

SOCIAL CHANGE

Introduction

- Change means, evolution, progress and adaptation
- Change is law of nature
- Change is constant
- Change is continuous and never ending process

- Definition
- Variation in or modification of any aspect of social processes, social pattern, social interactions or social organisations
- Modifications in ways of doing and thinking of people

Nature of social change

- Universal – no society remains static
- Rate of change not uniform
- Occurs as an essential law
- Unable to predict
- Changes in community as a whole
- Shows chain reaction sequence – industrialization – loss of domestic products – woman came to factory and then to office
- Modification and replacement

Factors affecting social change

- Cultural factor
 - Changes in culture accompanied by social change
 - Culture decides limits beyond which social change cannot occur
- Biological factor
 - Indirect influence, survival of the fittest
- Population factor
 - Population and health problems
 - Each generation, beginning of social change
- Geographical factor
 - Change in nature, environment – natural calamities
- Psychological factor
 - By nature Man is a lover of change
- Technological factor
 - Communication
 - Transport
 - New agricultural techniques

PROCESS OF SOCIAL CHANGE

- Social Evolution
- Social Progress
- Social Change / Social Deviation

Social Evolution

- Definition
 - Is a development, planned and unplanned of culture and forms of social relationships or social interaction
- Meaning
 - Describes the evolution of human society, social relationships and civilisation of man
- Principles
 - Gradual and progressive
 - Direction of change
 - Time succession – chronological order
 - Classify and characterise diverse social systems
 - Internal growth – what happens to an object and what happens within it

Social Progress

- Definition
 - A change or an advance towards a desirable end
- Factors
 - Nature of end
 - Distance we are from the end
 - Direction towards the goal
- Ingredients
 - Enhancement of human dignity
 - Respect for each human personality
 - Social order promotes values
 - Promotes liberty, happiness, justice
 - Freedom for creativity, investigation for truth
- Nature
 - Presuppose presence of change, towards desired goal, based on values
 - Goals and ideas changed from time to time
 - More subjective, no measuring rod

Social Deviation / Change

- Deviation of one generation becomes norms for next generation
- Deviation threaten social stability
- Deviation evades the norms, leads to disorganisation
- Definition
 - Failure to conform to other person's expectations
 - Behaviour contrary to the standards of conduct or social expectations of given society

Types of social deviation

- Goals and ways/means to achieve those goals give rise to types
- Ritualism
 - No positive outcome, still will stick to the means
- Innovation
 - Accept goals, try a new mean, desired goal achieved then considered OK, negative outcome due to innovation is a social danger
- Rebellion
 - Reject both goals and means, do not follow norms, try to institute new goals and means
- Retreatism
 - Passive rejection of goals and means

Factors facilitating deviance

- Faulty socialization
- Secrecy of violations
- Sub cultural support of deviance
- Indefinite range of norms
- Poor enforcement of laws, weak sanctions
- Corrupt enforcement
- Ambivalence of social control agencies

Social significance of social deviation

- Disorganisation
 - Isolation, social stability disturbed, social order not maintained
 - Deviant will not play their role, distrust others, hampers smooth functioning of organisation
- Benefits towards Organisation
 - Clarifies rules and regulations
 - Defiance indicates defect in organisation
 - No delay in social welfare activities
 - No excessive accumulation of power at one place
 - Prevents excessive accumulation of discontent, reduces amount of strain in legitimate order

Social change and Human adaptation

- Man has to adjust, accommodate and adapt for changes
- Moulds his personality
- Leads as per social norms
- Unable to adjust leads to stress, conflict, problems and psychosomatic diseases.
- Social changes leads to changes in the functions of social institutions
 - Family
 - Social life
 - State

- Family
 - Disintegration of joint family
 - Strained family relationship, divorce, marital conflicts
 - Women status, freedom and empowerment
- Social life
 - Individualization
 - Decline of community life
 - Housing problems
 - Less importance to caste, equalisation to all
- State
 - Democracy, Secularism
 - Bureaucracy
 - Pressure groups (lobby)

Social changes and stress

- Person's adaptive or physiological response of the body to a stimulus that places excessive physical or physiological demands on him
- Components that determine stress
 - Notion of adaptation
 - Stressor / Stimulus
 - Stimuli
 - Demands of stressor on the individual

Eustress

- Positive in nature
- Getting recognised, self motivation, self esteem
- Essential for optimum functioning
- Lead productivity

Factors contribute to stress

- Change in social norms
 - Technology advancement and its acceptance
- Class and caste prejudice and discrimination
 - Discrimination leads to deprivation, frustration
- Domestic discard and family instability
- Education

Social Welfare Planning

- Any measures taken for the benefit of the weaker and vulnerable sections of the society
- Welfare – Helping others, poor, widows, physical and mentally disabled,
- Welfare measures – provision of health, education and housing services, legislation protecting rights, social security

Social welfare

- Organised system of social services and institutions, designed to aid individuals and groups to attain satisfying standards of life and health.
- Influenced by new economic, political and cultural trends
- Social and economic wellbeing of entire population – health, education and labour

Social work

- Is a professional service, based upon scientific knowledge and skill in human relations, which assists individuals, alone or groups to obtain social and personal satisfaction and independence
- Social services
 - Conservation
 - Protection
 - Improvement of human resources
- Social work – process
- Social welfare – end result

Social welfare

- Objectives
 - Determine social needs
 - Planning to meet needs
 - Mobilise resources to achieve goals
- Goals
 - Economic development
 - Social security
 - Protected minimum standards – nutrition, health, education etc.
- Examples
 - Schools, institutions for disabled,
 - Water supply, sanitation facilities, hygienic conditions

Social Planning

- An instrument made by Government to achieve desired social and economic developments
- National development planning
- Planning commission of India (?)
- Is a process
 - Preventive, promotive, protective and controlling measures in solvation of social problems
 - Directs for proper utilisation of material, man power and social resources

Steps in planning

- Analysis of social situation
- Establishment of objectives and goals
- Assessment of resources
- Fixing priorities
- Alternate plans
- Programming and implementation
- Monitoring
- Evaluation

Difficulties in implementing

- Lack of scientific study about social problems
- Lack of manpower to carry out planning
- Vested interests of society
- Indifference and apathy of masses
- Real understanding of human society