INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
Elective Course in Sociology
Social Problems in India: ESO-16
Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA)

Programme Code: BDP
Course Code: ESO-16
Assignment Code: ESO-16/AST/TMA/2026-27

Maximum Marks: 100

Answer all the questions

Section – I

Answer the following in about 500 words each. **Marks**

1. What do you understand by social transformation? Explain the models of transformation in society. 20

2. Examine the inter-linkages between social problems and social movements. 20

Section – II

Answer the following questions in about 250 words each.

3. Discuss the impact of deforestation on tribes in India. 12

4. Discuss the major problems of urban development in India. 12

5. Discuss the consequences of the problems of 'educated unemployment'. 12

6. Discuss causes and condition of child labour in India. 12

Section – III

Answer the following questions in about 100 words each.

7. What is juvenile delinquency? 06

8. What are the main reasons of migration? 06

1. What do you understand by social transformation? Explain the models of transformation in society.

Ans.

Social transformation means a substantial change in the organisation, institutions, relationships and values of a society over a period of time. It is broader than a change in an individual's behaviour. When patterns of family life, caste relations, occupations, political authority, education or access to resources change together, the structure of society itself begins to change. Social transformation may be gradual or rapid, peaceful or conflict-ridden, and its benefits may not reach all groups equally.

In India, the spread of education, industrial employment, democratic participation, migration and communication technology has altered many older relationships. Joint families have not disappeared, but their size and roles have changed in many places. The legal rejection of untouchability has challenged caste discrimination, although social inequalities still exist. Such examples show the difference between a new fashion, which may be temporary, and deeper transformation, which changes people's opportunities and relationships.

Main features of social transformation

First, transformation is a social process rather than an isolated event. Changes in the economy influence migration and settlement, which in turn affect family organisation, language and cultural practices. Second, it has both material and non-material aspects. Factories, roads and digital networks are material changes; ideas about equality, gender roles and citizenship are changes in beliefs and values. Third, transformation is uneven. Cities may gain services before remote villages, and wealthy groups may benefit earlier than poorer communities. Finally, the process is shaped by human choices, state policy, technology, collective action and historical circumstances, rather than by a single cause.

Evolutionary and linear models

The evolutionary approach sees social change as a long-term movement from simpler forms of organisation towards greater differentiation and complexity. Auguste Comte described intellectual development through theological, metaphysical and positive stages. Herbert Spencer compared social development with increasing differentiation in living organisms. These ideas help explain the growing specialisation of work, administration and education. Their limitation is that they can wrongly treat one path, often the Western industrial path, as the destination for every society. Communities can modernise in some respects while preserving other ways of life.