

Paper-13 (A-1) : Economics of Gender and Development

Unit-I : Introduction to Gender Studies and Demographic Aspects

Importance and concepts of women studies – Women in patriarchal and matriarchal societies and structures, patrilineal and matrilineal systems and relevance to present day society in India; Economic basis and functioning of patriarchy in developed and LDCs, particularly India; Gender bias in the theories of value, distribution, and population.

Demography of female population: Age structure, mortality rates, and sex ratio – Causes of declining sex ratios and fertility rates in LDCs and particularly India – Theories and measurement of fertility and its control; Women and their access to nutrition, health, education, and social and community resources, and their impact on female mortality and fertility, economic status, and in work participation rate.

Unit-II : Conceptualization of Women's Work

Concept and analysis of women's work: Valuation of productive and unproductive work; visible and invisible work; paid and unpaid work; economically productive and socially productive work – Economic status, private property, and participation of women in pre-industrial and industrial societies – Female contribution to National Income.

Unit-III : Women and Labour Markets

Factors affecting female entry in labour market; Supply and demand for female labour in developed and developing countries, particularly India; Studies of female work participation in agriculture, non-agricultural rural activities, informal sector, cottage and small-scale industries, organized industry, and services sector; Wage differentials in female activities; Determinants of wage differentials; gender, education, skill, productivity, efficiency, opportunity; Structures of wages across regions and economic sectors. Issues of marginalisation and discrimination against women.

Unit-IV : Women, Technology and Environment

Impact of technological development and modernization on women's work participation in general and in various sectors such as agriculture, non-agriculture rural activities, small and cottage industries and organized industry – Female activities and ecological and environmental concerns: the two way relationship – Role of new technologies for helping women – Provision of information and training for simple harvesting of economic services.

Unit-V : Gender Planning, Development Policies and Governance

Gender and development indices; Gender Development Index (GDI) and Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM); Mainstreaming gender into development policies; Gender-planning techniques; Gender sensitive governance; Paradigm shifts from women's well being to women's empowerment; Democratic decentralization (panchayats) and women's empowerment in India.

Basic Reading List

1. Boserup, E. (1970), Women's Role in Economic Development, George Allen and Unwin, London.
2. Desai, N. and M.K. Raj. (Eds.) (1979), Women and Society in India, Research Centre for Women Studies, SNDT University, Bombay.
3. Government of India (1974), Towards Equality – Report of the Committee on the Status of Women in India, Department of Social Welfare, Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, New Delhi.
4. Krishnaraj, M., R.M. Sudarshan and A. Shariff (1999), Gender, Population and Development, Oxford University Press, New Delhi.
5. Seth, M. (2000), Women and Development: The Indian Experience, Sage Publications, New Delhi.
6. Kabeer, N. (1994), Reversed Realities: Gender Hierarchies in Development Thought, Kali for Women, New Delhi.
7. Agnihotri, S.B. (2000), Sex ratio in Indian Population: A Fresh Exploration, Sage Publications, New Delhi.
8. Srinivasan, K. (1998), Basic Demographic Techniques and Applications, Sage Publications, New Delhi.
9. Amsden, A. H. (Ed.) (1980), The Economics of Women and Work, Penguin, Harmondsworth.
10. ILO (1978), Women's Participation in the Economic Activity of Asian Countries, ILO, Geneva.
11. Papola, T.S. and A.N. Sharma (Eds.) (1999), Gender and Employment in India, Vikas Publishing House, New Delhi.
12. Ahmed, I. (Ed.) (1985), Technology and Rural Women: Conceptual and Empirical Issues, George Allen & Unwin, London.
13. Mazumdar, V. (1979), Symbols of Power: Studies on the Political Status of Women in India, Allied, Delhi.
14. Narasimhan, S. (1999), Empowering Women: An Alternative Strategy from Rural India, Sage Publications, New Delhi.
15. Purushothaman, S. (1998), The Empowerment of Women in India: Grassroots Women's Networks and the State, Sage Publications, New Delhi.