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MA SOCIAL WORK

MASW 101 : Introduction to Social Work

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COURSE INTRODUCTION:

This is first paper of M.A social work (MSW) programme of first semester. This course provides an introduction to field of social work, exploring its values, principles, methods, and the role of social workers in various settings.

UNIT 1: In this first unit, learners will be introduced to the social work practice with individuals i.e. social case work, social group work, social action; social welfare administration and social work research are the secondary methods of social work. This course mainly focuses on field work which a crucial part of social work because it provides practical experience helps apply theoretical knowledge, develop professional skills and fasters a deeper understanding of client environment.

UNIT 2: Shall introduce the learners to the professional of social work is based on humanities, liberalism, and democracy principles. On the other hand, help practitioners to be competent in their profession.

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UNIT 1: Basic Concepts of Social Work

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1.1 Learning Objectives

Define social work and understand its historical development.

Identify the key objectives that guide social work practice.

Recognize the basic assumptions that underpin social work as a profession.

Understand the various functions social workers perform in different settings.

Explore the methods and techniques used in social work practice.

Learn and apply the principles that guide ethical and effective social work.

1.2 INTRODUCTION- MEANING OF SOCIAL WORK

Social work is both a discipline and a profession dedicated to understanding and addressing social problems. It applies social theories to better comprehend society and uses therapeutic method to tackle social issues. Social work examines the causes and impacts of social problems on individuals, groups, communities, and society as whole. It employs a multidisciplinary approach, drawing from sociology, psychology, philosophy, economics, political science, law, and other fields. Unlike other social sciences, social work is profession that applies therapeutic models to address social issues. Social work is a profession that utilizes therapeutic models to address social issues. As an applied science, it incorporates

skills, methods, and techniques to influence human behaviour and resolve social problems. The term "profession" in this context indicates a high level of expertise and artistry in using social theories and therapeutic processes.

While social work and sociology are related fields, they differ in focus, purpose, and methods. Social work is practice-oriented, concentrating on helping individuals, families, groups, and communities overcome social issues and enhance their well-being. This involves direct practice through counselling, advocacy, community organization, and social intervention. Social workers employ therapeutic methods and case management to meet their clients' needs and improve their quality of life. They operate in diverse settings such as schools, hospitals, community agencies, and private practices. In contrast, sociology primarily focuses on studying societal structures and patterns to understand human behaviour and social dynamics.

LET US KNOW:

Jane Addams (1860-1935), an American social reformer and Nobel laureate, was born in Cedarville, Illinois. She was educated at Rockford Female Seminary and Women's Medical College in Europe. In 1889, along with Ellen Starr, Addams established Hull House in Chicago, one of the first settlement houses in the United States. Addams played a significant role in the formation of the National Progressive Party in 1912 and the Woman's Peace Party, becoming its chairperson in 1915. She was elected president of the International Congress of Women at The Hague in 1915 and later the president of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, established by The Hague congresses held in Zurich, Switzerland (1919), Vienna, Austria (1922), and Washington, D.C. Jane Addams received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931, sharing it with American educator Nicholas Murray Butler. Her notable works include "Democracy and Social Ethics" (1902), "Newer Ideals of Peace" (1907), "Twenty Years at Hull House" (1910), and "The Second Twenty Years at Hull House" (1930).

Sociology:

The term sociology is credited to the 19th-century social philosopher Auguste Comte, who first used it in 1838 to describe the scientific study of society. Sociology derives from the Latin word "socius" (companion) and the Greek word "logos" (science or study), meaning the science of human society. Sociology focuses on the study and analysis of social behavior, institutions, and structures. It aims to understand how society functions and the patterns of social relationships through research and theory development. Sociologists utilize research methods such as surveys, interviews, and statistical analysis to study social phenomena. They primarily engage in academic research and teaching, aiming to advance knowledge and understanding of social dynamics, structures, and processes. Sociology applies this knowledge to develop theories and inform public policy, education, and further research.

Basic Concepts of Sociology:

1. Society: A group of people living in a defined territory who share a culture sociologists' study how societies are structured and how they changed over time.

2. Culture: The beliefs, norms, values, customs and artifacts that members of a society use to cope with their world and with one another. It including language, symbols, rituals, and practices

3. Socialization: The process through which individuals learn and internalize the values, beliefs, and norms of society. This process starts in childhood and continues throughout life, shaping individual's identities and behaviors.

4. Social Structure: The organized pattern of social relationships and social institutions that together compose society. It provides a framework within which individuals and groups interact and are able to live together

5. Social Institutions: The organized and established systems that help society meet its needs. Key social institutions include family, education, religion, economy, and government.

6. Social Groups: A collection of individuals who interact with one another, share similar characteristics, and collectively have a sense of unity. Groups can be primary (e.g., family, close friends) or secondary (e.g., co-workers, classmates).

7. Social Network: A structure made up of individuals or organizations that are connected through various social relationships, ranging from casual acquaintance to close familial bonds.

8. Social Interaction: The process by which people act and react in relation to others. It includes face-to-face interactions as well as mediated interactions through technology.

9. Norms: The rules and expectations by which a society guides the behavior of its members. They can be formal (laws) or informal (customs and traditions).

10. Values: Deeply held principles or standards that guide behavior and judgments within a society. They represent what is considered good, desirable, and proper.

11. Social Change: The transformation of culture, social institutions, and social structure over time. Sociologists study the causes and consequences of social change, including factors like technology, social movements, and economic shifts.

LETUSKNOW:

Auguste Comte: He is considered as the father of sociology. He originally used the phrase 'social physics' for his new science of society but he had to drop this after sometime because his

Intellectual rival the Belgian statistician Adolphe Quetelet used this as the title of his book in 1835. Comte wanted to distinguish his own views from early thinkers of society, so he coined the word 'sociology' in 1838 to describe the subject he wished to establish. Comte divided sociology into two major groupings:

1. Social Statics: study of social structure, function, social system, social relationships etc.
2. Social Dynamics: study of social change, development, transformation and revolutions etc.

Comte believed that this new science could produce knowledge of society based on scientific evidence.

1.3 DEFINITIONS

The Indian Conference on Social Work (1957) defined social work as "a welfare activity based on humanitarian philosophy, scientific knowledge and technical skills for helping individuals or groups or community, to live a rich and full life". This definition indicates that social work involves a humanitarian approach to help people with the use of scientific understanding and skills.

Marshall and Scott define social work as the generic term applied to the various organized methods for promoting human welfare through the prevention and relief of suffering.

"Social work is that process which deals directly and differentially with persons who have problems relating primarily to their social situation and which endeavours, individual to individual to

understand what help is needed and to assist the individual to find and utilize the help indicated".
(Friedlander, 1951)

This definition says social work is a process that links resources that an individual can utilize to solve the issues relating to the social situation that surrounds us.

"Social work is an entity representing three clearly distinguished but inter-related parts: a network of social services, carefully developed methods and processes and social policy expressed through social institutions and individuals. All three are based on a view of human being, their interrelationships and the ethical demands made on them" (Konopka, 1958).

Social work consists of definite services, methods and social policies that helps to solve issues faced by individuals as the person lives abiding social relationships and norms.

1.4 CHECK YOUR PROGRESS:

1. What is social work?
2. Who is the father of social work?
3. Give any two definitions of social work?
4. What do you mean by sociology? What is the full form of sociology?
5. Who is known as the called sociology?

1.5 OBJECTIVES OF SOCIAL WORK:

The profession of social work has certain objectives. Objectives are statements or formulations of what we are trying to do in social work. Some of the most important ones are:

1. To solve psycho-social problems: issues affecting both psychological well-being and social relationships.
2. To fight against social evils to fulfil humanitarian needs: combating injustices like discrimination and basic needs of human
3. To solve adjust mental problems to create self- sufficiency: helping individuals adapt to their environment and become independent.
4. To integrate and coordinate the means and resources of social development: efficiently utilizing available resources to foster social development.
5. To develop democratic values, make provision for corrective and recreation services: promoting democratic principles and offering services for correction and recreation.
6. To change the environment in favour of individual's growth and development: modifying surroundings to support personal development.
7. To bring change in social system: transforming societal structures to improve social conditions.
8. To provide socio-legal help: offering assistance that addresses both social and legal issues.

9. Provide opportunities for development and social programme:

creating and supporting initiatives that encourage personal and community growth.

The main motto of social work is: Helping people to help themselves!

It implies that social work profession functions in the underlying belief that through the use of methods, techniques and skills, the clients have to be empowered to help themselves. Rather than making the client dependent on the social worker for solving his/her problems, the client should be empowered to take his/her own decisions. The social worker assists the client in showing the path and in decision-making by building self-confidence of the client and helping in procuring resources.

1.6 BASIC ASSUMPTIONS OF SOCIAL WORK

Clarke has given six major assumptions of social work. They are:

- i. Social Work is a novice profession which necessitates intellectual activities accompanied by great individual responsibilities. It is not just academic but also practical in its aims.
- ii. Understanding of human personality is one of the bases of functioning of a professional social worker.
- iii. Social work and social welfare are not the same thing. Social welfare comprises of social institutions and the field of practice, while social work comprises of a body of practices which can be employed at many places in the large social welfare field.
- iv. Social work has its own processes, techniques and skills. It has a point of view and a philosophy.

The social worker by nature his/her activities must use many types of services. Therefore, the social worker must have extensive knowledge about the resources of the community in which he/she is working.

vi. The social worker is concerned with the needs of individuals and with the environment that cause personal problems. The interaction of person and situation is the focus of the social worker.

1.7 FUNCTIONS OF SOCIAL WORK

Social work is a profession that assists individuals in adjusting to the social environment and also to modify the environment in favour of the client in appropriate areas. Social work operates to assist individuals in adjusting to the institutional framework of society, and attempts to modify the institutional framework itself in appropriate areas. Social work has four broad functions: curative/ remedial, correctional, preventive and developmental.

Curative/ Remedial Function: The objective of this approach is to cure or find solutions (remedy) to physiological, psycho-social issues faced by clients or communities. Thus, it implies- after a problem has occurred, the next step is to solve/ cure it by providing various assistance. Under the curative function, the following services are provided: Medical services, health services, services relating to psycho- social and mental health, psychiatric service, child guidance, child welfare services, services for the handicapped and disabled and rehabilitative services.

Correctional Function: The main objective of correctional functions is to rectify or reform (mould) individuals/social practices in the right direction.

Correctional social work has 3 broad areas. They are-

i) individual reform services which include prison reform, probation, parole, other related services ii) services for strengthening and improving relationship- family welfare services, school social work, industrial social work, iii) services for social reform -employment services, prevention of prostitution, beggary, prohibition services and removal of untouchability.

Preventive Function: It includes prevention of social evils and diseases by creating awareness and influencing policy formulation and implementation. Prevention services include life insurance,

public assistance, social legislation, labour welfare, adult education and prevention of diseases and creating awareness against child labour, against gender discrimination and violence.

Developmental Function: Developmental tasks are socio-economic developmental activities, education and recreational services, urban and rural development programmes and the programme for integration. It focuses on both social and infrastructural development of groups, communities, regions.

LET US KNOW:

Jane Addams is considered the mother of social work. Let's learn about her. Jane Addams (1860-1935), an American social reformer and Nobel laureate, was born in Cedarville, Winnetka, and educated at Rockford Female Seminary and Women's Medical College in Europe. In 1889, with Ellen Starr, Addams established the Hull House in Chicago, one of the first settlement houses in the United States. Addams played a prominent part in the formation of the National Progressive Party in 1912 and of the Woman's Peace Party, of which she became the chairperson in 1915. She was elected the president of the International Congress of Women at The Hague, Netherlands in 1915, and the president of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, which was established by The Hague congresses held in Zurich, Switzerland (1919), Vienna, Austria (1922), Washington. Jane Addams won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931, sharing the award with the American educator, Nicholas Murray Butler. Her works include Democracy and Social Ethics (1902) Newer Ideals of Peace (1907), Twenty Years at Hull House (1910), and The Second Twenty Years at Hull House (1930)

1.8 CHECK YOUR PROGRESS:

6. What is the main motto of social work?
7. What are two objectives of social work profession?

8. What do you mean by social function?
9. What are the four broad function of social work?
10. How do social work and social welfare differ?
11. Mention one of the based functioning of professional social work ?

1.9 METHODS OF SOCIAL WORK

A method can be defined as an orderly way of procedure which is always carried out towards the attainment of a particular aim. Social work profession has certain methods which are employed for the benefit of the clients or the specific target groups. They are six in total, each of which uses different techniques. They are:

1. Social Case Work
2. Social Group Work
3. Community Organization
4. Social Action
5. Social Welfare Administration
6. Social Work Research

The first three are the primary methods of social work. They are- social work practice with individuals i.e. Social Case Work, Social Group Work and Community Organization. The remaining three, i.e. Social Action, Social Welfare Administration and Social Work Research are the secondary methods of social work. Now, let us discuss the methods of social work in detail.

1.9.1 SOCIAL CASE WORK

Social case work: social work practice with individuals is one of the primary methods of social work which is being practiced by social workers universally. This method enables the social functioning of individuals which focuses on one-to-one relationship. Mary Richmond is the most important proponent of social case work. Her book titled 'Social Diagnosis' elaborately discussed the method of case work and its significance. Richmond defined case work as: 'Social case work consists of those processes which develop personality through adjustments consciously effected, individual by individual, between men and their social environment with their problems'. It can be defined as 'the art of doing different things for and with different people by cooperating with them to achieve at one and the same time their own and society's betterment'. Case work is identifiable, according to Richmond, by its aim of social betterment and its method of differential treatment. Case work is concerned with the utilization of available resources in the immediate environment and capacities in the individual, which may give him/her a fuller and more satisfying life, both economic and personal. The case worker deals with people and situations one by one. The four 'P' components of Social Case Work are: Person, Problem, Place and Process.

Individuals are part of society and every person performs different social roles and duties. During this process, individual usually struggles with several problems in one or other form, which deter his performance as a social being. Every individual is distinctive with different nature, personality, several circumstances, needs and has a distinct approach of handling his / her life situations. To understand the distinctiveness of human behaviour and the individual differences, one needs to understand human being in diverse social environment and life experiences. As said- man is a social animal, each individual experiences interaction between biological, psychological and environmental factors. Unresolved problems that an individual faces would affect his/her social functioning in turn causing stress to the person. This might affect the family, community life and all the social roles that one performs in the society. Social case work method tries to resolve individual issues mainly by restoring, maintaining or improving the person's social functioning by using the knowledge of human behaviour, communication,

skills, relationship tool and the available resources. Case work method is used by social workers help people across age, gender and various sections of society to develop their functioning socially.

LET US KNOW: Mary Ellen Richmond (1861-1928) was a pioneering social work leader and reformer in the United States. Here are some key details about her:

Early Life and Education: Born on August 5, 1861, in Belleville, Illinois, Mary Ellen Richmond graduated from high school in 1879 and later attended the Chicago Institute of Social Science (later part of the University of Chicago), earning a diploma in 1893.

Career in Social Work: Richmond's social work career began in 1899 when she was appointed as the general secretary of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity, marking the start of her significant contributions to the field.

Contributions to Social Work: She is best known for her influential book "Social Diagnosis" (1917), which laid the foundation for modern social casework. In this book, she emphasized the importance of using scientific methods and individualized approaches to help clients overcome personal and social problems.

Professional Leadership: Richmond was instrumental in organizing and professionalizing social work in the United States. She played a crucial role in establishing the American Association of Social Workers (later the National Association of Social Workers) and served as its first executive secretary.

Legacy: Her contributions to social work practice, education, and policy continue to be highly regarded. Her emphasis on systematic analysis, professional standards, and the importance of individual client needs significantly influenced the development of social work as a profession.

Later Years and Death: Richmond continued her work in social reform and education until her death on August 12, 1928, in New York City.

Mary Ellen Richmond's impact on social work theory and practice remains profound, and she is remembered as one of the foremost figures in the history of social work in the United States.

1.9.2 CHECKYOUR PROGRESS:

12. What are the three primary methods of social work ?
13. What is the meaning of case work?
14. Who is the founder of social case work?
15. What was the first book on case work?
16. What is Mary Richmond's full name?
17. What are the 4p's of social case work?

1.9.3 SOCIAL GROUP WORK

Group work is another significant primary method of social work profession. The purpose of group work is to enhance social functioning of an individual. It is accomplished through groups which have the 'power to enhance problem-solving capacity, prevent the development of serious social problems, and restore and maintain the social functioning of members'. Group work is applicable in all settings of social work practice. It is a method that uses groups as a medium of therapy to modify and enhance social behaviour. Group work is applied to assist individuals to enhance their social functioning in a group setting and to cope more effectively with social environment. Social workers also work in clinical as well as non-clinical settings in which they work for social cohesiveness and integration. For example-

group work with groups of children, patients with similar health issues or life-threatening diseases, vulnerable groups, the aged, youth in a community and many more.

Group workers continuously facilitate members evaluate their own behaviour and respect the individuality of other members. Whenever required, the group worker has to clarify their ideals, behaviour and resolve conflicts. Conflict among group members is a common phenomenon because of the variance of personalities of each of the members. Individuals with similar problems are constituted into a group for group therapy. One reason why forming groups can work effectively is because a positive group climate can be created based on the personal relations. Group members develop a feeling of mutuality and belongingness. They can relate to each other's problems, form a support system, help in resolving adjustment problems and enhance the social functioning.

1.9.4 CHEEKYOURPROGRESS:

18. What is group work? Give one example?

1.9.5 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Community Organization is one of the primary methods of social work that involves mobilizing and empowering communities through their groups, leaders, advocates, volunteers' institutions, and organizations. It is a long-term process whereby people who are marginalized or living in poverty work together to identify their needs, create change, exert more influence in the decisions which affect their lives and work to improve the quality of their lives, the communities in which they live. Community organization is a method of intervention whereby a professional change agent helps a community action system composed of individuals, groups or organizations to engage in planned collective action in order to deal with special problems within the democratic system of values. This involves two major interrelated concerns: (a) the inter actional cess of working with an action system, which includes identifying, recruiting and working with members and developing organizational and interpersonal

relationships among them which facilitates their efforts; and (b) The technical tasks involved in identifying problem areas, analysing causes, formulating plans, developing strategies and mobilizing the resources necessary to effect action. Example: Neighbours organizing to fix potholes and infrastructure problems in their area.

Gan grade (2001) defined community organization as the process by which the social system of the community provides for integration and adaptation within the community. This is a process that continues regardless of the work of the community organizer whose function it is to initiate, nourish and develop the process. In participating in this process, the community organizer will have regard for certain values relating to the forms of social change and the means by which they may be brought about. The community organizer has to be expertise in human relationships who can hold the members together under difficult conditions to attain the goal of development.

1.9.6 CHECKYOURPROGRESS:

19. What do you mean by community organization? Give example.

20. Community organization is one of the _____ of social work?

1.9.7 SOCIAL ACTION :

Social action is an organized group process that aims to deal with general social problems and enhancing social welfare by legislative, social or economic progress. It is a secondary method of social work that refers to organized and legally permitted activities designed to mobilize public opinion, legislation and administration in favour of socially desired objectives. Arthur Dunham (1958) defines social action "as efforts to bring about change or prevent change in current social practices or situations,

through education, propaganda, persuasion or pressure, on behalf of objectives believed by the social actionists to be socially desirable". In a revised edition he refers to situations of conflict and allows for goals of change and methods to deal with them. It implies potential conflict situations and promotion of a cause, measure or objective. In a developing country, social work ought to go beyond the role of social welfare services or a therapeutic process. Kulkarni asserted- "Social action creates the necessary conditions and climate in which social work could be done more effectively." According to Siddiqui, welfare approach is gradually losing its significance and the inconsistency in democratic system demands the rights-based approach. According to him, social action is the most controversial and most challenging method of social work as a profession which has its core values as social justice and equality. Social Action method advocated the achievement of this objective

1.9.8 CHECKYOURPROGRESS:

21. Social action is one of the _____ of social work.
22. What is the primary goal of social action?
23. How does Arthur Dunham define social action?

1.9.9 SOCIAL WELFARE ADMINISTRATION

Social welfare administration is another secondary method of social work that has twin concepts of social welfare and administration implanted in it. Thus, it requires an understanding of welfare as well as administration as a tool for achieving welfare. Social welfare has its roots in charity and social service. People in a society have inherently tried to take care of destitute and underprivileged individuals either because of kindness, philanthropy or religious and customary obligations. As governance systems evolved, with the changing political and social systems, there was an effort to institutionalize welfare. The welfare discourse has seen changing dimensions from charity to needs, to rights-based approaches.

Social work dictionary defines social welfare administration as a 'method used by those who have administrative responsibility to determine organizational goals for a social agency or other unit; acquire resources and allocate them to carry out a program; coordinate activities towards achieving selected goals; and monitor, assess and make necessary changes in processes and structure to improve effectiveness and efficiency. Development planning is an integral part of social welfare and its administration. By social administration we mean that process which is used in the organisation and administration of public and private services. It includes those activities which are undertaken for the benefit of individuals, groups and communities. Under social welfare and administration of such services, process of organisation and direction is necessary to decide on how the available resources are to be utilized Social Welfare Planning: This involves setting objectives and determining the course of action to achieve them. It includes analysing current situations, identifying goals, and outlining steps to achieve them effectively.

These are key elements of postscore view planning: organizing, staffing, directing, coordinating, reporting, and budgeting.

Planning: This involves setting objectives and determining the course of action to achieve them. It includes analysing current situations, identifying goals, and outlining steps to achieve them effectively

Organizing: This refers to arranging resources and tasks in a structured way to achieve organizational objectives. It involves establishing roles, responsibilities, and relationships to facilitate goal attainment.

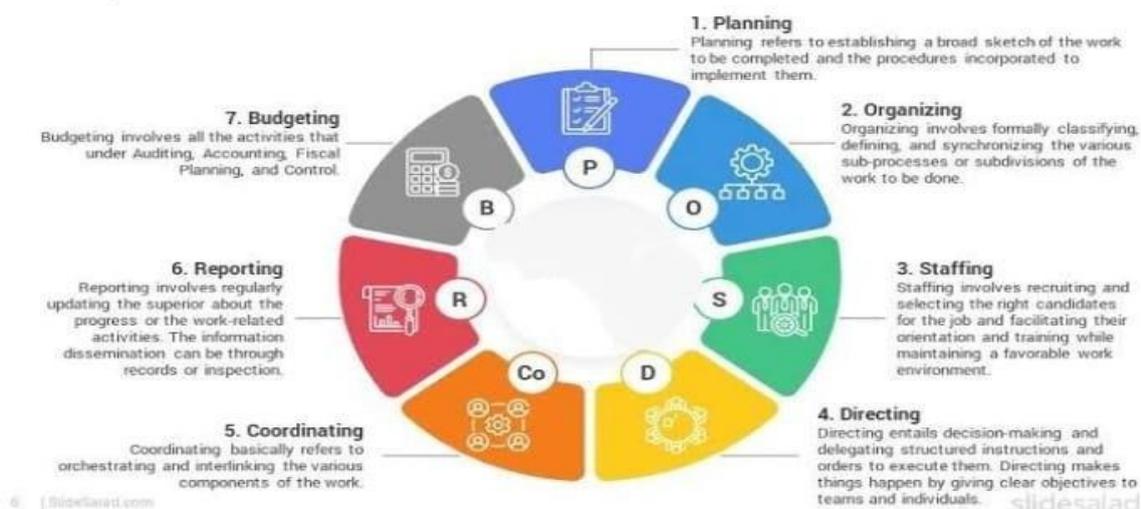
Staffing: This involves selecting, recruiting, training, and developing employees to ensure the right people with the necessary skills are in the right positions within the organization.

Directing: This focuses on guiding and supervising employees in their roles to achieve organizational goals. It includes providing leadership, motivation, and communication to ensure tasks are performed effectively.

Coordinating: This involves harmonizing activities and efforts across different parts of the organization to ensure consistency and synergy in achieving goals. It includes resolving conflicts and ensuring collaboration.

Reporting: This entails monitoring and evaluating organizational performance against set objectives. It involves collecting data, analysing results, and communicating outcomes to stakeholders.

Budgeting: This involves allocating resources (financial and otherwise) to various activities and projects within the organization. It includes forecasting financial needs, creating budgets, and controlling expenditures to ensure financial stability and efficiency.



These elements collectively form the core functions of management, providing a framework for effective organizational leadership and operational success. Administration may be carried out by the government, an individual, a group, or any association. Welfare provisions are a fundamental part of the governance system and administration. The ultimate goal is to achieve welfare for the people through the proper utilization of resources—human, capital, and natural. There are broadly two views about the scope of social welfare administration.

The Integral View:

There are certain components of welfare administration in concern with social welfare. They include:

- a) **Social Problems:** These are issues or conditions that negatively impact individuals or communities within society, such as poverty, crime, discrimination, and homelessness.
- b) **Social Services:** These are a range of public and private services designed to meet the social needs of individuals and communities. They include healthcare, education, housing assistance, counselling, and welfare benefits.
- c) **Social Security:** This refers to government programs that provide financial assistance and support to individuals and families during specific life events or circumstances, such as retirement, disability, unemployment, and bereavement.
- d) **Social Policy:** These are laws, regulations, and guidelines formulated by governments to address social issues, promote social welfare, and achieve societal goals. Social policies cover areas such as healthcare, education, housing, and employment Fundraising is also an integral part of social welfare administration and a fundamental component of social work.

1.9.10 CHECK YOUR PROGRESS:

24. What is Postscore?

.25. Mention fundamental components of social work?

26. _____ is also an integral part of social work.

1.9.11 SOCIAL WORK RESEARCH

Social work research is an indispensable method that enhances the scope of social work research. Social Research According to Fanshel (1980) every profession must systematically carry out high quality research if its performance in the service of clientele is to remain effective and up to date. Research provides an in-depth understanding of a particular problem identified and thus contributes to

the knowledge system. Research consists of numerous tools to describe, define, measure and evaluate their work. In social work profession, research skills are important since it is both a science and an art. As social workers, there is a lot of dependence on data base that provides information about the client's situations, a group or community problem. Empirical data base is an important pre-requisite for social work intervention. When knowledge on various social situations cannot be found in prevailing literature or when there is a need to study the effectiveness of interventions social workers conduct their own research. Social work research is an important stream of research as it not only strives to penetrate into deep rooted social issues, but also strives to find solving techniques for such issues. Social workers continuously access data from multiple sources, file the progress of clients in individual or group interactions and write reports. These are documented and recorded. Social work research draws heavily from such primary data as well as secondary data.

1.10 PRINCIPLES OF SOCIAL WORK

Principles are the guiding assertions of statements which are guiding force for social work practice. These basic rules enable a practitioner to be competent in his/her profession. The objectives of social work can be fulfilled only within the framework of principles. Therefore, let us discuss the basic principles which are guiding force for social work practice.

Principle of Individualization: The principle of individualization is fundamental for effective social work practice since the betterment of the individual is the primary purpose of social work. Individualization is the recognition and understanding of each client's unique qualities and the differential use of principles and methods in assisting each one towards better adjustment and participate in the changing process. A social worker must treat his/her client not merely as a human being but a human being with his/her personal differences. The social worker must individualize the client, because for every client the situation and problem may be unique. What works with one

client may not work with another. No two persons are alike in all qualities and traits. Their problems may be the same but the cause of the problem, the perception towards the problem and ego strength differs in every individual. Therefore, each individual client should be treated as a separate entity and complete information is required to establish close relations in order to solve his/her problem from root.

Principle of Meaningful Relationship: Professional relationship is essential for the success of social work practice. The quality of relationship is the corner stone of helping in social work. This relationship is developed in social work by demonstrating the interest in client, who is perceived as a real person with spontaneity and capacity for responsiveness within the democratic frame of reference the professional relationship involves a mutual process of shared responsibilities, recognition of other's rights, acceptance of difference, with the goal of socialized attitudes and behaviour stimulating growth through interaction. The essence of relationship is seen as an interplay, a mutual emotional exchange, an attitude, a dynamic interaction, a connection between two persons and a mutual process.

Principle of Self-determination: Social responsibility, emotional adjustment and personality development are possible when the person exercises his freedom of choice and decision. An ethical principle that recognizes the rights and needs of clients to be free to make their own choices and decisions. Inherent in this principle is the requirement for the member to help the client know what the resources and choices are and what potential consequences of selecting anyone of them may be.

Principle of Acceptance: Social work accepts the individual as he is and with all his limitations. The social worker is expected to respect every client as human being without any judgmental attitude. A social worker must appreciate the variations within any group. He should avoid making assumptions about any person's cultural identity, beliefs or values on the basis of the person's external characteristics or membership in a particular population or demographic group. The principle of acceptance implies that social workers must perceive, acknowledge, receive and establish a relationship with the individual client as he actually is, not as we wish him to be or

think he should be. It means that no matter how much the client may differ from the social worker, client need to be accepted and acknowledged as he is if we are to help him.

Principle of Social Functioning: Social functioning refers to the functioning of people in their social roles and relationships, with emphasis on their relation to the environment. The common base of social work consists in a central focus on social functioning, an orientation towards people involved in the situation, use of social work values and the combined body of social work knowledge for working with individuals and groups.

Principle of Tuning Behaviour: Every individual has body, mind and intellect as three instruments of experiences through life constantly pulsates. These three instruments have their own distinct characteristics in each person. Hence each person has unique personality. There is a need of tuning these instruments regularly so that he may have the proper experience of the world fully. Social work therefore believes that through tuning of behaviour of an individual his problems can be minimized if not wholly solved and he feels and realizes a new strength running in his body and mind.

Principle of Social Learning: Social learning is a pre-requisite to the changes that are inevitably involved in problem solving. Change in individual, group or community will depend on their capacity to learn new facts, attitudes and ways of behaviour. Social learning is an essential part of social work practice whether the change is initiated by social action or individual therapy.

Principle of Confidentiality: Confidentiality is essential to professional relationship. It is the foundation for any therapeutic relationship with a client. Therefore, worker should keep confidential the information which is being shared by the client. Sharing such information unnecessarily with outsiders can easily break worker client relationship. Ensuring the client of confidentiality of his/ her sharing personal information and experiences shared, builds up trust in the professional relationship between the client and the social worker.

Principle of Communication: Communication is the road through which the social worker identifies with the client. The function of social worker is principally to create an environment in

which the client will feel comfortable in giving expression to his feelings. Client should feel that he can tell his story in his own way and he may think that he is given due importance. Two-way effective communication is the key to the success of solving client's issues and empowering him/her. Communication ensures expression and analysis of feelings, experiences and information necessary to deal with for the wellbeing of the client.

Thus, the principles of social work are necessary for the profession that act as guidelines for social workers in dealing with client's issues and strive for the betterment of individuals, groups and communities. In this context, let us try to understand the main target groups of social work who are more vulnerable to discrimination and injustice. They are identified as 'vulnerable groups'. However, apart from the vulnerable groups, TO anyone can seek professional social work help to deal with various issues faced in life- situations.

1.11 CHECKYOURPROGRESS:

27. Social work research draws heavily from such _____ as well as _____.

28. What is the most important principle of all types of social work?

29. What is the principle of social learning?

30. Why is the principle of communication important?

1.12 LET SUM UP:

Social work is a discipline and a profession which is concerned with the causes of social problems, its impact on individuals, groups, communities and society at large and to deploy social work methods for its solution. It comprises of a multi-disciplinary approach to understanding society and its problems. In summary, while both fields study society and social behaviour, social work is practice-oriented with a direct focus on helping people, whereas sociology is research-oriented, aiming to understand and explain social phenomena. Social work draws heavily from the disciplines of sociology, psychology, philosophy, economics, political science, law, and others to gain a comprehensive understanding of society. The main motto of social work is: "Helping people to help themselves!" This implies that the social work profession operates on the belief that, through the use of methods, techniques, and skills, clients must be empowered to help themselves.

Social work has four broad functions: curative/remedial, correctional, preventive, and developmental. There are six methods of social work. The first three are the primary methods: social casework, social group work, and community organization. The remaining three—social action, social welfare administration, and social work research—are the secondary methods. Fieldwork is a crucial part of social work because it provides practical experience, helps apply theoretical knowledge, develops professional skills, and fosters a deeper understanding of client needs and their environment.

1.13 ANSWER TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS:

1. Social work is both a discipline and a profession that focuses on understanding and addressing social problems. It applies social theories to better comprehend society and uses therapeutic methods tackle social issues. Social work involves applying skills, methods, and techniques to influence human behaviour and resolve social problems. This field draws from various disciplines, including sociology, psychology, philosophy, economics, political science, and law enhance to quality of life and well- being of individuals and

Communities. Social workers engage in direct practice, including counselling, advocacy, community organization and social intervention, in various settings such as schools, hospitals, community agencies, and private practice.

2. Jane Addams is often considered the mother of social work.

3. Definitions of social work:

The Indian conference on social work (1957). Social work is welfare activity based on humanitarian philosophy, scientific knowledge, and technical skills for helping individuals, groups or communities to live a rich and full life “.

Marshall and Scott: Social work is generic term applied to the various organized methods for promoting human welfare through the prevention and relief of suffering.

4. Sociology is the scientific study of human society focusing on social behaviour, institution, structures. It aims to understand how society functions and the patterns of social relationships through research methods such as surveys, interviews and statistical analysis.

5. The term sociology originates from the Latin word socius meaning science or study. Thus, sociology is the science of human society.

August Comte is known as the “father of sociology”

6. The main motto of social work is “helping people to help themselves.” This implies that the profession aims to empower clients through methods, techniques, and skills so they can solve their own problems and make their own decisions, rather than becoming dependent on social work.

7. To solve psycho-social problems: This involves addressing and resolving issues such as discrimination, inequality, and other social injustices that negatively impact individuals and communities.

8. The social function of social work refers to the various roles and responsibilities that social workers undertake to assist individuals and communities in adjusting to the social environment and institutional framework of society. These functions include curative, correctional, preventive, development.

9. The four broad function of social work are: curative/remedial function, corrective/rehabilitative, preventive function, developmental function.

10. Social work and social welfare are not the same thing. Social welfare comprises of social institutions and the field of practice, while social work comprises of a body of practices Which he/she is working.

11. One of the basic functions of professional social work is curative/remedial function, which focuses on addressing problems after they have occurred by providing solutions and remedies, such as health services, mental health support, and assistance for individuals with disabilities.

12. Social case work, social group work community organization are the three primary methods of social work,
There are three methods of social work are: Social case work, social group work, Community organization.

13. Social case work is a method of social work that involves a one-to-one relationship to help individuals improve their social functioning and resolve personal issues by utilizing available resources, and understanding human behaviour.

14. Mary Richmond is considered the founder of social case work.

15. The first book on case work is “Social Diagnosis” by Mary Richmond.

16. Mary Ellen Richmond.

17. There are 4s of social case work are: person, problem, place, process.

18. Group work method that uses group settings to enhance the social functioning of individuals by fostering mutual support, problem solving and social integration. For example, Group work with groups of children patients with similar health issues or life threatening diseases, vulnerable groups, the aged, youth in community and many more.

19. Community organization is a method of social work that involves mobilizing and empowering communities to work together to identify their needs, create change, and improve their quality of life by engaging in planned collective action to address specific issues. Example Neighbours organizing to fix potholes and infrastructure problems in their area.
20. Primary methods.
21. Secondary method
22. The primary goal of social action is to address and resolve general social problems by mobilizing public opinion, legislation and administrative measures towards socially desirable objectives.
23. Arthur Dunham defines social action as efforts to bring about or prevent change in current social practices or situations through education, propaganda, persuasion, or pressure on behalf of objectives believed by social actionists to be socially desirable.
24. POSDCORB is an acronym representing the seven key functions of management planning, organizing, staffing, directing, coordinating, reporting and budgeting.
25. The fundamental components of social work include assessment, intervention, evaluation and case management, all aimed at promoting well- being and social justice for individuals and communities.
26. Fund raising.
27. Primary data, Secondary data.
28. The most important principle of all types of social work is the commitment to uphold and advocate for social justice and human rights.

29. The principles of social learning emphasize that observation, imitation, and modelling of behaviour demonstrated by others in social contexts.
30. The principle of communication asserts that effective communication involves clarity, empathy, active listening and mutual understanding between parties involves in exchange.

1.14 Model Question

1. Explain the meaning of social work with any two definitions?
2. What is the relationship between sociology and social work?
3. Sociology as the study of society? Explain?
4. What is the main objective of social work?
5. Write down the function of social work?
6. Write down the function of social work?
7. Define and differentiate between the primary and secondary methods of social work?
8. What are the principles of social work? Explain in detail?
9. How does social work research both science and arts?
10. According to you what is the most important principles of all types of social work practice
11. Briefly explain POSDcoBR?
12. Briefly explain (answer all question)
 - A. Social Problems
 - B. Social Services
 - C. Social Security
 - D. Social Policy

1.15 Assignment Question:

1. As a social worker, how can you effectively apply the principles of acceptance and communication to assist client in the field, ensuring that their individual needs and circumstance are respected and addressed?
2. As a social worker, how can you apply primary and secondary research methods during field visits to gather relevant data and develop effective interventions that address the specific needs of the community?
3. What are the main objectives of the social work programs at this field site, and how are they being achieved?
4. What basic assumptions about human behaviour and society are evident in the way social work is practiced at this site?

1.16 FURTHER READING

Patel, A.K. and Dubey M.V. (2010) Philosophy of Social Work. Crescent Publishing:

New Delhi

Misra, P.D. (1994) Social Work: Philosophy and Methods. New Delhi 3.

Bhattacharya, Sanjay (2003) Social Work: An Integrated Approach. New Delhi:

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UNIT 2

Concepts related to Social Work

UNIT STRUCTURE

2.1 Learning Objectives

2.2 Introduction

2.3Philosophy of Social Work Profession

2.4 Basic Values of Social Work

2.5 Check your progress

2.6 Marginalization of Vulnerable Groups

2.7 Challenges vulnerable groups

2.8 Concepts Related to Social Work

2.8.1 Social Service

2.8.2Social Welfare and Administration

2.8.3 Social Reform

2.8.4 Social Justice

2.8.5 Human Rights

2.8.6 Social Security

2.8.7 Social Policy and Legislation

2.8.8 Social Development

2.9 Check your progress

2.10Let Us Sum Up

2.11 Answer to Question

2.12 Model Question

2.13 Assignment Question

2.14 Further Reading

2.1 LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to:

Describe the philosophy and values of social work profession

Explain the principles of social work

Analyse the issues of marginalized groups and significance of social work in this regard

2.2 INTRODUCTION

Social work is a novice profession and is guided by principles and values. In the previous unit we have discussed the objectives, functions and the six methods of social work. In the present unit let us discuss the philosophy, values and principles of this profession. Let us also understand the vulnerability of the marginalized groups and why social work is necessary to deal with issues of discrimination. This is aligned with the philosophy and objectives of social work practice. Vulnerable Groups such as the elderly, children, people with disabilities, ethnic minorities, and low-income populations often face several challenges, including health disparities due to limited access to healthcare and a higher prevalence of chronic diseases, economic hardship with higher rates of unemployment and poverty, educational barriers due to limited access to quality education and resources, social exclusion from discrimination and stigma, increased risks to safety and security, housing instability, and limited access to essential services.

Social work is essential in addressing these issues by providing support and interventions that promote inclusivity and quality of life. This aligns with the philosophy and objectives of social work practice, ensuring the profession remains dedicated to fostering a just and compassionate society. Social work's role in promoting dignity, respect, and person-centered approaches underscores its crucial contribution to addressing complex social issues. Through advocacy, community organization, and direct practice, social workers strive to create positive change and improve the quality of life for vulnerable populations.

2.3 PHILOSOPHY OF SOCIAL WORK

Philosophy is the beliefs and principles underlying any department of knowledge. It is the study of truths and principles of being, knowledge, or conduct. A belief (or system of beliefs) accepted as authoritative by some group or school. Thus, it is clear that the concept of philosophy is grounded in the understanding that there are truths and principles of our existence and that these truths are accepted by us as well as others. We can have a set of truths and principles that guide us in how we conduct ourselves and define what we expect from others.

The philosophy of social work is based on humanities, liberalism and democracy.

Humanitarianism: This value underpins the social work commitment to promoting human welfare and alleviating suffering social workers focus on the well-being of individuals and communities, striving to meet basic human needs and improve quality of life. This humanitarian outlook drives social workers to provide support, resources, and advocacy for those in need, often working with vulnerable and marginalized populations.

Liberalism: Emphasizing individual rights and freedoms, liberalism influences social workers to respect client autonomy and self-determination. Social workers support clients in making informed decisions about their lives, providing the necessary tools and resources to empower them.

Democracy: The democratic principles of equality, justice, and participation are central to social work. Social workers advocate for policies and practices that ensure fair treatment and equal opportunities for all individuals.

The philosophy of social work, grounded in humanitarianism, liberalism, and democracy, deeply influences the methods and approaches used by social workers. These guiding principles ensure that social work practice is focused on promoting human welfare, respecting individuals' autonomy, and advocating for social justice and equality. This philosophy shapes social work interventions across various settings, including healthcare, child welfare, and community development, enabling social workers to make a positive impact on individuals and communities.

Except from devotion to welfare of human beings, social worker has to find a method of enabling those who are assisted to regain their confidence in themselves for the proper adjustment to normal life. The introduction of the concept and philosophy of democracy further strengthened the need to recognize every human being as an individual, worthy of respect and recognition, the individual being given the rights as well as responsibilities of an equal citizen in a democratic society. The consent of the governed, rule of the majority, respect for the creative minority, freedom of assembly, speech and religion supported the development of the individual in his own right. Underlying these factors lay the philosophy of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity. It is in the background of this philosophy of life that the methods of social work have been developed by the practitioners.

2.4 BASIC VALUES OF SOCIAL WORK

Values are beliefs about what is good and desirable. It is defined as a conception of a standard, cultural or merely personal, by which things are compared and approved or disapproved in relation to one another, held to be relatively desirable or undesirable, more meritorious or less, more or less correct. The profession of social work is grounded in a value system that focuses on social justice and fairness. Following are the core values of social work:

1. Respect individuals' worth and dignity, encourage mutual participation, demonstrate acceptance, uphold confidentiality, express honesty and handle conflict responsibly.
2. Encourage individuals' active participation in the helping relationship and uphold their right to make their own decisions.
3. Assist clients in securing resources needed to enhance their social functioning
4. Ensure that social institutions are humane and responsive to human needs.
5. Accept and appreciate diverse populations
6. Hold themselves accountable for ethical conduct, quality of their work and continuous professional development

2.5 CHECK YOUR PROGRESS:

1. How does the philosophy of democracy contribute to social work?
2. What are the core beliefs underlying the philosophy of social work?
3. What are two core values of social work mentioned in the provide text?
4. What is the vulnerable group?

2.6 MARGINALIZATION OF VULNERABLE GROUPS

Marginalization is a complex as well as shifting phenomenon linked to social status. It is an experience that affects millions of people throughout the world. People who are marginalized have relatively little control over their lives, and the resources available to them. This results in making them handicapped in delving contribution to society. A vicious circle is set up whereby their lack of positive and supportive relationships means that they are prevented from participating in local life, which in turn leads to further isolation. This has a tremendous impact on development of human beings, as well as on society at large. If we analyse the situation of marginality of the vulnerable groups, we would find that it is a complex phenomenon and needs to be examined along several dimensions. The areas of marginality include personal, collective, education, economic, health, cultural and ecological.

Personal dimensions include inadequate food consumption, lack of employment, poor housing and other facilities, oppression etc. The collective dimensions are leadership imposed from outside, conflict among themselves, lack of resistance to discrimination etc. Economic marginalization includes lack of equitable access to land and other natural resources, poor wages for labour and not getting access to subsidized public input. Political dimension of marginalization are lack of representation and a political system which does not favour the interests of the marginalized section of society. Educational dimensions include lack of equal opportunity for education, inadequate reservations and lack of financial support for continuing higher education. Health dimensions of marginalization are lack of health facilities and inaccessibility of the people to decision making related to health. Other areas of marginalization are lack of community facilities and ecological imbalances due to deterioration of land, water, air and other natural resources.

Vulnerable groups: Certain groups in the society often encounter discriminatory treatment and need special attention to avoid potential exploitation. This population constitutes what is referred to as vulnerable groups. But the task of identifying the vulnerable groups is not an easy one. There are multiple and complex factors of vulnerability with different layers and more often than once it cannot be analysed in isolation. Most vulnerable marginalized groups in almost every society can be summarized as below:

1. **Women:** Under different economic conditions, and under the influence of specific historical, cultural, legal and religious factors, marginalization is one of the manifestations of

gender inequality. Women face double discrimination being members of specific caste, class or ethnic group apart from being experiencing gendered vulnerabilities. They have always been viewed as passive recipients, rather than active participants capable of changing their life situation. In the process, women's participation and important contribution in the productive sphere is at best bypassed and at worst ignored.

2. **Children:** Children form a very vulnerable part of the human society. They need special protection because of their fragile status of development. They face discrimination on the basis of caste, religion and ethnicity. Children's vulnerabilities and exposure to violation of their rights remain spread and multiple in nature. The manifestations of these violations are various ranging from child labour, child trafficking to commercial sexual exploitation and many other forms of violation.

3. **Scheduled caste:** The absence of equal opportunities in any walk of social life is a denial of equal status and equal participation in the affairs of the society. Caste in Indian society is a particular form of social inequality that involves a hierarchy of groups ranked in terms of ritual purity. In earlier period they were deprived of the right to education and thus were left suffering behind, socially and economically. They are a group who are in a state of oppression, social disability and who are helpless and poor. Structural discrimination against these groups takes place in the form of physical, psychological, emotional and cultural abuse which receives legitimacy from the social structure and the social system.

4. **Scheduled tribes:** The scheduled tribes are a product of marginalization based on ethnicity. They are considered to be socially and economically disadvantaged. From the historical point of view, they have been subjected to the worst type of societal exploitation. They are mainly landless with little control over resources such as land, forest and water.

5. **Old aged:** Ageing is a natural process. The vulnerability among the elderly is not only due to an increased incidence of illness and disability, but also due to their economic dependency upon their family members.

6. **Minority:** Minority is most commonly used to refer to communities that are numerically small in relation to the rest of the population. In such cases size can be a disadvantage and lead to the marginalization of the relatively smaller communities. Minorities includes issues of power, access to resource and has cultural and social dimension.

7. **People with disabilities:** People with disabilities have had to battle against centuries of biased assumptions, harmful stereotypes, and irrational fears. The stigmatization of disability resulted in the social and economic marginalization of generations with disabilities, and, like many other oppressed minorities, this has left people with disabilities in a severe state of impoverishment for centuries.

2.7 Challenges to vulnerable groups: Vulnerable groups, such as the elderly, children, people with disabilities, ethnic minorities, and low-income populations, often face several challenges, including

Health Disparities: Limited access to healthcare and higher prevalence of chronic diseases.

Economic Hardship: Higher rates of unemployment, underemployment, and poverty.

Educational Barriers: Limited access to quality education and resources.

Social Exclusion: Discrimination, stigma and lack of social support.

Safety and SECURITY: Increased risk of violence, abuse, and exploitation.

Housing Instability: Higher likelihood of experiencing homelessness or substandard living condition.

Limited Access to Services: Challenges in accessing social services in accessing social services and legal protection.

These issues can significantly impact their quality of life and opportunities for advancement.

To summarize marginalization of vulnerable groups is a complex and serious problem which needs to be addressed at the policy level. A close understanding is required of the problems associated with the groups suffering from marginalization and the ways to reduce them. Social Work profession which is guided by humanitarian philosophy and values, promoting justice for the marginalized groups is one of the core objectives.

2.8 CONCEPTS RELATED TO SOCIAL WORK

Social work profession draws its values from different concepts. Social work as a profession is of recent origin and it has its base of various concepts related to certain social processes. These processes have in some way or the other contributed to the evolving of social work profession. As discussed in the previous unit, the values and objectives of social work, a lot is drawn from these social processes that influence its methods and techniques.

Now, let us discuss some of these:

2.8.1 SOCIAL SERVICE

Social Services are those organized activities that are primarily and directly concerned with the conservation, protection and improvement of human beings. They are the efforts to restore, enhance and maintain the social functioning of those in need of it through- enabling social resources like day care centres, funding organizations, hospices and others. Social work consists of the following entities- a network of social services, carefully developed methods and processes and social policies expressed through social institutions.

Social Service stems from the desire to help the needy fellow men in a human society. It was a religious duty of a man to provide care and protection to the people suffering from various kinds of distresses. In India alms- giving was considered as a path of moksha. At present times as well alms- giving to the poor is considered a social welfare activity and synonymously the term 'social work' is

used for such acts of charity. However, alms-giving is not social work because the aim of help in social work is to solve client's problem scientifically. In social work profession causative factors are investigated and therapeutic models are utilized.

Shramadan as Social Work concept- *Sharamadamis* to voluntarily provide physical help to any individual, group or community. Some examples are construction of public roads, public sanitation, help to flood victims or other natural and man-made disasters. In such activities labour is provided without any remuneration. Therefore, it cannot be said to be a major part of social work profession as it lacks proper techniques to help clients to deal with adjustment problems.

Social work is that process which deals directly with persons who have problems relating to the social environment. Thus, as the motto of social service is- helping the helpless, in social work it is- helping the helpless to help themselves. Social work fulfils the objectives of social services. The main aim is to equip individuals with the competence and resources essential for effective social participation.

2.8.2 SOCIAL WELFARE AND ADMINISTRATION

Social Welfare consists of a wide range of specialized services for the vulnerable and disadvantaged groups of the society. Charity, philanthropy and relief to the vulnerable groups have been the traditional way of welfare. However, gradually this concept has been changing and welfare services became the citizen's rights. Thus, right to these basic facilities are implicit in the concept of social welfare. Social welfare and social work are historically related. These two words are still used synonymously by the common man. The distinction between the two is of recent origin. It has specific aims of welfare and development of the people and to cater to their needs. Development planning is an integral part of social welfare and its administration. By social administration we mean that process which is used in the organization and administration of public and private services. It includes those activities which are undertaken for the benefit of individuals, groups and communities. Under social welfare and administration of such services, process of organization and direction is necessary to decide on how the available resources are to be utilized. Social welfare administration may be carried out by the government, an individual, a group or any association. The ultimate goal is to achieve welfare for the people through proper utilization of resources- human, capital and natural. Thus, welfare

administration requires planning, organizing, staffing, directing, co-ordination, recording and budgeting. Fund-raising is also an integral part of social welfare administration.

2.8.3 SOCIAL REFORM

Social reform can be defined as change or replacement in the institutions which have become functionally irrelevant, totally or partially to the modern social order causing loss of quality of life, deprivations to sizeable sections of the society. Such reforms or changes can be initiated by a group of people who believe that certain social institutional changes are required either for social development or for eliminating certain social evils that victimize a particular section of the society. Institutional structure and its accompanying norms are modified, altered or eliminated as per the changing times and situations for general good of the society. It can be a slow process as change cannot be hurriedly absorbed by a society. Social reform brings change in social institutions and creates favourable conditions for the social progress for those who are continuously suffering from the discrimination and social neglect.

Some examples of social reform are- women's rights, social upliftment of the *Harijans*, community service centres in slums, abolition of Sati and many more.

Social Reform also refers to the collective effort of a group of people with a common ideology who try together to reach to certain goals. Such goals can be summarized as: to bring down crime rate in society, to make efforts to elevate employment opportunities and fight poverty and to uplift overall economic and financial standard of the region. In the context of social reform, a reform movement is a kind of social movement that aims to make gradual change, or change in certain aspects of society, rather than rapid or fundamental changes.

Social work has a historic identification with social reform. The fact that social problems result from system defects as well as individual maladjustments, more focus has been given to professional schools to prepare people who can be agents of social change. Social reform does not require any specific skills; however, social work is practiced on the basis of professional skills to help the clients. Social reform involves radical change in social system but social work goes a step ahead by assisting the individual

in freeing himself/ herself from his maladjustments in social life. Social reform played a great role in all religions. The history of the social reform movement is closely related to the Indian social structure. Raja Ram Mohan Roy, the father of modern India is the leader of the Social Reform Movement which manifested itself in different parts of India.

2.8.4 SOCIAL JUSTICE

The term 'social justice' was coined by Jesuit Luigi Taparelli during the 1840's. It is a concept which describes a movement towards a socially just world based on concepts of human rights and equality. Without social justice, rights and equality a society cannot exist. It is based on laws and regulations which includes the process of making rules and punishment in cases of violation of laws. Justice is a central moral standard in social life. It identifies particular rules which can be used to assess the rightness of an act or institution, in order to encourage specific arrangements that will promote procedural fairness, just distribution or equality. It refers to the concept in which justice or fairness is achieved. Social justice determines whether a society has a high degree of economic egalitarianism that can be achieved through progressive taxation, income or property redistribution. Social work profession has its base in the values of social justice and human rights. Social work believes in achievement of social justice for all. Without justice a society cannot grow or even exist for that matter. The methods and techniques used in social work aims to achieve social justice and welfare for all. These are some of the basic foundations of social work.

2.8.5 HUMAN RIGHTS

Human rights are natural rights of human beings that begin with restoration and protection of human dignity. Human Rights are referred to as universal, indivisible, inalienable and intergenerational. Since time immemorial, the 'inferior races' have been tortured by the superior and dominating races in some or the other way. Such incidents and events resulted in violence and bloodshed as the dominated races resisted exploitation around the globe. Gradually, each country realized the urged for independence and the need for a civilized and peaceful society. Thus, every country united to fight for

the common cause of national independence. After new governments were formed, all joined hands to achieve liberty, equality and fraternity among the people which resulted in international awakening on Human Rights. The various categories of human rights have been adopted in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights on **10th December which is also celebrated as Human Rights Day**. The declaration proclaims the personal, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of humans. Among the rights are the right to life, liberty and security of a person.

The Universal Declaration contains three distinct sets of human rights:

- (i) Political or individual freedoms, right to a fair trial, freedom of speech and religion, freedom of movement and assembly, guarantees against discrimination, slavery and torture which fall under political and civil human rights.
- (ii) Economic, social and cultural rights
- (iii) A set of collective rights among nations- a social and international order. It requires inter-governmental co-operation on world issues like freedom, economic development and environmental protection. There should not be any domination or exploitation operated by a country on another.

The social work profession emphasizes greatly on the concept of human rights. The International Federation of Social Workers state that "social workers respect the basic human rights of individuals and groups as expressed in the UDHR and other international conventions derived from that Declaration. For the profession of social work, achievement of human rights for all people is a fundamental requirement. To achieve this objective, social workers believe that individuals, groups and communities should be involved in positive action and make sure that we ourselves do not violate the rights of others.

2.8.6 SOCIAL SECURITY

Social Security is the security that the society aspires to achieve through appropriate organisations and institutions against certain risks to which people are vulnerable. It can be said to be a programme

of protection against possibility of modern life like sickness, unemployment, old age dependency, accidents and others. Social security can be provided through public assistance, social insurance, health, education and social welfare services. Social work profession draws a lot from the concept of social security as well since social work consists of social security in its programme activities so that individuals can lead a secured life. Social workers need to be aware of the social security measures and provisions available in their area of practice. Thus, the social worker can play the role of resource mobilizer while being the connecting link between the client and the social security programs.

2.8.7 SOCIAL POLICY AND LEGISLATION

Social policy and legislation are sets of rules guaranteed by the government of a particular state to ensure the welfare and protection to all sections of its people. It provides compulsory provisions for social welfare and are non-discriminatory in nature. Social welfare is not possible without legal provisions for solution of social welfare. It constitutes a body of rules recognized by a community as binding upon itself. The main objectives of social policy and legislation are to enhance the wellbeing of the society by providing people with protection from injustice and by punishing those who violate such rules.

Social policies and legislation also deal with various social problems that hinder social and economic development. They bring about social reforms; social changes deal with social problems and propound social rules and principles. The main objective of social policies and legislation is to ensure the security of the society to improve its social and economic condition. Therefore, it is closely related to social work profession. Social workers, with the use of methods like community organization, social action and social work research strive to formulate and alter social policies and legislations for the benefit of all sections of the society.

2.8.8 SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Social development is one of the basic objectives of social work profession. It is about improving the well-being of every individual in society so they can reach their full potential. The success of society is linked to the well-being of each and every citizen. Social development means investing in people. It requires the removal of barriers so that all citizens can journey toward their dreams with confidence and dignity. It is about refusing to accept that people who live in poverty will always be poor. It is about helping people so they can move forward on their path to self-sufficiency.

To reduce poverty, we need to take a social development approach and invest in our people. By investing in people, we can reduce poverty. We need to go beyond looking at government to find ways to develop our most valuable resources, our people. We need to share responsibility with community organizations, businesses, universities and municipalities in the task of improving the well-being of all and preventing and reducing poverty. Social workers work closely with individuals, groups and communities to bring about development and social development is one major broad objective of social work practice. Thus, to achieve social development, social welfare and administration, reform, providing social security measures becomes very crucial.

2.9 CHECK YOUR PROGRESS:

5. Difference between social policy and social legislation?
6. What do you mean by social welfare and administration?
7. What is the term of social justice?
8. What is this human rights?
9. What do you mean by social justice?
10. Which are the measures through government provided social security to the public?
11. Which day is celebrating as human right development?
12. What is the full form of UDHR?
13. Who is the father of universal Declaration of Human Rights?
14. Who first coined the term social justice?
15. Mention one examples of social reforms?

2.10 LET SUM UP

Values are beliefs about what is good and desirable. Social work as a discipline of study and as a profession has certain values. The philosophy of social work is based on humanities, liberalism and democracy. Principles are the guiding assertions of statements which are guiding force for social work practice. These basic rules enable a practitioner to be competent in his/her profession. The principle of meaningful relationship between social worker and the client highlights the essence of relationship is seen as an interplay, a mutual emotional exchange, an attitude, a dynamic interaction, a connection between two persons and a mutual process. Communication is the road through which the social worker identifies with the client. The function of social worker is principally to create an environment in which the client will feel comfortable in giving expression to his feelings. Thus, communication is an inevitable guiding principle of social work profession.

Principle of individualization is fundamental for effective social work practice since the betterment of the individual is the primary purpose of social work. Individualization is the recognition and understanding of each client's unique qualities and the differential use of principles and methods in assisting each one towards better adjustment and participate in the changing process. If we analyse the situation of marginality of the vulnerable groups, we would find that it is a complex phenomenon and needs to be examined along several dimensions. The areas of marginality include personal, collective, education, economic, health, cultural and ecological.

2.11 Answer to Question:

1. The philosophy of democracy contributes to social work by recognizing every individual as worthy of respect and recognition, granting them equal rights and responsibilities in democratic society.
2. The core beliefs underlying the philosophy of social work are the inherent worth and dignity of every individual, humanitarianism , liberalism and democracy.
3. (a) Respect individual's worth and dignity.

(b) Encourage individuals' active participation in helping relationship and up hold their right to make their own decisions.
4. A vulnerable group is a population at increased risk of adverse health or social out comes due to factors such as disability, socio economic status ,minority status .
5. Old age, children, people with disability, minority, women.
6. Social administration: The implementation and management of social policies and services to address public needs and enhance social welfare.
7. The term social justice is the equitable distribution of resources and opportunities, ensuring fair treatment and participation for all individuals in society.
8. Human rights are fundamental rights and freedoms that every person is entitled to, such as the right to life, liberty, equality, regardless of nationality, gender, ethnicity, or religion.
9. Social justice involves promoting fairness equality, and rights within society, ensuring all individuals have access to resources, opportunities , and protections, regardless of their back ground status.

10. The government provides social security to public through measures such as pensions, unemployment benefits, health insurances and welfare programme.
11. Human Rights Day is celebrated on December 10th each year .
12. The full form of UDHR is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights .
13. The father of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is often considered to be Rene Cassin .
14. The term “ social justice “was first coined by the Italian Jesuit Priest Luigi Taparelli “in the 1840 .
15. One example of social reform is women’s rights , social upliftment of the Hari years .

2.12 MODEL QUESTION:

1. Describe the philosophy of social work and explained how it influences the method used by social work?
2. What are the problems faced by vulnerable groups?
3. Explain the concept of social work?
 - a. Social justice
 - b. Social reform
 - c. Human rights
 - d. Social security
 - e. Social policy and legislation
 - f. Social development
 - g. Social service
 - h. Social welfare and administration

2.13 ASSIGNMENT QUESTION

1. As a social worker how can you raise awareness within the community about the social process that influences its development and what methods and techniques can you employ in the field to effectively educate and engage community members?
2. As a social worker, how can you identify and support vulnerable groups during field visits and what specific strategies can you implement to address their unique needs and challenges in the community?
3. Reflect on the site's commitment to human rights and social justice. How are these concepts embedded in their work?
4. Policy and Development: Observe how the site engages with social policies and contributes to social development in the community.

2.14 FURTHER READING

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