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OR

(b) "The Native Marriage Act III of 1872 which laid down a fairly high minimum age of marriage for girls was very controversial". Who did the Act face criticism from and why? Discuss with reference to the prescribed essay by Tanika Sarkar.

7. (a) Have laws made for women helped create freedom and equality for women in India? Discuss using examples from any two laws you have studied as part of this course.

OR

(b) What explains the persistence of patriarchal dominance? How can we dream of a less unequal world? Give a reasoned answer using at least two texts from the course to make your case.

(500)

[This question paper contains 4 printed pages.]

Your Roll No.....

Sr. No. of Question Paper : 4471

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Unique Paper Code : 2034001207

Name of the Paper : Contemporary India: Women and Empowerment

Name of the Course : GE in English

Semester : II/IV/VI

Duration : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 90

Instructions for Candidates

1. Write your Roll. No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.
2. This question paper contains 2 parts. Both parts are compulsory.
3. Candidates have to answer ALL the questions in Part A and ANY THREE questions in Part B.
4. Questions in Part A carry 10 marks each and questions in Part B carry 20 marks each.

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PART A

1. (a) Discuss briefly the concepts of femininity and masculinity. Are these social or biological in nature? Give a reasoned answer.

OR

- (b) Gender stereotypes are subtly critiqued by women who write about their life experiences. Discuss with illustrations from Baby Kamble and Rassundari Debi.
2. (a) With reference to the text by Kasturi, discuss whether Indian women were equal to Indian men with respect to access to social and economic resources and freedoms.

OR

- (b) Discuss the connection between caste and education as outlined in "The Parable of the Lost Daughter".
3. (a) Write a short note on the contributions made by women during India's struggle for Independence.

OR

- (b) Write a short note on sexual harassment.

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Part B

- 4 (a) "Sultana's Dream" is a Feminist Utopia. Do you agree? Discuss with close reference to the story.

OR

- (b) Women and domesticity are inextricably linked within the scheme of Patriarchy. Discuss with examples the impact this has on the lives of women using the texts you have studied.
5. (a) Eco-feminism as envisioned by Vandana Shiva is a sustainable development model which if adopted can give us means to deal with climate and pandemic challenges. Do you agree? Discuss with examples from the prescribed readings.

OR

- (b) Society comes down harshly to contain a woman perceived as a threat. Do you agree? Discuss with examples from "Bayen".
6. (a) Do you think that violence against women is merely a domestic issue or the community responsibility? Discuss with analysis of the provisions of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005.

P.T.O.