THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES
BA DEGREE IN SOCIAL SCIENCES – LEVEL 4
FINAL EXAMINATION (2007)
SSU 2205 - INTRODUCTION TO DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS

DURATION – THREE (03) HOURS

Date: 08th October 2007 **Time: 1.30p.m. – 4.30 p.m.**

Answer five (05) questions only. Select at least two (02) from each part.
Each question carries 20 marks.

PART I

1. Scope of development economics is more value-based and multi-dimensional. Explain this statement showing the difference between traditional economics and development economics.

2. What are the characteristics of developing countries which provide a sound basis for understanding the problems of underdevelopment? Explain with special reference to Sri Lanka.

3. Explain the Lewis Model. Show how it differs from Rostow's Model of economic growth?

4. "Poverty reduction emerged as a key goal in the development agendas". Outline the major policies adopted by the Sri Lankan government during the last two decades to reduce poverty. Explain the merits and weakness of those policies.

PART II

5. Family fertility is determined by a number of microeconomic factors. Apply the basics of neo–classical economic theory for population growth in developing countries. Give example wherever possible.

6 How is foreign aid described in neo–classical theory and neo–Marxist view? Evaluate these two views critically.

7. Some economists argue that contribution of agriculture to economic development is not so important under the modern development pattern. How far do you think this is true? Discuss with examples taken from Sri Lanka and other Third World countries.

8. Write short notes on any **four (04)** of the following:

(a) Absolute poverty
(b) Amartya Sen's view on development.
(c) Gini coefficient
(d) Core values of development
(e) The Bretton Wood System
(f) Net National Welfare (NNW)
(g) Malthus Theory

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