

Syllabus for Junior Rural Development Officer (Written)

Paper I – General studies

Section A (10 marks X 20 questions = 200 Marks)

1. Indian history
2. India art & Culture
3. Indian Geography
4. Indian Economy
5. Indian constitution

Introduction to Rural development

- Definition and scope of RD, RD from colonial period, Gandhi's vision, Legal provisions for balanced spatial development

Approaches of RD in India

- RD projects & programs
- Community development programs – building infrastructure with active involvement of people
- Agriculture tech management practices eg HYV program, green house agri, application of Biotech, Agri diversification
- Agri – challenges – farmer suicides, land fragmentation, ZBNF, Modern agriculture – HYV, mechanization of farming – ATMA, seed, fertilizer & pesticide supply, e - market, price stabilization, organic farming, agro - processing, training farmers for building capacity in modern Agri, Rural unemployment, poverty, migrations, skill development
- Agri diversification - Horticulture, sericulture, Pisciculture, poultry etc.
- White revolution, Green, Pink, Blue revolution
- Area approach – eg Drought prone area development program
- Target approach – small and marginal farmer development programs, women and marginalized centric development initiatives

- Integrated rural development approach – as comprehensive strategy
- People centric and context specific approach
- Bottom up approach using education as means

Section B (10 Marks X 10 Questions = 100 Marks)

1. Ecology & environment – with special focus on Ecology of Meghalaya and NE
2. Science & Technology
3. Issues of International and national importance

Importance of RD in India

- Impact of market economy on traditional socio-cultural life of rural people
- Challenges in market economy
- Measures to ensure Profitability in farming ie doubling farmers income
- Improving purchasing power
- Potential of Corporate social responsibility in rural development

Paper II

Section A - Rural development (10 marks X 20 questions = 200 Marks)

Aspects of RD

- Physical, technological, economic, socio cultural and institutional aspects
- Agri & allied activities
- Village & cottage industries
- Education & skill development – to ensure dignity and self esteem& freedom from ignorance
- Health care and medical facilities
- Basic minimum services – nutrition, shelter, clothing, education, safe drinking water, road connectivity, communication, power to improve standard of living

Problems in rural areas

- Poverty – PDS, DBT, Jan Dhan yojana, micro finance etc illiteracy, adult illiteracy, Digital illiteracy - operation digital board, e pathasala, diksha, Swayam, resource scarcity – land, forest, Water - Atal Bhujal yojana, Energy resource - waste to energy, solar power etc, starvation – Poshan Abhiyan, health care in rural India – vaccination egIndradhanushie immunization mission, ignorance, superstitions, caste/tribe identities as bottleneck for development, lack of communication infra, need to regulate money lending and middlemen gender inequality (SARAS Aajivika mela, Kudumbashree in Kerala, women entrepreneurship)

Objectives of RD

- Provision of goods and services required by rural people
- Creation of employment & Increasing income of rural family – MGNREGA, skill development
- Improvement of services – health, education etc
- Improvement of know how
- Ensuring people participation in planning and development through decentralization of administration – PRIs, PESA act

Policies, strategies & constraints

- Employment and income generation strategy
- PRIs & their empowerment
- Role of NGOs and SHGs
- Credit and subsidy support
- Sustainable rural development strategy
- Farmer producer organizations – role
- Climate resilient Agri
- Sustainable rural development strategy

Other topics

- Rural business hubs – Ethanol production, energy plantation, Handicrafts, Agro processing etc
- Agriculture as an enterprise
- Revamping of cooperative system to eradicate poverty in rural areas
- Role of Mission mode projects eg Horticulture mission
- Rural admn in India – PRI, PESA act
- Social Forestry - Miyawaki afforestation in Kerala
- Institutions for empowerment of rural folk, market linkage
- Rural disaster management – flood, drought, epidemics
- Law and order issues in rural area
- APvillagesecretariatprogram
- Role of youth in RD
- Rural & Eco tourism
- Case studies on Community based organizations and cooperatives

Section B (10 Marks X 10 Questions = 100 Marks)

1. Ethics
2. Attitude & Aptitude
3. Emotional intelligence
4. Moral thinkers & Moral philosophy
5. Interpersonal competence
6. Case Studies on Topics