

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Q1.

"How does the promotion of higher education in regional languages contribute to inclusion in society?"

Education is a means of transmitting social values in children and also developing specialisation for effective Division of labour

Higher Education in regional languages will lead to inclusion as

(1) Developmental prospects - It will act as a voice against "ideological conditioning device" identity of education that promotes English over others. (ALTHUSSER)

(2) Identity maintenance - Tribals can learn in their own language and contribute to their society \Rightarrow will enhance social solidarity and solve isolation vs diffusion problems with tribes.

(3) Reduce power dynamics - STEVEN LUKES
3rd face of power is about shaping desires.

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Education in regional language will ensure people work for their society and reduce drain.

Ex - A saathara working for one's own area.

(4) Reduce Stratification - English speaking elites can be challenged by giving other languages their due share. Language should not be the basis for differential ranking.

(5) Reduce deviation - due to coherence of means and goals, strain in society will reduce, thereby reducing deviation.
Ex - lifelong learning in mother tongue will reduce structural strain.

(6) Gender lens - Women can get greater benefit from it as that might reduce the challenges they face.

Thus, Education in regional language can be a source of social solidarity by establishing a moving equilibrium that favours all languages.

Q2.

How does gender inequality impact FLP Rates and opportunities in various sectors?

Sex is often gendered and is based on Patriarchal norms present in society, leading to gender inequality, in turn impacting all spheres of life.

Gender Inequality impacting FLP Rates and opportunities in various sectors -

(1) Wage gap - The recent Global Gender Gap Report (WIEF) suggests 134 years are reqd to fill gender gap. This reflects that how women's work is paid less due to gender inequality.

(2) Societal Taboos : Period Poverty and related taboo reduces women's participation. Ex- In Aurangabad village (India), menstruating women arent allowed in sugarcane field \Rightarrow resulted in 1100 women going for uterus removal \Rightarrow Caused health issues \Rightarrow lost opportunities of work.

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- (3) Biogrammar concept (Tiger and Fox) lead to mid-career break by women after child birth. This is the time for them to flourish which they lose, resulting in their collection in low paid jobs.
- (4) Glass ceiling and Glass cliff (putting women in positions of authority when company is about to be doomed) can be seen on global level. Ex - Recently, Twitter has got a lady CEO.
- (5) Care giving primarily a woman's role - as suggested by PARSONS about mother's affective role, societal norms too prescribe the same leading to poor performance in workspace.
- (6) Pink collarisation - women are often forced to see their "emotional labour" in jobs like that of receptionist, model air hostess which usually treats her like an object.
- Thus, gender inequality has seeped in to affect even the third gender (LGBT) affecting their economic prospects adversely.



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What are impacts of social media on social change efforts, including issues like mobilization, awareness and collective action?

Social Media, a tool of quick information dissemination has played diverse roles in impacting social norms and value orientation.

POSITIVE IMPACTS ON SOCIAL CHANGE EFFORTS

(1) helps in mobilization of people - Atrocities against people is sent across media, leading to mobilization of people against the common cause.

(2) Awareness across border - human rights violation in Syria can lead to protest in Asia, such is the power of Media. It helps in maintaining value consensus across societies.

(3) Easy to raise demands against the powerful - challenges existing power structure

(4) can lead to revolution - Ex - first twitter

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revolution - Egypt's Jasmine revolution

(5) collective action transforms from a mob to a crowd to a protest, based on common ideology.

Ex - MeToo movement was mobilised online

(6) Ensures distributive justice by calling out Anomic Division of labour.

Ex - BCCI appointing a politician's son as chief

Negative Impacts on social change

(1) Religious Fundamentalism may be promoted. Ex - ISIS releasing videos to indoctrinate people.

(2) False images can create mistrust and violence. Ex - recent riots near Delhi

(3) Hijacking of ideology by "haves" can negatively influence "have nots". Ex - Xenophobia

(4) Can be used to "shape desires" (STEVEN LUKES) to commit wrong. Ex - Blue whale game leading to suicides

Thus, social media is a double edged sword which has potential to both make and break social change efforts.

Q4. Can democratic freedom exist w/o economic equality.

Democratic freedom should ideally rest on economic equality to remain free in letter and spirit.

Democratic freedom requires Economic Equality

(1) Exploitation - lack of economic equality will lead to exploitation of 'have nots' by 'haves'.

Ex - use of 'hegemonic ideology' to ensure have nots remain in poverty perpetually.

(2) False class consciousness can lead to the powerless feeling that they are a "class for themselves", which might be totally false.

(3) leaders will ensure prevalence of "happy consciousness" to make believe that they are working in interest of all,



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which wont really be the case. Ex -
Voting pattern might actually be based
on false narratives.

(4) Circulation of elite will be a common
(Pareto & Mosca)
phenomenon when inequality in economic
sphere is rampant

(5) lack of social capital (Pierre Bourdieu)
will reduce ability of less powerful to
challenge norms.

But, there are cases of democratic
freedom existing w/o economic equality
Ex - In case of India, democracy is
present but top 1% hold 70% of wealth
leading to poorer sections inability to
earn well.

Thus, to achieve democratic freedom in
letter and spirit, Economic equality is
a sine qua non.

Q5. To what extent do welfare schemes targeted at rural and agrarian transformation contribute to reducing social stratification in society?

Social stratification is a system of division of society based on a variable, into stratas, with differential rewards attached to them.

Welfare schemes reducing social stratification

- ① Allow Social Mobility - Rise in economic prowess will allow intergenerational mobility.
- ② Enhance socio-economic performance indicators
Ex - better health \Rightarrow less money spent \Rightarrow prevent downward social mobility
- ③ Secular status above ascribed status - M.N Sriniva's concept of Dominant caste is a result of a section taking advantage of schemes \Rightarrow Manifest function is upliftment of caste
- ④ Reduce differential awards for diff. same work. Ex - Same wage to men and women



Issues with such schemes

- (1) hijacking by higher castes \Rightarrow penetration of class into caste.
Ex - Brahmins becoming higher class
 - (2) Poor targeting of schemes.
Ex - AM Shah in Gujarat studied how higher caste got maximum benefits out of schemes.
 - (3) Discrimination in Gender prevalent.
 - (4) has led to deskritisation of higher castes to enjoy fruits of reservation. Ex - EWS reservation.
 - (5) Intensifies social closure by allowing only elite self recruitment through schemes. Ex - SHG's monopolised by rich
- Thus, welfare schemes for rural and agrarian transformation had mixed results in reducing social stratification in society.