

**MSO**

# **Master's Degree Programme in Sociology**

**Second Year  
M.A. Sociology**

**Assignment for students admitted in  
July 2025 and January 2026 sessions**

## **Assignment for the Elective Courses:**

MSOE-001: Sociology of Education  
MSOE-002: Diaspora and Transnational Communities  
MSOE-003: Sociology of Religion  
MSOE-004: Urban Sociology  
MPS-003: India: Democracy and Development  
MPA-016: Decentralization and Local Governance



**FACULTY OF SOCIOLOGY  
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY  
MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110 068**

## ASSIGNMENTS

Dear Student

We have explained in the Programme Guide for the Master's Degree Programme in Sociology (MA Sociology) that you would have to complete one **Tutor** Marked Assignment (TMAs) for each of the courses.

In these assignments, we have included several types of questions to sharpen your ability, to describe, to analyse and to critique, and to ensure that you know and are able to write over a topic systematically and coherently. In these assignments there are some broad descriptive and analytical questions. There are 10 questions in each assignment, with two sections. In each section there are five questions.

Your answers for a broad question worth 20 marks should be within the approximate range of 500 words each. In case of short question worth 10 marks it should be within 250 words each. It could be advisable to have a group discussion on the questions with your co-learners and the Academic Counsellors in the Study Centres before you attempt these assignments. Remember you are encouraged only to share each other's ideas and not to copy answers at all. Group discussion and constant practice of writing answers to assignment questions will help you to write better answers to questions in the term-end examination. It is important that you write answers to all questions **in your own words**.

Admission Cycle	Date of Submission	To be sent
For students admitted in July 2025 Batch	31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2026	<b>To, The Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you</b>
For students admitted in January 2026 Batch	30 <sup>th</sup> September, 2026	

You must **obtain a receipt from the Study Centre for the assignments submitted and retain it**. If possible, keep a xerox copy of the assignments with you. The Study Centre will have to return the assignments to you after they are evaluated. Please insist on this. The Study Centre has to send the marks to the SR&E Division at IGNOU, New Delhi.

### Some Tips for Doing Assignments

You will find it useful to keep the following points in mind while doing the assignments:

- 1) **Planning:** Read the assignments carefully; go through the units on which they are based. Make some points regarding each question and then rearrange them in a logical order.
- 2) **Organization:** Be selective and analytical before drawing up a rough outline of your answer. Give adequate attention to the introduction and conclusion.
- 3) **Presentation:** Once you are satisfied with your answer, you can write down the final version for submission. Write each answer neatly and underlining the points you wish to emphasize. Make sure that the answer is within the stipulated word limit.

Wishing you all the best,

**Faculty of Sociology  
MA Sociology  
Faculty of Sociology  
School of Social Sciences  
IGNOU Delhi – 110 068**

**Indira Gandhi National Open University**  
**Master's in Sociology**  
**MSOE-004: Urban Sociology**  
**Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA)**

**Programme Code: MSO**

**Course Code: MSOE-004**

**Assignment Code: MSOE-004/AST/TMA/2025-26**

**Maximum Marks: 100**

**Weightage: 30%**

**Answer any five questions selecting at least *two* from each Section. Your answer should be in about 500 words each.**

**Section-I**

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. Critically examine the origin and historical development of urban sociology as a sub-discipline of sociology. | 20 |
| 2. Discuss the major theoretical perspectives in urban sociology.  | 20 |
| 3. Describe and critically assess the concentric zone model of urban structure.                                  | 20 |
| 4. Explain the technique of social area analysis in urban sociology.   | 20 |
| 5. Analyse the nature and characteristics of pre-industrial and industrial cities.                               | 20 |

**Section-II**

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| 6. Explain the sociological concept of neighbourhood and evaluate its significance in the context of contemporary urban life. | 20 |
| 7. Describe the key dimensions of the urban informal sector in India.   | 20 |
| 8. Write a critical note on urban poverty in India.   | 20 |
| 9. Discuss the historical evolution and current structure of urban local governance in India.                                 | 20 |
| 10. Describe the interface between media and governance in urban settings, using relevant examples.                           | 20 |