Indira Gandhi National Open University
Elective Course in Sociology
ESO-12: Society in India
Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA)

Programme Code: BDP
Course Code: ESO-12
Assignment Code: ESO-12/AST/TMA/2026-27

Maximum Marks: 100
Weightage: 30%

Answer all the questions.

Section-1

Answer the following in about 500 words each.

1. Explain the nature of economic interdependence between the village and the wider society. Illustrate your answer with suitable examples. 20

2. What is national integration? Discuss the major strategies for nation-building and examine the challenges faced in achieving national integration in India. 20

Section-2

Answer the following in about 250 words each.

3. Discuss the major factors responsible for changes in the institution of family in contemporary India. 12

4. Explain the concepts of *Dharma*, *Karma*, *Artha*, and *Moksha*. How do these concepts influence the Hindu social structure? 12

5. Discuss the nature of interaction between tribal communities and non-tribal social groups. What have been its major social and cultural consequences? 12

6. Explain the role of leadership and ideology in the emergence and development of social movements. 12

Section-3

Answer the following in about 100 words each.

7. Briefly explain how caste continues to influence ritual, economic, and political life in contemporary India. 06

8. Briefly discuss the distinctive features of women's work in Indian society. 06

1. Explain the nature of economic interdependence between the village and the wider society. Illustrate your answer with suitable examples. 20

Answer

India's village economy is closely connected with the economy of towns, cities and the country as a whole. Economic interdependence means that two social units rely on one another for goods, services, labour, money and opportunities. A village may grow food and retain close personal relationships, but it cannot meet all its needs internally. Similarly, urban and industrial centres require the produce, workers and natural resources of rural areas. The relationship is therefore a continuous exchange, rather than a one-way flow of benefits from the city to the village.

From relative self-sufficiency to market links

Traditionally, village households obtained many everyday services through local farmers, artisans, traders and service groups. In some areas, the jajmani system connected occupational groups through customary exchanges, though it also reflected caste hierarchy and unequal power. Even then, villages were never completely isolated. They bought salt, metal, cloth and other items from outside, paid taxes and sold surplus produce. Transport, commercial agriculture, education and communication have now made these external links much stronger. A farmer increasingly grows crops with distant buyers and changing market prices in mind.