

CBSE Class-10 Social Science

NCERT Solutions

Chapter - 4

Political Science - Gender, Religion and Caste

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

Answer : In India, women are discriminated and disadvantaged in the following ways:

- Less education: Girls are provided with less education as compared to boys. Literacy rate in India is 74.04% out of which 82.14% are males and 65.46% are females. The percentages of females opting for higher study is very low. They are not provided adequate education.
- Less pay for same work: Most of the labour done by them is unpaid. Where they are paid for their work, they receive lesser wages than men.
- Wish to have a male child: Due to the preference for the boy child, female foeticide is practiced in many parts of the country.
- Exploitation of women: Women in India are exploited on various backgrounds. The percentage of crimes against women such as harassment, dowry deaths, rape, physical or mental abuse, conjugal violence, etc., has risen.

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

Answer : Different forms of communal politics:

- The most common form of communalism is our day to day beliefs or religious ideas. These ideas include the belief in superiority of one religion as compared to another religion, religion prejudices, stereotypes of religious communities.
- The desire to form a majoritarian dominance or a separate state. Separatist leaders and political parties in Jammu and Kashmir and Central India are an example of this.
- The use of religious symbols and leaders in politics to appeal to the voters. This technique is applied by many politicians to influence voters from the two largest religious communities in the country.
- In addition to all this, communal politics can take the form of communal violence and

riots, like the riots in Gujarat in 2002.

Question 3. State how caste inequalities are still continuing in India.

Answer : Caste has not disappeared from contemporary India.

- Endogamy: The meaning of endogamy is to marry within the caste or group and not out of it. They think that their caste is superior to others due to which they look at other castes with hatred. In this way, endogamy is a factor of inequality based on caste.
- Untouchability: Untouchability has not ended completely despite constitutional prohibition.
- Effects of centuries of advantages and disadvantages continue to be felt today, e.g., Caste continues to be closely linked to economic status.

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

Answer : Caste alone cannot determine election results in India because:

- No parliamentary constituency has a clear majority of one single caste - to regard as a vote bank. Hence, every candidate or party needs to win the trust of entire community.
- It's not certain that people with the same caste or community have same interests, they may have different interests depending on their economic status and social condition. Thus, caste cannot be a sole factor.
- Regarding voters, they may have more than one candidate from their caste, while other may not have any candidate from their caste.
- Irrespective of caste, voters consider the performance of the government and popularity of the leaders while voting.

Hence, we can clearly conclude that "caste alone cannot determine election result in India."

Question 5. What is the status of women's representation in India's legislative bodies?

Answer : When it comes to 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 seats i.e. 33% in local government bodies (panchayats and municipalities) are reserved for women, there are more than 10 lakhs elected women representatives in rural and urban local bodies.

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

Answer : Two constitutional provisions that make India a secular state are:

- Freedom to practice, profess and propagate the religion of one's choice.
- The Constitution states that the government shall not discriminate against any citizen on the basis of his or his religion.

Question 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

Answer : (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

Answer : (d) Panchayati Raj bodies

Question 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

Answer: (c) A and C

Question 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.

Answer : (c) provides to all individuals freedom to profess any religion

Question 11. Social division based on _____ are peculiar to India.

Answer: caste

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	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.	Castiest

Options

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

Answer:

	1	2	3	4
(b)	B	A	D	C