CBSE EXAMINATION PAPER-2023

SOCIOLOGY

(Solved)

Time allowed : 3 hours | Maximum Marks : 100

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions carefully and follow them :

i. This question paper contains **44 questions.** All questions are **compulsory.**

ii. This question paper is divided into **4 sections.**

iii. **Section A** – questions number **1 to 20** are multiple choice questions

iv. **Section B** – questions number **21 to 32** are very short answer

v. **Section C** – questions number **33 to 40** are short answer

vi. **Section D** – questions number **41 to 44** are long answer

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

viii. Use of calculator is NOT allowed.

Section A

Question 1. The measure of comparing the portion of a population which is composed of dependents with the portion that is the working population is :

[1 Marks]

(A) Age structure of the population

(B) Sex ratio

(C) Growth rate of population

(D) Dependency ratio

Explanation: The correct answer is 'Dependency ratio'. The dependency ratio measures the proportion of dependents (children below 15 years and elderly above 64 years who usually do not work) to the working-age population (aged 15-64 years). It is calculated by dividing the number of dependents by the working-age population, often expressed as a percentage. This ratio helps understand the burden on the working population to support the non-working population.

Question 2. Assertion (A): Caste groups are endogamous, i.e. marriage is restricted to members of the group. Reason (R): Membership in a caste involves strict rules about marriage.

[1 Marks]

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

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

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

(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). Caste groups practice endogamy, meaning marriage occurs only within the caste. This is because membership in a caste involves strict rules about marriage, including who one may or may not marry. These rules help maintain the social structure of the caste system by restricting marriage to members within the same caste.

Question 3.

In every society, some people have a greater share of valued resources – money, property, education, health, and power – than others. These social resources can be divided into three forms of capital.

Which of the following is not a form of capital ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Educational

(B) Social

(C) Cultural

(D) Economic

Explanation:

The three recognized forms of capital are economic capital (material assets and income), cultural capital (such as educational qualifications and status), and social capital (networks of contacts and

social associations). 'Educational' is not considered a separate form of capital but is a part of cultural capital. Therefore, 'Educational' is not a distinct form of capital.

Question 4. Castes also involve sub-divisions within themselves, i.e. Castes almost always have sub-castes and sometimes sub-castes may also have sub-sub-castes. This is referred to as a _____.

[1 Marks]

(A) Class

(B) Division

(C) Kinship

(D) Segmental Division

Explanation: The correct option is 'Segmental Division'. According to the context, castes have sub-divisions called sub-castes and sometimes further sub-divisions. This hierarchical division within castes is referred to as 'segmental organisation' or segmental division, where each caste and its sub-castes represent closed, mutually exclusive segments decided by birth.

Question 5. Which of the following features is not an element of the policy of Apartheid ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Denial of ownership of land

(B) Denial of South African citizenship

(C) Permission for mixed marriages

(D) Denial of formal voice in government

Explanation: The policy of Apartheid included denial of Black South Africans' formal voice in government, denial of ownership of land, and denial of South African citizenship. It also prohibited mixed marriages between races. Therefore, 'Permission for mixed marriages' is not an element of Apartheid policy, as mixed marriages were actually prohibited.

Question 6. A nation is a peculiar sort of community. Choose the incorrect statement about the nation.

[1 Marks]

(A) Hard to describe

(B) Hard to define

(C) It is a community of communities

(D) Based on shared religion, language, culture

Explanation: The incorrect statement is "Based on shared religion, language, culture" because a nation is not defined solely by these shared elements. While such cultural factors often contribute to the formation of a nation, the concept of a nation is broader. It is described as a community of communities and is hard to define or describe precisely since any community type (ethnic, religious, or regional) may or may not form a nation. The key distinguishing feature of a nation is having or aspiring to have a state, making it more than just a shared religion, language, or culture.

Question 7. To assert a single national identity by attempting to eliminate ethno-national and cultural differences from the public and political arena will be considered as a/an _____ policy.

[1 Marks]

(A) Assimilationist

(B) Dominant group

(C) State

(D) Diversity

Explanation: The correct option is 'Assimilationist' policy. Assimilationist policies aim to persuade or force all citizens to adopt a uniform set of cultural values and norms, usually those of the dominant social group, thereby eliminating ethno-national and cultural differences in the public and political arena. This aligns with the context which explains that such policies seek to assert a single national identity and suppress cultural diversity.

Question 8. Which of the following is true for a model of South Asian colonial city ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Recreational facilities were not available

(B) Civic amenities were accessible in the European towns of the South Asian colonial city

(C) Unplanned streets

(D) Cramped bungalows

Explanation: The correct option is: 'Civic amenities were accessible in the European towns of the South Asian colonial city'. This is because, according to the context, European towns had access to domestic water supply, electric connections, sewage links, and recreational facilities which were utilised fully by European residents. In contrast, native towns had restricted use of these amenities. The model colonial city was characterised by planned streets, spacious bungalows, and civic facilities primarily available to European residents.

Question 9.

Assertion (A): Urbanization in the colonial period saw the prosperity of indigenous industries.

Reason (R): There was emergence of new colonial cities.

[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:

Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true. During the colonial period, urbanization occurred with the emergence of new colonial cities; however, indigenous industries did not prosper. Instead, colonial policies led to the decline of many indigenous industries as British manufactured goods flooded the market, replacing local products. Therefore, while the Reason (R) is correct about the emergence of new colonial cities, it does not support the claim in the Assertion (A).

Question 10.

Assertion (A): The government has passed a number of laws to regulate the working conditions in coal mines.

Reason (R): Many contractors maintain proper register of workers and take responsibility for accidents giving all possible benefits.

[1 Marks]

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

Explanation:

Assertion (A) is true because the government has indeed passed laws like the Mines Act 1952 (now part of the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Condition Code, 2020) to regulate working conditions in coal mines. However, Reason (R) is false as many contractors do not maintain proper

registers of workers and often avoid responsibility for accidents and benefits. Therefore, the correct option is 'Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.'

Question 11. What is not true for globalisation and liberalisation in the rural society ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Non-participation in WTO

(B) Free international trade

(C) Opening of Indian markets to imports

(D) Competition from the global market

Explanation: The correct option is 'Non-participation in WTO' because the context clearly states that liberalisation entails participation in the World Trade Organization (WTO). The other options such as Free international trade, Opening of Indian markets to imports, and Competition from the global market are true effects of globalisation and liberalisation on rural society.

Question 12. Which of the following statements is true in the scenario of high fertility rate ?

[1 Marks]

(A) It takes more time to reach the replacement level.

(B) It does not impact the replacement level.

(C) It takes less time to reach the replacement level.

(D) The impact on replacement level cannot be determined.

Explanation: In the context of a high fertility rate, it generally takes more time to reach the replacement level. The replacement level is when the population stabilizes because the average number of children per woman results in replacing the older generation exactly. With high fertility rates, there are more births than necessary for replacement, so the population grows and takes longer to stabilize at the replacement level. Therefore, the correct option is 'It takes more time to reach the replacement level.'

Question 13.

Assertion (A): To call a strike is a difficult decision.

Reason (R): Managers may try to use substitute labour. Workers also find it hard to sustain themselves without wages.

[1 Marks]

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

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

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

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

Explanation:

Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason correctly explains why calling a strike is a difficult decision. Managers may try to use substitute labour to continue production during a strike, which weakens the workers' pressure on the employer. Additionally, workers face hardships as they do not earn wages during the strike period, making it challenging for them to sustain themselves. Hence, the decision to call a strike involves weighing these difficulties.

Question 14.

In terms of positive characteristics, tribes have been classified according to their **'**permanent**'** and **'**acquired**'** traits. Which one of the following is a permanent trait?

[1 Marks]

(A) All of the above

(B) Ecological habitat

(C) Physical characteristics

(D) Region, language

Explanation: Permanent traits include region, language, physical characteristics, and ecological habitat. Since all the options listed (Region, language, Physical characteristics, Ecological habitat) are permanent traits according to the given context, the correct answer is 'All of the above'.

Question 15. The sociological importance of contract farming does not include which of the following ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Indigenous knowledge of agriculture becomes irrelevant.

(B) It disengages people from the production process.

(C) It caters primarily to the production of elite items.

(D) It is ecologically sustainable.

Explanation: The correct answer is 'It is ecologically sustainable.' According to the provided context, contract farming is often not ecologically sustainable because it requires high doses of fertilizers and pesticides. Other options such as making indigenous knowledge irrelevant, disengaging people from the production process, and catering primarily to elite items are mentioned as sociological consequences of contract farming, so they are part of its importance. Therefore, ecological sustainability is not included in the sociological importance of contract farming.

Question 16.

Assertion (A): Social movements are directed towards some broad goals.

Reason (R): It involves long and continuous social effort and action by people.

[1 Marks]

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

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

(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 and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A). Social movements have shared objectives and ideologies that guide them towards broad goals. Achieving these goals requires long and continuous social effort and action by people, as social change is continuous and ongoing. Therefore, the involvement of persistent social effort (Reason) correctly explains why social movements are directed towards broad goals (Assertion).

Question 17. _____ social movements strive to change the existing social and political arrangements through gradual incremental steps.

[1 Marks]

(A) Reformist

(B) Redemptive

(C) Revolutionary

(D) Relative deprivation

Explanation: The correct answer is Reformist. Reformist social movements aim to bring about change in existing social and political arrangements gradually through incremental steps, rather than

radical or total change. This is supported by the context which describes reformist movements as those working for change within the current system, exemplified by movements like the 1960s reorganisation of Indian states and the Right to Information campaign.

Question 18.

Which of the following is true for caste system?

I. Hierarchy

II. Achieved status

III. Segmental division

[1 Marks]

(A) I, III are true

(B) I, II, III are true

(C) I is false

(D) I, II are true

Explanation:

The caste system is characterized by a fixed and rigid social hierarchy (I - Hierarchy) that is inherited, not achieved. Therefore, status is ascribed rather than achieved status (II is false). The caste system also involves division of society into segments or groups based on caste (III - Segmental division). Hence, statements I and III are true while II is false.

Question 19. Which of the following makes dominant caste dominant?

[1 Marks]

(A) Large numbers converting to political power

(B) Intermediate caste identity

(C) All of the above

(D) Land rights granted by land reforms

Explanation: The correct answer is 'All of the above'. Dominant castes are characterized by a combination of factors including their large population, political power derived from their votes, intermediate caste identity, and importantly, the land rights granted by land reforms. These elements collectively increase their social status, economic power, and political dominance in a region, as explained by M.N. Srinivas.

Question 20. Which term is applicable to foreigners, slaves and conquered people?

[1 Marks]

(A) Panchama

(B) Brahman

(C) Kshatriya

(D) Jati

Explanation: The correct term is 'Panchama'. According to the context, Panchamas or the fifth category include the outcastes, foreigners, slaves, conquered people, and others who are excluded from the four-fold varna system (Brahman, Kshatriya, Vaishya, Shudra).

Section B

Question 21.

Several profound transformations in the nature of social relations in rural areas took place in the post-independence period, especially in those regions that underwent the Green Revolution. Name any two transformations.

[2 Marks]

Answer: In the post-independence period, particularly in regions affected by the Green Revolution such as Punjab and western Uttar Pradesh, rural society underwent significant transformations. First, there was a marked increase in agricultural productivity due to the use of modern farming techniques, which altered the economic status of many farmers. Second, the social relations changed as wealthier farmers gained more influence and power, often leading to greater social inequality and altering traditional village hierarchies.

> **Key Points: Increase in agricultural productivity due to modernization-Shift in social relations with wealthier farmers gaining more influence-Changes in traditional village social hierarchies and increased social inequality**

Question 22.

How has liberalization impacted the employment patterns in India ? Mention any two ways.

[2 Marks]

Answer: Liberalization in India has significantly changed employment patterns. Firstly, it has led to an increase in formal employment sectors, with more people getting regular salaried jobs instead of informal or self-employed work. Secondly, it has encouraged private and foreign companies to set up

industries in India, creating new job opportunities, especially in urban areas. However, casual wage labor has also slightly increased during this period, showing mixed effects.

Key Points: Increase in formal salaried employment-Encouragement of private and foreign companies leading to new job opportunities-Slight increase in casual wage labor-Mixed impact on employment patterns

Question 23.

Social movements also develop distinct modes of protest. Write the names of any two distinct modes of protest.

[2 Marks]

Answer: Two distinct modes of protest developed by social movements are candle and torch light processions, and street theatre. These forms of protest help to mobilise people, express opinions, and draw public attention to issues in an organised manner.

Key Points: Candle and torch light processions-Street theatre-Organised collective action to express grievances

Question 24.

At the time of Independence, we had the two most classical cases of peasant movements. Write the names of the two peasant movements.

[2 Marks]

Answer: At the time of Independence, the two most classical cases of peasant movements in India were the Tebhaga movement (1946–47) and the Telangana movement (1946–51). These movements reflected the peasants' struggle against economic exploitation and were significant in the history of agrarian struggles in India.

Key Points: Tebhaga movement-Telangana movement-Time period of movements-Peasants' struggle against exploitation

Question 25.

Write the meaning of the term **“**circulation**”** in the concept of circulation of labour.

[2 Marks]

Answer: In the context of circulation of labour, "circulation" refers to the movement of workers from one region to another, especially from rural to urban areas or between different rural regions. This usually happens due to the demand for labour in various agricultural or industrial sectors. It involves

migrant labourers who move temporarily or permanently in search of work. The circulation of labour affects both the areas supplying the labour and those receiving it, influencing the economy and social structure of rural society.

Key Points: Movement of labourers-Migration from rural to urban or different regions-Temporary or permanent labour movement-Impact on supplying and receiving regions-Linked to agricultural and industrial work

Question 26.

In the first phase of the Green Revolution in the 1960s and 1970s, the introduction of new technology seemed to be increasing inequalities in rural society.

Mention two ways by which inequalities increased.

[2 Marks]

Answer: In the first phase of the Green Revolution during the 1960s and 1970s, inequalities in rural society increased mainly because the new agricultural technology benefited primarily the richer farmers who had more land and resources to invest. Poorer farmers, who lacked capital and land, could not afford the costly inputs like high-yield variety seeds, fertilizers, and irrigation, leading to a widening gap between rich and poor. Additionally, regional inequalities increased as the Green Revolution was concentrated in certain areas like Punjab, Haryana, and western Uttar Pradesh, making these regions more developed while other regions stagnated.

Key Points: Rich farmers benefited more due to their ability to invest in new technology-Poor farmers couldn't afford costly inputs leading to increased wealth gap-Green Revolution concentrated in specific regions causing regional inequalities

Question 27.

States are often doubtful of cultural diversity. State two reasons for the given statement.

[2 Marks]

Answer: States are often doubtful of cultural diversity because they prefer to have a single, homogeneous national identity that is easier to control and manage. Secondly, states fear that strong community identities might threaten political legitimacy and social unity, leading them to suppress cultural diversity to maintain authority and cohesion.

Key Points: States prefer a homogeneous national identity for easier control- Fear that community identities threaten political legitimacy- Suspicion towards cultural diversity leads to attempts to reduce or eliminate it

Question 28.

Very often family is a site of bitter conflicts. Give two reasons to justify the statement.

[2 Marks]

Answer: Family can be a site of bitter conflicts due to interference and control among members, which leads to resentment. Also, issues like property disputes between siblings create tensions. Additionally, traditional family roles and expectations sometimes result in conflicts, injustice, and violence within the family. Thus, family conflicts arise from differences in opinions, competition over resources, and resistance to changes in family norms.

Key Points: Resentment due to interference and control-Property disputes between siblings-Resistance to changes in family norms leading to conflicts

Question 29.

Identify the two sets of principles used to understand the caste system. Define any one set.

[2 Marks]

Answer: The two sets of principles used to understand the caste system are: difference and separation, and wholism and hierarchy. The principle of difference and separation means that each caste is distinct from others and social interactions between castes are strictly limited. This maintains social boundaries and ensures that castes remain separate groups within society.

Key Points: Two sets of principles: difference and separation - wholism and hierarchy-Difference and separation means each caste is different and strictly separated from others- Social interactions between castes are restricted to maintain boundaries

Question 30.

Explain the two types of Demography.

[2 Marks]

Answer: Demography is the study of populations and their changes. There are two main types of demography: formal demography and social demography. Formal demography is mainly quantitative, focusing on measuring and analyzing population changes such as births, deaths, and migration using mathematical methods. It helps in forecasting population trends. Social demography, also called population studies, looks at the social, economic, and political reasons behind these changes. It studies how social structures affect population patterns and the consequences of population changes on society.

Key Points: Definition of demography - Two types: formal demography and social demography - Formal demography focuses on quantitative analysis and measurement of

population changes - Uses mathematical methods for population forecasting - Social demography studies social, economic, and political aspects of population - Social demography explores causes and consequences of population change - Formal demography is about measuring, social demography is about understanding

Question 31.

Define work in the organised sector.

[2 Marks]

Answer: The organised sector consists of all workplaces that employ ten or more people and are registered with the government. These workplaces provide their employees with proper salaries, pensions, and other benefits. Jobs in the organised sector are usually permanent and offer better pay and security compared to the unorganised sector. This sector includes various industries and services where employment is regulated and workers have legal protection.

Key Points: Workplaces employing ten or more people-Government registration required-Employees receive salaries, pensions, and benefits-Stable and better-paid jobs-Legal protection for workers

Question 32.

What is the basic task of a manager ?

[2 Marks]

Answer: The basic task of a manager is to control workers and increase their productivity. This can be achieved mainly in two ways: either by extending working hours or by increasing the amount produced within a given time. Managers supervise the work to enhance worker productivity and maintain discipline, ensuring that work is done efficiently and effectively.

Key Points: Manager controls workers-Manager aims to increase productivity-Methods: extend working hours or increase output in given time-Supervision to enhance productivity and discipline

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Section C

Question 33.

Sanskritisation seems to justify a model that rests on inequality and exclusion. Explain this model.

[4 Marks]

Answer: Sanskritisation is a social process where lower caste groups adopt the customs, rituals, and lifestyle of upper castes, especially Brahmins, to improve their social status. However, this model inherently justifies inequality and exclusion because it assumes that the practices of the upper castes are superior and more desirable. It creates a hierarchy where upper castes remain the reference group, reinforcing social divisions. Moreover, only those who become financially better off aspire to imitate higher castes. Thus, sanskritisation maintains existing social inequalities by promoting a model where lower castes try to imitate upper castes rather than challenging the caste system itself.

Key Points: Definition of Sanskritisation-Process involves lower castes imitating upper castes-Justifies inequality by treating upper caste practices as superior-Aspiration to imitate occurs mainly when wealth increases-Reinforces social hierarchy and exclusion

Question 34.

Explain the phenomenon of Modernity as given by Rudolph and Rudolph.

[4 Marks]

Answer: Modernity, according to Rudolph and Rudolph, refers to a significant break from traditional ways of living and thinking that emerged during the 18th and 19th centuries. It involves distinct social processes characterized by complexity, dynamism, and new ideas. Modernity promotes the shift from local and parochial perspectives to universal commitments and cosmopolitan attitudes. It values the truths of utility, calculation, and science over emotions and sacred beliefs. Additionally, modernity involves reinterpreting tradition, not just replacing it, suggesting that modern ideas coexist with a rethinking of cultural heritage. Thus, modernity encapsulates modernization as more than just innovation; it includes a critical reassessment of customs and traditions in the context of changing social realities.

Key Points: Modernity marks a break from traditional living-The 18th and 19th centuries are important periods of this change-Modernity includes complexity and dynamism of social processes-It involves universal commitments and cosmopolitan attitudes-Science, utility, and calculation are prioritized over emotions and sacred beliefs-Modernity rethinks and reinterprets tradition rather than discarding it completely

Question 35.

Discuss the phenomenon of "Time Slavery " in the I.T. sector.

[4 Marks]

Answer: Time Slavery in the IT sector refers to the long and demanding working hours that IT professionals often endure. Employees typically work 10 to 12 hours a day and sometimes stay overnight at the office, especially when facing project deadlines, a practice known as a ‘night out.’ Although IT professionals are usually well-educated and belong to the middle class, their work, which

ideally should be creative and self-motivated, often becomes monotonous and controlled by strict timelines and productivity targets. The global demand for Indian IT services has led to outsourcing and just-in-time work practices, putting additional pressure on workers to meet deadlines quickly. This results in physical and mental exhaustion, as employees must continuously keep up with the fast-paced work environment, mirroring the concept of 'Time Slavery' where their time is heavily controlled by the demands of the job rather than personal freedom.

Key Points: Long working hours (10-12 hours daily)- Overnight stays at office for deadlines ('night outs')- IT professionals are well-educated middle class workers- Work should be creative but controlled by Taylorist labor processes- Global demand leads to outsourcing and just-in-time work- Workers face high pressure and exhaustion- Phenomenon is referred to as 'Time Slavery'

Question 36.

Discuss the impact of land reforms during the colonial period.

[4 Marks]

Answer: During the colonial period, land reforms had a significant impact on India's agrarian society. The reforms aimed to address the dominance of absentee landlords who owned large tracts of land but did not participate in cultivation. Land rights were restructured to benefit the actual cultivators and landholders, mostly from intermediate castes, shifting control from upper-caste landlords to those who managed the land. The government introduced laws from the 1950s to the 1970s to redistribute land, abolish tenancy, and regulate rents, which provided security to tenants and strengthened the local agricultural economy. These changes helped reduce exploitation and encouraged agricultural progress by empowering the real cultivators and stabilizing agrarian relations at the village level.

Key Points: Absentee landlords lost proprietary rights- Rights given to actual cultivators and intermediate castes- Land reforms passed nationally and in states from 1950s to 1970s- Abolition and regulation of tenancy- Regulated rents to protect tenants- Strengthening of local landholders and cultivators- Promotion of agricultural progress

Question 37.

How were labourers recruited and appointed by the colonial administrators in the tea gardens ?

[4 Marks]

Answer: The recruitment and appointment of labourers in the tea gardens during the colonial period were harsh and often unfair. The colonial administrators used contractors to recruit labourers, mainly under laws such as the Transport of Native Labourers Act of 1863 and its subsequent amendments. These contractors often employed coercion and fraudulent practices to recruit workers from different regions. The government supported the planters by enacting penal laws to suppress the labourers'

freedom. Labourers were forcibly kept in the plantations, and harsh measures were taken to ensure a steady supply of workers for the tea gardens, primarily located in Assam. Although workers protested, their efforts were mostly spontaneous and not organized initially. This system exploited the labourers to benefit the British planters economically.

Key Points: Recruitment done by contractors-Use of Transport of Native Labourers Act 1863 and amendments-Coercion and fraudulent practices to recruit labourers-Government support to planters through penal laws-Forced retention of labourers in tea gardens-Harsh measures for labour supply-Locations mainly Assam-Initial spontaneous protests by workers

Question 38.

How did the planters in the tea plantations live ?

[4 Marks]

Answer: Planters in the tea plantations during the colonial period lived privileged and comfortable lives compared to the labourers. They often resided in large, well-maintained bungalows located within or near the vast tea estates. These planters were generally British and enjoyed social and economic advantages backed by colonial authorities. They had access to good facilities, gardens, and leisure activities. Unlike the labourers, who faced harsh working conditions and exploitation, planters managed the plantations and benefited from the profits of tea production. Their lifestyle reflected the colonial hierarchy and the unequal power relations prevalent at that time.

Key Points: Planters lived in large bungalows in tea estates - They were mostly British and privileged - Had access to good facilities and leisure - Managed the plantations and profited from them - Lived in contrast to the labourers' harsh conditions - Reflected the colonial social and economic hierarchy

Question 39.

Who wrote the book "Sultana's Dream" ? Why is this a remarkable story ?

[4 Marks]

Answer: The book "Sultana's Dream" was written by Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain, a pioneering woman writer from Bengal. This story is remarkable because it is probably the earliest example of science fiction written in India and one of the first by a woman anywhere in the world. It depicts a magical land where gender roles are reversed—women are scientists and leaders, while men stay at home observing purdah. Through this imaginative tale, Begum Rokeya challenges social norms and highlights the possibilities of gender equality. Her work is a powerful critique of the societal assumptions about men and women, promoting education and empowerment for women at a time when such ideas were rare.

Key Points: Author-Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain-Earliest Indian science fiction story-Gender role reversal in story-Women scientists and leaders-Men confined to home-Challenges social norms-Promotes gender equality-First woman science fiction writer

Question 40.

The women's question arose in modern India as part of 19th century middle-class social reform movements. These reformers used a mix of ideas. Explain these ideas.

[4 Marks]

Answer: The women's question emerged in modern India during the 19th century as part of middle-class social reform movements. These reformers were mostly from the newly emerging western-educated middle class. They believed that for society to progress, women needed to be educated. Their ideas combined both modern and traditional perspectives. Some reformers argued that in pre-modern India, certain privileged women were educated, while others contested this. To justify female education, reformers debated the meanings of tradition and modernity, often criticizing backward customs like sati, child marriage, and the ill-treatment of widows. Inspired by democratic ideals of the modern West and pride in India's own democratic past, they sought to bring about social change. Thus, the reformers used a mix of ideas, drawing from both Indian traditions and western modernity to promote women's education and rights.

Key Points: Women's question emerged in 19th century India-middle-class social reform movements-Women's education seen as essential for societal progress-Mix of traditional and modern ideas used-Pre-modern women's education debated-Criticism of backward customs like sati and child marriage-Influenced by Western democratic ideals and Indian traditions-Debate on tradition vs modernity to justify reforms

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Section D

Question 41.

"Malthus's theory of population growth was a rather pessimistic one. It was challenged by theorists." Justify the statement.

[6 Marks]

Answer:

Malthus's theory of population growth, presented in his 1798 Essay on Population, was indeed pessimistic. He argued that population grows geometrically (2, 4, 8, 16...) while the means of subsistence like food supply grow only arithmetically (1, 2, 3, 4...). Due to this imbalance, he believed

population would eventually outstrip resources, leading to natural checks such as famine, poverty, and disease, which would reduce the population and restore balance. This viewpoint suggests a grim forecast of widespread suffering due to overpopulation.

However, Malthus's theory was challenged by various theorists. Critics, including liberal and Marxist scholars, contended that poverty and starvation are not primarily caused by population growth but by unequal distribution of resources. They argued that economic and social factors are crucial in determining well-being, and not just population size. Furthermore, human innovation and technological advances have increased food production beyond the arithmetic progression Malthus predicted, allowing supply to meet growing demand.

Thus, while Malthus highlighted important concerns about population and resources, his theory was seen as overly pessimistic and incomplete since it did not account for social, economic, and technological changes. The challenges from other theorists helped develop a more balanced understanding of population dynamics and resource management.

Key Points: Malthus's theory idea - population grows faster than food supply-Malthus's pessimistic view - famine, poverty, disease as natural checks-Criticism by liberal and Marxist scholars - poverty caused by unequal resource distribution, not population growth-Challenges emphasized social and economic factors-Human innovation increased food production beyond Malthus's prediction-Theory's importance in understanding population-resource relationship

Question 42. Sometimes the city may be preferred for social reasons. Enumerate these social reasons.

[6 Marks]

Answer: Cities are often preferred for various social reasons. One major social advantage of city life is the relative anonymity it offers. In urban areas, individuals can interact with strangers without the pressures of close community surveillance that exists in villages. This anonymity can provide a sense of freedom and privacy. Moreover, cities foster the development of group identities based on race, religion, ethnicity, caste, region, and class. These groups offer social support and a sense of belonging to people who might otherwise feel isolated. The concentration of diverse populations in cities also facilitates interaction and exchange of ideas among different communities, enhancing social dynamism. People often migrate to cities seeking these social benefits, as urban life offers better opportunities for networking, cultural activities, and social services. Additionally, the presence of efficient and safe public transport systems in cities further promotes social interactions and accessibility, shaping the social character of urban environments. Thus, the city's social environment —with its blend of anonymity, diversity, and group identities—makes it an attractive destination for many people from villages and smaller towns.

Key Points: Relative anonymity in the city-Social interaction with strangers-Creation and development of group identities based on race, religion, ethnicity, caste, region, class-

Opportunities for social support and belonging-Diversity and exchange of ideas-Presence of public transport enhancing social connectivity-Attraction to villagers for better social life and opportunities

Question 43.

"The main criteria for inclusion in civil society are that the organization should not be State-controlled, and it should not be a purely commercial profit-making entity". Discuss the given statement at length.

[6 Marks]

Answer:

Civil society is a broad arena that lies beyond the private domain of the family and outside the domains of both the state and market. The main criteria for an organization to be included in civil society are that it should neither be state-controlled nor a purely commercial profit-making entity. This means that civil society organizations are independent of the government and do not operate primarily to earn profits like businesses. Instead, they function voluntarily to address social, cultural, environmental, or advocacy issues for the public good.

Civil society represents the non-state, non-market part of the public sphere where individuals voluntarily come together to create institutions and organizations that promote collective interests. These organizations play a crucial role in democracy by providing a platform for citizens to express their concerns and participate in social change. Examples of such organizations include non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community groups, charities, advocacy groups, and voluntary associations.

Because they are not controlled by the state, these organizations maintain independence and can effectively hold governments accountable. At the same time, by not being profit-driven, they focus on social objectives rather than commercial gain. Their activities range widely, including advocacy, raising awareness, lobbying for policy changes, and contributing to societal development.

In summary, the exclusion of state control and profit-making motives ensures that civil society organizations remain autonomous, focused on the welfare of society, and able to provide vital checks and balances in democratic governance.

Key Points: Civil society lies beyond family, state, and market-Organizations should not be state-controlled to maintain independence-Organizations should not be purely commercial profit-making entities-Focus on voluntary, collective social objectives-Includes NGOs, charities, advocacy groups-Citizens participate to hold government accountable-Civil society vital for democracy and social development

Question 44.

Read the passage given and answer the questions :

The following observations were made by G.B. Pant during a speech that moved the constitution of the Advisory Committee on fundamental rights, minorities, etc.“ We have to take particular care of the Depressed Classes, the Scheduled Castes, and the Backward Classes... we must do all we can to bring them up to the general level... the strength of the chain is measured by the weakest link of it and so until every link is fully revitalized, we will not have a healthy body politic. Recent years have seen renewed debate about the States 'decisions on reservation to this section”.

(a) Based on the passage above, who are referred to as the weakest link of society ?

(b) Why should and how can this weakest link be fully revitalized ?

(c) Define ‘secularisation’ of caste

[6 Marks]

Answer: (a) The weakest link of society, as mentioned in the passage by G.B. Pant, refers to the Depressed Classes, the Scheduled Castes, and the Backward Classes who have been socially and economically disadvantaged for a long time.
(b) This weakest link should be fully revitalized because the overall strength and progress of society depends on the upliftment of its most vulnerable sections. If these groups are left behind, society cannot be healthy or strong. They can be revitalized through equal opportunities in education and employment, protective policies like reservations, social reforms, and efforts to remove discrimination and promote social justice.
(c) Secularisation of caste means reducing the traditional religious and ritualistic importance of caste and focusing more on social and economic aspects. It involves treating caste as a social category rather than a religious one, aiming to promote equality and remove caste-based discrimination in everyday life.

Key Points: Weakest link refers to Depressed Classes, Scheduled Castes, Backward Classes - Strength of society depends on upliftment of weakest link - Revitalization through reservations, education, social reforms - Secularisation means focusing on social rather than religious aspects of caste - Aim is to reduce caste-based discrimination and promote equality