

[This question paper contains 2 printed pages.]

Your Roll No.....

Sr. No. of Question Paper : 5091

L

Unique Paper Code : 2034001207

Name of the Paper : Contemporary India: Women and Empowerment

Name of the Course : **Common Pool: GE in English**

Semester : II/IV/VI/VIII

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. The 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.

Part A

1. A. "When one bhakri was made, the mother-in-law would herself put one piece of it in her mouth and spit it out. Then she would go from house to house with that bread, showing it to all. 'Just taste this bhakri! It feels as if glass is mixed in it.' The other women also loved such happenings. They would get excited. The whole village gathered in front of her door. 'The witch! Wanted to kill off the whole house! Oh, she shouldn't have attempted such a stab in the back.'" Elaborate on the collective exploitation and power mechanism in the domestic space.

Or

- B. Is patriarchy equally experienced by all women? Why or why not?
2. A. Write a short note on how a lower caste woman's work and profession can be used to oppress her with reference to *Bayen*.

Or

P.T.O.

- B. 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.
3. A. Discuss the issue of age of consent as taken up in the pre-Independence era.

Or

- B. Discuss with the help of the text by Moon and Pawar the campaign against prostitution.

Part B

4. A. Purdah system is a constriction on the identity of an individual. Do you agree with this statement? Argue with reference to Begum Rokeya's short story "Sultana's Dream".

Or

- B. What are the key structures and institutions that sustain patriarchy according to V. Geetha?
5. A. Education cannot ensure social inclusion if casteism persists. Discuss with reference to "Parable of the Lost Daughter".

Or

- B. Discuss how 'nature' is understood as a commodity to be exploited for profit in capitalism and how this view impacts ecology and women's lives.
6. A. What is domestic violence? Are women sufficiently protected against it by law? Critically analyse the available legal protection.

Or

- B. Discuss the campaigns against rape and sexual harassment taken up by the Indian feminist movement.
7. A. Discuss with illustrations from the texts you have read how the patriarchal celebration of motherhood becomes a burden for women.

Or

- B. Discuss with the help of any two texts from the course what you understand about gender as a concept that can be studied as intersecting in India with other categories like caste, class, religion, or sexuality.