MASTER OF ARTS (ECONOMICS)

Term-End Examination

December, 2007

MEC-009 : RESEARCH METHODS IN ECONOMICS

Time : 3 hours *Maximum Marks : 100*

Note : *Attempt questions from all the sections as per instructions given in each section. Word limit does not apply in the case of numerical questions.*

SECTION A

Answer the following questions in about 500 words each. *2×20=40*

1. Critically examine the methodological viewpoint of Milton Friedman.

OR

What is the difference between Research Methodology and Research Methods ? Explain with example the various steps involved in undertaking any research study.

2. What kind of data is available in India on trade and finance ? Explain the reasons for divergence on trade deficit/surplus data provided by DGCI&S and RBI's BoP data.

OR

Explain with example the relative advantages of PRA/RRA approach over Sample Survey approach in conducting qualitative research.

SECTION B

Answer the following questions in about 300 words each. 3×10=30

3. Consider the regression equation $Y_t = \alpha + \beta X_t + U_t$. Estimate the value of $\hat{\alpha}$ and $\hat{\beta}$ from the following data of 20 pairs of observations on X and Y. Note that $y = Y - \overline{Y}$ and $x = X - \overline{X}$.

$\Sigma X_t = 228$, $\Sigma Y_t = 3121$, $\Sigma X_t Y_t = 38927$

$\Sigma X_t^2 = 3204$, $\Sigma x_t y_t = 3347$, $\Sigma x_t^2 = 604{\cdot}80$

$\Sigma y_t^2 = 19837$

OR

What is the difference between Linear model and Log linear model ? When will you use a log linear regression model ?

4. What kind of data is needed to assess the performance of an economy ? State the sources and agencies involved in compilation of macro-variable data.

OR

Explain the computational device of Gini index as a measure of inequality.

5. Explain the various uses of price index numbers.

OR

State the different types of non-sampling errors that arise in an enquiry.

SECTION C

*Attempt **all** the questions from this section.* *3×10=30*

6. From the hypothetical data given in the table (i) estimate the food function $Y = b_0 + b_1X + U$, (ii) interpret the results.

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Y	6	7	8	10	8	9	10	9	11	10
X	50	52	55	59	57	58	62	65	68	70

where Y = Demand for foods

X = Gross National Product

Both variables have been measured in arbitrary units. *10*

7. Explain any ***three*** of the following : *10*

(i) Hypothesis

(ii) Heteroscadasticity

(iii) Trend variation

(iv) Sources of data on health

(v) Factor Reversal Test

8. Explain the difference between any ***three*** of the following : *10*

(i) Cross section data and Time series data

(ii) Bi-variate analysis and Multivariate analysis

(iii) Quantitative research and Qualitative research

(iv) Simple Random Sampling and Systemic Sampling

(v) Positive measures and Normative measures of inequality