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कृपया इस स्थान
में प्रश्न संख्या के
अतिरिक्त कुछ
न लिखें।

U.P.S.C.

Answer Question in NOT MORE THAN (the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis
Content of the Question is more important than length.
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को इस
हाशिए में नहीं
लिखना चाहिए
Candidates
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Comments for purpose of evaluation

Relevance

Structure

Content

Presentation

Q → Examine the sociological perspective of AR Desai's characterisation of leadership of Indian freedom movement.

10M.

AR Desai was a marxist sociologist who studied Indian nationalism and freedom in detail in his seminal work "Social Background of Indian Nationalism".

Sociological Perspective of Desai

He used marxist perspective, hence he saw leaders of our freedom struggle as extension of Bourgeoisie class. Similar to Marx's notion that during change in mode of production, ascending class become the new bourgeoisie, he argued that indigenous leaders replaced Britishers as have-class, but exploitation remained Con fact.

He accepted ~~it~~ with Cambridge historians that Indian freedom struggle was a competitive struggle amongst the nationalistic leaders themselves for the benefits acquired by freedom.

Evaluation -

- Positive -
- He used the ample evidence of lack of prosperity and rising inequality in 1970s
 - He highlighted the failure of developmental process, much propagated before independence.
 - He provided a novel perspective, which helped the state to reform itself via social welfare policies - TRYSEM, PRIs etc.

Negatives -

- i) SC Dube criticized him for his ideological indoctrination, disallowing him to see rapid development. (a) FYPs, Green Revolution.

- ii) India has substantially grown post independence.
(a) MPI report \Rightarrow 41.5 crore poor pulled out between 2005 to 2020.

* Deepak Gupta, Desai provided renewed interest in conflict perspective in India.

8:30

2) Louis Dumont argues: "Caste is not a form of stratification, but a special form of inequality." Explain 10M

Louis Dumont was a French sociologist, who studied Indian Caste system extensively in his seminal work - "Homo Hierarchicus".

Louis Dumont perspective

Dumont argued that Indian Caste system is unique and non comparable to any other social stratification systems prevalent.

He argued that the notion of "purity and pollution" and 'hierarchy' ingrained due to birth are the reasons for its uniqueness.

He provided a negative image of Caste system as totally closed, rigid, dehumanizing.

and prevalent across whole India.

Criticisms -

- ① based on biased ideology and biased texts of Classical indologist like Maine, Muller etc
- ② was called "Modern Manu" for providing and promoting negative values of caste only.
- ③ ignored the positive aspects like Social security, social cohesion, identity formation, occupational diversification etc.
- ④ Andre Beteille argued that villages were never self-reliant as explained by Dumont, he also criticized "absence of social mobility".
- ⑤ MN Srinivas's Sanskritisation provides avenues of mobility.
- ⑥ Ghurye's argued an evolutionary and "comparative" aspect of caste, thus denying its uniqueness.

Dumont's biased view led to challenges & subsequent growth of indological & other study of Caste.

17.30

3.) Discuss the paradigm of modernization of Indian tradition in analysing social change in India.

10m

Modernization refers to change, or break from the past. According to Yogendra Singh, it is pan humanistic, all encompassing, non-ideological and non exclusive change in social systems.

Modernization analysing social change -

- ① While Weber, Comte etc showed tradition with conflict in modernity, Indian thinkers like Singh, Dipankar Gupta etc showed simultaneous presence.
- ② Modernization of tradition due to various factors like rise in market economy, technological changes etc, have led to conspicuous social change - like empowerment of women, weakening of Caste, Nuclearization of families etc.

③ Traditionalization of Modernity - where the modern ideals were customised based on Indian traditions. (e.g.) Casteism in Politics, Communalism, Subtle Caste (Sukhdev Thorat)

④ MN Shrinivas argued that westernization brought partial modernization during colonial period & later. Changes in values, material circumstances formed basis of modernization & led to social changes like - abolition of Sati, ~~the~~ Widow Remarriage etc.

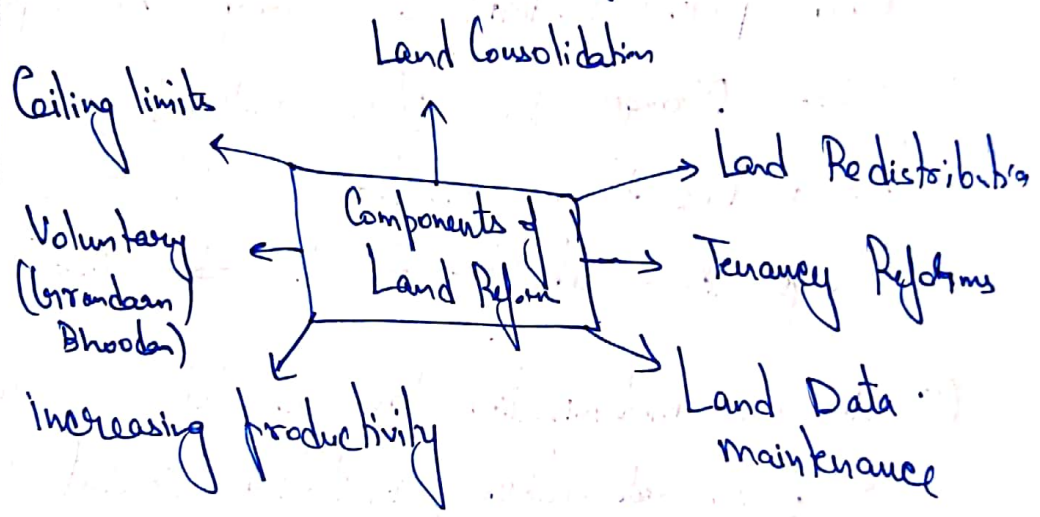
⑤ However, modernization have also led to rise of counter reformations, inhibiting social change. (e.g.) Saraswa Groups - Ranvir Sena etc.

⑥ Yogendra Singh shed positive light on modernisation - bringing structural changes in Indian Society.

Thus, modernization played an important role in bringing social change in India. 8:30

4. Discuss key short-comings of post-independence land reforms in transforming agrarian social structure in India

Land reforms refer to redistribution of land from excess holders to landless peasants. It was a long term agenda of our freedom fighters.



Impact of land reforms

shortcomings -

- ① legal loopholes and slow court adjudication were misused by big land holders.
- ② Un committed bureaucracy, nexus with big farmer
- ③ Land being a State Subject,

led to regional disparities. (eg) better in Kerala, Jammu Kashmir & poor in Bihar, UP.

④ Data about land was burnt and destroyed at many places.

⑤ Voluntary ~~and~~ land donations were minimal in quantity and quality.

⑥ led to eviction of tenants, due to fear of land misappropriation

⑦ Clear Caste-Class nexus was visible (Kathkes Gough)

⑧ India still faces these issues. ⑨ 86% of farmers are small & marginal. Avg. holding ~ 0.512 hectare.

Benefits -

① Rise of OBCs

② rise of dominant castes, which were placed lower at cultural scale.

③ led to success of Green Revolution, enabling food security.

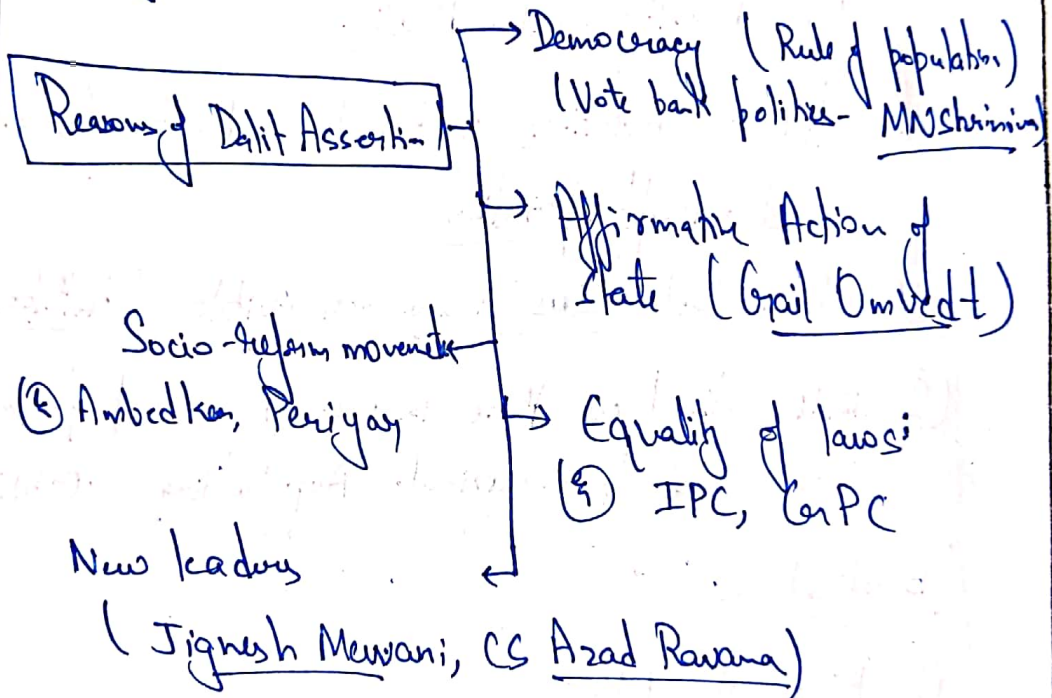
According to M. Swaminathan, land reforms is an unfinished agenda,

7:25

5) Examine the interplay of Dalit assertion and religion in shaping Caste dynamics, discussing socio-political implications.

10M.

Dalit assertion refers to rise in socio-political and economic strength of Dalits, with them rising assertion at frontline politics.



Interplay between Dalit assertion & religion

① While traditionally, religion inhibited growth of Dalits, Dalit assertion have led to substantial growth.

② Relooking history with Subaltern perspectives. (a) Ramchandra Guha et.

③ Reinterpreting religious texts & scriptures by Dalit Panthers

④ Constitution and legal reforms have decreased gap of religion in India society.

⑤ Modern technology and emerging job market diminished role of caste, and now have increased role of class.

However, it has also led to counter-reform movements by Savarna Groups, as evident by rising ethnocentrism in immigrating states like Maharashtra. Death of Rohith Vemula and student at IIT further increased Dalit assertion movements.

Dalits have now become an integral part of society, contributing their fair share in nation building,