

21. The Movement for the Formation of Telangana State

Improve your learning

1. Question

Correct the incorrect statements

- Indian states were formed based on languages
- Sufficient recognition has been provided to languages of all different groups of people living in the state

Answer

The first statement is correct.

The second statement is incorrect.

Explanation:

Sufficient recognition has not been provided to languages of all different groups of people living in the state.

India is a linguistically diverse country. According to the 2011 Census, 121 different mother tongues are being spoken by its citizens. 14 of these languages are being spoken by thousands of people. The biggest example of linguistic diversity in our country is our currency which presents different languages. But this does not imply that due recognition has been given to all of them. The Constitution of India recognizes only 23 of them. 35 other languages have millions of speakers but are not recognized. These are proper languages with alphabets, grammar, dialect, and scripts. Hindi is the official language of the country and is widely spoken, but this overshadows the other languages.

This poses a number of problems. Firstly, when these people who fall in the category of widely spoken languages move to other countries, they are often excluded. Examples are the issues arising in Maharashtra due to the use of language. Secondly, exclusion occurs when people speak a dialect of well-developed languages such as Bhojpuri and Rajashthani. These languages are not even included in the 8th schedule of the constitution nor are they sued for education purpose up to 14 years of age. Although nowadays, English has become the main language of the lite and the urban classes. A person who is unaware of this language or is not well spoken in this language is often looked down and ridiculed upon. Hence, if proper recognition is given to all the languages, all these issues can be eliminated.

2. Question

“Diversity of people living in Telangana has historical, social and cultural context.”

Justify the statement based on arguments given in the chapter.

Answer

This statement can be justified by the following statements :

1. The people of Telangana felt alienated due to the uneven development as well as the cultural discriminations against them.
2. After the merger, only the languages and cultures of Andhra were promoted while those of Telangana were not used.
3. The films represented Telangana as a rude and backward state.
4. The folk festivals were also ignored.
5. The history books were not a correct representation of the state.
6. Sri Krishna Committee reported that ‘ There is little doubt that the culture industry in Andhra Pradesh at present is dominated by the Coastal Andhra side as they own much of the film industry and other means of mass communication such as the print and audio-visual media.
7. The domination of the film industry by Coastal Andhra businessmen/filmmakers popularized the Delta landscape with its green paddy fields as the ubiquitous background for most movies produced by them.”

3. Question

Describe the main features of Gentleman’s Agreement. How did this become a point of distrust between the regions?

Answer

The leaders of both sides - Telangana and Andhra met in Delhi and formed the Gentleman's agreement on 20 February 1956. They agreed on 14 points — this implied merger of the two States through conditional and subject to the satisfaction of Telangana people.

The most important points were:

1. The expenditure on the administration was to be borne by both the regions proportionately. The revenue from Telangana would be spent only for the development of Telangana.
2. The existing educational institutions in Telangana would be reserved for the students from that region only.
3. Regional Council was set up consisting of 20 members from the Legislative Assembly to oversee the needs and development in Telangana

4. It also controlled the sale of agricultural land in Telangana.
5. The Andhra Pradesh ministry will consist of 60% members from Andhra and 40% members from Telangana
6. Only those with a minimum of 12 years of residence in Telangana were eligible for securing job and admission to educational institutions in Telangana
7. If the Chief Minister was from Andhra, the deputy Minister would be from Telangana and vice versa.

4. Question

Based on the experiences of people's aspiration in Telangana what measures of safeguards take to ensure that all sections of people living in the region feel respected?

Answer

Telangana had come into existence on 2 June 2014 as the 29th state of the country. It is a country with distinct geography, art, and history but it has not been given the due recognition which the people of this area deserve. They are often ridiculed and humiliated in different fields. To safeguard the people of Telangana the two main steps that were taken by the government are:

1. Setting up of THRP and DF: THRP is Telangana Human Rights Protection & DF is Development Forum. This is a nonpolitical nongovernment organisation which has a national focus along with a worldwide network. It promotes the protection of people in Telangana. This is done irrespective of caste, creed or political views. The main aim is to help the government and its associates to bring education, unity, and equality among all the people of Telangana.

2. Setting up of DCPU : DCPU is District Child Protection Unit. It will coordinate and promote child rights along with its central objective to prevent child abuse and provide protection to children. Since the crime against children is increasing day by day, it is necessary to have an expertise that can look into this matter.

5. Question

What have been the differences in access to water, agriculture, education, and employment in the two regions?

Answer

1. The people of Telangana felt that the development is uneven. The real benefits are going to the other regions of the state.
2. The total number of colleges in Telangana were 159 and in Hyderabad 116 colleges. The grant for a college education was about Rs 93 crore in Telangana.

3. The youth also felt that most of the new employment opportunities created in the state were taken over by people of other regions.
4. The poor farmers faced many limitations of agricultural production with limited water resource.
5. The traditional services of cloth washers and nomadic communities felt the pressure of declining demand for their services. Eventually, it led to a loss of their livelihood.
6. The farmers faced a steep increase in the prices of fertilizers, pesticides, etc. They also faced huge competition from cheap imported agricultural products.

6. Question

How did the disparity of growth between urban areas and agriculture create a conflict of interest in expectations from the government?

Answer

The growth between the urban areas and the rural areas had created major conflicts of interest in the expectations of the government.

1. The Rayalaseema region which was second to the coastal Andhra has now been slipped to the third position. It was overtaken by Telangana on the basis of many development factors.
2. The rural areas have poor resource endowment along with underutilization of these resources. Even if any productivity is released, it is given to the urban areas along with the rest of the country.
3. The remote rural areas are completely left out in the development process due to the lack of resources along with the lack of will to implement any agricultural Revolution. The Green Revolution technology and diversification strategies are not implemented in these areas.
4. The Green Revolution has benefited only the coastal Andhra and urbanization has helped the well educated to gain more income from this.

A balanced regional development is required with decentralized industrialization as well as a proper spread of network to connect even the remotest areas with a diversified growth system. Proper investment must be done on the infrastructure to develop the rural areas on the same lines as urban areas have been following.

7. Question

What arguments were put forward by people who wanted the two regions to be united?

Answer

The people who wanted both the regions to be united claimed that separation of both the units would create many social and cultural conflicts. They said that the two different states would create conflicts in the political situation. The agricultural section would suffer the most due to the uneven development and the limited amount of resources. They also felt that the youth would be greatly suffered as most of the colleges are in the state of Telangana. This would also create a negative effect on the employment opportunities that are created.

8. Question

How do you evaluate the various modes of mobilisation methods used in Telangana state formation.

Answer

In order to unify the people, all parties and organizations came together to form Telangana Joint Action Committee.

Under its leadership, 6 major agitations were launched:

1. Non - cooperation Movement,
2. Million March,
3. Sagara Haram (human chain around Hussain Sagar lake in Hyderabad),
4. Sansad Yatra (March to the Parliament)
5. Sakala Janula Samme -42 day general strike,
6. Chalo Assembly.

9. Question

Describe the different roles taken up by JACs and Political parties in the formation of Telangana you think JACs created platform across political ideologies?

Answer

1. A Joint Action Committee-JAC was formed which led to setting up of hundreds of such parties in Telangana
2. A Telangana Information Trust was set up in 1989 to get information on injustices done to Telangana. On November 1, 1996, Telangana Vidroham meeting was organized in Warangal by a group of intellectuals.
3. Telangana Jana Sabha (1997) and Telangana Mahasabha (1997) facilitated the merger of the movements of the weaker sections with the movement for the state.
4. Telangana employees including teachers, Non-Gazetted and Gazetted Officers formed their organizations.

5. Joint Action Committees (JACs) spread to Kakatiya University, and then to Palamur, Satavahana, and Mahatma Gandhi Universities of Telangana.
6. The employee's students, writers, and cultural activist began holding seminars lectures and meetings.
7. Employees JACs, Lawyers JACs, JACs of caste or communities and the District level JACs were also set up.
8. The Congress Core Committee heard the presentations from the Andhra side and Telangana side and finally took a decision in favour of bifurcation.

10. Question

Locate the following in the map of Telangana.

Mahabubnagar ii) Khammam iii) Nizamabad iv) Adilabad v) Nalgonda vi) Mahaboobabad vii) Nirmal viii) Jogulamba

Answer

