Roll No:
Date: __/__/____

St. Claret College

Autonomous, Bengaluru

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UG END SEMESTER EXAMINATION-MAY 2026
B.A. II SEMESTER
SO 224: RURAL SOCIETY IN INDIA

TIME: 3 hours. **MAX. MARKS: 80**

This paper contains TWO printed pages and FOUR parts

Instructions:

1. **Verify and ensure that the question paper is completely printed.**
2. **Any discrepancies or questions about the exam paper must be reported to the COE within 1 hour after the examination.**
3. **Students must check the course title and course code before answering the questions.**

PART-A

Answer ALL questions. Each answer carries ONE mark. **[1 x 10= 10]**

1. Which criterion is commonly used to define rural areas in India?
   a) Population exceeding 5,000 b) 75% male workforce in non-agriculture
   c) Predominantly agricultural occupations d) High literacy rates
2. In rural India, migration patterns primarily involve:
   a) Urban to rural influx b) Rural to urban distress migration
   c) Balanced intra-rural movement d) International emigration
3. The role of cooperatives in rural markets is to:
   a) Increase individual farmer profits b) Reduce non-farm activities
   c) Promote urban trade dominance d) Facilitate collective bargaining and credit access
4. Panchayati Raj Institutions under the 73rd Amendment reserve seats for:
   a) Urban youth b) Women and Scheduled Castes/Tribes
   c) Industrial workers d) Central bureaucrats
5. Rural indebtedness in India is most linked to:
   a) Excessive savings b) Dependence on moneylenders and crop failures
   c) Government subsidies d) Non-agricultural income
6. Traditional rural communities in India were primarily organised around:
   a) Caste based social structures b) Nuclear families
   c) Corporate offices d) Urban guilds
7. Gender-based division of labour in rural areas typically assigns women to:
   a) Heavy ploughing b) Livestock care and post-harvest processing
   c) Long-distance trading d) Machinery operation
8. Sustainability in rural agriculture emphasises:
   a) Chemical-intensive agriculture b) Import dependency
   c) Crop rotation and organic practices d) Urban land conversion

9. NGOs in rural development often focus on:
   a) Large-scale infrastructure b) Rural community mobilisation and skill training
   c) Political campaigning d) Industrial development
10. Climate change impacts rural areas through:
   a) Reduced urban heat b) Erratic monsoons and groundwater scarcity
   c) Increased Forest cover d) Stable crop yields

PART-B

Answer any FIVE questions. Each answer carries TWO marks. **[2 x 5= 10]**

11. Define rural society and list two key characteristics.
12. Briefly outline the historical evolution of rural society in India.
13. Describe the impact of migration on rural demographics.
14. Outline the structure of rural markets and the role of self-help groups.
15. Differentiate between farm and non-farm activities in rural economies.
16. Briefly explain the functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions post-73rd Amendment.
17. Identify two strategies for measuring rural poverty.

PART-C

Answer any FOUR questions. Each answer carries FIVE marks. **[5 x 4= 20]**

18. Discuss the types of villages in India with examples.
19. Analyse the interplay of caste, class, and gender in rural social structures.
20. Evaluate rural non-farm employment opportunities.
21. Assess the impact of key government rural development programs.
22. Examine the social issues of dowry and child marriage in rural contexts.
23. Describe sustainable practices to address environmental issues in rural areas.

PART-D

Answer any FOUR questions. Each answer carries TEN marks. **[10 x 4= 40]**

24. Trace the evolution of traditional rural communities and their social structures in India.
25. Critically evaluate population dynamics, including migration and gender roles, in rural India.
26. Discuss the role of agriculture and allied activities in sustaining the rural economy.
27. Analyse the role of NGOs and PRIs in rural development with the help of case studies.
28. Propose strategies to alleviate rural poverty and indebtedness while addressing farmer suicides.
29. Evaluate the future prospects of rural development amidst climate change and social evils.