

WRAP Exams · wrapexams.com

Prelims PYQ, Mains model answers, and copy evaluation. Write to the desk for this paper, a doubt, or the AI waitlist.

ask@wrapexams.com · +91 85951 84903 · wrapexams.com

Q7(a)

Examine the factors responsible for the exploitation of scheduled castes in India

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2016 · Anthropology GS 2 · 20 marks · Problems of exploitation and deprivation of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. Constitutional safeguards for Scheduled Tribes and...

7.1 Problems of exploitation and deprivation of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. Constitutional safeguards for Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes.

Core demand of the question

- Examine the factors responsible for the exploitation of scheduled castes in India
- Keep the answer to a 20-mark length of about 250 words

Revision summary

Untouchability and dominant-caste power organise SC exploitation.

Landlessness and stigmatised labour are the economic core.

Reservations help a layer; most remain informal and dependent.

Local police and panchayat often sit with the exploiters.

Ambedkar's constitution is the legal counter, not yet the social fact.

Introduction

Exploitation of Scheduled Castes is organised extraction of labour, land, and honour. It is not a leftover custom only. It is a living structure of jati power.

Body

Ritual and social factors

- Untouchability and purity rules, which **Dumont** centred, still restrict wells, temples, and marriage.
- **Srinivas's dominant caste** uses those rules as a labour discipline, not only as a philosophy.
- Sanskritisation rarely opens the bottom rungs; it may even tighten distance.

Economic factors

- Landlessness, attached labour, and low-paid sanitation and leather work keep dependence.
- Green Revolution and later markets often enriched the **dominant caste** first.
- Urban jobs and reservations help a minority; most remain informal.

Political and legal factors

- **Ambedkar's** constitutional safeguards exist. Atrocities continue where police and panchayat sit with the locally strong.
- **Communal** and party uses of Dalit votes can be another harvest without land reform.

- Village studies from **Dube** to **Bailey** already showed faction as a machine that can include or punish Dalit clients.

Gender

- SC women face caste plus sexual control in field and town, a double exploitation.

Flow diagram

Purity untouchability -> SC exploitation

Landless labour -> SC exploitation

Local state capture -> SC exploitation

Conclusion

SC exploitation rests on purity ideology, landless labour, and captured local state. Law named the wound; dominant-caste economy still profits from it.

Facts & figures

B. R. Ambedkar

Named caste as a system of graded inequality and wrote constitutional remedies.

Dominant caste

Srinivas's locally powerful jati that often commands SC labour.

Article 17

Abolishes untouchability; practice continues as a factor of exploitation.

Atrocities law

Special criminal shield whose weak filing shows captured local power.

WRAP Exams · Write. Read. Analyse. Practice. · <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-2/2016/examine-the-factors-responsible-for-the-exploitation-of-scheduled-castes-in-india/> · ask@wrapexams.com · wrapexams.com