CBSE EXAMINATION PAPER-2025

SOCIOLOGY

(Solved)

Time allowed : 3 hours | Maximum Marks : 82

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions carefully and follow them :

i. This question paper contains **39 questions.** All questions are **compulsory.**

ii. This question paper is divided into **5 sections.**

iii. **Section A** – questions number **1 to 2** are case based questions

iv. **Section B** – questions number **3 to 18** are multiple choice questions

v. **Section C** – questions number **19 to 29** are very short answer

vi. **Section D** – questions number **30 to 37** are short answer

vii. **Section E** – questions number **38 to 39** are long answer

viii. There is no overall choice given in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in few questions.

ix. Use of calculator is NOT allowed.

Section A

Question 1. Social inequality and exclusion are facts of life. Social inequality and exclusion are social because they are not about individuals but about groups. In every society, some people have a greater share of valued resources – money, property, education, health and power – than others. People often face discrimination and exclusion because of their gender, religion, ethnicity, language, caste and disability.

(1) Social inequality and exclusion are facts of life because : (I) This everydayness of social inequality and exclusion often makes them appear inevitable, almost natural. (II) We often think of them as being 'deserved' or 'justified' in some sense. (III) These are natural which can be changed. (IV) The poor and marginalised are not blamed for their own plight. Which of the above statements are correct?

(A) (I) and (II)

(B) (I) and (III)

(C) (I) and (IV)

(D) (II) and (III)

[2 Marks]

Answer: Social inequality and exclusion are facts of life because their everydayness makes them seem inevitable and they are often thought to be deserved or justified, as explained in statements (I) and (II).

Key Points: "Everydayness of social inequality, Perceived inevitability, Justification of social inequalities"

Question 2. Social inequality and exclusion are facts of life. Social inequality and exclusion are social because they are not about individuals but about groups. In every society, some people have a greater share of valued resources – money, property, education, health and power – than others. People often face discrimination and exclusion because of their gender, religion, ethnicity, language, caste and disability.

(1) Which of the following statements is not true related to Exclusion of Dalits ?

(A) The institution of untouchability does not refer to the avoidance or prohibition of physical contact.

(B) Untouchability refers to a much broader set of social sanctions.

(C) Untouchable castes are outside the caste hierarchy.

(D) They are considered to be so impure that their mere touch severely pollutes members of all other castes.

[2 Marks]

Answer: The statement that the institution of untouchability does not refer to the avoidance or prohibition of physical contact is not true. Untouchability involves physical avoidance and social sanctions and Dalits are considered impure, affecting members of other castes.

Key Points: "Untouchability involves physical contact avoidance, Broader social sanctions of untouchability, Impurity beliefs about Dalits"

Section B

Question 3.

Assertion (A):Industrialisation leads to greater equality, at least in some spheres, such as, caste distinctions do not matter any more in trains, buses, etc.

Reason (R) : Social inequalities are reducing in the world.

[1 Marks]

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(C) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

(D) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

Explanation:

The correct option is: Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A). Industrialisation does lead to greater equality in certain areas like reducing caste distinctions in public spaces such as trains and buses. However, while social inequalities in some aspects are reducing, economic or income inequality is still growing in the world. Therefore, the reason given is true but does not correctly explain the assertion.

Question 4.

Assertion (A) :The old social movements functioned within the frame of political parties.

Reason (R) : Old social movements were national.

[1 Marks]

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(B) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(C) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

(D) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

Explanation: The old social movements were indeed national in character, and they mostly functioned within the framework of political parties. However, the reason that old social movements functioned within political parties is not simply because they were national. The structure and nature of old social movements, which were mostly class-based and organized around economic issues, led them to operate through political parties. Hence, while both Assertion and Reason are true, the Reason does not correctly explain the Assertion.

Question 5.

As per the theory of Demographic Transition, which of the following statements are correct? (I) Population growth is linked to overall levels of economic development. (II) Every society follows a typical pattern of development. (III) The development is related to population growth. (IV) There are four stages of population growth.

[1 Marks]

(A) (I) and (II)

(B) (II) and (IV)

(C) (I), (II) and (III)

(D) (I) and (III)

Explanation:

According to the theory of Demographic Transition, population growth is indeed linked to the overall levels of economic development (I), and every society follows a typical pattern of development (II). The development is related to population growth (III), but the theory mentions three basic stages of population growth, not four (IV is incorrect). Therefore, the correct statements are (I), (II), and (III).

Question 6.

Assertion (A):Often it is thought that imparting knowledge of 'scientific' farming methods will improve the conditions of Indian farmers.

Reason (R): The Indian farmers have been cultivating the land for centuries, much before the advent of the Green Revolution.

[1 Marks]

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(B) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

(C) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(D) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

Explanation:

Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A). It is true that often it is thought that imparting scientific farming methods will improve conditions of Indian farmers (Assertion). It is also true that Indian farmers have been cultivating land for centuries before the Green Revolution (Reason). However, the fact that Indian farmers have a long history of cultivation does not directly explain why imparting scientific methods is thought to improve their conditions. The traditional knowledge exists but the scientific methods aim to increase productivity and efficiency, which is a separate point.

Question 7. Which of the following statements related to Tribal Identity is not true?

[1 Marks]

(A) Assertions of tribal identity are on the rise.

(B) This can be laid at the door of the emergence of a middle class within the tribal society.

(C) Issues relating to matters of ethnic-cultural identity are becoming less important.

(D) Issues relating to control over vital economic resources like land and especially forests, are on the rise.

Explanation: The statement 'Issues relating to matters of ethnic-cultural identity are becoming less important.' is not true. According to the context, assertions of tribal identity and issues relating to ethnic-cultural identity are actually on the rise due to factors like the emergence of a middle class within tribal society. Tribal identities today are increasingly articulated around culture, tradition, control over land and resources, and resistance to non-tribal influences. Therefore, matters of ethnic-cultural identity are becoming more important, not less.

Question 8.

Social inequality and exclusion are facts of life. Social inequality and exclusion are social because they are not about individuals but about groups. In every society, some people have a greater share of valued resources – money, property, education, health and power – than others. People often face discrimination and exclusion because of their gender, religion, ethnicity, language, caste and disability.

Social inequality and exclusion are facts of life because:

(I) This everydayness of social inequality and exclusion often makes them appear inevitable, almost natural.

(II) We often think of them as being ‘deserved’ or ‘justified’ in some sense.

(III) These are natural which can be changed.

(IV) The poor and marginalised are not blamed for their own plight. Which of the above statements are correct?

[1 Marks]

(A) (II) and (III)

(B) (I) and (II)

(C) (I) and (III)

(D) (I) and (IV)

Explanation: The correct statements are (I) and (II). Statement (I) is correct because the everyday presence of social inequality and exclusion often makes them seem inevitable and almost natural. Statement (II) is correct as it reflects that people often consider such inequalities as deserved or justified. Statement (III) is incorrect because social inequalities are not natural but social constructs and can be changed. Statement (IV) is incorrect because typically, the poor and marginalized are often blamed for their own plight.

Question 9.

Social inequality and exclusion are facts of life. Social inequality and exclusion are social because they are not about individuals but about groups. In every society, some people have a greater share of valued resources – money, property, education, health and power – than others. People often face discrimination and exclusion because of their gender, religion, ethnicity, language, caste and disability.

Which of the following statements is not true related to Exclusion of Dalits?

[1 Marks]

(A) They are considered to be so impure that their mere touch severely pollutes members of all other castes.

(B) Untouchable castes are outside the caste hierarchy.

(C) Untouchability refers to a much broader set of social sanctions.

(D) The institution of untouchability does not refer to the avoidance or prohibition of physical contact.

Explanation: The statement 'The institution of untouchability does not refer to the avoidance or prohibition of physical contact.' is not true. Untouchability is specifically about the social practice where Dalits are considered so impure that even physical contact with them causes pollution. Therefore, avoidance or prohibition of physical contact is a key feature of untouchability. The other statements correctly describe untouchability and the social exclusion faced by Dalits.

Question 10.

Assertion (A): The laws of a colonised country did not have to stick to the democratic norms that the British back home had to follow in Britain.

Reason (R) : The colonial administrators were clear that harsh measures were taken against the labourers to make sure they benefitted the planters.

[1 Marks]

(A) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(C) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Explanation:

Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A). The context explains that colonial laws did not need to adhere to democratic norms as in Britain, and colonial administrators imposed harsh measures on labourers to favor the interests of planters. Hence, the reason correctly explains the assertion.

Question 11.

The socialisation process involves a continuous dialogue, negotiation and even struggle against significant others (those directly involved in our lives) like our parents, family, kin group and our community. Our community provides us the language (our mother tongue) and the cultural values through which we comprehend the world. It also anchors our self-identity.

Which of the following statements is incorrect?

(A) We don't have to do anything to be born into a community.

(B) No one has any choice about which family they are born into.

(C) No one has any choice about which country they are born into.

(D) These types of identities are acquired.

[1 Marks]

(A) No one has any choice about which country they are born into.

(B) These types of identities are acquired.

(C) No one has any choice about which family they are born into.

(D) We don't have to do anything to be born into a community.

Explanation:

The incorrect statement is (D) These types of identities are acquired. According to the context, identities such as community, family, and country of birth are 'ascriptive' identities, meaning they are determined by birth and do not involve any choice or acquisition by the individual. They are given, not acquired. Statements (A), (B), and (C) are correct because no one chooses the community, family, or country they are born into.

Question 12.

The socialisation process involves a continuous dialogue, negotiation and even struggle against significant others (those directly involved in our lives) like our parents, family, kin group and our community. Our community provides us the language (our mother tongue) and the cultural values through which we comprehend the world. It also anchors our self-identity.

Community conflicts are hard to deal with because:

(I) Each side in the conflict thinks of the other side as a hated enemy.

(II) There is a tendency to exaggerate the virtues of one's own side.

(III) There is a tendency not to exaggerate the vices of the other side.

(IV) In such conflicts, they are constructing matching but reversed mirror images of each other.

Which of the above statements are correct?

[1 Marks]

(A) (I), (III) and (IV)

(B) (I), (II) and (III)

(C) (I), (II) and (IV)

(D) (II), (III) and (IV)

Explanation:

The correct statements are (I), (II) and (IV). According to the provided context, in community conflicts, each side tends to see the other as a hated enemy (I) and exaggerates the virtues of its own side (II) as well as the vices of the other side. Statement (III) is incorrect because the tendency is actually to exaggerate the vices of the other side, not to avoid exaggerating them. Statement (IV) is correct as the conflicting communities construct reversed mirror images of each other, reflecting matching but opposing views.

Question 13. Why is the study of Social Movements important in Sociology?

[1 Marks]

(A) Social movements were not seen as forces that led to disorder.

(B) Social movements were about protests which were perceived by elites as a major threat to the established order of society.

(C) Participants of social movements do not have their own shared understanding of right and wrong.

(D) Participants did not often resort to public protest.

Explanation: The correct option is: 'Social movements were about protests which were perceived by elites as a major threat to the established order of society.' Sociology studies social movements because they are seen not just as causes of disorder but as significant forms of collective action often directed against the established order. Elites perceive protests within social movements as threats, and these movements have organized structures, shared understandings among participants, and play an important role in social change.

Question 14. While urbanization has been occurring at a rapid pace, it is the biggest cities – the metropolises – that have been growing the fastest. Which of the following statements related to urbanization is not true?

[1 Marks]

(A) These metros attract migrants from the rural areas as well as from small towns.

(B) The larger cities in India are not growing at such a rapid rate.

(C) With the mass media's primary focus on these cities, the public face of India is becoming more and more urban rather than rural.

(D) Urban infrastructure can hardly keep pace.

Explanation: The statement 'The larger cities in India are not growing at such a rapid rate.' is not true. The context clearly states that the larger cities in India are growing at a very rapid pace, so much so that urban infrastructure can hardly keep up with this growth. The other statements are true as metros attract migrants, the media focuses on these cities making India's public face more urban, and urban infrastructure struggles to keep pace with rapid urbanisation.

Question 15.

Assertion (A) : Agriculture is the single most important source of livelihood for the majority of the rural population.

Reason (R) : The rural is not just agriculture. Many activities that support agriculture and village life are also sources of livelihood.

[1 Marks]

(A) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(B) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

(C) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(D) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

Explanation:

Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A). Agriculture is indeed the main source of livelihood for most rural people. However, the reason states that rural life includes many other activities supporting agriculture and village life, which is true but does not directly explain why agriculture is the single most important source of livelihood.

Question 16.

Assertion (A) :There is absorption of different tribal groups into caste Hindu society at varying levels of the hierarchy.

Reason (R): Tribal lands were colonised and the forests cut down.

[1 Marks]

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(B) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(C) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Explanation:

Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason correctly explains the assertion. The absorption of tribal groups into caste Hindu society at different levels of hierarchy happened as their lands were colonised and forests were cut down. This led to the assimilation of tribal communities through processes such as Sanskritisation, which integrated them into caste structures.

Question 17. Which of the following statements is true for westernisation?

[1 Marks]

(A) Westernisation does not involve the imitation of external forms of culture.

(B) The changes brought about in Indian society and culture is a result of over 150 years of British rule.

(C) The west did not influence Indian art and literature.

(D) Westernisation did not include the sub-culture of Indian intellectuals.

Explanation: The correct statement is: "The changes brought about in Indian society and culture is a result of over 150 years of British rule." This aligns with M.N. Srinivas's definition of westernisation as the changes brought about in Indian society and culture due to over 150 years of British rule. The other options are incorrect because westernisation did include the sub-culture of Indian intellectuals, the West did influence Indian art and literature, and westernisation does involve the imitation of external forms of culture.

Question 18.

Put the following statements in the correct order.

(I) Workers have to work at the pace of the machine.

(II) The more mechanised an industry gets, the fewer people are employed.

(III) Two tea breaks of 7.5 minutes each and one lunch break of half an hour.

(IV) Workers get only 45 minutes rest in the entire day.

[1 Marks]

(A) (I), (IV), (III), (II)

(B) (IV), (I), (III), (II)

(C) (II), (I), (IV), (III)

(D) (I), (II), (III), (IV)

Explanation:

The correct order is (II), (I), (IV), (III). This is because first, it is stated that the more mechanised an industry gets, fewer people are employed (II). Then, these workers have to work at the pace of the machine (I). The workers get only 45 minutes rest in the entire day (IV), which includes two tea breaks of 7.5 minutes each and one lunch break of half an hour (III). This sequence follows the logical progression and information given in the context.

Section C

Question 19.

‘‘By and large, work for most Indians is still in smallscale workplaces. Here personal relationships determine many aspects of work.’’ In large organisations work is not determined by personal relationships. What inference can you draw from this statement ?

[2 Marks]

Answer: In India, many people work in small workplaces where personal relationships significantly influence work conditions. If the employer likes an employee, they may get benefits like a salary raise, but a conflict with the employer can result in job loss. In contrast, large organizations have formal rules, transparent recruitment, and complaint mechanisms, so work is not based on personal ties. This shows that small workplaces depend on informal social relations, while larger firms follow structured procedures.

Key Points: Work in India is mostly in small-scale workplaces-Personal relationships affect work conditions in small workplaces-Large organizations have formal rules and

transparent hiring-Work in large firms is not based on personal relationships-Small workplaces lack job security and formal grievance systems

Question 20.

"Cultural Diversity can present tough challenges." Support the statement with suitable examples.

[2 Marks]

Answer: Cultural diversity means the presence of many different cultural groups defined by language, religion, caste, and ethnicity within a nation. This diversity can present challenges because different groups may compete or come into conflict. For example, in India, various religious and linguistic communities sometimes face misunderstandings, which can lead to social tensions. Economic inequalities among these groups can worsen conflicts. Hence, managing cultural diversity requires respect and efforts to promote unity among diverse communities.

Key Points: Definition of cultural diversity-Examples of diversity in India such as language, religion, caste-Conflicts arising from competition between groups-Social and economic inequalities complicating relations-Need for respect and unity to address challenges

Question 21.

Give one argument each for and against secularism.

[2 Marks]

Answer: An argument for secularism is that it ensures equal respect for all religions, preventing the dominance of any one religion over others and protecting minorities from discrimination. This type of secularism promotes harmony and fairness in a diverse society. Conversely, an argument against secularism is that some opponents believe it becomes an excuse to favour minority communities disproportionately, often for political gains, potentially leading to resentment among the majority.

Key Points: Secularism ensures equal respect for all religions-Prevents dominance of majority religion-Protects minority rights-Secularism can be seen as favouring minorities-Unfair advantage for minorities-Used for political gains

Question 22.

Adivasis shared a common hatred for dikus. Why ? Give two reasons.

[2 Marks]

Answer: Adivasis hated dikus because dikus were migrant traders and moneylenders who grabbed the wealth of the adivasi region and made the original inhabitants poor. Secondly, most benefits from

mining and industrial projects in the mineral-rich area went to the dikus, while adivasi lands were taken away from them.

Key Points: Dikus were migrant traders and moneylenders-dikus grabbed wealth and impoverished adivasis-benefits of mining and industry went to dikus-lands of adivasis were alienated

Question 23.

Workers in underground mines face very dangerous conditions. Give examples.

[2 Marks]

Answer: Workers in underground mines face many dangerous conditions such as flooding, fire, collapse of roofs and sides, emission of harmful gases, and ventilation failures. These hazards can cause serious injuries or even death. Additionally, many workers develop breathing problems and diseases like tuberculosis and silicosis due to poor air quality and dust exposure.

Key Points: Flooding-Fire-Collapse of roofs and sides-Emission of gases-Ventilation failures-Respiratory diseases like tuberculosis and silicosis

Question 24.

Give one advantage and one disadvantage of the policy of liberalisation.

[2 Marks]

Answer: One advantage of liberalisation is that it promotes economic growth by encouraging free enterprise, reducing government control, and allowing foreign companies to invest in India. This leads to increased competition, better quality products, and more job opportunities. However, one disadvantage is that liberalisation can increase inequality and hurt small businesses and weaker sections of society, as they may not be able to compete effectively with large multinational corporations.

Key Points: Advantage: promotes economic growth-increased competition and foreign investment-job creation; Disadvantage: may increase inequality-small businesses may suffer-weak sections of society impacted

Question 25.

During the 1960s, scholars debated whether tribes should be seen as one end of a continuum with caste-based (Hindu) peasant society, or whether they were an altogether different kind of community.

What is the basis for the argument for tribe and caste distinction ?

[2 Marks]

Answer: The argument for distinguishing tribes from castes is based on assumed cultural differences. Hindu caste society is hierarchical with beliefs centered on purity and pollution, and a structured integration of different castes. In contrast, tribal communities are seen as more egalitarian, organized mainly on kinship bonds rather than strict hierarchy. Tribes emphasize community ownership of resources rather than individual ownership, reflecting different social organization and cultural practices compared to caste-based societies.

Key Points: Cultural difference between tribes and castes - Hindu caste society based on purity, pollution, and hierarchy - Tribes are egalitarian and kinship-based - Community resource ownership in tribes versus individual ownership in caste society

Question 26.

Many districts of colonial India were administered through the Zamindari system.

What problems were faced by the peasants due to the Zamindari system ?

[2 Marks]

Answer: The Zamindari system in colonial India caused many problems for peasants. Under this system, zamindars or landlords had control over land and collected heavy land revenue from the peasants. The British granted more power to zamindars, who extracted as much produce or money as possible from the cultivators. Peasants had to give a large portion of their produce as tax and were often forced to provide labor to landlords. Many peasants fled oppressive landlords, and agricultural production stagnated. Frequent famines and wars worsened their conditions, leading to population decline.

Key Points: Zamindars had extensive control over land-The British granted property rights to zamindars-Heavy land revenue imposed on peasants-Peasants had to give large share of produce to zamindars-Peasants forced to provide labor to landlords-Peasants faced exploitation and oppression-Many peasants fled due to oppression-Frequent famines and wars impacted peasants-Agricultural production stagnated or declined

Question 27.

One of the negative outcomes of the Green Revolution strategy was the worsening of regional inequalities. Give two reasons for your answer.

[2 Marks]

Answer: The Green Revolution led to regional inequalities because it was mainly implemented in certain developed regions like Punjab, Haryana, western Uttar Pradesh, and parts of western and southern India, leaving other areas behind. This created a gap between regions that benefited from modern technology and those that stagnated, worsening inequality. Additionally, the technological advances mainly helped those with more land and resources, making the rich richer and the poor poorer in rural society.

Key Points: Implementation concentrated in few regions - Unequal development among regions - Rich farmers benefited more than poor farmers - Technological advances required resources not available everywhere

Question 28.

The major epidemic diseases in the past were fevers of various sorts, plague, smallpox and cholera. But the single largest epidemic was the influenza epidemic of 1918 – 19, which killed about 5% of the total population of India at that time. Differentiate between epidemic and pandemic.

[2 Marks]

Answer: An epidemic is a sudden outbreak of a disease that affects many people within a community or region. In contrast, a pandemic is an epidemic that spreads over a very wide geographical area, often worldwide, affecting a large portion of the population. For example, the influenza epidemic of 1918-19 in India was part of the global influenza pandemic, also known as the Spanish Flu, which affected populations across many countries.

Key Points: Definition of epidemic-Sudden outbreak affecting a community or region-Definition of pandemic-Epidemic spreading over very wide area, often global-Illustration with 1918-19 influenza epidemic and Spanish Flu pandemic

Question 29.

“Theoretically, the caste can be understood as the combination of two sets of principles.” Name them and define any one.

[2 Marks]

Answer: Theoretically, the caste system is based on two sets of principles: difference and separation, and wholism and hierarchy. Difference and separation mean that each caste is considered distinct and

is strictly separated from other castes. This separation restricts social interaction and marriage between castes. These rules create a rigid social order where everyone's place is clearly defined.

Key Points: Two principles of caste system are difference and separation, and wholism and hierarchy- Difference and separation means each caste is distinct and separated from others- Strict social rules govern interaction between castes- The caste system arranges castes in a hierarchical order- Each caste has specific rights and duties based on its rank

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Section D

Question 30.

From the 1950s to the 1970s, a series of land reform laws were passed — at the national level as well as in the states. What were the reasons behind these reforms ?

[4 Marks]

Answer: After India's independence, it was clear that a major reform in the agrarian structure was necessary for improving agriculture and the lives of farmers. The existing landholding system was unfair, with large landlords or zamindars owning vast amounts of land while actual cultivators had little security. The reforms aimed to redistribute land by taking proprietary rights from absentee landlords and giving land rights to those who worked on it. These reforms included tenancy abolition and regulation acts to protect tenants and the Land Ceiling Acts to limit the maximum land one family could own. Overall, these reforms were introduced to strengthen the position of landholders and cultivators, reduce economic and political power of zamindars, and promote agricultural progress.

Key Points: Need for agrarian reform-Unequal land distribution and dominance of zamindars-Protection and rights to actual cultivators and tenants-Limiting land ownership through Land Ceiling Acts-Strengthening local cultivators and reducing zamindars' influence

Question 31.

Sociologists use the term 'Social Stratification' to refer to a system by which categories of people in a society are ranked in a hierarchy. How does Social Stratification persist over generations ?

[4 Marks]

Answer: Social Stratification persists over generations because it is deeply connected to family and the inheritance of social resources. A person's social position is often ascribed, meaning children usually inherit the social status of their parents. For instance, within some social systems like the

caste system, a person's birth determines their occupational opportunities and social standing. Furthermore, social stratification is a society-wide system that distributes resources unequally among groups, and this unequal distribution tends to continue over time. This persistence is reinforced because social stratification shapes identities, experiences, and access to opportunities, thereby maintaining the hierarchy across generations.

Key Points: Social stratification is linked to family and inheritance of social resources-Children inherit social status from parents-Occupation and opportunities are often determined by birth-Social stratification is a society-wide system of unequal resource distribution-Social hierarchy shapes people's identities and access to opportunities-Persistent social structure across generations

Question 32.

Westernisation does involve the imitation of external forms of culture. Illustrate the process of westernisation.

[4 Marks]

Answer: Westernisation refers to the adoption of certain external forms of Western culture by a section of Indian society. This process involves changes in lifestyles, customs, technology, institutions, and sometimes ideology and values. However, it does not imply that modern Western values such as democracy and equality are fully embraced. For example, some families may adopt Western styles in clothing, home interiors, or education but still hold conservative views about women's roles. Westernisation often results in paradoxical situations where people imitate external forms without fully assimilating Western ideas. M.N. Srinivas defined westernisation as changes brought about due to over 150 years of British rule, encompassing technology, institutions, and values. The process is usually limited to a minority, creating a westernised subculture, and can sometimes lead to complex social scenarios where traditional and western cultures coexist.

Key Points: Westernisation involves imitation of external Western cultural forms-Does not imply full adoption of Western values like democracy and equality-Changes are mostly seen in lifestyle, technology, and institutions-Paradoxical examples exist where superficial Western culture is adopted but traditional views persist-M.N. Srinivas definition of westernisation as changes due to British rule-Usually limited to a minority section creating a subculture

Question 33.

The varied Social Reform Movements did have common themes. Yet there were also significant differences. Discuss.

[4 Marks]

Answer: Social reform movements in India during the 19th and early 20th centuries shared several common themes. They aimed to make education accessible to all, improve the status of women, and break down caste barriers to create a more just and equitable society. These movements were driven by a desire to bring social awareness and challenge traditional oppressive practices. However, there were also key differences among them. Some movements were reformist, seeking gradual change within the existing social order, while others were revolutionary, aiming for radical transformation. Additionally, some movements focused on changing personal behavior and consciousness, referred to as redemptive movements, while others sought broader societal reforms. Leadership, ideologies, and specific goals varied based on regional and community contexts. Despite these differences, all social reform movements collectively contributed to awakening public consciousness and laying the foundation for a more inclusive society.

Key Points: Common themes: education accessibility - women's status improvement - caste barrier removal - creating fairer society - Differences: reformist vs revolutionary movements - redemptive focus on personal change - varied leadership and ideologies - regional/community specific aims - shared goal of social awareness and change

Question 34.

Each one of us is born into a family, and most of us spend long years within it. Usually we feel very strongly about our family. The family is an integral part of lives. Elaborate.

[4 Marks]

Answer: A family is the first social group into which we are born, and it plays a vital role throughout our lives. It provides us with our initial identity, support, and values. The family includes parents, siblings, grandparents, and other relatives. It can be a nuclear family or an extended family. Our family is linked closely to larger social institutions such as tribes, clans, religious and linguistic groups, which influence our behaviors and cultural norms. In traditional societies, the family into which a person is born often determines their social status for life. Through the family, we learn social norms, customs, and values that guide our behavior. Our emotional bonds within the family, whether with parents or siblings, also shape our personality and our relationships outside. Therefore, the family is not just a small group but is deeply integrated with broader social and cultural contexts, making it an essential part of our identity and life journey.

Key Points: Definition of family and natal family-Role of family in providing identity and support-Types of families: nuclear and extended-Connection of family with larger social institutions like clan, tribe, religion-Influence of family on social position and values-Emotional bonds and their importance-Family as an integral part of individual and society

Question 35.

"In India, the impact of the very same British industrialisation led to deindustrialisation in some sectors." Identify the impacts on the basis of the above statement.

[4 Marks]

Answer: The impact of British industrialisation in India led to deindustrialisation in certain sectors, especially traditional handloom industries. British manufactured goods, produced in large factories using modern machinery, were cheaper and flooded the Indian market, which caused the decline of Indian handicrafts and indigenous industries. Many skilled artisans lost their livelihoods, resulting in the collapse of old urban centres that were once vibrant manufacturing hubs. Unlike Britain, where industrialisation encouraged urban migration, in India it pushed many people towards agriculture as manufacturing declined. This phenomenon highlighted the uneven and adverse effects of colonial industrialisation in India, which prompted the independent Indian state to actively promote industrialisation and revitalize the economy post-independence.

Key Points: British industrialisation led to decline of Indian handicrafts and traditional industries-The influx of cheaper British goods caused deindustrialisation-Loss of livelihood for artisans and decline of old urban centres-Migration patterns differed from Britain with more people moving to agriculture-The independent Indian state promoted industrialisation to counter the colonial impact

Question 36.

There is a close relationship between disability and poverty. Discuss.

[4 Marks]

Answer: Disability and poverty are closely interlinked, creating a cycle that is difficult to break. Poor living conditions such as malnutrition, frequent childbirth weakening mothers, inadequate immunisation, and accidents in overcrowded homes contribute to a higher incidence of disability among poor people compared to those living in better circumstances. Moreover, disability often increases economic strain and isolation not only for the individual but also for their families, leading to further poverty. Disabled people are often among the poorest in poor countries. The issue of disability is not only about the physical or mental condition of individuals but also about how society is structured. Society's construction of disability, including stigmatization and lack of accessibility, worsens the challenges faced by disabled people. This shows that disability is socially constituted, where societal attitudes and systems create barriers for disabled people, reinforcing their marginalization and poverty.

Key Points: Disability and poverty are interconnected-Poor conditions increase disability risk-Disability intensifies economic strain and social isolation-Disabled people are often

among the poorest-Society's structure and attitudes contribute to disability challenges-Disability is not just an individual's condition but a social construct

Question 37.

“In response to harsh working conditions, sometimes workers went on strike.” Justify taking the example of the famous Bombay Textile Strike of 1982.

[4 Marks]

Answer: The Bombay Textile Strike of 1982 was a significant event where nearly a quarter of a million textile workers and their families participated. Led by trade union leader Dr. Datta Samant, the workers protested against harsh working conditions and low wages by collectively stopping work. The strike lasted nearly two years, highlighting the determination of workers to fight for better treatment and fair wages. Bombay, being a major textile hub, was strongly affected by the strike which demonstrated the power of unity among industrial workers to demand justice and improved work conditions. Such strikes show how workers respond to exploitation and hardships by demanding change through collective action.

Key Points: Led by Dr. Datta Samant-About quarter million workers involved-Strike lasted nearly two years-Response to harsh working conditions and low wages-Demonstrated worker unity and power-Bombay was major textile center-Strike affected workers and their families-Workers demanded better wages and fair treatment

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Section E

Question 38. Discuss the classification of Social Movements.

[6 Marks]

Answer:

Social movements are organized collective efforts by people to bring about or resist social change. They can be classified into three main types based on their goals and scope of change: redemptive, reformist, and revolutionary.

Firstly, redemptive social movements aim at radical change in the individual's personal life and beliefs. These movements focus on transforming people’s consciousness and behavior. An example is a spiritual or religious movement that seeks deep personal reform.

Secondly, reformist social movements seek to bring partial, specific changes within the existing social system. They do not aim to overthrow the system but advocate improvements or reforms. For instance, movements for women’s rights or environmental protection generally ask for change through legislation or policy reform without changing the entire system.

Lastly, revolutionary social movements demand a complete and fundamental change in the social, economic, or political system. They seek to overthrow the current power structure and establish a new order. Examples include movements that led to independence or social revolutions.

All social movements have a shared ideology and objectives, and their activists organize campaigns, meetings, and lobbying efforts to mobilize support and influence public opinion or government policies. Understanding the type of social movement helps in analyzing their strategies and impact.

Key Points: Definition of social movements-Classification into redemptive, reformist, and revolutionary-Redemptive: focus on individual change-Reformist: aim for partial change within existing system-Revolutionary: seek fundamental systemic change-Shared ideologies and collective actions in movements

Question 39. The Civil Society has been instrumental in taking many significant initiatives, the most recent being the campaign for the Right to Information. Discuss the initiative and its outcome.

[6 Marks]

Answer: The campaign for the Right to Information (RTI) is one of the most significant initiatives led by civil society in recent times. It began as a local agitation in rural Rajasthan, where people demanded access to information about government funds spent on village development. This movement gradually expanded into a nationwide campaign, aiming to make the government more transparent and accountable to its citizens. Despite facing resistance from the bureaucracy, the persistent efforts of civil liberties organizations, activists, and the media compelled the government to respond. As a result, the government enacted a law to formally recognize the citizens' right to information. In 1993, the Supreme Court of India declared that the Right to Information is part of the Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution, further strengthening this campaign. This initiative has empowered ordinary citizens to seek information about government functioning, reducing corruption and improving governance. The RTI campaign exemplifies the crucial role of civil society in ensuring that the state remains accountable and responsive to its people.

Key Points: Started as a local agitation in Rajasthan over government fund transparency-expanded into a nationwide campaign-Role of civil liberties organizations and media in pushing for RTI-Resistance faced from bureaucracy-Government passed law recognizing Right to Information-Supreme Court ruling in 1993 affirming RTI as part of freedom of speech and expression-Outcome: Increased transparency, accountability, and empowered citizens