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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  
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Comments for purpose of evaluation

Relevance

Structure

Content

Presentation

- ① Examine the MNS critique of Indology as a theoretical construct of Indian Society; and elaborate his view on field studies.

10M

MN Shrivivasa was an Indian sociologist who adopted structural functionalist approach, focusing on structural changes based on 'field view'.

He criticised earlier prevalent Indologist like G.G. Cochrane, Max Muller -

- ① book view - limited to scriptures / texts etc.
- ② no factual evidences were tested on ground.
- ③ Over glorification of ~~Hinduism~~ nationalistic ideals.

### Position of Critique -

- ① focused field view - objective facts &
- ② brought 'dynamism' / change orientation in Indian society's studies

### Issues of Critique -

- ① his own study was highly focused on Hinduism & Brahminism.
- ② ignored lower caste issues

## Sleepy Test

### ① MN Shrinivasa view on field studies

- ① focused on forming structural theories based on objective facts & figures
- ② Thus, led to extensive studies - Rampurba, Coorg society etc
- ③ Aim was to develop 'Indian society specific theories — Sanskritisation, Vote bank politics, Dominant Caste etc
- ④ He focused on changes, rather than static Qualism, as was done by indologist.

Shrinivasa studies brought institutionalisation of structural functionalist school in India, leading to extensive studies later by Deepankar Gupta, Yogendra Singh etc.

② The colonial rule caused both cultural and structural changes in India. Discuss

According to Yogendra Singh in his 'Modernization of Indian Tradition', Colonial rule brought both cultural & structural changes in India.

### Cultural Changes -

- ① Percolation of Western ideas & values like liberty, equality in Indian society (Percolation of Goods)
- ② increasing forces of Sanskritisation, as Brahmins were the first to benefit from colonial policies/employment. Thus, other sections too wanted to gain benefits, hence sanskritisation.
- ③ Variation in Caste - While higher castes focused on Westernisation, lower castes focused on Sanskritisation.

## Structural Changes -

- ① establishment of various institutions like bureaucracy, political institutions etc, which brought many structural changes - first colonial exploitation, racial segregation etc.
- ② social inequality increased due to coming by British & higher caste.
- ③ political intrusion in culture. ④ abolition of Sati, legitimizing widow remarriage etc.
- ④ development of counter political movements & institutions - INCongress, Muslim League etc, rising polarisation in society.

These changes led to overexploitation of Indian resources & divide & rule, finally culminating in freedom movements and independence.

③ Give an account of Ranjit Guha's approach in studying 'subaltern class'

Ranjit Guha was an Indian historian and social scientist who worked extensively in field of 'subaltern class'. He was inspired by works of Ambedkar etc.

### Approach of Guha

- ① Voice to voiceless - he was one of the first writer to highlighted the plight of weaker section - SC Dalits & tribals.
- ② Alternate History to counter the dominant understanding of Caste system as integrative and functional, etc.
- ③ Criticism of Data/Records - hiding figures of Caste exploitation of Dalits etc.
- ④ agreed with Cambridge Historians - that post-independence, it was fight among

higher castes to hold power.

⑤ trying to create a comprehensive history of dalits, as their records are very few and fragmented.

However, Guha's approach is Criticized as

- ① overglorification of conflicts & flux, while ignoring the positive aspects of Caste - division of labor, Caste solidarity.
- ② Constitutional & Legal protection to Dalit/tribals post independence uplifted the weaker sections extensively.

Despite criticism, Guha's novel approach helped to develop new perspective towards subaltern class, which was later used by Grail Omvedt, Babur Chatterjorty, Sukhdeo Thorat etc.

(4)

The twin shackles that once decided matters for India's villagers, caste and agriculture, no longer exercise their "oppressive hold" - D. Gupta. Examine in light of changing structure of villages

Deepankar Gupta highlighted the changing structure of Indian villages. He argued that the earlier hold of caste & agriculture is decreasing.

Caste - decreasing impact -

① Andre Beteille in his studies of Sripuram highlighted the positive impact of state intervention - Reservations etc for upliftment of Adi Dravidians (lower caste)

② decreasing instances of untouchability & rising village patriotism.

Agriculture - decreasing hold -

① PLFS-5 :- Wages were greater than income from agriculture of average monthly household earning (₹10,218/month)



② rising occupational diversification in villages

③ high migration to urban areas

However, counter views

Caste still prevalent -

① Sukhdeo Thosar - 80% villages - subtle untouchability

② Vote bank politics.

③ Assaulting dalit Sarpanch by high castes.

④ Kathleen Graugh - Caste Class nexus (98% of manual scavengers - Dalit)

Agriculture - still prevalent -

① 46% workforce is agriculture only.

② low industrialization in villages.

Thus, though hold of Caste & agriculture is decreasing in villages, their impact is substantial.  
Need of the hour is industrialization and mass sensitization.

6:50

⑤ How does BR. Ambedkar identified the features of the Caste system? How is it different from the mainstream treatment of caste features?

10M

BR Ambedkar described Caste as a system of 'graded inequalities', based on ascending order of reverence & descending order of contempt.

Ambedkar's view -

- ① exploitative and against lower castes - Sudhra & no caste (Dalits)
- ② toxic effects of rising Brahminism, post Gupta Empire.
- ③ no social mobility afforded
- ④ Village as den of ignorance and oppression, focusing only caste system.
- ⑤ The solution is only complete annihilation of Caste System.

Different from mainstream) -

- ① ~~of~~ Earlier thinkers focused on integrative and division of labor of the Caste System.
- ② Ghurye - occupational limitations of Caste.
- ③ Untouchability is a sin, which need not require annihilation, but only reformation of Caste.
- ④ It will naturally fade away with rising importance of Class over Caste (Beville)
- ④ Forces like Globalisation, Urbanisation have already decreased the grip of Caste System.

However, Caste is still alive, though untouchability has subsided. Caste-Class Nexus, discriminations etc highlight the relevance of Ambedke.

6:32

- ⑥ Examine the distinct challenges encountered by tribal communities in India. Evaluate the efficacy of current tribal development policies in mitigating these challenges -

According to Census 2011, 8.6% of the population is scheduled tribes. Tribes are the proof of India's diversity and unity.

### Challenges of tribes

- ① Cultural Assimilation under Hindu fold.
- ② Xaxa → Assimilation of tribes.
- ② Development led displacement → maximum involves tribes. ④ Dams, b. highways etc.
- ③ low adaptational capacity in cities, due to rising inflation, poor living conditions etc.
- ④ low political clout, despite reservations.
- ⑤ low state support, under Communism, etc.
- ⑥ Niyangiri - Vedanta controversy.

Hence, state came up with Various policies

- ① Van Vandhu Yojana
- ② PM PUTA Mission
- ③ laws like SC/ST Act, 1989, PESA 2006 etc.

However, Challenges faced—

- ① bureaucratic apathy — poor implementation of policies
- ② Reservations / other benefits Cornered by higher class of STs.
- ③ poor HDI — education & health among tribals  
→ anemia, tropical diseases etc.

Still, there have been lots of development also—

- ① rising life expectancy, income opportunities
- ② rising women SHGs among tribals
- ③ reservations in panchayats, PESA provided political mobilisation.

④ Forest Rights granted by FRA 2006.

Other suggestions of Xaxa, Bhuria, Dhebar Commission should be worked up.

8:01

7) Indian Middle Class is actually a privileged class. Discuss the statement ~~the~~ within the evolving landscape of social relations in contemporary India. As Weber has earlier hypothesised the swelling of middle class, the middle class population in India is also seeing a tremendous rise in quantity and services.

Middle Class - a privileged class -

① Beneficiaries of both Caste & Class. (a) - on one hand they get reservations in jobs & colleges post 1992 (OBCs majority in middle class) and were the prime beneficiaries of govt subsidies and rising economic growth of India.

② have not to face historical brunt of discrimination or untouchability as compared to SC.

③ TK Dommen - Middle Class as harbingers of silent revolution → asserting their rights by PILs, RTIs etc.

④ Vote bank politics - higher representation in Parliament or state legislatures. ⑤ Mandal Commission 52% OBCs.

### Issues -

① Brahmanic ideologies are still present in society, despite slowing of Sanskritization.

② high income inequality within the middle class.

③ low cohesion of the group (Jaffrelot - Middle Class as base concept)

④ Primacy of reservations of higher classes within OBCs. etc.

The Middle class is leading the development of the nation. Skill building and employment is necessary for demographic dividend

③ To culture of society and its religious beliefs coexist, however, sometimes they stand against each other.

India is a country in transition from traditional to modern, hence there is a concurrence of both traditional values of Religion and modern values of Class.

### Coexistence of societal culture & religion -

① Women empowerment - Raising women in labour force, despite religious scriptures delegating her role to households.

② No Caste System - Caste is fading, while Religion upholds value of caste & occupational Segmentation...

③ Family - Religious affairs are now being limited to personal sphere (Harold Group - Lucknow rickshawallas etc), but Communalisation is seen at public.



These coexistence often leads to conflict also -

- ① Counter-reform movements against modernisation
- ② Religion fundamentalism etc
- ② Yogendra Singh - Neotraditionalization
- ③ Communalism with Politics, Vote bank politics.
- ③ Women empowerment is half baked, as women earnings are taken away by male members of family, double burden [Arlie Hochschild]
- ④ feminization of poverty due to Green Revolution.  
(Nivedita Menon)
- ⑤ Vina Mazumdar - gender exploitation institutionalised with economic growth.

India being in transition will face pathological state, however with increase in modernising force, value consensus will again evolve.  
(Parsons)

- ④ Discuss the societal implementation implications of the service sector revolution on the gender based division of labor.

Service sector have now become the largest contributor to GDP (760%), and also employment is rising exponentially.

### Implications of service sector on gender

#### ⊗ Positives

- ① better remuneration to women
- ② Works are more gender neutral. (Call Centres, Cubicles etc.)
- ③ Rising economic liberty of women.
- ④ new types of family - Cotiving, Double income no kid (DINK), love marriage etc (Griddens)  
in creating women agency in family.

⑤

## Issues -

- ① LGBT inclusion is still weak.
- ② Post employment limited to Pink collar jobs.
- ③ Kasuma Ahmed → 4 issues in women employment
  - i) unequal wages,
  - ii) low status of work.
  - iii) gender stereotyping of work,
  - iv) high number of educated, but reemployed women.
- ④ Veena Majumdar - despite economic growth, women discrimination institutionalized.
- ⑤ State positive actions may have negative effects
  - ⑥ Maternity Act → higher preference to men in employment.
- ⑥ Double burden - "2nd Shift" of Arlie Hochschild et.

Just under 25% of women are in labor force, even ~~only~~ 75% of them are in agriculture only. State must work on industrial sector for formal job creation.

6:44

10 Identify and analyze the primary challenges hindering in enacting a uniform Civil Code in India.

Uniform Civil Code (UCC) refers to common personal law for all citizens, despite varying religions - in field of adoption, marriage, inheritance & divorce.

Challenges hindering UCC

- 1) Excessive politicization of issue, giving it religious colour.
- 2) Low minority trust on the majority.
- 3) Education without scientific temper (UASIA(h))
- 4) lack of draft made by govt, leading to excessive speculation.
- 5) low adaptive capacity (Parsons) of the society.

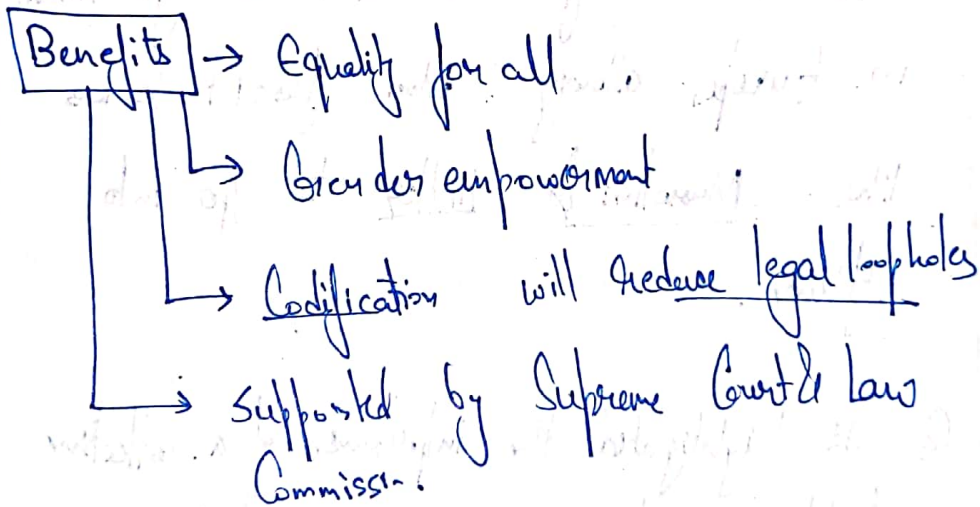
⑥ Many argue it as ideological state apparatus (Althusser) of the government.

⑦ Religious sects / cults protests / violence

⑧ Vote bank politics (MN Shrinivasa) - As, even many hindus are not supporting UCC (loss of HUF tax exemption) etc

⑨ huge protests from tribals, as their living way is different than majority.

⑩ Meghalaya - Khasis - matrilineal



~~UCC~~ UCC is a right step, however it should be implemented after stakeholders discussion.

6:30

— X —