Major exam
HUL272: Sociology of India
Course Coordinator: Dr Vibha Arora, HSS, IIT Delhi

Duration: 100 minutes   Max. Marks: 30

Part 2

Compulsory – 250 words   9 Marks

1. The Indian population has been sub-divided into different categories. What are the different criteria (list at least 4) used to differentiate and define who belongs to the tribal category? How are people belonging to the Scheduled Tribe category identified and scheduled (process) in any state and listed? Explain this with reference to the politics around defining and identifying the adivasi in Uttar Pradesh. (4.5+4.5= 9)

Attempt any THREE questions (150 words each)   3x7=21 Marks

2. The general category has culminated in unmarking of caste status, but not in the annihilation of caste. Engage critically with this argument.

3. The Indian Constitution is a very progressive one and committed to further the principle of equality and non-discrimination. Yet as Beteille discusses the compensatory principle is also legitimate within India, although it enables differentiation, and discriminates based on need (over merit). Elaborate.

4. The tribal groups of India have the same fundamental citizenship rights as any other Indian citizen. Additionally, they have right to preserve and safeguard their distinctive language and culture. Discuss

5. Discuss Badri Narayan's critique of the linkages between democracy and identity politics with specific reference to the Scheduled Caste category. According to Census data, nearly 21% of Uttar Pradesh's population falls in the Scheduled Caste (SC) category, and within this category itself the Chamar comprise 56% of the SC population. Why do some groups listed in the SC category want to shift to Scheduled Tribe category?

6. The Gond community is fragmented into different categories within Uttar Pradesh in India resulting in fragmentation and loss of identity. Explain how the Census operations have furthered fragmentation and differentiation within the Gond community.