

HS8.101 Making of Contemporary World

Quiz 3

Q1:

What steps have been taken in India to accord women equal legal and political status? What difficulties were encountered?

Q2:

Explain the policy dilemma between assimilation and isolation/protection of indigenous people.

Ans 1:

Gender inequality has always been a significant issue of concern in our male-dominant society, where most women have always been deprived of their fundamental rights, whether it be the right to equality, freedom, education, life, or any other women have never been given equal status to that of men which have proved to be a loophole in our society.

Even today, gender inequality exists, but things have changed over time. Our government has taken steps to grant equal status to both genders.

In this view, we can see that the entry of women into politics has historically been met with a lot of opposition across the world and in India. While there have been many significant victories for women's political participation in the intervening years, they are still met with scepticism, ridicule and criticism when stepping into the political field. These are manifestations of insecure patriarchy, jolted by the notion of women taking their place as leaders and decision-makers, representing their issues and interests instead of depending on men in power to do so.

Now, women also have an equal right to ancestral property and can challenge the family's male for inheritance. Women in India got the right to vote earlier compared to many other countries in the world. In India, women got the right to vote just after independence.

However, there is still a need for a solid political and financial background for a woman to step into politics. We can consider the example of Indira Gandhi, a strong political leader and dynamic personality in the world of politics with a political background. Sonia Gandhi is also a good example. She made a mark, but she had the backing of the Gandhi family.

Females have been given the right to reservation in India, protecting them against violation. Also, the representation of women in Lok Sabha is increasing with every election. But most women participate because their husbands can't fight on a reserved seat.

Ans 2:

In the modern-day world, all governments worldwide are concerned about having a better connection between the legislature and the state's citizens. Building a more substantial relationship starts with bringing everyone to the mainstream world—especially the indigenous people.

The state believes the indigenous people to be primitive and irrational, practising some customs that may be against human rights, those who stay away from technology in the internet age, and they misfit in the present picture of modernization. The state wants to provide opportunities for the groups to come before other people and assimilate into modern-day society to form a unified state.

However, the indigenous group are the first people of that region. They believe they have a religious culture and want to preserve it in today's world. If they get modernized as the state wants them to, they have to give up on their culture and come into the capitalist world's big picture, which would attack their identity. The ethnic groups fear that coming up with the modern world might threaten their real identity as they have to identify themselves with the broader groups then. For example, many tribes are considered part of Hinduism, but the tribes consider themselves different from Hinduism. So, they want the other forces not to disturb them and let them live in their world and stay isolated from the outer world.

For example, living in cities is considered a sign of modernity today. However, most indigenous groups worship the environment through various practices and living in big cities will take them away from their roots. Many indigenous groups have a head who inherited his father's position, and his word is last. Democracy is something they might disagree with.

The issue between assimilation and isolation of indigenous groups is that no one is white or black in this picture. Both are right at their places. Bringing everyone together is what a government should do, but here considering the indigenous groups primitive because they still worship the environment or have a simple lifestyle that is excessively dependent on their region is wrong. The indigenous people carry the culture and legacy of that place. However, the protection of ethnic culture is equally important, as well as the upliftment of citizens of the state.