



Short Answer Type Questions [4 Marks]

1. Assess any two positive aspects of the Chipko Movement.

Answer:

(i) The Chipko Movement started in early 1973 in the state that is now Uttarakhand. The movement was unique in the sense that it presented a very unusual form of collective action in which men and women from a village of this state were engaged. These villagers protested against the practices of commercial logging that the government had permitted. They used a novel tactic for their protest— that of hugging the trees to prevent them from being cut down. The struggle soon spread across many parts of the Uttarakhand region.

(ii) Women's active participation in the Chipko agitation was a very novel aspect of the movement. The forest contractors of the region usually doubled up as suppliers of alcohol to men. Women held sustained agitations against the habit of alcoholism and broadened the agenda of the movement to cover other social issues. The movement achieved a victory when the government issued a ban on felling of trees in the Himalayan region for fifteen years, until the green cover was fully restored.

2. Where and when was the organisation 'Dalit Panthers' formed? Describe any three of its activities.

Answer: Dalit Panthers denotes to a militant organisation of Dalit Youth to be formed in 1972 in Maharashtra.

Its activities can be summed up as follows:

1. These groups mainly fought against the perpetual caste based inequalities and material injustices that Dalits faced in spite of constitutional guarantees of equality and justice.
2. Dalits faced collective atrocities over minor symbolic issues of caste pride.
3. They demanded effective implementation of reservations and other such policies of social justice.

3. What are popular movements? Explain any three issues related to women which brought social awareness amongst them.

Answer: Popular movements are the movements organised by dalits and farmers under the banner of various social organisations to voice their demands.

Women in Nellore came together in spontaneous local initiatives to protest against arrack and forced the closure of wine shops. And this movement spread slowly all over the state.

Issues relating to movements:

1. The Anti-Arrack movement aimed at prohibition on the sale of arrack.
2. Its demand touched upon larger section of social, economic and political issues which had established a close nexus between crime and politics.
3. Women openly discussed the issue of domestic violence like dowry, sexual violence etc.
4. Anti-Arrack movement provided a platform to discuss private issues of domestic violence.

4. What is the Right to Information Act? When was it passed in India?

Answer: The 'Right to Information Act' is a law to empower the

people to find out happenings in government and act as a watchdog of democracy:

1. It was passed in October 2005 by Government of India.
2. This Act ensures its citizens all information about functioning of government machinery.
3. This right has been expanded to cover various services provided by government i.e., if any purchased product is defective it can be asked for replacement.
4. This right gives political actors incentives to good things to help to control corruption.

5. What was Narmada Bachao Aandolan? What was criticism against it?

Answer: Narmada Bachao Aandolan linked its opposition to Sardar Sarovar Project with larger issues concerning the nature of ongoing development projects with the . dreams of cost benefit analysis due to construction of dams submerged around 245 villages to require two and a half lakh population to be relocated.

Its criticism:

1. The obstruction to the process of development.
2. Denial to the access to water to many people.
3. Hurdle to economic development.

6. “Movement are not only about collective assertions or only about rallies and protests but something else as well”. Justify.

Answer: Though movements are the result of collective assertions, still these are associated with a “Gradual process of coming together of people” with common intentions, common problem, demands and common expectations. These movements make people aware also by performing educative role towards expansions of democracy.

Passage Based Questions [5 Marks]

1. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions:

Sardar Sarovar Project is a multipurpose mega-scale dam. Its advocates say that it would benefit huge areas of Gujarat and the three adjoining states in terms of availability of drinking water and water for irrigation, generation of electricity and increase in agricultural production. Many more subsidiary benefits like effective flood and drought control in the region were linked to the success of this dam. In the process of construction of the dam 245 villages from these States were expected to get submerged. It required relocation of around two and a half lakh people from these villages. Issues of relocation and proper rehabilitation of the project-affected people were first raised by local activist groups. It wrns around 1988-89 that the issues crystallised under the banner of the NBA - a loose collective of local voluntary organisations.

Questions

1. Why is Sardar Sarovar Project mentioned as multipurpose mega scale dam?
2. Why was it opposed by villagers?
3. Name the organisation which led the movement against this project.
4. What was the main demand of Local Activist Groups?

Answer:

1. Because it fulfilled the various purposes together as to benefit huge areas of Gujarat and three adjoining states:

1. Availability of drinking water
2. Water for irrigation
3. Generation of electricity
4. Effective floods and drought control in the region.

2. Because in the process of construction of dam about 245 villages from these states were expected to be submerged alongwith the population of two and a half lakh people.

3. Local Activist Group under the banner of Narmada Bachao

Andolan.

4. To relocate and proper rehabilitation of project affected people.

2. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions:

Movements are not only about collective assertions or only about rallies and protests. They involve a gradual process of coming together of people with similar problems, similar demands and similar expectations. But then movements are also about making people aware of their rights and the expectations that they can have from democratic institutions. Social movements in India have been involved in these educative tasks for a long time and have thus contributed to expansion of democracy rather than causing disruptions.

Questions

1. What is the importance of popular movements in democracy?
2. How do popular movements help the government?
3. What factors make the people come together in a particular movement?

Answer:

1. Popular movements make people aware of their rights and expectations which can be drawn from democratic institutions.
2. Popular movements let the government be aware of the similar demands, similar problems and expectations of people through an educative task for expansion of democracy rather than disrupting it.
3. Similar problems, similar demands, and similar expectations of the same group/people.

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