



PERIYAR UNIVERSITY

Salem-636011

(Reaccredited with 'A++' Grade by the NAAC)

CENTRE FOR DISTANCE AND ONLINE EDUCATION (CDOE)

[CHOICE BASED CREDIT SYSTEM (CBCS)]

**CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
PANCHAYAT RAJ**



OBE REGULATIONS AND SYLLABUS

(Effective from the Academic year 2025-2026 onwards)

Certificate Programme in Rural Development and Panchayat Raj

Programme Objectives:

1. To understand the concept and importance of Rural Development.
2. To comprehend historical and contemporary Rural Development Policies.
3. To analyze the role of Panchayat Raj Institutions in Local Self Governance.
4. To develop critical thinking and policy analysis skills.
5. To provide hands-on training through project report.

	COURSES	Credits	Internal Assessment	External Exam	Total
Core – I	Rural Development in India	5	25	75	100
Core – II	Rural Social Structure and Dynamics	5	25	75	100
Core – III	Social Research for Rural Development	5	25	75	100
Core – IV	Panchayat Raj and Rural Development	5	25	75	100
Project	Project with Viva Voce	4	40	60	100

Programme Outcomes:

By the end of this certificate programme, the students will be able to

1. Understand the concept and scope of Rural Development.
2. Explain the evolution and structure of Panchayat Raj Institutions.
3. Analyze the role and responsibilities of Panchayat Raj Institutions.
4. Identify and evaluate Government Welfare Schemes in the context of Rural Development.
5. Development practical insights through conduction of project report.

Scheme for Evaluation

Internal:

Approaches	Marks
Continuous Internal Assessment (CIA)	20
Assignment (1)	5
Total	25

External:

Question Paper Pattern

Time: 3 Hours

Max. Marks: 75

Part A (5 × 5 = 25 Marks)

Answer any five questions out of eight questions

Part B (5 × 10 = 50 Marks)

Answer any five questions out of eight questions

Passing Minimum

A candidate will be declared as pass, if they secure at least **30 marks** in the End Semester Examination (ESE) for each theory paper and an overall aggregate of **40 marks** combining both external and internal assessments.

For Project Work

- i. Project Report - 40 Marks.
- ii. External Viva-Voce - 60 Marks.

Core – I: Rural Development in India

Unit I: Introduction to Rural Development

Concept, Nature, Elements and Scope of Rural Development – Significance of Rural Development in Indian Context - Characteristics of Rural Society and Economy.

Unit II: History of Rural Development in India

History of Rural Development in India - Pioneering Efforts in Rural Reconstruction during the pre- independence Period: Sriniketan Experiment, Martandum Experiment, Gurguon Experiment, Baroda, The Firka Development Scheme, The Etawah Pillot Project, The Nilokheri Experiment, The Bhoodan Movement.

Unit III: Rural Development after Independence

Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), National Rural Employment Programme (NREP), Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), Rural Group life Insurance scheme (RGLIS), Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY)/National Rural Livelihoods Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY), Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY), Food for Work Programme, 2001, Annapurna, National Food for work Programme (NFFWP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme Act (MGNREGS)

Unit IV: Strategies of Rural Development

Strategies of Rural Development- Growth Oriented Strategy-Welfare Strategy -Responsive Strategy- Holistic Strategy -Capacity Building and Empowerment Strategies-Participatory Strategy-Assets Based Development Strategy - Technology Enabled Rural Development.

Unit V: Rural Development and Voluntary Sector:

Rural Social Issues Role of NGOs, Cooperatives, CBOs and Self-Help Groups, Challenges and Opportunities, Rural Credit, Microfinance, Self-Employment, Land Reforms and Tenancy Systems In India, Green Revolution, White Revolution, Rural Technology, Sustainable Development.

Reference Books:

1. Dutt, R. & Sundaram, K.P.M. – *Indian Economy*
2. A.R. Desai – *Rural Sociology in India*
3. Katar Singh – *Rural Development: Principles, Policies and Management*
4. M.L. Dantwala – *Indian Agricultural Development since Independence*
5. Vasant Desai – *Rural Development in India: Past, Present, and Future*
6. M.S. Swaminathan – *Sustainable Agriculture: Towards Food Security*
7. B.K. Prasad – *Rural Development: Concept, Approach, and Strategy*
8. Maheshwari, S.R. – *Rural Development in India: A Public Policy Approach*
9. R.C. Arora – *Integrated Rural Development*
10. Rajendra Prasad – *Rural Health and Education in India*
11. Amartya Sen & Jean Dreze – *India: Development and Participation*
12. S. Guhan – *Social Security for the Poor in India*
13. M.P. Todaro & S.C. Smith – *Economic Development*
14. Michael Lipton – *Why Poor People Stay Poor: Urban Bias in World Development*
15. Katar Singh & R. S. Pundir – *Rural Development in India: Retrospect and Prospects*

Core – II: Rural Social Structure and Dynamics

Unit I: Introduction To Rural Society: Definition of Rural And Urban Society. Nature of Villages, Rural Urban Contrast, Rurbanism - Rural Society: The Concept of Rural Society - The Ideal Model of Rural Society, Characteristics of Village - Types of Village.

Unit II: Rural Demography: Meaning of Rural Demography, Growth and Distribution of Rural Population, Fertility and Mortality Pattern, Size of Rural Settlement, Literacy Rate in Rural Area.

Unit III: Rural Social Structure: The Concept of Caste, Caste in Villages, Caste and Class, The Jajmani System, Social Mobility in Indian Villages, Families in Rural India, Nature of the Distribution of Power in Rural India.

Unit IV: Development: Concept of Development, Indicators of Development, Characteristics of Underdevelopment - Major Issues in Development.

Unit V: Concepts of Rural Development: Rural Development Projects and Programmes, Community Development, Integrated Rural Development, Local Level Participation in Rural Development - Rural Development Strategies: Rural Development Policies, Types of Rural Development Strategies, Rural Development Planning.

Reference Books

1. Madan, Vandana (ed.). 2002. *The Village in India*. Oxford University Press
2. Epstein, Scarlett. 1973. *South India: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow, Mysore Villages Revisited*. London: Macmillan.
3. Agarwal, S.N. (1977), *India's Population Problems*, McGraw Hill, New Delhi
4. Atal, Yogesh. 1968. *The Changing Frontiers of Caste*. Delhi: National Publishing House.
5. Béteille, André. 1965. *Caste, Class and Power: Changing Patterns of Stratification in a Tanjore Village*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
6. Bliss, C. and N. Stern. 1982. *Palanpur: The Economy of an Indian Village*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
7. Breman, J., P. Kloos, and A. Saith. (eds.) 1997. *The Village in Asia Revisited*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.
8. Chauhan, Brij Raj. 2003. "Village Community" in Veena Das (ed.) *The Oxford India Companion to Sociology and Social Anthropology*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.
9. Mandelbaum, David G. 1970. *Society in India*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
10. Sharma, K.L. (ed.) 2001. *Social Inequality in India*. Jaipur and New Delhi: Rawat Publications.
11. Srinivas, M.N. 1996. *Village, Caste, Gender and Method*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Core – III : Social Research for Rural Development

Unit I: Introduction: Research – Definition - Objectives-Types of Research - Process of Identifying and Prioritizing Problems - Review Of Literature, Variables and its Types– Formulation of Hypothesis and its Types.

Unit II: Research Design: Explorative – Descriptive – Diagnostic – Experimental - Case Study - Survey Methods - Content Analysis.

Unit III: Data Collection: Sampling – Probability and Non-probability Sampling Techniques - Data collection Methods – Interview, Schedule, Questionnaire, and Observation.

Unit IV: Descriptive Analysis: Measures of Central Tendency, Dispersion, Skewness and Kurtosis – Correlation Analysis, Association of Attributes - Regression - Concepts of Factor Analysis - Statistical Software and Its Uses.

Unit V: Research Report: Components and Format of Research Report - Reference Materials, Quotations, Bibliography, Footnotes, Glossary and Appendix, Dissemination of Findings.

Reference Books

Bhandarkar, P.L. & Wilkinson, T.S. (2016). Methodology and Techniques of Social Research. Himalaya Publishing House, Mumbai.

Elhance, D.N., Elhance V. & Aggarwal, B.M. (2018). Fundamentals of Statistics. Kitab Mahal, Mumbai.

Ghosh, B.N. (2015). Scientific Method and Social Research. Sterling Publishers, New Delhi.

Goode, W.J. & Hatt, P.K. (2022). Methods in Social Research. McGraw Hill, London.

Gupta, S.P. (2021). Statistical Methods. S. Chand & Company, New Delhi.

Kothari, C.R. & Garg, G. (2019). Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques. New Age International Publishers, New Delhi.

Moser, C.A. & Kolton, C. (1979). Survey Methods in Social Investigation. Heinemann Educational Books, London.

Krishnaswami. O.R., Ranganatham, M. & Harikumar, P.N. (2016). Research Methodology. Himalaya Publishing House, Mumbai.

Core – IV: Panchayati Raj and Rural Development

Unit 1: Introduction to Panchayati Raj System: Historical background of local self-governance in India, Constitutional provisions: 73rd Amendment Act (1992), Three-tier structure of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), Functions and powers of Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti, and Zila Parishad, Role of PRIs in democracy and governance.

Unit 2: Governance and Administration in PRIs: Role of PRIs in rural development, Devolution of powers and financial autonomy of PRIs, Role of State Finance Commission and Central Finance Commission, Panchayati Raj and e-Governance, Accountability and transparency in PRIs.

Unit 3: Rural Development and PRIs: Role of PRIs in the implementation of rural development schemes, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) and rural housing, Social welfare programs and women empowerment through PRIs, Challenges and opportunities in rural development through PRIs.

Unit 4: Panchayati Raj and Social Justice: Role of PRIs in social inclusion and empowerment, Participation of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Women in PRIs, Social audit and grievance redressal mechanisms, Role of NGOs and Civil Society in strengthening PRIs, Case studies of successful Panchayati Raj initiatives in India.

Unit 5: Future of Panchayati Raj and Innovations: Challenges in strengthening PRIs – Political, financial, and administrative hurdles, Role of technology in improving Panchayati Raj governance, Best practices in decentralized governance across India, Future reforms for strengthening PRIs, Sustainable development goals (SDGs) and the role of PRIs

Reference Books:

1. Maheshwari, S.R. – *Local Government in India*
2. M.A. Oommen – *Panchayati Raj: The Indian Experience*
3. Satyajit Singh & Pradeep Sharma – *Decentralization: Institutions and Politics in Rural India*
4. George Mathew – *Panchayati Raj in India: An Overview*
5. Bidyut Chakrabarty – *Local Governance in India: Decentralization and Governance Reforms*
6. B.S. Khanna – *Panchayati Raj in India*
7. Katar Singh – *Rural Development: Principles, Policies and Management*

8. R.C. Arora – *Integrated Rural Development*
9. B.K. Prasad – *Rural Development: Concept, Approach, and Strategy*
10. Jean Dreze & Amartya Sen – *India: Development and Participation*
11. M.S. Jena – *Empowerment of Women through Panchayati Raj Institutions*
12. Niraja Gopal Jayal – *Democracy and the State: Welfare, Secularism and Development in Contemporary India*
13. M.P. Sharma – *Local Government in India*
14. S.R. Maheshwari – *Decentralization in India: Theory and Practice*
15. Michael Lipton – *Why Poor People Stay Poor: Urban Bias in World Development*

Project Report

Format of the Project Report:

Each Project Report shall consist of the following sections.

Section I - Preliminaries

Section II - Body of the Report

Section III - Annexures

Section I - Preliminaries: It is a formal general section and shall have following details

1. Title page
2. A Face sheet having details regarding the title of the study, name of the researcher, name of the guide, Head of the department, institution through which the study has been undertaken university and year of the work
3. Certification from the Research Supervisor
4. Declaration by the Candidate
5. Acknowledgement
6. Table of contents with page Nos
7. List of tables, charts and graphs

Section II - Body of the Report: It is a formal technical section which shall consist of following chapters.

1. Introduction
2. Review of Literature
3. Methodology
4. Data presentation and Analyses
5. Major Findings and conclusion

Section III - Annexure: This section shall consist of all such additional information that are not disclosed in the body of the report

1. A copy of the tool/tools of data collection.
2. Additional statistical tables
3. Bibliography
4. Photographs etc.

