Major Exam: HUL 216 Indian Economic Problems and Policies [23 November, 2013; 40 marks]

A. -Multiple choice questions.

[10 marks]

- 1. The main source of increase in "gross fixed capital formation" in the post-liberalization period in India has come from
- (a) Public-sector units. PSUs (b) foreign direct investments (c) domestic savings (d) roughly equal shares, from all of the above.
- Which of the following data sources cannot be used to measure consumption poverty?
 (a) Consumption and Expenditure Survey of the National Sample Survey (b) National Family Health Survey (c) National Accounts Statistics (d) Employment and Unemployment Survey of the National Sample Survey.
- In government schemes, "exclusion errors" refers to the phenomenon whereby
 (a) rich households are included in the programme (b) poor households are included in the programme (c) rich households are excluded from the programme (d) poor households are excluded from the programme.
 - 4. According to 2005 data, the highest level of inequality and the lowest level of poverty is in: (a) India (b) China (c) Brazil
- 5. List three provisions in the NREGA that are supposed to encourage the participation of women.
- 6. List and define three measures of unemployment. Which of these is the most reliable for the Indian case?
- 7. Consider an economy of 6 individuals. The only incomes possible in this economy are described by the set {10, 20, 40, 24, 80 and 45}. The poverty line is fixed at Rs 25. Construct another income distribution which shows that the Head Count Ratio is distribution insensitive for incomes below the poverty line.
- 8. The main areas of concern in the field of primary education today are
- (a) enrolment and attendance (b) enrolment and retention (c) attendance and retention (d) enrolment, attendance and retention
- 9. The poverty line in India is still anchored in the calorie consumption of 2100 and 2400 kcal per person per day in urban and rural areas respectively.
 - (a) True (b) False (c) Cannot tell
- 10. List four of the main arguments for foreign retail.

B. Answer any three [10 marks each. Re-minor for Minor 2 must answer all four. I will scale up to 20. Each answer must not exceed two sides of the answer script]

- 1. List ten main entitlements of labourers under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA). There are striking regional contrasts in the implementation of the NREGA. List and describe these contrasts on two negative and two positive aspects.
 - 2. What is the theory of demographic transition? Discuss in detail.
- 3. The PROBE report lists four myths and four realities related to primary education in India in the 1990s. What were these explain briefly.
- 4. The National Food Security Act goes too far in terms of coverage of the population. Discuss in light of the record on targeting, corruption, cost to the exchequer and on moral grounds.
 - C. Re-minor for MINOR 1, Each answer must not exceed two sides of the answer script [10 marks]
- 5. What has the experience of post liberalization agriculture been? What factors can help us understand these changes?