

Class - XII

Section (a) Reading

Unseen Comprehension Passages (1)

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

The doctors clamouring against reservations for OBCs have demanded that merit be the sole criteria for admission to medical and engineering colleges. Then, how is it that they haven't objected either to the NRI quota or candidates who procure admission on the basis of capitation fee? Does this not affect quality? Reservation was introduced in the Kolhapur State as early as in 1902 and in the State of Mysore in 1921. In Tamil Nadu, where the human health index is much better than in other states, there is as much as 69 per cent reservation. Let us take for a moment that upper caste doctors are meritorious. But is this of any help to the nation when many of them use elite institutes as springboard to go abroad for higher wages. Nearly 70 per cent of doctors from AIIMS doctors go abroad. How are these elite institutes, under such circumstances, serving the interests of the common people? On the other hand, it has been in Tamil Nadu that a good number of SC/ST/OBC doctors, who procured admission into colleges due to the reservation policy, stick to their state or hometown, resulting in better healthcare services.

2. Reservation is not a phenomenon exclusive to our country. The American MNC, IBM, voluntarily introduced reservations for Blacks in 1930. In Malaysia there are reservations not just in jobs but also in contracts, licences and company shares for Malays. Reservation for the depressed and weaker sections exist in many countries like Brazil, South Africa, Japan, Netherland and Ireland. There is 50 per cent reservation for Blacks and women in the medical faculty of Harvard University. And the Whites have never made an issue of being eligible only for 50 per cent of the seats. In fact, it is the handful of anti-reservationist doctors, who talk of disintegration of society on account of reservation, who are really responsible for creating dissension and obstacles in the ways of social justice of the OBCs. The media have, of course, played a negative role. But it is a reality that Indian society is constituted on caste lines. If the anti-reservations are so concerned about the disintegration of society on caste lines, they should first lead the struggle against social discrimination.

3. Reservation get a job or admission even if they get less percentage of marks, In one of the cases a person was in Indian Revenue Service. He saw that candidates getting high marks in a competition were not necessarily successful in the field. Merit, as it is being presently understood, does not include honesty, hardwork and patriotism. In the American school system, besides the syllabus, students have to undergo practical training in social

4. services, etc. and marks are added in the certificate based on performance in this area. The only people tailing of merit today are those who have studied in public schools or whose children study in such schools.

5. The expenditure incurred on education in public schools is 50 to 100 times more than those of corporation/ government schools. There is a vast difference in quality between the teachers of public and government schools. Parents who can afford to send their children to public schools are mostly educated. They not only teach the children themselves at home but also provide coaching