

Please do not
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

1-> Examine the dichotomy between discrete castes and muddled hierarchies in contemporary social structures. Substantiate your answer with suitable examples.

10M.

Dipankar Gupta in his mistaken modernity gave the concept of "discrete castes and muddled hierarchies".

He argued that the notion of hierarchy and purity/pollution highlighted by Dumont is wrong.

D. Gupta argued that castes evolved independent of one another, hence their hierarchies came later. i.e. "Castes came first, hierarchies came later."

He gave evidence of various Jati Stories, which distinguished one caste from another & reduced the notion of purity / pollution.

Thus, he conceptualized "muddled hierarchies", based on local conditions unique to that region.

He also found empirical evidences from Haryana, where Jats who were lower placed in caste strata, found brahmins lazy and selfish, decreasing the notion of reverence, and thus not considering them lower in local caste strata based on purity and pollution.

Thus, he highlighted multiple hierarchies and also provided for ample social mobility, contradictory to views of early sociologists.

His study is criticized for lack of generalization and theory building, but he provided a new perspective to view caste in contemporary society.

2) Discuss the problems encountered by the religious minorities in Indian society.

10M

The Constitution provides for special treatment to minorities (Art. 29 & 30), but doesn't define them.

Despite this protection, the minorities face -

Common issues -

- ① tyranny of majority due to democracy
 - ② Rising majoritarianism, leading to cultural otherisation.
 - ③ reflection of deprivation in government services and PSUs.
 - ④ fear of assimilation into majority culture.
 - ⑤ weakening of political institutions protecting minorities.
 - ⑥ National Commission of Minorities.
 - ⑦ Ghettoisation
 - ⑧ Communalism
- Religious-specific

Muslims -

- ① poor health & education indicators.
- ② minimal representation in politics & bureaucracy [Sachar Committee]
- ③ global conflicts reflected in domestic policies

④ ~~at~~ Juvenile delinquency - terrorism, ethnonationalism

Sikhs -

- ① declining sex ratio
- ② Cultural Conflicts
- ③ decreasing remuneration from agriculture.

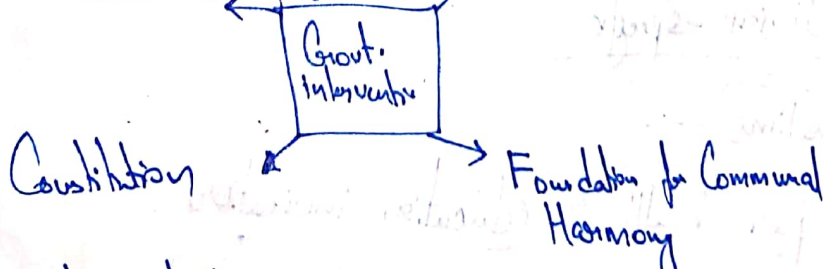
Parais -

- ① women discrimination
- ② inbreeding → genetic disorders
- ③ decreasing 'silent towers'

Buddhists, Jainists, Christians -

- ① Organised mob violence
- ② Cultural damage. (e.g.) - Sanmed Shikharji, Tharkhad converted to tourist spot
- ③ extremely low participation in politics / bureaucracy
- ④ no reservations to converts.

Schemes - Nai Roshni, Jigyasa → NC. Minorities



Minorities help to maintain diversity of India.

3)

Why do tribal and indigenous narratives suffer from low visibility within mainstream academia?

10m

Tribal & indigenous narratives highlighting the plight of tribals and reformative perspectives of castes, are hidden within mainstream academia.

Reasons

① Western academicians & media

- Propaganda of West, to highlight Indian society in a negative list.

② poor indicators for India, ② World Hunger or Religious freedom index

② Nationalistic academicians

- lack of proper data
- nationalistic & ethnic bias are found
- lack of collaboration with other stakeholders (water tight compartment)

③ Government

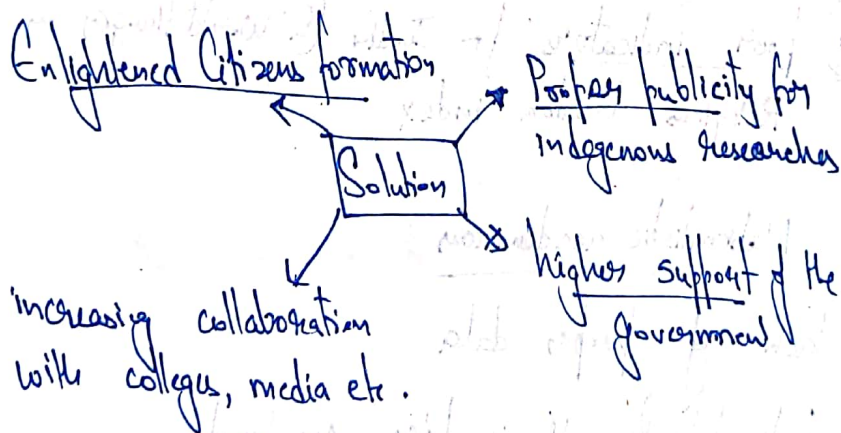
- minis cope support and investment
- Way of supporting narratives critical to government

④ Media

- less highlighting of research.
- Tabloidization, Sensationalization of News.

⑤ Citizens

- lack of education & illiteracy (2011 Census only 76% people literate)
- low exposure to sociological studies.



It is important to highlight indigenous & tribal narratives to increase public awareness and political mobilization for upliftment of weak.

4) Examine the role of cultural factors in the process of modernization as proposed by Yogendra Singh.

10M

Yogendra Singh defined modernization as a cultural response which is non-ideological, ~~non-~~ pan-humanistic and ^{particular} culture independent.

Unlike

Western theorists who saw a dichotomy between modernity and tradition, ~~Yog~~ Singh provided for neo-traditionalization, which is a rise in modernity along with continuous evolution of tradition. (ii) Communalism, Caste Politics etc.

Role of Cultural Factors -

(i) Though Westernization & Sanskritisation, according to Singh was merely cultural, but it provided for the plinth for the emergence of modernity in India.

② He argued Western values like liberty, equality, rule of law etc led to growth of structural factors - bureaucracy, political structures etc during Colonial period.

③ He also proposed Sanskritisation, also led to formation of structural institutions, which helped growth of modernity, but with continuation of traditional ideas.

Criticisms

① Y. Singh called westernization & Sanskritisation only cultural, while they themselves brought structural changes in the society. He also ignored the individual aspect while focusing on social change.

Despite criticisms, Yogendra Singh provided a novel perspective on 'modernization of India'.

5 →

Explain how the growth of tertiary sector has influenced the participation of women in workforce and their occupational

10M
choices
Scenes.

Tertiary sector refers to the service sector of the economy. It has grown exponentially in India, especially after LPG of 1991. Its current contribution is around 60% of GDP.

Despite humongous growth, it has both positive & negative impact on women.

Positive impact -

- ① provided new avenue of growth for women, with increased role in call centres, nurses etc.
- ② helped to increase family income & development of women by generating new skills.

Negative impact -

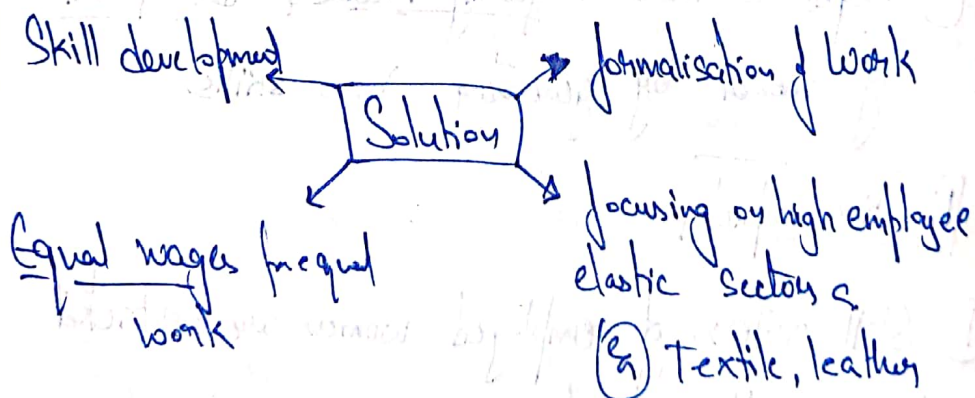
- ① Skill 70% of employed women are restricted to agriculture sector.
- ② Glass Ceiling, Glass Cliff, Glass Stairs, Sticky floor at the workplace.

③ Karuna Ahmed argued 4 indications of women's work - i) unequal wages, ii) stereotyping jobs, iii) educated, but unemployed women and iv) low status.

④ Time poverty faced due to raising of children without help.

⑤ Arlene Hochschild - "2nd Shift" - one in office, other at home.

⑥ Veena Mazumdar - despite rising women's participation in work, her status not increased.



Tertiary sector will provide higher avenues for women due to rising literacy & skills of her.

7:40