

READING COMPREHENSIONS_14

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words/phrases are given in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

Since 1947, Indians have not spoken out so strongly and clearly for a completely new brand of people running government. Mercifully, there are no ministers educated abroad. Thankfully, none of them has been brainwashed at Harvard, Stanford, Cambridge, the World bank or the IMF, subtly forcing expensive Western solutions on typically Indian problems at the cost of the poor. Look what the high powered, foreign returned degree wallahs have reduced this country to. They wasted opportunities to show the inner strength of what is essentially Indian because they never really knew their own people living in Bharat. In the eyes of the World, we have lost our self-respect, dignity and identity.

All the ministers now have gone through average government schools. Some have never been to college. Many have experienced poverty, exploitation, injustice and discrimination at some point of time in their lives. It is truly the first barefoot government ever to be voted into power in independent India. Where else in the World would you have a one time tea seller on a railway station becoming Prime Minister, shaping the **destiny** of more than one billion people?

The first example the Modi government must set is by drastically reducing the **perks** and privileges of MPs. Free power, food, housing, travel to those whose personal assets run into crores and a Rs.2 Crore annual fund for development for over 500 MPs is costing the exchequer nearly Rs.2000 Crore. Only the Prime Minister will be able to make it happen and, at the same time, stifle any dissent from BJP MPs. The time is now.

No other government in the World has a Class 12 pass woman ministers speaking as an equal to almost 120 heavily qualified, on paper, vice chancellors (90 % male). Today, as we judge them, the VCs are all to intellectually and morally **fatigued**. There is something dreadfully wrong with an education system that produces graduates from even private, expensive, **snobbish** schools and colleges who are still prejudiced about caste, class, religion, sex and colour. These “graduates”, who roam the streets of small towns and cities by the thousands, call themselves “educated”, practise the worst forms of cruelty, slavery and crimes against humanity, against society and in their own families. Indeed,

some of them rose to the level of their incompetence by becoming ministers in previous governments, reinforcing the status quo, wasting vast public resources by implementing silly Western ideas, listening to foreign returned “experts” and making a hopeless mess of this country. The tragedy is that they cannot see the colossal damage they have done to the very fabric of this country.

1. What is/are true about the ministers of the new government formed at the Centre?

- a) Some of them are highly qualified and foreign degree holders.
- b) Only a few of them are the products of average government schools.
- c) There are some ministers who have never been to college.
- d) Our Prime Minister is a postgraduate in Political Science.

2. Which of the following is not one of the characteristics of the ministers of the last government at the Centre?

- a) Some of the ministers of the last government at the Centre were educated abroad.
- b) The ministers of the last government were brainwashed at foreign universities to suggest Western solutions for Indian problems.
- c) The Western degree holder ministers coming from the elite class never knew their own people living in Bharat.
- d) Though the ministers of the last government were Western educated yet they had great concern about the gripping problems of India

3. Which of the following statements is based on the facts mentioned in the passage?

- a) The present government aims at reducing the perks and privileges of MLAs.
- b) There is something wrong with those educational institutions that produce graduates who remain prejudiced about caste, class and gender.
- c) The elitist education policy has still managed to make students humble and sensitive towards humanity.
- d) None of the present ministers has gone through poverty, injustice, exploitation and discrimination

4. What is the perception about India in the eyes of the World?

- a) That India is a developing nation
- b) That we don't have self respect, dignity and identity
- c) That India is still a c ountry of snake charmers
- d) That India is an educationally backward nation

5. Choose the word/group of words which is most similar in meaning to the word/group of words printed in bold as used in the passage.

Destiny

- a) Objective
- b) Prospect
- c) Future
- d) Concept

6. Choose the word/group of words which is most similar in meaning to the word/group of words printed in bold as used in the passage.

Perks

- a) Benefits
- b) Candy
- c) Loss
- d) Constraints

7. Choose the word/group of words which is most similar in meaning to the word/group of words printed in bold as used in the passage.

Fatigued

- a) Fresh
- b) Lively
- c) Exhausted
- d) Vivacious

8. Choose the word/group of words which is most opposite in meaning of the word/group of words printed in bold as used in the passage.

Dissent

- a) Strife
- b) Marvellous
- c) Objections
- d) Approval

9. Choose the word/group of words which is most opposite in meaning of the word/group of words printed in bold as used in the passage.

Snobbish

- a) Haughty
- b) Pompous
- c) Arrogant
- d) Humble

- 1. Option C
- 2. Option D
- 3. Option B
- 4. Option B
- 5. Option C
- 6. Option A
- 7. Option C
- 8. Option D
- 9. Option D