

Biyani's Think Tank

Concept based notes

Sciology Book 2

Class - XII

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Preface

I am glad to present this book, especially designed to serve the needs of the students. The book has been written keeping in mind the general weakness in understanding the fundamental concepts of the topics. The book is self-explanatory and adopts the “Teach Yourself” style. It is based on question-answer pattern. The language of book is quite easy and understandable based on scientific approach.

Any further improvement in the contents of the book by making corrections, omission and inclusion is keen to be achieved based on suggestions from the readers for which the author shall be obliged.

I acknowledge special thanks to Mr. Rajeev Biyani, *Chairman* & Dr. Sanjay Biyani, *Director (Acad.)* Biyani Group of Colleges, who are the backbones and main concept provider and also have been constant source of motivation throughout this Endeavour. They played an active role in coordinating the various stages of this Endeavour and spearheaded the publishing work.

I look forward to receiving valuable suggestions from professors of various educational institutions, other faculty members and students for improvement of the quality of the book. The reader may feel free to send in their comments and suggestions to the under mentioned address.

Author

Chapter 1

Cultural change

Q 1. What were the different kind of social change?

Ans:

- **Sanskritization:** The term sanskritisation was coined by M.N. Srinivas. It may be briefly defined as the process by which a 'low' caste or tribe or other group takes over the customs, ritual, beliefs, ideology and style of life of a high and, in particular, a 'twice-born (*dwija*) caste'. The impact of Sanskritisation is many-sided. Its influence can be seen in language, literature, ideology, music, dance, drama, style of life and ritual. It is primarily a process that takes place within the Hindu space though Srinivas argued that it was visible even in sects and religious groups outside Hinduism. Studies of different areas, however, show that it operated differently in different parts of the country. In those areas where a highly Sanskritised caste was dominant, the culture of the entire region underwent a certain amount of Sanskritisation.
- **Westernization** refers to the emergence of a westernised sub-cultural pattern through a minority section of Indians who first came in contact with Western culture. This included the sub culture of Indian intellectuals who not only adopted any cognitive patterns, or ways of thinking, and styles of life, but supported its expansion.
- *secularisation* has usually meant a process of decline in the influence of religion. Indicators of secularisation have referred to levels of involvement with religious organisations (such as rates of church attendance), the social and material influence of religious organisations, and the degree to which people hold religious beliefs. Recent years have, however, seen an unprecedented growth of religious consciousness and conflict world over

Q.2. What was the impact of Sanskritization on Indian society?

Ans: Srinivas argued that, "the Sanskritisation of a group has usually the effect of improving its position in the local caste hierarchy. It normally presupposes either an improvement in the economic or political position of the group concerned or a higher group selfconsciousness resulting from its contact with a source of the 'Great Tradition' of Hinduism such as a pilgrim centre or a monastery or a proselytising sect." But in a highly unequal society such as India there were and still are obstacles to any easy taking over of the customs of the higher castes by the lower. Indeed, traditionally, the dominant caste punished those low castes, which were audacious enough to attempt it. Sanskritisation suggests a process whereby people want to improve their status through

adoption of names and customs of culturally high-placed groups. The 'reference model' is usually financially better off. In both, the aspiration or desire to be like the higher placed group occurs only when people become wealthier.

Q.3. Give the critical evaluation of Sankritization?

Ans:

Sanskritisation as a concept has been critiqued at different levels.

- *One*, it has been criticised for exaggerating social mobility or the scope of 'lower castes' to move up the social ladder. For it leads to no structural change but only positional change of some individuals. In other words inequality continues to persist though some individuals may be able to improve their positions within the unequal structure.
- *Two*, it has been pointed out that the ideology of sanskritisation accepts the ways of the 'upper caste' as superior and that of the 'lower caste' as inferior. Therefore, the desire to imitate the 'upper caste' is seen as natural and desirable.
- *Third*, 'sanskritisation' seems to justify a model that rests on inequality and exclusion. It appears to suggest that to believe in pollution and purity of groups of people is justifiable or all right. Therefore, to be able to look down on some groups just as the 'upper castes' looked down on the 'lower castes', is a mark of privilege. In society where such a world-view exists, imagining an equal society becomes difficult. The study on the next page shows how the very idea of purity and pollution are valued or seen as worthwhile ideas to have.
- *Fourth*, since sanskritisation results in the adoption of upper caste rites and rituals it leads to practices of secluding girls and women, adopting dowry practices instead of bride-price and practising caste discrimination against other groups, etc.
- *Fifth*, the effect of such a trend is that the key characteristics of *dalit* culture and society are eroded. For example the very worth of labour which 'lower castes' do is degraded and rendered 'shameful'. Identities based on the basis of work, crafts and artisanal abilities, knowledge forms of medicine, ecology, agriculture, animal husbandry, etc.

Q. 4. Write short notes on secularization?

Ans: *secularisation* has usually meant a process of decline in the influence of religion. Indicators of secularisation have referred to levels of involvement with religious organisations (such as rates of church attendance), the social and material influence of religious organisations, and the degree to which people hold religious beliefs.

Chapter 2

The story of Indian Democracy

Q.1. What are the two categories of democracy?

Ans: Democracies fall into two basic categories, direct and representative.

- In a direct democracy, all citizens, without the intermediary of elected or appointed officials, can participate in making public decisions. Such a system is clearly only practical with relatively small numbers of people – in a community organisation or tribal council, for example, or the local unit of a trade union, where members can meet in a single room to discuss issues and arrive at decisions by consensus or majority vote.
- Modern society, with its size and complexity, offers few opportunities for direct democracy. Representative democracy, in which citizens elect officials to make political decisions, formulate laws, and administer programmes for the public good. Ours is a representative democracy. Every citizen has the important right to vote her/his representative. People elect their representatives to all levels from Panchayats, Municipal Boards, State Assemblies and Parliament.

Q.2. What is participatory and decentralized democracy?

Ans:

- Participatory democracy is a system of democracy in which the members of a group or community participate collectively in the taking of major decisions. Eg. Gram Sabha
- Decentralised democracy is a system of democracy in which political units are divided into central, regional and local level. Eg. *panchayati raj*

Q3. What is basic difference between law and justice?

Ans:

Law is law because it carries the means to coerce or force obedience. The power of the state is behind it. The essence of justice is fairness. Any system of laws functions through a hierarchy of authorities. The basic norm from which all other rules and authorities flow is called the Constitution. It is the document that constitutes a nation's tenets. The Indian Constitution is India's basic norm. All other laws are made as per the procedures the Constitution prescribes. These laws are made and implemented by the authorities specified by the Constitution. A hierarchy of courts (which too are authorities created by the Constitution) interpret the laws when there is a dispute. The Supreme Court is the highest court and the ultimate interpreter of the Constitution.

Q.3. What were the powers and responsibilities delegated to the panchayats?

Ans: The following powers and responsibility were delegated to the Panchayats:

- To prepare plans and schemes for economic development.
- To promote schemes that will enhance social justice.
- To levy, collect and appropriate taxes, duties, tolls and fees.
- Help in the devolution of governmental responsibilities, especially that of finances to local authorities.

Q.4. What are the social welfare responsibilities of panchayat?

Ans:

- Social welfare responsibilities of the Panchayats include the maintenance of burning and burial grounds, recording statistics of births and deaths, establishment of child welfare and maternity centres, control of cattle pounds, propagation of family planning and promotion of agricultural activities.
- The development activities include the construction of roads, public buildings, wells, tanks and schools. They also promote small cottage industries and take care of minor irrigation works.
- Many government schemes like the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) are monitored by members of the panchayat

Q. 5. What is the main source of income of panchayat?

Ans:

- The main income of the Panchayats is from tax levied on property, profession, animals, vehicles, cess on land revenue and rentals.
- The resources are further increased by the grants received through the Zilla Panchayat.
- It is also considered compulsory for Panchayat offices to put up boards outside their offices, listing the break up of funds received, and utilisation of the financial aid received.
- This exercise was taken up to ensure that people at the grassroot level should have the 'right to information' – opening all functioning to the public eye.
- People had the right to scrutinise allocation of money. And ask reasons for decisions that were taken for the welfare and development activities of the village.

Q.6. What is Nyaya Panchayat?

Ans:

Nyaya Panchayats have been constituted in some states. They possess the authority to hear some petty, civil and criminal cases. They can impose fines but cannot award a sentence. These village courts have often been successful in bringing about an agreement

amongst contending parties. They have been particularly effective in punishing men who harass women for dowry and perpetrate violence against them.

Chapter 3

Change and Development in Rural Society

Q. 1. When does Commodification occurs?

Ans:

- **Commodification** occurs when things that were earlier not traded in the market become commodities.
- For instance, labour or skills become things that can be bought and sold. According to Marx, process of commodification has negative social effects. The commodification of labour is one example, but there are many other examples in contemporary society.
- For instance, there is a controversy about the sale of kidneys by the poor to cater to rich patients who need kidney transplants.
- In contemporary India, marriages were arranged by families, but now there are professional marriage bureaus and websites that help people to find brides and grooms for a fee.
- Another example are the many private institutes that offer courses in 'personality development', spoken English, and so on, that teach students.

Q.2. What is central idea of globalization?

Ans:

- A central feature of globalisation is the increasing extension and integration of markets around the world. This integration means that changes in a market in one part of the globe may have a profound impact somewhere else far away.

Q.3. What is liberalization?

- The globalisation of the Indian economy has been due primarily to the policy of liberalisation that was started in the late 1980s.
- Liberalisation includes a range of policies such as the privatisation of public sector enterprises loosening of government regulations on capital, labour, and trade; a reduction in tariffs and import duties so that foreign goods can be imported more easily; and allowing easier access for foreign companies to set up industries in India.

- Another word for such changes is **marketisation**, or the use of markets or market-based processes (rather than government regulations or policies) to solve social, political, or economic problems.
- These include relaxation or removal of economic controls (deregulation), privatisation of industries, and removing government controls over wages and prices. Those who advocate marketisation believe that these steps will promote economic growth and prosperity because private industry is more efficient than government-owned industry.

Chapter 4

Change and Development in Industrial Society

Q.1. What is the percentage of people engaged in different activities?

Ans:

- In year 1999-2000, nearly 60% were employed in the primary sector (agriculture and mining)
- 17% in the secondary sector (manufacturing, construction and utilities)
- 23% in the tertiary sector (trade, transport, financial services etc.)

Q.2. What are the implications of small size of organized sector?

Ans:

- First, it means that very few people have the experience of employment in large firms where they get to meet people from other regions and backgrounds. Here personal relationships determine many aspects of work. This is different from a large industrialized with well-defined rules, where recruitment is more transparent and there are mechanisms for complaints and redressal if you disagree with your immediate superior.
- Second, very few Indians have access to secure jobs with benefits. Of those who do, two-thirds work for the government. This is why government jobs are so popular. The rest are forced to depend on their children in their old age. Government employment in India has played a major role in overcoming boundaries of caste, religion and region. One sociologist has argued that the reason why there have never been communal riots in a place like Bhilai is because the public sector Bhilai Steel Plant employs people from all over India who work together.
- Third, since very few people are members of unions, a feature of the industrial sector, they do not have the experience of collectively fighting for proper wages and safe working conditions. The government has laws to monitor conditions in

the industrial sector, but in practice they are left to the whims and fancies of the employer or contractor.

Q.3. Where did the phase of industrialization take place after independence?

Ans:

The first modern industries in India were cotton, jute, coal mines and railways. At independence, the government took over the 'commanding heights of the economy.' This involved defence, transport and communication, power, mining. Before independence, industries were located mainly in the port cities like Madras, Bombay, Calcutta. But since then, we see that places like Baroda, Coimbatore, Bangalore, Pune, Faridabad and Rajkot have become important industrial centres.

Q.4. What is the changing scenario in job recruitment in private sector?

Ans:

Job recruitment as a factory worker takes a different pattern. In the past, many workers got their jobs through contractors or jobbers. In the Kanpur textile mills, these jobbers were known as *mistris*, and were themselves workers. They came from the same regions and communities as the workers, but because they had the owner's backing they bossed over the workers. On the other hand, the *mistri* also put community related pressures on the worker. Nowadays, the importance of the jobber has come down, and both management and unions play a role in recruiting their own people.

Q.5. What are ways to making worker produce more ?

Ans:

There are two main ways of making workers produce more.

- One is to extend the working hours. The other is to increase the amount that is produced within a given time period. Machinery helps to increase production, but it also creates the danger that eventually machines will replace workers. Both Marx and Mahatma Gandhi saw industrialization as a danger to employment
- Another way of increasing output is by industrial work. An American called Frederick Winslow Taylor invented a new system in the 1890s, which he called 'Scientific Management'. It is also known as Taylorism or industrial engineering. Under his system, all work was broken down into its smallest repetitive elements, and divided between workers. Workers were timed with the help of stopwatches and had to fulfil a certain target every day. Production was further speeded up by the introduction of the assembly line.

Q.6. What is the impact of IT on employment opportunities?

Ans:

The term 'knowledge economy' is used to describe the growth of IT in India. It has brought about changes in industries as well as agricultural sector. The famous sociologist Harry Braverman argues that the use of machinery actually deskills workers. For example, whereas earlier architects and engineers had to be skilled draughtsmen, now the computer does a lot of the work for them.

Q.7. What was the working conditions of mine workers?

Ans:

Workers in underground mines face very dangerous conditions, due to flooding, fire, the collapse of roofs and sides, the emission of gases and ventilation failures. Many workers develop breathing problems and diseases like tuberculosis and silicosis. Those working in overground mines have to work in both hot sun and rain, and face injuries due to mine blasting, falling objects etc. The rate of mining accidents in India is very high compared to other countries.

Q.8. How home-based work important part of the economy?

Ans:

Home-based work is an important part of the economy. This includes the manufacture of lace, zari or brocade, carpets, bidis, agarbattis and many such products. This work is mainly done by women and children. An agent provides raw materials and also picks up the finished product. Home workers are paid on a piece-rate basis, depending on the number of pieces they make.

Chapter 5

Globalization and Social Change

Q.1. What is the effect of globalization on our daily lives?

Ans:

- Women silk spinners and twistors of Bihar lost their jobs once the Chinese and Korean silk yarn entered the market. Weavers and consumers prefer this yarn as it is somewhat cheaper and has a shine.
- Similar displacements have come with the entry of large fishing vessels into Indian waters. These vessels take away the fish that used to be earlier collected by Indian fishing vessels.
- The livelihood of women fish sorters, dryers, vendors and net makers thereby get affected. In Gujarat, women gum collectors, who were picking from the '*julifera*' (Baval trees), lost their employment due to the import of cheaper gum from Sudan.
- In almost all cities of India, the rag pickers lost some of their employment due to import of waste paper from developed countries.

Q.2. What do you understand by globalization?

Ans:

Globalisation refers to the growing interdependence between different peoples, regions and countries in the world *as social and economic relationships come to stretch world-wide*. Although *economic forces* are an integral part of globalization, it would be wrong to suggest that they alone produce it. It has been driven forward above all by the development of *information and communication technologies* that have intensified the speed and scope of interaction between people all over the world. Moreover, as we shall see, there was a political context within which it grew.

Q.3. What are the different dimensions of globalization?

Ans:

1. *The Economic Policy of Liberalisation*: Globalisation involves a stretching of social and economic relationships throughout the world. This stretching is pushed by certain economic policies. Very broadly this process in India is termed globalization. This marked a break with an earlier stated policy of the government to have a greater control over the economy. The state after independence had put in place a large number of laws that ensured that the Indian market and Indian indigenous business were protected from competition of the wider world.
2. *The transnational corporations* Among the many economic factors driving globalization, the role of transnational corporations (TNCs) is particularly important. TNCs are companies that produce goods or market services in more than one country. These may be relatively small firms with one or two factories outside the country in which they are based. They could also be gigantic international ones whose operations crisscross the globe. Some of the biggest TNCs are companies known all around the world: Coca Cola, General Motors, Colgate-Palmolive, Kodak, Mitsubishi
3. *The electronic economy*. This is another factor that underpins economic globalization. Banks, corporations, fund managers and individual investors are able to shift funds internationally with the click of a mouse. This new ability to move 'electronic money' instantaneously carries it with great risks
4. *The Weightless Economy or Knowledge Economy* In contrast to previous eras, the global economy is no longer primarily agricultural or industrial in its basis. The weightless economy is one in which products have their base in information, as in the case with computer software, media and entertainment products and internetbased services.
5. *Globalisation of finance* there has been a globalization of finance. Globally integrated financial markets undertake billions of dollars worth transactions within seconds in the electronic circuits. There is a 24-hour trading in capital and security markets. Cities such as New York, Tokyo and London are the key centers for financial trading.

Q.4. What is liberalization?

Ans:

- The term 'globalization' refers to a range of policy decisions that the Indian state took since 1991 to open up the Indian economy to the world market.
- This marked a break with an earlier stated policy of the government to have a greater control over the economy.
- The state after independence had put in place a large number of laws that ensured that the Indian market and Indian indigenous business were protected from competition of the wider world.
- The underlying assumption of such a policy was that an erstwhile colonial country would be at a disadvantage in a free market situation.
- The state also believed that the market alone would not be able to look after all the welfare of the people, particularly its disadvantaged sections. It felt that the state had an important role to play for the welfare of the people.
- Liberalisation of the economy meant the steady removal of the rules that regulated Indian trade and finance regulations. Since July 1991, the Indian economy has witnessed a series of reforms in all major sectors of the economy (agriculture, industry, trade, foreign investment and technology, public sector, financial institutions etc). The basic assumption was that greater integration into the global market would be beneficial to Indian economy.
- The process of 'globalization' also involved the taking of loans from international institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF). These loans are given on certain conditions. The government makes commitments to pursue certain kind of economic measures that involve a policy of structural adjustments. These adjustments usually mean cuts in state expenditure on the social sector such as health, education and social security. There is also a greater say by international institutions such as the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

Q.5. What is the impact of globalization on communication?

Ans:

- Important advances in technology and the world's telecommunications infrastructure has led to revolutionary changes in global communication.
- Some homes and many offices now have multiple links to the outside world, including telephones (land lines and mobiles), fax machines, digital and cable television, electronic mail and the internet.
- Bangalore and New York – not only can talk, but also send documents and images to one another with the help of satellite technology.
- Cellular telephony has also grown enormously and cell phones are part of the self for most urban-based middle class youth. This has been a tremendous growth in the usage of cell phones

Q.6. What is the relationship between employment and globalization?

Ans: Globalisation and the IT revolution has opened up new career opportunities. Instead of routinely picking up BSc/BA/Bcom degree from colleges, they are learning computer languages at computer institutes or taking up jobs at call centers or Business Process

Outsourcing (BPO) companies. They are working as sales persons in shopping malls or picking up jobs at the various restaurants that have opened up.

Q.7. What is the relationship between globalization and political change?

Ans:

- The collapse of the erstwhile socialist world hastened globalization. It gave a specific economic and political approach to the economic policies that underpin globalization. These changes are often termed as neo-liberal economic measures. Broadly these policies reflect a political vision of free enterprise which believes that a free reign to market forces will be both efficient and fair.
- Growth of international and regional mechanisms for political collaboration. The European Union (EU), the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), South Asian Regional Conference (SARC) and more recently South Asian Federation of Trade Association (SAFTA) are just some of the examples that indicate the greater role of regional associations.
- The rise of International Governmental Organisations. (IGOs) and International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs). An intergovernmental globalization is a body that is established by participating governments and given responsibility for regulating, or overseeing a particular domain of activity that is transnational in scope. The World Trade Organisation (WTO) for instance increasingly has a major say in the rules that govern trade practices.

Q.8. How globalization marked changes in culture of India?

Ans: The flexibility of culture has increased.

- The practices like sati and exclusion of women from education has reduced. There are instances of women raising voice against unjust practices.
- It has brought change in life style. There is change in dressing, food habits.
- The country has witnessed new type of amusement centers like amusement parks, shopping malls, water parks.
- Corporate culture is a branch of management theory that seeks to increase productivity and competitiveness through the creation of a unique organizational culture involving all members of a firm.

Q.9. What is corporate culture?

Ans:

- Corporate culture is a branch of management theory that seeks to increase productivity and competitiveness through the creation of a unique organizational culture involving all members of a firm.
- A dynamic corporate culture – involving company events, rituals and traditions – is thought to enhance employee loyalty and promote group solidarity.
- It also refers to way of doing things, of promotion and packaging products.
- The spread of multinational companies and the opportunities opened up by the information technology revolution has created in the metropolitan cities in India class of upwardly mobile professionals working in software firms, multinational

banks, chartered accountancy firms, stock markets, travel, fashion designing, entertainment, media and other allied fields.

Q.10. What are the threats introduced by globalization to indigenous crafts and literary studies?

Ans:

- Modern development even prior to the stage of globalization did make inroads into traditional cultural forms and occupations based on them.
- For instance about 30 theatre groups, which were active around the textile mills area of Parel and Girgaum of Mumbai city, have become defunct, as most of the mill workers are out of jobs in these areas.
- Some years back, there were reports of large number of suicides by the traditional weavers in Sircilla village of Karimnagar district and in Dubakka village in Medak district, both in Andhra Pradesh.
- These weavers with no means to invest in technology were unable to adapt to the changing consumer tastes and competition from power looms.
- Similarly, various forms of traditional knowledge systems especially in the fields of medicine and agriculture have been preserved and passed on from one generation to the other.
- Recent attempts by some multi-national companies to patent the use of Tulsi, Haldi (turmeric), Rudraksha and Basmati rice has highlighted the need for protecting the base of its indigenous knowledge systems.

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