

Q-7 What is regionalism in Indian context? What are its reasons & how it can be curbed? (200 words)

Ans-7 Regionalism in India can be defined as conflicts arising due to overbiasing of a particular region's people over the others. It distorts unity of a country by regional conflicts but at the same time it can hinder peace & generate a sense of fear among the people who are residing in that region.

The reasons can be numerous like linguistic conflicts, economic disparity, practice of different cultures which widens the gap, political influence etc. Sometimes, administrative failures due to some corrupt officials can also contribute to the regionalism. Even geographical barriers can also pose a threat as it separates people on the basis of their outfits, practices etc.

There are various instances where the regionalism has shattered the peace of a region. Recently, in Gujarat, the Bihari workers & labourers

were forced out of the state because they thought that Bihari people are responsible for polluting the atmosphere of Gujarat by recent rape case of a girl child. But how can a whole community be blamed for this case. The innocent people who leave their homes in search of jobs have to suffer the most.

Following steps should be taken to reduce the regionalism :-

- ① Check on regional parties - Often, they are behind the riots & therefore a strict check on their activities should be there.
- ② Education - Right from childhood, we should have the feeling of oneness i.e. Indian & not of a state identity like Punjabi, Marathi etc.
- ③ Development in Deprived zones - It can help to make balance among the regions.