



SOCIAL STUDIES

Class 10th

(POLITICAL SCIENCE)

Chapter 4: Gender, Religion and Caste



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EXERCISES

Que 1: Mention different aspects of life in which women are discriminated or disadvantaged in India.

Ans: In our country even after independence there is discrimination against women. These are following:

1. The literacy rate among women is still only 54 percent while that of men is 76 percent. The number of girls pursuing higher education is very low. Still parents prefer to spend more on the education of boys.
2. Women get less salary than men. The number of women reaching high positions is very low.
3. In every field i.e. from sports to cinema and from factories to farms and barns, women get less wages than men.
4. In many parts of India, the girl child is still killed as soon as she is born. Due to which the sex ratio has come down to 919 per thousand.
5. The role of women in politics in India is negligible. Women are still kept within the boundaries of the house.
6. Incidents like dowry harassment, exploitation and domestic violence against women are happening continuously. This makes them feel insecure.

Que 2: State different forms of communal politics with one example each.

Ans: Communalism can take many forms in politics.

1. The first example of communalism is visible in everyday life. In this, people start considering their religion as superior to other religions.
2. People with communal mindset are trying to establish political dominance of their community. For this they make political parties on the basis of their religion.
3. Political parties start mobilization on the basis of religion.
4. These political parties start promoting religious issues.
5. Communalism is the worst form of violence, riots and genocide on the basis of sect. There has been massive communal violence during the partition. The Hindu-Sikh riots of 1984, the Gujarat riots are a prime example of this.

Que 3: State how caste inequalities are still continuing in India.

Ans: There has been a drastic change in the caste structure and caste system in modern India. But still the caste system has not departed from contemporary India. Some old aspects of caste inequality still persist

1. Even today most of the people do not get married in other castes.
2. Despite legal restrictions, the practice of untouchability has not yet been completely eradicated.
3. The economic condition of the upper caste people is better than the scheduled caste and scheduled Tribes.
4. The hold on education belongs to the upper caste people.
5. The upper caste also dominates politics.

Que 4: State two reasons to say that caste alone cannot determine election results in India.

Ans: In India, the election results cannot be decided on the basis of caste alone. There are following reasons for this:

1. No single caste has a majority in any one parliamentary constituency.

2. So every party and candidate has to win the trust of more than one caste and community to win the election.
3. People vote on the ideology of the party rather than the candidate.
4. The opinion of the people about the working of the government and the popularity of the leaders have a decisive influence on the elections.

Que 5: What is the status of women's representation in India's legislative bodies?

Ans: The women's representation in the legislatures of India is very low. For example, the number of women MPs in the Lok Sabha is not even fifteen percent of the total MPs. Their representation in the state assemblies is less than 5%. In this respect, India is far behind the rest of the world. Sometimes a woman becomes the prime minister or chief minister. Otherwise, most of the central and state cabinets have been dominated by men.

Que 6: Mention any two constitutional provisions that make India a secular state.

Ans: The constitutional provisions that make India a secular country are following:

1. The law of India has not adopted any religion as the official religion. Whereas Buddhism in Sri Lanka, Islam in Pakistan and Christianity in England have been given special status.
2. The constitution gives freedom to all citizens to practice and propagate any religion.
3. The constitution prohibits any discrimination on the basis of religion.

Que 7: When we speak of gender divisions, we usually refer to:

- (a) Biological difference between men and women
- (b) Unequal roles assigned by the society to men and women
- (c) Unequal child sex ratio
- (d) Absence of voting rights for women in democracies

Ans: (b) Unequal roles assigned by the society to men and women

Question 8: In India seats are reserved for women in

- (a) Lok Sabha
- (b) State Legislative Assemblies
- (c) Cabinets
- (d) Panchayati Raj bodies

Ans: (d) Panchayati Raj bodies

Que 9: Consider the following statements on the meaning of communal politics.

Communal politics is based on the belief that:

- A. One religion is superior to that of others.
- B. People belonging to different religions can live together happily as equal citizens.
- C. Followers of a particular religion constitute one community.
- D. State power cannot be used to establish the domination of one religious group over others.

Which of the statements is/are correct?

- (a) A, B, C and D
- (b) A, B and D
- (c) A and C
- (d) B and D

Ans: (c) A and C

Que 10: Which among the following statements about India's Constitution is wrong? It

- (a) prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion
- (b) gives official status to one religion
- (c) provides to all individuals' freedom to profess any religion
- (d) ensures equality of citizens within religious communities

Ans: (b) gives official status to one religion

Que 11: Social divisions based on _____ are peculiar to India.

Ans: Social divisions based on caste are peculiar to India.

Que 12: Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below the Lists:

List I	List II
1. A person who believes in equal rights and opportunities for women and men	A. Communalist
2. A person who says that religion is the principal basis of community	B. Feminist
3. A person who thinks that caste is the principal basis of community	C. Secularist
4. A person who does not discriminate others on the basis of religious beliefs.	D. Casteist

	1	2	3	4
(a)	B	C	A	D
(b)	B	A	D	C
(c)	D	C	A	B
(d)	C	A	B	D

Ans:

	1	2	3	4
(b)	B	A	D	C