8. As a labour member, he advocated for "fair condition of life of labour" instead of securing "fair condition of work" and laid out the basic structure of the government's labour policy.

9. He contributed to the reduction of working hours to 48 hours per week, lifting the ban on the employment of women for underground work in coal mines, introducing the provisions of overtime, paid leave and minimum wage.

10. He also helped to establish the principle of "equal pay for equal work" irrespective of sex and maternity benefits.

# As Chairman of the Drafting Committee and as first Law minister of Independent India

1. Ambedkar was appointed as the chairman of the constitution drafting committee on August 29, 1947.

2. He believed that the gap between different classes was important to equalize, otherwise it will be very difficult to maintain the unity of the country.

3. He emphasized on religious, gender and caste equality.

4. Ambedkar introduced the reservation system to create a social balance amongst the classes.

5. As chairman of the Constitution's drafting committee, he took meticulous measures to build a just society through liberty, equality and fraternity.

6. His advocacy for universal adult franchise ensured that women had the right to vote immediately after Independence.

7. His advocacy of the Hindu Code Bill was a revolutionary measure towards ameliorating women's plight by conferring on them the right to adopt and inherit.

8. He contributed to developing federal finance.

## Conclusion

Today, Ambedkar is revered nationally, and figures in the national pantheon as one of the makers of modern India, along with Gandhi, Nehru and Tagore. His birthday, April 14, has been christened as 'Ambedkar Jayanti' or 'Bhim Jayanti' and is celebrated as a public holiday. As India celebrates the 125th birth anniversary of this national icon, Babasaheb remains an inspiration for millions of Indians and proponents of equality and social justice across the globe.

Account for the life and contributions of Pandita Ramabai, social reformer and educationist in the modern history of India. (250 words) *Reference: The Hindu* 

## Introduction

Social reformer Pandita Ramabai Sarasvati tirelessly worked to promote education and emancipation of women during late 19th and 20th centuries. She is well known for her empowerment of women especially, the destitute, widows and those ostracised from the society. She worked for the education of women and uplifted many from evils of the society.

## Body

## Background and life of Pandita Ramabai

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