Q. Discuss the Problems of religious minorities in India and suggest measures to solve them. (10).

A religious minority is a social group that follows a religion different from the dominant faith of the society and occupies a relatively subordinate position, often facing marginalization, discrimination, or exclusion based on its distinct religious identity

As per census 2011, Government outlined 6 religious minority communities in India i.e, Muslim, Sikh, Crishtian, Parsi, Buddhist and Jains.

Okay

But Can also adds definition then this dala

Challenges of minority communities.

1. Dominration of Majority culture (hindu) and imposition on them.

   ↗ leading to diminishig of minority Couldure

   Same Point

   eg - mandating Hindu Song during school assemblies.

   Beef eating Ban

   How ↓ please add example

2. Diminishing of minority culture.

   Frm...

   Dmp

which led to identity crisis.

3. Threat from *Politicization of* votes. which causes ~~disharmony~~, ~~riots~~, etc.

Rise of communalism for political vested interest

need more relevant points

~~Religious minority communities suffer from *Poverty*, *inflation*, lack of political representation etc.~~

vague without data or specific recent examples

Measures for religious minorities

1. State must take *affirmative* action for the upliftment of minorities.

Deconstructing Stereotypes through Education and Media

2. Political representation should be increased.

Culturally Sensitive Development Planning

3. Constitutional morality should be inculcated for social equality and harmony.

Hence, by this way India should maintain its diversity in unity.

very generic

Socio-Economic Marginalization

Low representation in employment, education, and politics (Sachar Committee, 2006 – Muslims lag in almost all development indicators).

Many Muslim-dominated areas lack basic infrastructure, earning the term "Muslim ghettos."

Parsis, though economically better off, face the problem of demographic decline.

2. Stereotyping and Prejudice

Goffman's theory of stigma: Religious identity often becomes a source of labelling, especially post-terrorism narratives.

Media representation reinforces negative stereotypes, especially for Muslims and Christians.

3. Communal Violence and Insecurity

Periodic communal riots (e.g., Gujarat 2002, Delhi 2020) instill fear and weaken intergroup trust.

Durkheim's concept of collective consciousness gets fractured due to religious polarization.

4. Political Exclusion and Vote-Bank Politics

Minorities are either politically under-represented or tokenized as vote-banks.

Structural functionalists may argue that this disrupts social integration

5. Cultural Domination and Identity Crisis

The push towards majoritarian cultural norms challenges minority identity (e.g., debates around beef consumption, religious attire).

Gramsci's idea of cultural hegemony applies to how dominant religious narratives marginalize others.
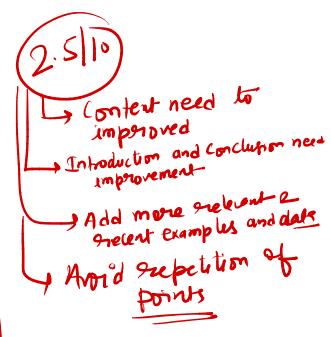
6. Educational Disadvantage

Low enrolment and high dropout rates among Muslim youth.

Minority-run institutions (Madrasas, Missionary schools) are often underfunded or stigmatized.

7. Legal and Institutional Discrimination

NRC-CAA controversy perceived as targeting Muslim minorities, raising fears of statelessness.

Delays in justice and bias in institutions like police and courts (institutional racism theory – Feagin).

(handwritten annotations, red ink):

2.5/10

→ Content need to improved

→ Introduction and Conclusion need improvement

→ Add more relevant & recent examples and data

→ Avoid repetition of points

Conclusion

Despite constitutional safeguards (Articles 25–30), the lived reality of religious minorities often reflects structural inequality and exclusion. For a truly inclusive democracy, there is a need to move from mere tolerance to active accommodation, ensuring social justice, equality, and dignity for all religious communities.

Evaluation Parameters

1. Conceptual Clarity: Accurate definitions, depth, correct attribution to thinkers
Poor [✓] Average [ ] Good [ ] Excellent [ ]

2. Context Understanding: Interprets question correctly, relevance, UPSC alignment
Poor [ ] Average [ ] Good [✓] Excellent [ ]

3. Structure: Clear intro-body-conclusion, logical flow
Poor [ ] Average [ ] Good [✓] Excellent [ ]

4. Presentation: Underlined key terms, flowcharts, margins used
Poor [ ] Average [✓] Good [ ] Excellent [ ]

5. Language & Flow: Academic tone, grammar, transitions
Poor [ ] Average [✓] Good [ ] Excellent [ ]

6. Objectivity: Balanced arguments, evidence-based analysis
Poor [✓] Average [ ] Good [ ] Excellent [ ]

7. Interdisciplinary Links: Integration of GS, current affairs, related domains
Poor [✓] Average [ ] Good [ ] Excellent [ ]

8. Word Limit Compliance: Within ±10% of prescribed limit
Poor [ ] Average [✓] Good [ ] Excellent [ ]

9. Evaluator's Impression: Insightful, original, exam-ready
Poor [ ] Average [✓] Good [ ] Excellent [ ]

Evaluator Remarks:

① Need To Improve your Content Base

② Avoid Generic Content

③ Need of more answer writing practice.

Keep writing