of 1953
 - (b) The Colonisation programme
 - (c) The Constitutional Reforms of 1978
 - (d) The Million Housing Programme
 - (e) The Youth Insurgency in the second half of the 1980s
 - (f) The Janasaviya Programme

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