UNIT 4 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Structure

4.0 OBJECTIVES

In the previous unit, we described the role of IEC in rural development. Now we turn to Information Technology. After studying this unit, you should be able to:

- describe the recent developments in communication technologies and their relevance to rural development;
- explain the importance of the basic data about Information Technologies (ITs); and
- outline in brief some examples of innovative uses of ITs and their applications for rural development.

4.1 INTRODUCTION

These days Information Technology (IT) is the buzz word making rounds everywhere. We use it in varying contexts. It means different things to different people. We talk about IT revolution. As a matter of fact with the advent of microprocessors and Personal Computers (PCs) the human ability to collect, store, transfer and retrieve data/information have increased phenomenally. As a consequence, now it is possible to communicate with greater ease and speed and ITs have become a powerful means of managing information and communication. Computers, telephones, satellite and television are the major manifestations of Information Technologies and these are rapidly transforming the way we live, work and spend our leisure time.

As a matter of fact, what is new about the present day IT revolution is the convergence and integration of the hitherto known communication and information technologies into one system together with the emergence of Internet and Information super-highways. It has extended the spread of knowledge immensely and made its sharing easy, promising almost near universal empowerment of the people, provided we make innovative uses of these 'new' technologies.

As a result, winds of change now sweeping across much of the world are paving way for an open world. Today, the advances that man has made in the area of

communication technologies are so fundamentally transforming the organised human life that many social scientists speak of the dawn of a new era – *the Information Age*.

Today, events taking place in any corner of the planet become known the world over almost in no time. More and more economic decisions and operations have global ramifications. The increasingly greater integration and centrality of information and communication into the functioning of economy and society is taking place so rapidly and on such a vast scale that globalisation and emergence of information societies is becoming a reality.

However, all nations and groups and individuals within a nation cannot uniformly or equitably share the benefits of information technologies. Hence, the fierce debates about the hopes of a utopia and the despair caused by the widening digital divide and the promises of a prosperous peaceful world and fears of cultural clashes.

What implications do these developments have for rural societies and the economy and life in rural India? We will examine the issue in the light of experiences with innovative uses of communication and information technologies in the context of rural communities. Experimental applications of ITs in many parts of India have shown good results promising that ITs would serve as facilitators of rural development and empowerment of the weaker sections of the rural society.

In this unit, we will describe in brief the phenomenon of the convergence of technologies and the emergence of information society. This will be followed by an examination of the data from certain select countries which are indicative of the increasing "digital divide" between the developed and the developing countries. This will outline the ground situation about the spread of ITs. At the end of the unit, we will describe certain innovative approaches towards ITs and their use for rural development in the Indian context, which points clearly to the fact that it is the access and not so much the ownership per se that is critical for the development and empowerment of our rural society.

4.2 CONVERGENCE OF TECHNOLOGIES

Let us briefly examine the characteristics of the new communication technologies that have been fast changing the information environment in the new millennium. As a matter of fact, most of the so-called new communication technologies have been with us for the last couple of decades. What is relatively new is the convergence and integration of these technologies. Another feature of the present day situation in communications is the scale of operations, which the microprocessors and the 'chips' have not only made possible in physical terms, but in economic terms also. The results of these two processes, convergence and scale, are revolutionary in so far as they have made information technologies user friendly and affordable for common people.

The convergence of emerging telecommunication technologies and computers is transforming business operations, broadcasting, telephone systems and human interactions in general. We are on the threshold of having a high-resolution two-way video and personal computers tied to networks, so that sitting at home or office, one can receive and send information from and to anywhere in the world, and engage in a two-way video conversation across the world.

4.3 INFORMATION AGE

Today, IT and media have assumed significance, which they never had before. Starting as an institutionalised approach to generate awareness and inform the masses,

media has become a mechanism to govern our lives. Rather than a form of cultural expression, it has a culture of its own. It was supposed to report on the way of the life of people. Instead, it has now become a way of life itself. Moreover it is one of the most important industries of all times.

Many of the societies are already changing from being advanced industrial societies to 'information societies' in which computer technologies, their networks and other enhanced forms of interpersonal and institutional communication are a major force. Some of the Western countries have already entered into the information age. In the United States, the information activities engage more than 46 per cent of the work force, which earns over 55 per cent of the labour income.

Multinational IT companies are in the process of building a vast web of electronic networks, 'information super highways", of fiber optics and computers. This network will deliver an abundance of goods and services at your office or homes— video images, phone calls, enormous amount of data on various required fields by a user or customer. They promise to change the way people think,work, live and use their leisure time.

The vision of the communication boom has been possible because of the sharp decline in costs. According to an estimate the cost of microprocessors is falling 22 per cent, computer memories by 40 per cent and communication equipment by 11 per cent per annum. By the year 2010, may be even earlier, the cost of a computerised home system should be about the same as that of an automobile today, thus coming within the reach of common people in the developed countries. The protagonists of the new communication technologies have been promising a revolution of abundance and diversity of information for all.

As the world shifts to a service-oriented economy, vast amounts of money, goods and services are being circulated as well. In the last few years break-through in satellite and high-speed computing have given leading users an over-whelming economic advantage over those who have not kept pace. Thus, the stakes in new communication technologies are high and are of global dimensions. Although for foreseeable future, the responsibility, if not power, to plan and decide about communication will continue to rest with the nation states, already many of the operations are beyond them. The result is the enormous expansion and significance of multi-national corporations.

Through multi-nationals and other trade channels, the advanced Western countries are *pushing* hard the new communication technologies into the developing countries to maintain their economic and political interest. The 'pull' for the 'latest' and the 'best' on the part of the ruling elites in these countries sustains the 'push'.

Thus, in brief, there have been revolutionary changes in information and communication technologies, which provide both challenges and opportunities. The new fervor for modernisation and progress through the adoption of the latest information technologies enhances the capabilities of communication at various levels, both within and outside the organisation. Technologies increase the efficiency in terms of speed, spread and also in terms of looks and appearances. With the latest communication technologies you are able to multiply your messages fast enough and also reach the intended audiences quickly or even instantly. You may also produce attractive information/ communication packages.

Amazing times are ahead. You can get any thing, goods and services, from anywhere any time. Time and space have acquired new meanings. What used to be distant is no more that far away. What used to be local has become global. Information technologies abound with excitement. Telephone, television and computers are getting inter-twined with each other holding out promises of a world in which innovation and human dynamism would be the main driving force. In the seamless world of tomorrow,

mind would matter. Some say, it will be a *knowledge society*. Innovations would lead to intelligent technologies and bits and bites would dictate communication. In the world of convergence, a telephone would not be an end in itself, but a means to greater linkages with the PC, and through it, to the Internet. Similarly, a TV is not just an entertainment medium but also a link to the worldwide Internet through cable TV. The emergence of the wireless web further facilitates connectivity.

The quality of images and the speed of downloads will improve significantly with the introduction of the next or the third generation techniques and technologies. The mobile phone will have computation and storage capabilities that will match the fixed devices. Multi-media mobile messages will be the next rival of e-mail. But enhancement of capabilities is not necessarily an assurance for effective communication equity and social justice.

Check Your Progress I

Note: i) Write your answer in the space provided.

ii) Check your answer with the possible answer provided at the end of the unit.

1) Discuss in brief the concept of Information Technology.

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2) List the main features of the convergence of technologies.

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4.4 DIGITAL DIVIDE

The gap between the industrialised countries and the developing world is striking. About 80 per cent of the world's population lives in developing countries. Their share of income and consumption of world resources is less than 20 per cent. The digital divide is even more striking. The developing countries' share of Internet access is merely 10 per cent. In United States, 56 percent of adults are online, while in most developing countries merely 2-3 per cent, or even less, have access to the Internet. The whole of Africa has just 14 million phone lines, that is less than what they have in New York or Tokyo. A third of the world's people have never made a phone call in their lifetime. One fifth of the world population lives on just a dollar a day.

Table 4.1: Ownership of Information and Communication Technologies

(Per 1000 People)

	India	World	USA
Radio	121	418	2090
T V	69	247	864
Telephone	34	146	666
Mobile Phone	1	55	500
Internet	4.5	70.6	540

Source: *Business World,* May 21, 2001

In these circumstances, naturally some argue strongly in favour basic needs such as safe drinking water, adequate food, shelter, health facilities and education first and telephone and computers later. But as rightly emphasised by Vinod Thomas, Vice President of World Bank, it is not a question of choice between Penicillin or Pentiums. The power of information revolution is precisely that it can help in delivering basic services in more efficient and innovative ways. Rather, not putting those technologies to work for the poorest people carries a huge and growing cost. It means missed economic opportunities and growing inequalities within the less developing countries themselves as rural areas become more isolated and fall further behind.

As stated earlier with the 'push' from developed countries and 'pull' from within the developing countries, information technologies are spreading fast. While Internet users increase in number in Asia, Africa and other developing countries, most data flows out of USA, rather than flowing into that country. In 2000, some 60 per cent of the world's Internet hosts were based in USA and of the 100 most visited web sites all were in USA. The U.S. hegemony in this field is nearly complete.

As compared to the developed countries, especially the U.S. A., the PC penetration and spending on IT in developing countries is low and is likely to continue to be so in coming years. The following table brings out this fact clearly.

Table 4.2: Spending on it and Penetration

Country	IT Spending as % of GDP	Per Capita IT Spending ($)	P C Penetration Per 1000 People	Per Capital GDP ($)
China	1.1	7.9	13.2	793
India	**0.8**	**3.6**	**6.2**	**461**
Indonesia	1.0	6.8	11.2	681
Malaysia	1.3	42.7	69.4	3286
Philippines	0.6	5.9	19.1	981
Thailand	0.5	10.0	22.0	2008
U S A	4.3	1,372.3	500.00	31915

Source: *Business World,* May 21, 2001

The figures given in the above two tables may have changed over the years. Today, there is greater access to mass media and Internet in India and other developing countries. However, the tables are reflective of the overall trends. The learners should check the latest figures for their assignments.

4.5 ACCESS VERSUS OWNERSHIP

However, notwithstanding, the present limitations of IT and PC penetration patterns in developing countries like India, access to and benefits of IT are possible to a much wider population through innovative use of limited facilities. India has developed a niche for itself in the area of computer software development and as a services provider. In the free-trading globalised world, the gains would accrue to those who can use IT to generate new ideas, products and services besides improving efficiency generally. While IT induced improvement reduces demand for expertise/labour in traditional skills, it opens new possibilities as well. The Indian computer programmers are in great demand the world over. Customer support services and medical transcriptions services have opened new opportunities for English educated young men and women in India. Thus, a secretary in Chennai works for a doctor in USA or Canada. It is true of customer support services as well. A customer in USA, Canada or UK or for that matter anywhere in the world dials a toll free 1-800 number and the call is attended at the customer support service centre based in Bangalore. But the gains of IT revolution should not remain confined to the western developed countries or the urban educated elites of the developing countries. These should reach the poor as well. Some innovative strategies to enhance access to and use of IT have to be thought of and put in place urgently. The hope of benefits trickling down to the poor in villages will take decades and it may even never happen. Like the other technologies, IT may remain the monopoly of a few urban elites, until it is actively developed to serve the needs of the wider population. Then, the economies of scale set in. Remember, not long ago radio, telephone, and television were status symbols even in urban India. However, things changed rapidly with availability of transistor sets, public call offices (PCOs) and cable television in the respective cases. Taking a cue from CNN's showing of the Gulf War live on television in five star hotels in Delhi, entrepreneurs jumped at the technological possibility of satellite cable television in India. They wired their neighborhood and started showing video films and some satellite TV channels through dish antennae to 2-300 households setting in motion the entry of foreign and Indian private television in the country.

It provided spurt to private television production and a host of other related media activities. Today, about 30 thousand cable operators, each with 200 to 500 household clientele, reach to nearly 30 million people, though mostly in big cities and small towns.

No doubt information technology is a very powerful force, but much will depend upon the way we put to use these technologies to address our issues and concerns.

Check Your Progress II

Note: i) Write your answer in the space provided.

ii) Check your answer with the possible answer provided at the end of the unit.

1) Discuss the concept of *digital divide* in the national and international contexts.

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2) Discuss in brief how *access* to IT is more relevant than *ownership* in developing countries like India.

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4.6 IT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

As discussed above the Information/Communication Technologies revolution, together with the attendant economic, social, cultural and political responses, has far reaching implications for the way we work, live and spend our leisure time. How are these developments in the IT sector going to influence the rural India?

Information/Communication Technologies, such as wireless telephony, computers, satellite, cable television and Internet, are bringing about noticeable changes in the rural society in India as in many other countries. Although, the actual reach and penetration of various information technologies in the rural areas are still very limited, many interesting and promising experiments are going on in different parts of India. The strength of new communication technologies in bringing about social change and rural development lies in their ability to combine some of the characteristics of both interpersonal communication and mass media. As you know, interpersonal communication is face-to-face interaction and the exchange of information and ideas between two or more—only a small number of persons. This provides for free flow of messages between the participants. Feedback is immediate and in plenty. The messages exchanged in interpersonal communication are generally high on socio-emotional content and not just a matter of fact statements as in the case of mass media. The convergence and integration of communication technologies have resulted in the emergence of what many call "new media ", which often link two or a small number of individuals and facilitate interactive communication between these people. The participants involved in such communication (using the new media and/or ITs) have far greater control over the process of information exchange, can reverse roles in their discourse and enjoy the confidence of familiarity and personal bonds. It is now possible to make the transmission and exchange of messages more focused and target specific—the key ingredients for effective communication for rural development.

4. 7 INNOVATIVE USE OF IT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT: SOME EXAMPLES

PCOs

Access to telephone has increased substantially with the introduction of Public Call Office (PCOs). With a view to provide greater accessibility to telephone service, ordinary telephones have been provided with small meters. Many small entrepreneurs availed themselves of the opportunity as they set up PCOs at market places and even at their own homes and are earning a decent livelihood for their families. By 2000, about 6,50,000 PCOs were estimated to be functioning across the country making

telephone services available to a much wider public. Now many of these are upgrading their services by adding a PC and connecting to Internet as well.

Rural telephony also is making big strides in India now. More than half of the 6,00,000 villages in India have been provided telephone connections. Not only that, India's 'handset toting' culture is reaching rural areas as well. In some small towns in Kerala, Maharashtra and Haryana, mobile phone users are thicker on the ground than the bustling metropolitan cities like Delhi and Mumbai. The rural folk are becoming *netizens*. Many experiments are being tried successfully in different parts of the country to facilitate IT access in rural and remote areas of the country.

AMCS

The milk cooperative, Anand, in Gujarat, which ushered in the 'white revolution' in India, is in the process of increasing its efficiency by adopting IT to streamline its procedures and operations. At the village level, milk cooperative society has adopted the Automatic Milk Collection System (AMCS) with its own resources. The computerised system allows the reading of milk quantity and quality for fat content and maintains daily records of milk societies and the payments made every day. This has brought about not only efficiency but also transparency in the day to day dealings. The women, who are generally not educated, behind this unique dairy movement in Gujarat bring milk to the collection centre in the village every day, thus promoting the IT revolution all around. As an AMUL (the Anand Milk Union Limited) advertisement claims, about 21 million rural women bring milk to collection centres daily. Soon, all of them will be deriving benefits of computer technologies with the adoption of automatic milk collection system by their village dairy cooperatives.

GYANDOOT

In another interesting project, *Gyandoot*, (ambassador of knowledge) in Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh, 26 major information centres are connected through Internet. Each such centre has a computer connected by a telephone line, which functions as a cybercafe and services about 25-30 villages. The centre is manned by a high school educated boy/girl who after initial computer literacy training manages it on his/ her own. The villagers come to the centre, get information (on nominal rates) regarding the prices of their produce in different markets in order to negotiate better deals. The manager of the information centre is not given any salary; rather, he/she pays 10 per cent of his/her earning as commission to the *panchayat.* Yet he/she is able to make his/her living illustrating the soundness of the concept of making IT access possible without owning it as such. The benefits of Gyandoot reach over half a million people in more than 600 villages.

VKS

The Village Knowledge Centre (VKS) set up by M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai, is another example of information empowerment of the rural and tribal women who are barely literate. The VKC enables farming families not only to produce more without causing any ecological harm, but also helps every one in the village to create a hunger free area. The action plan for the elimination of hunger and malnutrition consists of seven steps, which the village women themselves using the latest information technology, i.e. computer, are supposed to take for their own good. The process helps the women in creating a relevant database and sharing with others leading to awareness, behaviour-change and action to improve their economic well-being and life itself. For a holistic and sustainable development, this approach could be extended to cover the health issues as well. There are plans afoot in many states in India to computerise the land records. Once it is done the villagers can have access to the details of their land holdings from IT kiosks bypassing the age-old institution of *patwari-revenue clerk*, who is a living symbol of harassment, delays and corruption. There is already substantial progress in this direction in states

like Karnatka, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Pilot projects have also been tested successfully in some other states.

SEWA

The SEWA, Self Employed Women's Association, in Gujarat is using satellite communication to train women in both urban and rural areas, in health care, child development, marketing, functioning of *Panchayat Raj*, water management and house management. A host of other topics of their concern can be handled using modern communication technologies to empower women generally. This will help women to be economically sound and lead healthier and happier lives.

The BPL Mobile reported that out of its every 100 customers in Kerala, five are illiterate fishermen, most of whom have never used a hand phone before. Based on the information received on their mobile while returning from their fishing expeditions, they can decide where to land their catch to get the best price of the day.

Numerous other such experiments are being tried to meet different information and communication needs in different parts of the country. Imagine, all the villages in India have telephone connections. The village post office and/or one or more enterprising educated youth from the village are enhancing this facility by setting up information centers. They can provide access to telephone, computer, Internet and even e-mail and voice-mail and deliver messages to the villagers in their homes meeting the communication/information needs of the village population on a price they can afford. It opens enormous possibilities of connectivity ushering in the ITrevolution at the grass roots level. A villager can get access to the records of his landholding, information about the market price of his produce, the latest methods and techniques to increase his productivity, talk to his/her son/daughter in other villages or town or country on voice mail and so on. People take to IT only when they are convinced that it serves some purpose in their lives. The biggest bottleneck in the spread of Internet in rural areas is not so much the technology, but the availability of relevant information services to satisfy the needs of the rural people. It is a challenge to the ingenuity of computer programmers and software producers to identify their needs and come up with appropriate solutions. Once that is done, government help is not necessary to move things. Just as PCOs have mushroomed in urban India to meet the needs of common people, integrated information centres (telephone, computer, internet) will become a reality everywhere through individual entrepreneurs both in rural and urban India.

Although the direction of IT revolution is clear, yet we have a long way to go. Notwithstanding a lot of talk about e-governance, the bureaucratic hurdles, the old mind set and turf wars are some of the hurdles to be negotiated.

Check Your Progress III

Note: i) Write your answer in the space provided.

ii) Check your answer with the possible answer provided at the end of the unit.

1) Critically examine the use of IT for rural development and the poverty alleviation programme in your area—you may write about a slum or a village community. Also list some of the innovative uses of IT for rural development.

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4.8 LET US SUM UP

In this unit, we have discussed the phenomena of fast emerging communication technologies, the hopes and aspirations built around ITs. We have also described some of the innovative uses of communication technologies, which have benefited the weaker sections of the society in rural and tribal areas. With the availability of PCOs in remote tribal and rural areas, the benefits of telephone are within the reach of ordinary people. Mobile phone is facilitating the ordinary fishermen to direct their catch to the market where they get the best price. Computerisation of land records in certain districts makes the life of farmers there a lot easy. Various innovative uses of communication technologies for rural development clearly show that in making ITs more widely available in support of rural development and the empowerment of rural masses, access is the key, not the ownership of technology per se.

Developments in information and communication technologies open vast opportunities to empower those who were bypassed by industrial revolution. While facing the challenges of globalisation brought about through liberalisation and privatisation in the free market place, the developing countries should not loose sight of their poor population in urban and rural areas. It is possible to reach the un-reached and empower them with information and skills through innovative uses of information by cable operators, public call office (PCO's) and now information centres. Innovative use of IT would help in meeting their basic needs of health, education, food and shelter; facilitate their economic and social well being and in the process enhance their productivity; and thus contribute immensely to the goal of rural development and progress. This will also expand markets for all kinds of goods and services in the rural areas, thereby giving a boost to globalisation, free market and the emergence of information society in India. This approach alone will lead to a win–win situation.

4.9 KEY WORDS

Information Technology (IT) : Information technologies means a whole range of technologies like computers, telephones, TV, internet, etc. that facilitates human communication in terms of quality, quantity and speed.

Convergence & Integration : With the development of microprocessors the erstwhile technologies have come together and got integrated into one system, thereby expediting and facilitating communication in ways never imagined before.

Digital Divide : The *existing marked differences* in the access and ownership of various communication/ information technologies between urban and rural areas on the one hand, and between the developed and the developing countries on the other, are commonly referred to as the *digital divide*.

4.10 REFERENCES AND SUGGESTED READINGS

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4.11 CHECK YOUR PROGRESS – POSSIBLE ANSWERS

Check Your Progress I

1) With the advent of microprocessors and Personal Computers (PCs), our ability to collect, store, transfer and retrieve data/information have increased phenomenally. As a consequence, now it is possible to communicate with greater ease and speed and ITs have become a powerful means of bringing about social change. Computers, telephones, satellite, Internet and television are the major components of Information Technologies and these are rapidly transforming the way we live, work and spend our leisure time.

2) With the development of microprocessors it has been made possible to integrate the various information/communication technologies into one complete system. The result is reduction in costs, increase in speed, user friendliness of ITs and immense ease in generating, storing and retrieving data at great speed.

Check Your Progress II

1) There are marked differences in the ownership of and access to various information and communication technologies like telephone, TV, radio, internet between rural and urban areas on the one hand and between developed countries like United States of America and developing country like India on the other.

2) Access to ITs is more important than its ownership. Take the case of telephone. Through Public Call Offices (PCOs), telephone facilities have become available in far flung areas of rural and tribal India. To a lessr extent, the same is true of internet at least in urban areas. You can avail yourself of internet facilities at cybercafes without owning your own PC.

Check Your Progress III

1) The significance of information revolution lies in the fact that it can help in delivering basic services in more efficient and innovative ways. Not putting

those technologies to use for the poorest people carries a huge and growing cost. It means missed economic opportunities and growing inequalities within developing countries themselves as rural areas become more isolated and fall further behind.

Information/Communication Technologies such as wireless telephony, computers, satellite, cable television and Internet are bringing about noticeable changes in the rural society in India as in many other countries. Although, the actual reach and penetration of various information technologies in rural areas are still very limited, many interesting and promising experiments on their applications are going on in different parts of India.

Innovative use of ITs: Examples: PCOs, Milk Cooperative of Anand, SEWA (Self Employed Women's Association in Gujarat) and *Gyandoot,* (ambassador of knowledge) in Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh.

FEED BACK

Dear Learner,

With the completion of this Block, we have come to the end of our course **MRD –101, Rural Development: The Indian Context**, which consisted of 5 Blocks. While studying various Blocks of this course, you may have found certain portions of the text difficult to comprehend. We wish to know your difficulties and suggestions in order to improve the course in future. Therefore, we request you to fill out and send us the following questionnaire, which pertains to all the 5 Blocks of this course. If you find the pages provided insufficient for your response, kindly use additional sheets to complete it. Your response is very important for us to address various difficulties encountered by you while going through this course and also to make improvements when we revise this course.

Questionnaire

Enrolment No. | | | | | | | | | |

1) Which of the Blocks interested you the most and why?

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2) Please give your reaction to the following items based on our reading of the various blocks of the course.

Items	Excellent/Very Good	Good	Poor	Give Specific reasons (if any)
Presentation Quality				.....
Block 1– Rural Society and Economy	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 2– Rural Development Concepts, Strategies and Experiences	☐	☐	☐	....
Block 3– Rural Development – Agrarian Issues	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 4– Rural Development Administration	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 5– Dynamics of change in Rural India	☐	☐	☐	.....
Language and Style				
Block 1– Rural Society and Economy	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 2– Rural Development Concepts, Strategies and Experiences	☐	☐	☐	....
Block 3– Rural Development – Agrarian Issues	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 4– Rural Development Administration	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 5– Dynamics of Change in Rural India	☐	☐	☐	.....
Illustrations Used (diagrams, tables, etc.)				
Block 1– Rural Society and Economy	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 2– Rural Development Concepts, Strategies and Experiences	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 3– Rural Development – Agrarian Issues	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 4– Rural Development Administration	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 5– Dynamics of Change in Rural India	☐	☐	☐	.....

Block 1–	*Rural Society and Economy*	☐	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 2–	*Rural Development Concepts, Strategies and Experiences*	☐	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 3–	*Rural Development – Agrarian Issues*	☐	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 4–	*Rural Development Administration*	☐	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 5–	*Dynamics of Change in Rural India*	☐	☐	☐	☐	.....
Check Your Progress Questions						
Block 1–	*Rural Society and Economy*	☐	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 2–	*Rural Development Concepts, Strategies and Experiences*	☐	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 3–	*Rural Development – Agrarian Issues*	☐	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 4–	*Rural Development Administration*	☐	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 5–	*Dynamics of Change in Rural India*	☐	☐	☐	☐	.....
Possible Answers to CYP Questions						
Block 1–	*Rural Society and Economy*	☐	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 2–	*Rural Development Concepts, Strategies and Experiences*	☐	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 3–	*Rural Development – Agrarian Issues*	☐	☐	☐	☐	.....
Block 4–	*Rural Development Administration*					.....
Block 5–	*Dynamics of Change in Rural India*	☐	☐	☐	☐	.....

3) Any other comments or suggestions:

Mail to :
Course Coordinator (MRD – 101)
SOCE, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi
New Delhi – 110 068.

N.B.: Please use these very pages to prepare your response. Cut the pages along the perforated

Indira Gandhi National Open University
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MRD-101
Rural Development:
Indian Context

Dynamics of Change in Rural India 5