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THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
MA DEGREE IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND PUBLIC POLICY 2012/2013
MARGA – THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA COLLABORATIVE
PROGRAMME - LEVEL VII
FINAL EXAMINATION
SSP2127/2101 - DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES AND POLICIES IN SRI LANKA

DURATION – THREE (03) HOURS

Date: 08th December 2012

Time: 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Answer four (04) questions.

Each question carries 25 marks.

1. "At the time of independence the main political social and economic problems arising out of the demands from ethnic minorities , the social welfare programme and Sri Lanka's vulnerability as an import export economy were already emerging and resulted in the crises Sri Lanka had to face in the post independence period particularly in the 1970s and 1980s." . Comment and support this statement with an analysis of the situation at the time of independence and the crises in the 1970s and the 1980s.
2. "The challenges that Sri Lanka faces in the future are those of a developing society which is also an aging society." Identify and analyse the socio-economic and demographic changes in Sri Lanka that would justify this description of a developing and aging society . Examine the special problems and challenges Sri Lanka faces in this context.
3. "The social-welfare programs help to reduce the incidence of poverty in developing countries". Make a critical assessment of this statement by examining the social-welfare programmes that have been implemented during the last three decades in Sri Lanka.
4. The expansion of electoral politics that penetrated the rural sector has influenced the course of evolution of social development policy in Sri Lanka. Assess with suitable examples.
5. "The British colonial rule in Sri Lanka had contributed to the development of constitutional government based on individual rights and freedoms though it had badly affected the economic and cultural interest of indigenous society." Discuss.
6. Examine the implication of post-independent constitution making in Sri Lanka under any three of the following:
 - (a) Independence of Judiciary
 - (b) Independence of public service
 - (c) Accommodation of minorities into the polity
 - (d) Individual rights and freedoms

7. Give a brief account of the evolution of economic policy- making in the post-independence period and present your own views on the current economic policy debate in Sri Lanka.
8. It is argued that Sri Lanka's persistently large fiscal deficit has been driven by an unsustainable rise in government spending. Discuss the policy options that Sri Lanka needs to adopt in order to improve its fiscal position, drawing attention to the post-war spending pattern of Sri Lanka.

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