

GENDER RELIGION AND CASTE

1. What do you mean by sexual division of labour?

Sexual division of labour is the division of work on the basis of Gender. Generally, the household work is done by the women and men go out for work.

The outcome of sexual division of labour is-

- i. Lesser participation of women in public life.
 - ii. Minimum participation of women in politics.
 - iii. Lesser career and educational opportunities for women.
 - iv. Lesser participation of women in economic activities.
- ❖ Feminist movements- Feminist movements can be defined as the political and social efforts to change the position of women in society.
- As a result of Feminist movement women got many political rights which were not available to them. Along with this educational and career opportunities were also made available to women.

Position of women in Indian society-

- i. India has a male dominated patriarchal society.
- ii. Literacy rate among women is 54%, compared to 76% among men.
- iii. A small proportion of women go for higher studies.
- iv. High dropout rate of girls.
- v. Proportion of women among highly paid and valuable jobs is very small.
- vi. Women are not paid equal to their men counterpart .
- vii. Parents prefer to have male child.
- viii. Declining sex ration in India.

Equal remuneration act 1976 provides that equal wages should be paid for equal work.

Sex ratio- It is the ratio of females to males in a population. Child sex ration in India is 919. As per census 2011 overall sex ratio is 940. In some states like Punjab and Haryana sex ratio is below 850.

Ways to improve condition of women

1. More women as elected representative. In India the participation of women in politics is very low.
2. Making it legally binding to have fair proportion of women in elected bodies. In panchayati Raj and local bodies election 33% seats are reserved for women.

Notes for class 10 by Arushi(TGT)

3. By raising the literacy rate.
4. Providing more opportunities to women.
5. Providing vocational training to women.
6. Gender related issues must be actively discussed in the political domain.

Relationship between religion and politics-

1. Gandhi ji's view- Religion cannot be separated from religion, by this he wanted to say that politics must be guided by the values and ethics preached by all religions.
2. Human right groups- these people believe that victim of communal riots are religious minorities and these minorities must be protected by governments.
3. Women- Women argue that most of the religious personal laws discriminate against the women, hence government must protect their rights through law.

How can religion influence politics-

1. Politics must be guided by values and ethics drawn from all religions.
2. People from all the religion must be able to express their needs and demands freely.
3. Political power should sometimes be able to regulate the practice of religion to prevent oppression and discrimination.
4. Political power must treat every religion equal.

Communal Politics-

Communal politics is based on the idea that religion is the basis for social division in the society.

Major believes of communalism

- A. Follower of same religion belongs to one community.
- B. Religion is the basis for social division.
- C. People belonging to same religion have same interest and aspirations.
- D. People belonging to different religion cannot have same interest and aspiration.
- E. Extreme form of communalism believes that people belonging to different religion cannot live as equal citizen in the same country.

Communal problems-

- i. Religion is seen as the basis of division.
- ii. One religious group try to dominate the other religious group.

Notes for class 10 by Arushi(TGT)

- iii. state start favoring one religion over other.
- iv. practice of one religion are seen as rival by followers of other religion.
- v. Political mobilization and formation of a religion based political unit.
- vi. It leads to communal violence.

To counter the challenge of communalism, makers of our constitution choose the secular model. Following provision shows that India is a secular state-

1. No official religion.
2. Freedom to profess, practice and propagate any religion.
3. State cannot discriminate on the ground of religion.
4. State can intervene in religious matters to protect fundamental rights.
5. State cannot use public money for propagation of any religion.

Caste system-

Caste system is a system of division in which people are grouped on the basis of occupation. This division often leads to discriminatory practices. With the efforts of leaders like Gandhi ji, B. R Ambedkar, Jotiba Phule and others and due to economic development influence of caste system on Indian society has declined.

Casteism in Politics (problem of casteism in Indian politics)-

1. Candidates for election are selected on the basis of caste composition of that area.
2. When government is formed ministries are allocated based on the caste calculations.
3. Use of caste sentiments to gain the support.
4. Government sometimes acts as the representative of some castes.
5. Caste politics often leads to clashes between different caste groups.

Though it looks like election in India is all about caste but the following point shows that this is not true.

1. No constituency is dominated by particular caste.
2. No party wins votes all the votes of a particular caste.
3. Different choice within same caste.
4. Many voters vote on the basis of economic performance and welfare schemes.

Politics in casteism-

1. Each caste tries to increase its influence.

Notes for class 10 by Arushi(TGT)

2. Various caste groups enter into coalition to present their demands in a effective manner.
3. Many caste has formed their own political groups.

Universal adult franchise- under universal adult franchise all the people above 18 years of age in India has the right to vote and choose their representatives. This has helped in raising the dignity and demanding power of the people. Now the representatives are bound to work for the welfare of people without discrimination on the basis of caste.

Though presence of casteism in politics has helped the castes like SC,ST and OBC to get better power in decision making, access to education and economic development but it has negative effects as well and can keep the society divided based on castes leading to violence clashes.

Note- Read the details given on the page 50 and 52.

www.anepic.org