

Chapter 3: Gender, Religion and Caste

NCERT · Class 10 · Social Science · Political Science

Textbook exercises

Question 1

Mention different aspects of life in which women are discriminated against or disadvantaged in India.

Solution

Ans: The women face discrimination in India in the following aspects of life:

- Many regions in India do not allow female education.
- Females are expected to be home makers after marriage and not work to earn their living.
- Female workers receive lower wages than their male counterparts in the unorganised sector.
- Female Foeticide and Female Infanticide is still practised in various parts of India.

Question 2

State different forms of communal politics with one example each.

Solution

Ans: The different forms of Communal Politics are as follows:

- The state of Mizoram, which is Christian Majority, does not hold International Yoga Day celebrations in the state, unlike the other states.
- The separatists in Kashmir demand a free region for Muslims.
- The formation of political parties based on the agenda of working towards only a particular community, such as the Bhim Army, All India Majlis-Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen, etc.

Question 3

State how caste inequalities are still continuing in India.

Solution

Ans: The Caste Inequalities are still continuing in India because of the following reasons:

1. People use their caste names as their last names to keep themselves associated with their caste.
 2. Inter-caste marriages are less common in rural India.
 3. The provision of reservations has led to a divide of the Indian society into OBCs, SCs, and STs apart from the Unreserved ones.
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Question 4

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

Solution

Ans: The reasons why caste alone cannot determine election results in India are as follows:

1. No party has ever won all the votes of a particular caste.
 2. No parliamentary constituency in India has the voters of a single caste alone.
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Question 5

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

Solution

Ans: When it comes to the representation of women in legislative bodies, India is among the bottom group of nations in the world. Women's representation has always been less than 10% in Lok Sabha and 5% in the State Assemblies.

On the other hand, the situation is different in the case of local government bodies. As one-third of the seats in local government bodies (panchayats and municipalities) are reserved for women, there are more than 10 lakh elected women representatives in rural and urban local bodies.

Question 6

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

Solution

Ans: The two constitutional provisions making India a secular state are as follows:

1. Everyone is free to practise, profess, and propagate their own religion in India.
2. The state does not interfere in the matters of religion as long as the beliefs are constitutional.

Question 7

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

1. Biological differences between men and women
2. Unequal roles assigned by the society to men and women
3. Unequal child sex ratio
4. Absence of voting rights for women in democracies

Solution

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

Question 8

In India, seats are reserved for women in:

1. Lok Sabha

2. State Legislative Assemblies

3. Cabinets

4. Panchayati Raj bodies

Solution

Ans: (d) Panchayati Raj bodies

Question 9

Consider the following statements on the meaning of communal politics. Communal politics is based on the belief that:

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

Which of the statements is/are correct?

1. A, B, C, and D
2. A, B, and D
3. A and C
4. B and D

Solution

Ans: (c) A and C

Question 10

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

1. prohibits discrimination on the grounds of religion
2. gives official status to one religion

3. provides to all individuals freedom to profess any religion

4. ensures equality of citizens within religious communities

Solution

Ans: (b) gives official status to one religion

Question 11

Social divisions based on _____ are peculiar to India.

Solution

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

Question 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.	1. Communalist
2.	A person who says that religion is the principal basis of community.	1. Feminist
3.	A person who thinks that caste is the principal basis of community.	1. Secularist
4.	A person who does not discriminate others on the basis of religious beliefs.	1. Casteist

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

Solution

Ans:

(b)	B	D	D	C
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