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Subject :- General knowledge - III

Part - II

Q no :- 6 :-

National Integration:

National integration is a feeling of oneness and brotherhood in the country having diverse society. It is a centripetal socio-political force that blends different individuals and groups of a nation into a single unified force. It builds a unified sense of purpose and belongingness.

1. Chief constituents :-

There are some ideas and principles that further strengthens the unity of the Nation and are considered as the main

elements of national integration.

(i) Democracy -

Democracy is a state in which all citizens are equal under the country's law no matter from where and what background they belong. All citizens has the right to elect the representatives to form a government.

(ii) Equal Fundamental Rights and Duties:-

Every citizen of the nation have equal fundamental rights and the interests of every citizen and of every group and section is the responsibility of the state.

Similarly, every citizen has the duty to regard loyalty to the Nation as being above all group or sectional loyalties and individual interests should be subordinates to the national interests. It is the

fundamental duty of every citizen to honor the constitution of the country.

(iii) Unified Justice System:-

The legal structure of a nation should guarantee equality justice and security of all its citizens without any discriminations

(iv) Identical Symbols:-

National emblems are adopted to inspire the citizens to have ideals and loyalty toward the nation. National symbols like national flag, national anthem etc, unify the

(v) Religion and culture-

A national religion contributes to shaping the shared values of a culture into a sense of national unity. It becomes the public expression of a unified identity, consistent with the

basic cultural values that are respected and cherished by the majority of population. Thus, religion would contribute to a stronger sense of national unity, which is important for holding a culture together to offset divisive forces.

(vi) National Language:-

A national language can help promote national integration as it can serve as a common means of communication among diverse groups within a country, fostering a sense of belonging and understanding. Additionally, a shared language can facilitate political, economic and social integration, as well as the preservation of cultural heritage. By providing a common linguistic identity, a national language can contribute to

a sense of national pride and solidarity among citizens

2. National Integration in Pakistan:-

The following can be ways to increase national integration and cohesion in Pakistan.

(i) Strong Provinces:-

The empowered and internally autonomous provinces can make use of their resources for the socio-economic development of the people. It will reduce the insecurity among the different ethnic groups in the country, which will reduce different ethnic movements and promote national harmony.

(ii) Promote dialogue:-

Subnationalism and militant culture has been threatening the ideological and territorial

integrity of the state. So, it is important to adopt the policy of reconciliation and dialogue with the people rather than oppression and use of force.

(iii) Equitable distribution of resources:-

Economic disparity in Pakistan is a major reason for provincialism and compromised national unity. So, state should ensure equitable economic distribution to increase economic opportunities.

(iv) Interfaith harmony:-

Religious intolerance is a major challenge for national integration and integrity. So, the state should take steps to promote interfaith harmony and do not let anyone exploit religious sentiments.

of one faith against opposite faith.

(v) Educational Equality:-

Lack of educational opportunities cause dissatisfaction among the population. Free and cheaper education facilities should be expanded in all areas of Pakistan by the governments and the private sector to maximize education in Pakistan. While this will help people to contribute more towards socio-economic development of Pakistan, it will also enable them to shed away their biases on ethnic, cultural, lingual, religious or sectarian grounds, which will help in achieving a better national cohesion and national integration.

vi) Transparency and accountability:-

The issues of national integration are also complicated by the corrupt and inefficient governments, who failed in achieving economic development and providing equal employment opportunities. The neglected sections of the state are dissatisfied due to corruption and nepotism in the government. So, our politicians, bureaucracy and educationists, especially the heads of all the government departments and institutions should work to end corruption and nepotism in the society.

3. Conclusion:-

National integration is a centrifugal social force that blends varying national strands into a singular social

fabric and builds a unified national front against internal and external challenges. Pakistan is a diverse society with multi-cultural, multiethnic, multi-lingual and multi-religious societal landscape. Thus the need for cohesion has always been overwhelmingly high. It is the convergence of the three forces of religion, ethnicity and external environment that hinders national integration in Pakistan. So, resolving such divisive factors would go a long way in fixing the fissures of our society and promoting a genuine national integration in Pakistan.
