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INDIAN SOCIETY

Globalization and women

Globalization involves different issues which are related to the women empowerment. Women reservation, rights, problems, status and authority etc are now days known to women. In family may be we can say that women are getting the favorable situation.

The voice of women is increasingly heard in Parliament, courts and in the streets.

Positive impacts:

1. WOMEN & AWARENESS :

- ❖ Access to global media and televisions led to increased awareness on the status of women.
- ❖ Better recognition of basic rights of women like liberty and equality in social, cultural and economic spheres.

2. WOMEN & EDUCATION:

- ❖ Increased access to education and rise in women literacy rate.
- ❖ Decline in child marriage.
- ❖ Rise in private educational institutions and inequalities in the quality of education.
- ❖ Minimal improvement in tertiary education compared to primary and secondary.

3. WOMEN & HEALTH:

- ❖ Rise in access to healthcare driven by vaccination, institutional deliveries.
- ❖ Education combined with policy initiatives led to decline in total fertility rate, maternal mortality rate and infant mortality rate.

4. WOMEN & TECHNOLOGY :

- ❖ Rise in consumerism of household appliances and direct effect on women empowerment. (Less time in household chores means more opportunities for women)
- ❖ Rise of technology related entrepreneurship (eg. Networking, e-commerce)
- ❖ Lifestyle changes exposed women to non communicable diseases like diabetes, cancer.

5. FEMINISATION OF LABOUR FORCE:

- ❖ Rise in labour force participation rate of women in the initial years.
- ❖ Women benefitted from the financial independence and more women entered the

public space.

- ❖ Increased household income confined women to private space post reforms, resulting in **defeminisation of labour force.**

6. Entrepreneurship and women:

Development of entrepreneurial attitude: Traditionally most women stayed at home taking care of domestic needs and children. **Now with increased connectivity and exposure, we see a surge in enterprises led by women such as Nykaa.**

- 7. Cultural sphere :** Marrying within the same caste has become less important, and women have in many cases reserved the right to marry whoever they choose irrespective of caste. With changing attitude towards women, especially in the urban areas, women enjoy more egalitarian set of gender relationship.

Negative impacts:

- 1. Double burden:** Women do both household work (like cooking, baby care, etc.) as well as professional work. This dual responsibility makes it difficult to leave their mark in their places of work.
- 2. Sexual harassment at work place:** Job opportunities have increased but safety at workplace and in public spaces remains an issue. The issue of women safety is of particular concern in new age industries that have opened as a result of globalization and involve working at odd hours.
- 3. Gender inequality:** Gender differences in education, particularly scientific and technical education, have limited women's access to new employment opportunities created in the globalized world.
- 4. Access to resources:** Issues related to property rights of women and limited access to productive inputs also constrain their capacity to benefit from trade opportunities that have opened up.
- 5. Lower level jobs:** Barring the IT sector, women are mainly employed in middle and lower managerial level jobs. Women's participation in the higher managerial level in the private sector is still limited (glass ceiling effect).

Thus Roles of women in India have been changing and they are now emerging from the past traditions into a new era of freedom and rights.

Decreasing women in workforce

According to the World Bank report released in June 2022, Indian women's labour force participation proportion of

the population over the age of 15 that is economically active has been steadily declining since 2005 and is at a low of 19 percent in 2021.

Low labour force participation of women in India:

1. **Women remain underrepresented** at the top, a situation that has changed very little in the last 30 years. **Less than one-third of managers are women.**
2. **The female labor force participation rate (FLFPR) fell from 31.2% in 2012 to 23.3% in 2018. Further, the FLFPR for rural areas has declined by more than 11% in 2018.**
3. **Though women in India represent 48% of the population, they contribute only around 17% of GDP compared to 40% in China.**
4. Closing the employment gap between men and women — a whopping 58 percentage points — **could expand India’s GDP by close to a third by 2050. That equates to nearly \$6 trillion in constant US dollar terms.**

Reasons for the fall in women’s Labour Force Participation in India

1. Occupational segregation:

Between 1977 and 2017, India’s economy witnessed a surge in the contribution of services (39 percent to 53 percent) and industry (33 percent to 27 percent) to GDP.

The proportion of rural men employed in agriculture fell from 80.6 percent to 53.2 percent, but rural women only decreased from 88.1 percent to 71.7 percent (NSSO data).

2. Increased mechanization

In agriculture, and as the use of seed drillers, harvesters, threshers and husking equipment increased, men displaced women. In textiles, power looms, button stitching machines and textile machinery phased out women’s labour.

Nearly 12 million Indian women could lose their jobs by 2030 owing to automation, according to a McKinsey Global Institute report.

3. The income effect.

With increasing household incomes, especially over the last three decades, the need for a “second income” reduced. Consequently, families withdrew women from labour as a signal of prosperity.

4. Gender gaps in higher education and skill training:As of 2018-19, only 2 percent of working-age women received formal vocational training,

of which 47 percent did not join the labour force (NSSO, 2018-19).

Consequently, women form only 17 percent of cloud computing, 20 percent of engineering, and 24 percent of data/artificial intelligence jobs (WEF, 2020).

5. Social norms

Unpaid care work continues to be a women’s responsibility, with women spending on average five hours per day on domestic work, vs. 30 minutes for men (NSSO, 2019).

6. Covid and Women:In this context, the COVID-19 pandemic has come as a shock, resulting in massive job losses for women, especially informal workers, and slower recovery of women-led micro-businesses.

It has also increased domestic work, deepened gender digital divides, disrupted girls’ schooling and placed millions of female health workers at risk.

7. Double burden on women: Balancing employment and domestic responsibilities (including household chores and care giving).

Steps taken by Government to improve women labour force participation.

1. **Pradhan Mantri Mahila Shakti Kendra scheme, promote community participation through the involvement of Student Volunteers for the empowerment of rural women.**
2. **National Crèche Scheme To provide daycare facilities to children of the age group of 6 months to 6 years of working women who are employed.**
3. **Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK)to provide micro-credit to poor women for various livelihood support and income-generating activities at concessional terms**
4. **Working Women Hostelsfor ensuring safe accommodation for women working away from their place of residence.**
5. **SABLA Scheme, Providing life Skills and Supplementary nutrition to out of School girls**
6. **Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act 2013 -Cover all women, of all age , both in public and private sector, whether organized or unorganized.**
7. **The Government enhanced paid maternity leave from 12 weeks to 26 weeks, provision for mandatory crèche facilities in the establishments having 50 or more employees, permitting women workers in the night shifts with adequate safety**

measures, etc.

Way forward:

1. **Need to Integrate Policy of Work, Livelihoods, Earnings and Poverty, Re-think and Integrate macroeconomic Policy with Social Policy.**
2. **Convergence with programs for adult education, literacy, and advanced skill training and higher education.**
3. **Using tax policies to incentivize women into the labor market on both the demand and supply side.**
4. **The gender-sensitive infrastructure included full-time creches for children, affordable and safe working women’s hostels, and basic public provisions such as piped water, hygienic washrooms at public places and safe public transport for enabling women to access decent and dignified livelihood opportunities.**
5. **Improve women’s access to Credit, skills, marketing.**
6. **Secure and uphold women’s ownership rights over basic productive resources like land - Create equal rights to property.**
7. **A minimum social security package available to all citizens that include life insurance, disability insurance, health insurance, and pensions offered through multiple distribution channels.**

Covid and Patriarchy

COVID 19 pandemic has brought great disruptions in multiple sectors. Economy, healthcare, working patterns, education etc are adapting to movement restrictions and lockdowns. This disruption induced adaptations have a great impact on women.

Evidence shows that patriarchal gender roles are deepening due to disruptions. This is resulting in setbacks to progress made in gender equality.



1. **Rising violence against violence:** There has been a rise in instances of violence, sexual, physical and mental against women. **The National Commission for Women (NCW) has recorded a more than twofold rise in gender-based violence.**
2. **Increased work pressure on women:** (a) For instance, the online education demands that mothers should be available uninterruptedly for long hours to help the children familiarise with the nuances and demands of online classes, assignments and assessments.
 - ❖ Also, the onus of protecting the children and elderly from possible coronavirus infections and caring for home-quarantined members who are exposed to the virus falls heavily on women.
3. **Contraction of women employment opportunities in various sectors:** Some of the sectors which are hard-hit by COVID are the ones which employ women in large numbers, such as tourism, hospitality and retail.
 - ❖ Women were more affected than men by employment issues. **Women made up just 24% of those working before the pandemic, yet accounted for 28% of all those who lost their jobs.**
4. **Women and Education:** It is pertinent to note that there exists a 50% gender gap in mobile internet users in India where 21% of women and 42% of men use mobile internet. As education shifted online families preferred to provide cell phones to the males and female education suffered.
5. **Issues of Reproductive Health:** About 16% of women (an estimated 17 million if extrapolated) had to stop using menstrual pads, and more than one in three married women were unable to access contraceptives.
6. **SHRINKING OF SOCIAL CIRCLE:** This could be due to the increased workload in the houses unlimited opportunities for employment outside then home premises.

Way forward:

1. **Expansion of economic activities where women are predominant**(healthcare services, textiles etc) must be undertaken.
2. **Further, health services must be delivered to women on priority basis.**
3. **In addition, communities must be sensitized on the principle of sharing of domestic work.**
4. **Expanding PDS beyond food as it’s a far-reaching**

delivery channel. For instance, women's access to menstrual pads could be revolutionised in this fashion for the short term, improving reach considerably.

5. **Focus on the inclusion of single, divorced/separated women in the One Nation One Ration Card rollout, and build social assistance programmes for informal workers, specifically domestic workers and casual labourers.**

Only by taking such steps can we maintain the progress in achieving SDG(Sustainable Development Goal) – 5 of gender equality.

Rising crimes against women

Violence against women is a major public problem in the country , recently , a steady increase is being seen in the number of crimes against women ; Especially extremely serious cases like gang rape. These incidents have shaken the conscience of the people. One wonders how this can be possible in a society moving towards higher education , economic and technological development.

Some statistics related to violence against women in India:

1. According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) report , 3.29 lakh cases of violence against women were registered in the year 2015 , 3.38 lakh cases in the year 2016 , 3.60 lakh cases in the year 2017 and 3,71,503 cases in the year 2020 .
2. At the same time , in the year 2021 , this figure increased to 4,28,278 , out of which most of them i.e. 31.8 percent were due to violence done by husband or relative , 7.40 percent were due to rape , 17.66 percent were due to kidnapping , 20.8 percent were done with the intention of humiliating women.

Nature of violence against women :

1. Domestic violence like dowry related violence , wife beating , sexual abuse , abuse of widows and elderly women
2. Criminal violence such as rape , kidnapping , murder
3. Forcing wife/daughter-in-law to commit female foeticide , molestation of women , denying women share in property , dowry harassment , cyber harassment etc.

Reasons for crime problem in India:

1. Few female police:Studies show that women are more likely to report sex crimes if female police officers are available. egIn New Delhi, just 7% of police officers are women, and they are frequently

given inconsequential posts that don't involve patrol duty, according to the Times of India.

2. **Blaming provocative clothing:**In a survey, 68% of the respondents said that provocative clothing is an invitation to rape. In response to the recent gang-rape incident, a legislator in Rajasthan suggested banning skirts as a uniform for girls in private schools, citing it as the reason for increased cases of sexual harassment.
3. **A lack of public safety:** Many streets are poorly lit, and there's a lack of women's toilets.Women who drink, smoke or go to pubs are widely seen in Indian society as morally loose, and village clan councils have blamed a rise in women talking on cellphones and going to the bazaar for an increase in the incidence of rape.
4. **A sluggish court system:** India's court system is painfully slow, because of a shortage of judges. The country has about 15 judges for every 1 million people. This lead to delay in justice.
5. **No fear of law:**Various laws like Sexual harassment at workplace, Vishakha guidelines are in place. Unfortunately, these laws have failed to protect women and punish the culprits. Even law has a lot of loopholes. For example, under Sexual harassment at workplace act, the law states that there has to be an annual report that needs to be filed by companies, but there is no clarity with the format or filing procedure.
6. **Patriarchy:** People are not shedding their patriarchal mindset. Honour killing, domestic violence are on rise due to increasing women's voices that is challenging patriarchal mindset.
7. **More reporting:**More women are raising their voice as was seen in #MeToo movement. This has led to increased reported cases as reflected in NCRB report.
8. **The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act:** The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 was enacted to provide a robust legal framework for the protection of children from offences of sexual assault, sexual harassment and pornography.
9. **Section 354 of the IPC criminalises any act by a person that assaults or uses criminal force against a woman with the intention or knowledge that it will outrage her modesty.**
10. **Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013:**To ensure women's safety at workplace, this Act seeks to protect them from sexual harassment at their place of work. 36 % of Indian companies and 25 % among MNC's are not complaint with the

Sexual Harassment Act according to a FICCI report.

11. **National Database on Sexual Offenders (NDSO):** The government in 2018 launched the National Database on Sexual Offenders (NDSO). The database contains entries of offenders convicted under charges of rape, gang rape, POCSO and eve teasing. The portal as of now contains 440,000 entries of cases that have been reported since 2008.
12. **Fast track courts:** As a result of the 2012 Delhi gang rape case, the Indian government implemented a fast-track court system to rapidly prosecute rape cases.
13. **Marital rape:** Forced sex by husbands upon wives does have legal consequences in Indian matrimonial law, in that it can be treated as a matrimonial fault, resulting in dissolution of the marriage.

Way forward:

1. **Civil society participation:** Active participation of civil society against such crimes and helping state and law enforcement agencies in nabbing the criminal is critical.
2. **State action:** State should be more proactive in police reforms. Strict action should be taken against any police officials who do not record such incidents in criminal records.
3. **Police reforms:** The government should carry a recruitment drive for women and should focus on gender focused training in police and judiciary. There is a need to create women police stations and more women should be taken as judges.
4. **Judicial reforms:** The court dealing with rape cases should be sensitive towards the conditions of rape victims and award punishments to rapists with great seriousness towards women conditions in the Indian society.
5. **Compensation:** The need of the hour is the creation of state sponsored victim compensatory fund particularly for heinous offences including rape. This award should be totally free from the result of the prosecution that is conviction or acquittal and should come into action the moment FIR is registered or cognisance is taken of a complaint.
6. **Media:** The media must be sensitive to the plight of the rape victim and must not highlight the name or any inference leading to the identification of the victim, as it will be counterproductive. The media must invariably highlight those cases where the offender has been convicted, as it will infuse the feeling of deterrence among the people.
7. **Crisis centre:** Rape Crisis Centres are set up in countries like Australia, Canada, America, United Kingdom, etc. These centres provide their help

through their telephonic help lines also. These centres provide the rape victims with medical help, counselling, and financial help by way of providing job opportunities etc. Such centres should be set up in India to provide for medical aid and counselling to the rape victims.

Globalization and Children

Globalization is a process of increasing interdependence, interconnectedness and integration of economies and societies to such an extent that an event in one part of the globe affects people in other parts of the world.

Positive impacts :

1. **Broadened access:** to goods and services e.g., childcare products.
2. **Infused multiculturalism:** Increasing respect and tolerance for other cultures and ethnicities.
3. **Enhanced avenues for learning:** e.g., Student exchange programs have broadened student exposure.
4. **Internet as an equalizer:** has opened a window of opportunities for kids belonging to all classes of society.
5. **Awareness:** due to the ease of access to the internet and related technologies.

Negative impact:

1. **The exploitation of the environment:** e.g., the dumping of e-waste by developed nations into poor developing countries has exposed kids to the problems of toxic air and water.
2. **Fast food culture:** e.g., McDonaldization has tilted children's dietary preferences towards unhealthy junk food over home-cook food.
3. **Enhanced unproductive time:** being spent on social networking and online gaming like Pubg.
4. **Exacerbated problem of child labour:** e.g., due to huge global demand an estimated 300,000 children work in India's hand-knotted carpet industry.

Thus, although globalization has made Indian children are now more future ready. But its dark side as seen, presents a word of caution.

RTE Act

Right to Education Act (RTE) provided free and compulsory education to children in 2009 and enforced it as a fundamental right under Article 21-A.

Features of RTE ACT:

1. The RTE Act aims to provide primary education to all children aged 6 to 14 years.
2. It enforces Education as a Fundamental Right (Article 21).
3. The act mandates 25% reservation for disadvantaged sections of the society .
4. It lays down the norms and standards related to:Pupil Teacher Ratios (PTRs),Buildings and infrastructure,School-working days,Teacher-working hours
5. It had a clause for “No Detention Policy” which has been removed under The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Act, 2019.
6. It prohibits:Physical punishment and mental harassment,Screening procedures for admission of children,Capitation fee,

Private tuition by teachers,Running of schools without recognition

Achievements of Right to Education Act,2009

1. The RTE Act has successfully managed to increase enrolment in the upper primary level (Class 6-8).
2. Stricter infrastructure norms resulted in improved school infrastructure, especially in rural areas.
3. More than 3.3 million students secured admission under 25% quota norm under RTE.
4. It made education inclusive and accessible nationwide.
5. Removal of “no detention policy” has brought accountability in the elementary education system.

Limitation of Right to Education Act, 2009

1. Age group for which Right to Education is available ranges from 6 – 14 years of age only, which can be made more inclusive and encompassing by expanding it to 0 – 18 years.
2. There is no focus on quality of learning, as shown by multiple ASER reports, thus RTE Act appears to be mostly input oriented.
3. Five States namely Goa, Manipur, Mizoram, Sikkim and Telangana have not even issued notification regarding 25% seats for underprivileged children of society under the RTE.
4. More focus is being given over statistics of RTE rather than quality of learning.
5. Lack of teachers affect pupil-teacher ratio mandated by RTE which in turn affects the quality of teaching .

Steps to Be Taken:

1. Minority Religious Schools need to be brought under the RTE.
2. More focus on teacher training programs.
3. Quality of education needs to be emphasized over quantity of education.
4. Steps should be taken to make the teaching profession attractive.
5. Society as a whole needs to be supportive of education for children without biases.

Child labour

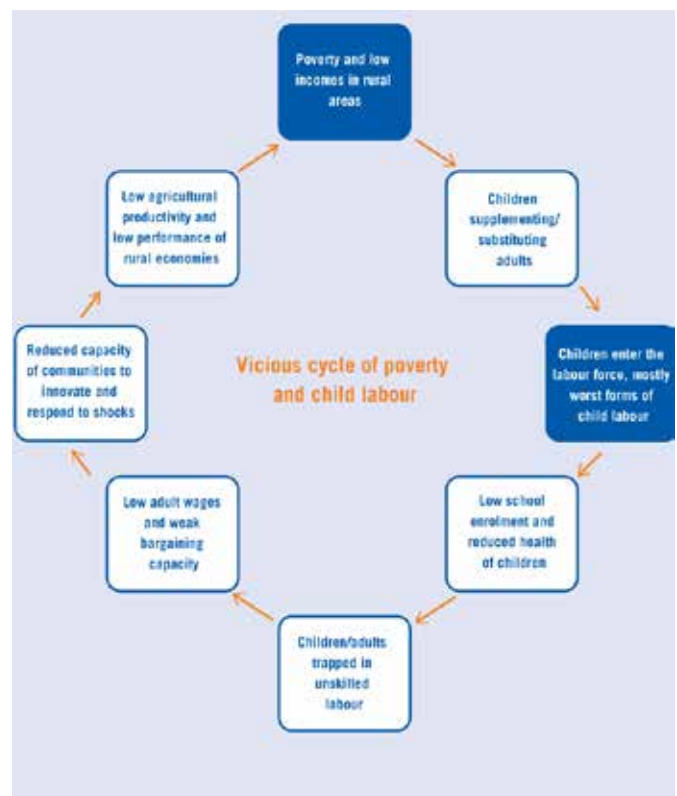
The term “child labour” is defined by ILO as work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development.

Child labour in India:

1. According to the last available Census 2011, there were 10.1 million child labourers in India.
2. As per the National Crime Records Bureau Report 2022, in 2021, around 982 cases were registered under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, with the highest number of cases registered in Telangana, followed by Assam.

Reasons for Child labour

1. Poverty:



- Social norms:** Some communities and families have a tradition of making their children work in certain occupations, such as agriculture, carpet weaving, or domestic service. Some also believe that education is not important or suitable for girls.
- Lack of decent work opportunities for adults and adolescents:** Due to the high unemployment rate and low wages, many adults and young people are unable to find decent and dignified work. This leads them to engage in informal and hazardous work or push their children into labour.
- Poor School Infrastructure:** Many schools in India lack adequate facilities, teachers, and quality education. Some schools also charge fees or other expenses that are unaffordable for poor families. These factors discourage parents from sending their children to school and make them drop out.
- Emergencies:** Natural disasters, conflicts, and pandemics can disrupt the normal functioning of society and increase the vulnerability of children. Some children may lose their parents, homes, or access to basic services. They may be forced to work for survival or be exploited by traffickers and other perpetrators.

Impacts of child labour:



Steps taken by government:

- National Child Labour Project (NCLP):**
Under this Scheme, the children in the age group of 9-14 years are withdrawn from work and put into NCLP Special Training Centres. They are provided with bridge education, vocational training, mid-day meal, stipend, health care etc. before being mainstreamed into formal education system.
- Pencil portal(Platform for Effective Enforcement for No Child Labour (PENCIL):**It is a separate online portal to ensure effective enforcement of the provisions of the Child Labour Act and smooth implementation of the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme.

- Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act(1986)** to prohibit the engagement of children in certain employments and to regulate the conditions of work of children in certain other employments
- Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016 :** The Amendment Act completely prohibits the employment of children below 14 years.
- On World Day Against Child Labour (June 12) in 2017,** India ratified two core conventions of the International Labour Organization on child labour.
- Many NGOs like Bachpan Bachao Andolan, CARE India, Child Rights and You, Global march against child labour, RIDE India, Child line etc. have been working to eradicate child labour in India.

Way forward:Eliminating child labour is firmly placed within Goal 8 of the SDGs.

Following steps should be taken.

- Abolition of child trafficking, elimination of poverty, free and compulsory education, and basic standards of living** can reduce the problem to a great extent.
- Strict implementation of labour laws is also essential in order to prevent exploitation by parties or multinational companies.
- The single most effective way to stem the flow of school-aged children into child labour is to improve access to and quality of schooling.
- Accelerating progress towards universal social protection is key, as social protection helps prevent poor households from having to rely on child labour as a coping mechanism.
- Special efforts should be taken to identify children orphaned due to COVID-19, and arrangements of shelter and foster care for them should be made on a priority basis.

Rising regionalism in India

Regionalism is a term used to describe the idea that people living in a particular region share a common identity based on their distinct characteristics, such as language, culture, history, and food habits. This shared identity creates a sense of togetherness among people inhabiting a region.

Factors that lead to Regionalism in India

- Geographical factors:**The geographical boundaries in India are closely linked to linguistic distribution, topography, and climate, leading to a territorial

orientation among the inhabitants of a particular region.

This induces a sense of regionalism in people based on their symbolic attachment to their region.

- Historical and cultural factors:** In India, historical and cultural factors play a significant role in shaping regionalism. **Cultural heritage, folklore, myths, symbolism, and historical traditions** contribute to regionalism by inspiring a sense of pride and identity among people of a particular cultural group.
- Economic factors:** Uneven development across different parts of India is a primary cause of regionalism and separatism.

This disparity has led to a feeling of **relative deprivation** among the inhabitants of economically neglected regions, resulting in demands for separate states.

- Politico-administrative factors:** Political parties and regional leaders exploit **regional sentiments** and deprivation to solidify their support bases by highlighting regional problems in their election manifestos and promising political and regional development to gain support.

Various manifestations of Regionalism in India

- Creation of new states:** The creation of Andhra Pradesh in 1953 intensified the demand for the creation of states on a linguistic basis.

Later, the intra-state economic and developmental disparities led to the formation of new states of Uttarakhand from Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand from Bihar, Chhattisgarh from Madhya Pradesh and Telangana from Andhra Pradesh.

- State-specific Manifestations:** Example: **Vidarbha in Maharashtra, Saurashtra in Gujarat, Bundelkhand in Uttar Pradesh, Darjeeling in West Bengal.**
- Dravida Nadu demands:** The movement was at its height till the 1960s, demanding the creation of a separate sovereign state comprising the non-Hindi-speaking southern states of India. However, it failed to find any support outside Tamil Nadu. It serves as an example of regionalism, advocating for the rights and interests of a specific region or community within a larger nation.
- Regionalism in the North-East:** North East India represents geographical isolation, ethnic peculiarity, independent history, and regional economic disparity making it the hotbed of Identity-based conflicts. This has led to Sub-nationalism and **Insurgency** in states

like Nagaland, which had **Separatist** demands. This also led to **sub-regional movements** like **Bodoland** in Assam.

- Khalistan Movement:** It emerged in the 1980s with the aim of creating a separate **Sikh homeland** in the **Punjab** region of India and Pakistan, which can be seen as one of the manifestations of regionalism. However, the demand for Khalistan is often viewed more as **communal** in nature since it caters only to the interests of the Sikh community.
- Locals First policy:** The recent acts passed by states such as **Haryana** and **Andhra Pradesh**, providing **local** youth with up to 100% reservations in **private sector employment**, can be seen as a manifestation of regionalism and the 'sons of the soil' doctrine.
- Inter-State Disputes:** Inter-state border disputes
Karnataka and Maharashtra on Belgaum.
Kerala and Karnataka over Kasargod.
12 border disputes between Assam and Meghalaya over
- Inter-state river water disputes** Narmada River-**Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Rajasthan.**
Cauvery River -**Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka.**

Positive impacts

Preservation of culture and traditions: Regionalism helps to preserve unique cultures and traditions as people are able to express and celebrate their regional identity and keep traditional practices alive.

Development of local economies: Regionalism can encourage the development of local economies by promoting investment in local businesses and industries, potentially creating job opportunities and boosting the economy.

Political empowerment: Greater political empowerment may result from regionalism as people with a strong sense of regional identity are more likely to organize and advocate for their interests, which can ensure that their needs are represented in the political process

Promotion of diversity: Regionalism helps to promote diversity in India by allowing people to express their unique regional identities, contributing to a more varied and dynamic society.

Negative impacts:

Tensions and conflicts: Regionalism may lead to tensions and conflicts between different regions. This can manifest as a sense of competition, mistrust, or even hostility

between regions.

Marginalization of minority groups: Regionalism can sometimes marginalize minority groups within a region, particularly those who do not share the language, religion, or cultural practices of the dominant group.

Divisive politics: Political parties or leaders may use regional identities to create divisive politics, which can lead to a lack of cooperation and consensus at the national level, ultimately hindering progress and development. It also can lead to **Identity-based-politics**.

Effect on International relations: Regionalism can become a hurdle in international diplomacy, as seen in issues such as Tamil Nadu's concerns with Sri Lanka and West Bengal's dispute with Bangladesh over the sharing of Teesta River water.

Way Forward

1. **Unity in Diversity ethos needs to be preserved for the pluralistic character of the Indian nation state. The accommodation of multiple aspirations of a diverse population is necessary.**
2. **There is a need to increase the level of social expenditure by the states on education, health, and sanitation which are the core for human resource development.**
3. **Formation of the NITI Aayog has been a positive step to enhance cooperative federalism by fostering the involvement of the State Governments of India in the economic policy-making process using a bottom-up approach.**
4. **While a number of steps such as the launch of centrally sponsored schemes, incentives to private players for development in backward states have been taken by the government for inclusive development, there is a greater need for their effective implementation.**
5. **Introducing a system of national education that would help people to overcome regional feelings and develop an attachment towards the nation can act as a long-term solution to the problem of sub-nationalism.**

Modernity and westernization

Modernization involves changes not only at the institutional level but also a fundamental change at the personal level whereas westernization is a process of imitation of western countries by non-western countries.

Differences:

| Modernisation | Westernisation |
|---|--|
| Modernisation means to free oneself from traditional norms and value systems that have become obstacles | Westernisation initiates the western cultures, norms and styles in non-western countries |
| Moulding oneself to become a better person with a broad mind, free-thinking, and innovative mindset | Moulding oneself into a westernised framework by not focusing on one's inherited values |
| Adoption of modernisation helps in building a better society for living | Its adoption is equivalent to learning one's foundation |
| Modernisation increases the use of science, it changes the thinking mode and causes a revolution | Westernisation is responsible for diminishing joint families, and marriage breaks |
| Modernisation involves changes not only at the institutional level but also on fundamental level changes in personal life | Westernisation is a process of following instructional and fundamental changes of western countries by the other non-western countries |
| Modernisation means the development of any country through economic growth, technology development and infrastructure raise | Westernisation means adopting the technology and infrastructure of western countries |

Modernization:

Basis- It is related to forfeiting dogma and adopting practices that are consistent with conventional wisdom. For example, abolishment of untouchability, empowering women.

Cause- Educational reform is often a prerequisite for modernization. For example, Sati system which was widely prevalent till 18th century, got abolished only due to efforts of educated Indians.

Impact- It involves a change in modes of thinking, beliefs, opinions, attitudes, actions and also a change in the social structure from a closed conservative society to a classless, casteless society. For example, the way position of women is changing in society, from just remaining inside house to visiting even space.

International examples- Modernisation process involves the application of the new knowledge to the ways of living. Japan and China have been modernized in terms of industrialization, social relations but still have their culture intact.

Westernization:

Basis- Westernization involves the behavioural aspects like eating, drinking, dressing, dancing, etc.

Causes- Colonialism, mature and powerful market forces of the west that present western culture as the epitome of a good lifestyle. For example, Suit as formal dressing, Pizza, burger as fast food, etc.

Impact- Subjugation of the local culture, loss of world diversity, conflict between core and peripheral values etc. For example, harassment against women is blamed on westernization, diseases due to adoption of lifestyles or eating habits that are not supported by the local climatic

conditions.

International examples– Contemporary Indian society where westernization is on rise due to factors like globalization, impact of colonialism etc.

Westernization and modernization though have fundamental differences, but are still associated as in modern times, rationalism and scientific education, that fuel modernization, have their origin in western societies and westernization is often perceived as a sub-process of modernization.

Continuity and change in Indian society:

Certain social values like tolerance, collectivism, spiritualism, non-violence etc have been part of our traditional value system since time immemorial. Indian society has maintained continuity in traditional social values through:

1. Institution of family has ensured that traditional values pass-on from one generation to next through socialization
2. **Collective celebration of festivals reinforces values like brotherhood, fraternity, purity, triumph of good over evil etc.**
3. **Social gatherings from functions to bhajan-kirtan etc. provide avenue for sharing ideas and values.**
4. Marriages, sometimes inter-caste, has helped in preserving community values.
5. **Flexibility: Indian culture has been flexible in accommodating different and even diverging viewpoints.**
6. **Evolution: Indian value system has evolved with time adopting progressive elements and abandoning regressive practices. For example: Socio-religious reform movements of India.**
7. **Assimilation of different values and culture: Foreigners got Indianized when they came to India. For example: Scythian and Mughals.**

Changes: However, social values are changing under the influence of technological, political and economic forces. Following changes are taking place:

1. **Decline of tolerance: Incidents like the issue of Namaz in Gurugram and Haridwar Dharma Sansad show a trend of rising intolerance.**
2. **Rise of individualism and decline in collective values. Materialism and excessive competition have led to an increase in selfish pursuit of personal goals while the collective need of society is often ignored.**
3. **Nuclearization of family and decline of joint family as an institution.**

4. **Modern education has made progressive values like gender equality, non-discrimination on caste lines etc. a part of the value system.**
5. **Information technology has facilitated the quick transfer of information and changed the traditional way of socialization obsolete. Now social media is influencing our social values both in a good and bad way. For example, the MeToo campaign or the recent Bulli Bai case.**

Although, the forces of modernization have altered the balance of Indian traditional social values. However, the interaction between the two is dynamic. The traditional Indian values like ‘Vasudev Kutmbakam’ continue to assert their significance and their role in maintaining harmony in the world.

Changes in family and Marriage

Indian Society was defined by its joint family system unique all over the world. In modern day this is replaced by nuclear family system leading to more individualism. Many factors like urbanisation, education etc has caused more nuclearisation and change in Indian family system.

Factors responsible

1. **Industrialisation: (a) Industrialisation resulted in the migration of rural population to the urban areas for jobs and a better standard of living breaking their relationships with the joint family.**
 - ❖ **Jobs in the factory have freed young men from direct dependence upon their families and from the control of the heads of the households.**
2. **Urbanisation: (a) The result of urbanisation has been the establishment of nuclear families because urban-dwellers choose the nuclear families.**
 - ❖ **Urbanisation has emphasised individuality and privacy which encourage the establishment of independent family units.**
 - ❖ **In addition, the women who have got gainful jobs seek more freedom in many aspects. Therefore, they try to restrict the kinship ties.**
 - ❖ **Education: (a) It has brought about changes in attitudes, beliefs, values and ideologies of the people.**
 - ❖ **Education has also created individualistic attitudes among the educated persons. Hence, education has worked against the maintenance of the joint family system.**
3. **Enlightenment of Women: The effect of jobs for women has been towards equality. Thus, the rises in the status of women and their economic**

independence have adversely affected the joint family system.

4. **The Impact of Western Culture:**(a)resulted in the spread of ideals of liberty and equality ,Spread of individualism,Materialistic behaviour.

❖ As a combined result of this Western influence, the old and traditional Hindu values underwent tremendous changes and the very nature of joint living was affected.

5. **Decline in Agriculture and Village Industries:**The poor and the unemployed desert their homes in search of employment elsewhere moving away from their families.

Changing nature of indian family system:

1. **The changing household:**(a)As the nuclear family system has gained traction, the percentage of ‘couple only’ families has increased.

❖ The percentage of single mothers too has increased, corresponding to increasing rates of divorce in the country.

2. **Decision Making-** It is done jointly by husband and wife in consultation with each other.

3. **Equal work participation:**Women being more economically, legally and educationally empowered is no more restricted to kitchen or family management.

4. **Change in authority:**(a)In contemporary family not only in nuclear but also in joint family the grandfather has lost his authority.

❖ The authority has shifted from patriarch to parents who consult their children on all important issues before taking any decisions about them.

5. **Less abuse and Increased freedom of children-**Children today enjoy more freedom.Children have also started discussing their problems with parents.

Changes in marriage

1. **Changes in the aim and purpose of marriage:** In traditional societies the primary objective of marriage is ‘dharma’ or duty; especially among But today the modern objective of marriage is more related to ‘life-long companionship’ between husband and wife.

2. **Changes in the form of marriage:** Traditional forms of marriages like polygamy, polygyny are legally prohibited in India. Nowadays, mostly monogamous marriages are practiced.

3. **Change in the age of marriage:** According to legal standards, the marriageable age for boy and girl

stands at 21 and 18 respectively. Average age of marriage has gone up and pre-puberty marriages have given place to post-puberty.

4. **Increase in divorce and desertion rates:** It is mainly due to economic prosperity and internet connectivity. Internet has exposed people to the different social trends prevalent across the world and has revolutionized the institution in an otherwise conservative Indian society.

5. **Live in relationships:** They are on a steady growth rate in India especially among the youth in metropolitan cities. The institution also has legal recognition as a three judge bench of SC in 2010 observed that a man and a woman living together without marriage cannot be construed as an offence and held that living together is a Right to Life and Liberty (Article 21).

Changes in culture due to globalization

India is a diverse country and India’s greatness lies in its unique culture. India has also faced a significant impact on Indian cultural diversity in both positive and negative ways.

Impact on core of cultural diversity:

1. **Linguistic diversity:**

❖ The influence of transnational corporations has resulted in a central common language mainly English, which dominates regional dialects, and minority languages.

❖ But it has a positive dimension, where it had lead to Indians excelling in the services sector of the economy.

❖ Also, technology has helped preserve some of the dying artefacts, document local languages and also exposed Indians to various global arts/movies etc. For example, Flipkart and amazon is selling tribal artefacts, Channapatna wooden toys etc.

2. **Caste:** Globalisation has led to the rise of lower castes by making them aware of their rights. People eat together, increased instances of inter-caste marriages are seen in the urban areas.

3. **Religious diversity:** It also led to questioning the age old exploitative traditions like Devadasi and Triple-talaq.

4. **Women empowerment:** E.g. globalisation has helped women to realise their rights and led to raise their voice against crime like dowry.

5. **Indian Food:**Getting globalized ,moreover Various companies are respecting Indian traditions by providing various offers on Indian festivals like

Navratri, Deepawali etc.

6. Yoga and Medicine: Yoga going global, Ayurveda attracting citizens across the globe.
7. **Indian Value system:** Sustainable development, Organic farming etc going global. Indian festivals are being celebrated globally, eg Canada has declared November as Hindu heritage month.

Negative impacts:

1. **Unmonitored access to Western culture has led to increasing misrepresentation, stereotyping and the risk of loss of cultural and intellectual property rights.** eg Western countries trying to patent Neem and Tulsi.
2. Under the influence of Western ideas of individualism there has been more homogenization of values and beliefs. Eg: **Loss of local artefacts, promotion of western dressing, shift from local culinary habits etc.**
3. **English as a medium of mass communication has undermined the local languages.** The development of literature is also impacted by this. **Many tribal languages have been wiped out due to the use of a common tongue.**
4. **Fast food culture:** Various health diseases such as obesity, cardiovascular diseases etc
5. Countries like China is flooding Indian market with the products which were local to India like toys making. **This has impacted diversity in Art and handicraft as now we find the same kind of product all over India.**
6. Increasing urbanization as a consequence of globalisation has resulted in migration of **people from rural areas, resulting in the disintegration of the joint family system.**
7. **Women have been exposed to sexual violence, pornography, Workplace harassment etc.**

Globalisation to an extent acted as a unifying force but monitored access would help India preserve its multi-lingual, multi-religious and multi-caste society. Thus, it has both positive and negative influence overall.

Globalization and Tribes

The tribal population of India is around 8.6 percent of the total population of the country. The impact of globalisation is strongest on these populations perhaps more than any other because these communities have no voice and are therefore easily swept aside by the invisible hand of the market and its proponents.

Negative impacts:

1. **Global corporations are trying to push traditional societies off their lands for forests, minerals, water, and genetic diversity.** example **The interference of multinational businesses in the tribal lands of Koraput, Bolangir, and Kalahandi has long been a cause of controversy.**
2. **Traditional sovereignty over hunting and gathering rights has been restricted as national governments bind themselves to colonial style of conservation that alienates local communities.**
3. **Big dams, mines, pipelines, roads, energy developments, military intrusions all threaten native lands.**
4. **Global rules on the patenting of genetic resources via the WTO has made possible the privatisation of indigenous peoples' genomes without proper benefit sharing and consent.**
5. **National governments making decisions on export development strategies or international trade and investment rules do not consult native communities.**
6. **Globalisation usually favours people with a lot of money, skills, and opportunities. It however may not be such a great thing for the poor, especially for tribals who have been the victims of unfairness manifested through the traditional poverty and economic disparities.**
7. **The eroding resource base and socio-cultural heritage of tribal population through a combination of development interventions like extinction of tribal languages and cultures, change in clothing and eating habits etc.**

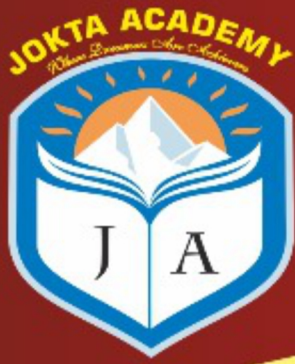
Positive impact:

1. **Global NGOs working for tribal upliftment**
2. **Tribal handicrafts getting recognition across the world**
3. **Globally conservation agencies have recently recognised and pushed for role of tribal communities in biodiversity conservation and ecosystem restoration**
4. **The contact with outsiders helped in eradication of superstitious practices among tribals. Ex: Burial of new born along with dead mother in Khasi tribes has been stopped.**
5. **Tribals were one of the least educated groups. The entry of administration brought education standards to improve their lives. Ex: Vanavasi Kalyan schools, Eklavya Residential schools.**

Through principles of Tribal panchsheel, environmental protection laws, Tribal sub plans and constitutional protection under constitution in 5th and 6th schedule

India has been able to effectively develop tribal societies without encroaching on their lifestyles, however much is still desired on this front.

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