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SOCIOLOGY (TEST CODE: 1532)

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Medium Eng/Hindi	English	Registration Number	34762
Center	Online	Date	06/12/2020

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1 (a)	10	
(b)	10	
(c)	10	
(d)	10	
(e)	10	
2 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
3 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
4 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
5(a)	10	
(b)	10	
(c)	10	
(d)	10	
(e)	10	
6(a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
7 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
8(a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	

Total Marks Obtained:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. The Candidate should attempt FIVE Questions out of EIGHT questions strictly in accordance with the instructions given under each question printed in ENGLISH & HINDI.
3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1. Write a short note on each of the following in not more than 150 words.

10 x 5 = 50

(a) Discuss Merton's four institutional imperatives of science.

Merton believed that discipline
of science has a responsibility towards
social well being and science should
have certain institutional traits, as a
discipline, which he called as "institutional
imperatives"

① Science should have a definite
subject matter and definite field
to explore. Effort towards analysing
every prospect would lead to
formulation of grand theories with
little practical significance.

② The objective of scientific research
should be to fulfill social ends.

scientific knowledge should ~~avoid~~
value bias and academic
apression. Rather it should be
rooted ⁱⁿ ground reality and empiricism

③ Science should take into account
the externalities as form of
dysfunctional aspects and it should
also address latent functions e.g. latent
dysfunction of cotton gin — rise of slavery.

④ Natural and Physical sciences should
be separate from social sciences as
sphere of social sciences involves
dynamic issues like type of family
on which cumulative research is not
possible.

The four unifunctional imperatives
of science by Merton paved the way
for science as a discipline formulation.

1. (b) Idiographic and nomothetic approach.

Idiographic approach refers to analysis of specific instances to bring out generalities whereas nomothetic approach aims at application of generalities in specific specificities in general instances.

Idiographic	Nomothetic
① Analytical and Descriptive in nature	Normative in nature
② Inductive method	Deductive method
③ establishes generalisation	tests generalisation
④ Usage in exploratory research	Usage in experimental and comparative research

⑤ deals with motives and meanings behind specific instances

deals with objective social facts.

⑥ Bottom up approach

Top to bottom approach

⑦ Generates hypothesis

Yields generalizations

⑧ preferred for qualitative methods e.g. Participant method

prefer quantitative method e.g. surveys

e.g. History

e.g. Sociology

However realist science and critical social scientists like Lee Harvey emphasize at amalgamation of both to yield sustainable results.

1. (c) Economics must be made the handmaid of sociology. Critically analyse.

Economics deal with Sociology production relations and allocation of resources in the society whereas Sociology aim at defining the relations between individuals, social institutions and society as a whole.

Economics share an organic relation with Sociology as Economic production in society is affected by social norms e.g. Japanese capitalism being nationalistic one and Indian one being communal.

Sociology is also affected by economics as seen in Marxian historical materialism where economic substructure drives social superstructure.

Economics as handmaid of sociology.

① would lead to addressing of externalities of economics, leading to more scientific views eg. crime rates and GDP.

② would infuse new terminology in sociology eg. Utilitarian terms in Parson's sociology

③ understanding of cultural societies like Indis and their economic development Limitation

① Economics is more scientific than sociology with specific subject matter

② Positivism like economics can deprive sociology of qualitative aspects in society.

Recently, gender budgeting and feminist economics are arising out of convergence between two disciplines

1. (d) Critically assess R. K. Merton's views on the contributions of research to the development of sociological theory.

R.K. Merton believed that sociological theory should be grounded in research rather than academic speculation (like Parson's grand structural action theory).

- ① Research aims at reducing and specifying the subject matter of sociology.
- ② Reduced propositions help in establishing verifiability and empiricism in research; leading to middle range theories.
- ③ Even though value bias starts from the choice of topic itself, the effect of values should be minimum to avoid bias on part of researcher.

- ④ Research should not deal with ever all encompassing theories rather, objective should be to develop solution to practical problems.
- ⑤ Middle path between macro (too ambitious) and micro (too impractical) should guide research.

However Merton's conception can be challenged. due to its neglect of qualitative aspects and grand theories. Formulation of grand theories help in contextualising future results and hypothesis formulation for upcoming sociologists.

1. (e) How Durkheim's idea of Sacred and profane be used to understand the contemporary society?

Durkheim in his theory of religion introduces the dichotomy of sacred and profane - sacred refers to things set apart and forbidden whereas profane refers to our day to day sphere of lives.

For Durkheim, dichotomy of sacred and profane helps in imparting a supernatural explanation to collective effervescence felt by groups in solidarity.

Contemporary societies

- ① The rise of civic nationalism has resulted in new terms like national flag and national anthem.

② Worship of Phallus (Shivlinga)
and shrines (Dargah) also
indicate sacred status.

③ Prohibition of women in Sabrimala
(recently ruled illegal by court) also
represents sacred and profane realm.

④ Rising Islamic fundamentalism and
upwar over Cartoon of Prophet also
shows the sacred status of Prophet
in Islam.

⑤ Imparting of sacred status to
Cow has resulted in mob lynchings
in various places, due to suspicion
of beef.

Hence concepts of sacred and profane
remain relevant in today's
context too.

3. (a) Robert Merton goes beyond the boundaries of traditional functionalism, and added to traditional ones his new insights. Elaborate. 20

Robert Merton infused novelty in conventional functional structural perspective by integrating his idea of latent and manifest function along with addressal of functionalism criticism, hence he is referred to as "Neo-functionalism".

Robert Merton recognized the limitations of traditional functionalism in three dimensions -

① Functional unity postulate:- According to Merton, the functionalists converted the "unity probabilism" into "unity compulsion" by providing that every social item is integrative in nature. This led to ideological coloration in their work.

eg. Malinowski's justification of witchcraft

② Functional universalism postulate - Another postulate was to envisage every social

item as functional for society irrespective of context. This meant that religion and stratification were ignored as a source of conflict in certain societies such as Middle East.

3) Indispensability of functional institutes:- Inevitable reproduction of first two postulate was third one i.e. which things are indispensable is their functional contribution. However today, we see old age care home and baby care as alternative to family as an institute.

Having addressed the boundaries of traditional functionalism, Merton adds his own insights in three pronged manner — middle range theory, functional paradigm and addressing functionalist critique.

① Middle range theory → Merton believed that functionalist sociologists are suffering from crisis of practicality due to lack of topics to research.

on. Hence he introduced middle range theories as a reaction to grand functionalist theories. Based on limited set of assumptions these theories could be easily verified through empiricism. Merton believed that such theory would help in practical issues like corruption, machine politics etc.

② Functional paradigm → Here Merton proposed fact driven analysis of issue at hand by discerning the motives of conformity of an individual towards a particular social action and searching for the regularities missed by traditional functionalists, laying the foundation for third pillar i.e. addressing limitations of earlier functionalists.

③ Here Merton introduces latent functions and manifest function. Latent functions are unintended consequences of social action which traditional functionalists ignored.

while manifest functions are the one which institutions are expected to fulfill. He also introduces dysfunctions arising out of social action as a solution to critique of universal functionalism.

He eg. Patriarchy intensification as latent dysfunction of green revolution

Thus, Merton revolutionized functionalism through his fact-driven and verifiable theories. However, he is criticised on the grounds of lack of rationality ^{and objectivity} is his dilution of what is functional and dysfunctional.

3. (b) "The ideal type is one of Weber's best known contribution to contemporary sociology". Critically examine. 20

Weber believed that it was duty of sociologists to develop conceptual tools which could be used by historians and sociologists later on. Ideal type is one such conceptual tool.

Ideal type is one sided view of reality which takes into account certain aspects of reality while ignoring the others. In other words, it represents a kind/category/class of objects or social items having a character that seems to be a best example of it. eg., Ideal type of democracy will have rule of law, public participation, regular election.

Types of ideal types:

- ① Structural ideal types → help in deciphering structure of a society eg. Communism, democracy

② Ideal type of historical particulars - eg.

Protestantism, Conquest of Vikings

③ Ideal type of abstract behaviour - eg.

Capitalism, Rationality, Maxism etc.

④ Ideal type of particular behaviour eg. Capitalism

Construction of ideal type

Step 1 - Sorting out relevant traits out of
an irreducible whole

Step 2 - combination and abstraction to
constitute an intelligible entity.

Contribution

① Measure of social happenings is made
possible through ideal type eg. the
political situation of a democratic country
can be assessed by using ideal type of
democracy as reference

② for comparing different societies eg.

Weber's Study of Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam Compared to Protestantism

- ③ Interrelation of social variables e.g. relation of theology (Protestantism) with Capitalism.
- ④ Prediction of social course of change e.g. domination of Bourgeoisie in upcoming times.
- ⑤ Discerning the generalisation existing in minds of individual and motive behind social action e.g. Patriarchy fueled by traditional social action

Limitation

- ① No objective way to discern the relevant traits out of irreducible whole
- ② While decoding the generalities from mind of individual (Verstehen), the investigator is prone to empathetic bias (T. O'Del)
- ③ Reduces social action to whims

and fancies of isolated individual (David Lee).

Hence, despite the limitation, ideal type is manifested vividly in the works of sociologists like Durkheim (Study of suicides), which underlines the relevance of this tool.

3. (c) Ageing is a demographic reality for many countries including India." Which method of data collection is suitable for understanding the situation of elderly population. Critically examine. 10

Ageing refers to accumulation of socio cultural and physical changes as one's age increases. India has more than 100 million population aged above 65.

Data collection for assessment of ageing

- ① Survey is an important method to study aged population e.g. Panda's Study of Odisha.
- ② Participant observation can be effective in traditional societies like Plight of Hindu widow and feminization of elderly.

③ Government Statistics prove helpful in records of medical and social security provision. Also crime rate against elderly can be assessed through government records.

④ Schedule Questionnaire to be filled with the help of enumerator can also be helpful method.

⑤ Unstructured questionnaire and ~~the~~ Interview (open ended) can help in assessing stigma and psychological marginalisation of elderly.

Thus, triangulation method should be followed for a holistic assessment of aged population.

5. Write a short note on each of the following in not more than 150 words.

10 × 5 = 50

(a) Write a short note on "resource mobilization theory" in context of study of social movements.

This theory was given by
Kellas and Wallace to explain social movements.

Resource mobilization theory provides

central importance to resources in
a social movement.

① According to Kellas, every society
has dissent prevailing in one
form or the ~~there~~ other.

② But not all the societies see
their dissent turn into political
mobilization.

③ The reason being lack of resource
to support the dissent in organized
form.

④ Hence resource mobilization theory

states that once a society
acquires sufficient resources,
the dissent gets a material
base to crystallise and express
itself.

Example being Green revolution
which induced prosperity in Punjab
but soon led to demands of
Khalistan as many farmers acquired
sufficient material resources.

However this theory suffers
from various limitations, most
important being its neglect of
leadership and ideology. Also
Arab Spring shows that social
movements are also possible
without sufficient resource availability.

5. (b) Human Relation school of thought by Elton Mayo.

Human relation school of
thought by Elton Mayo rose as a
response to Taylorism and Fordism
as a process of production

This thought is based upon Hawthorne

- Some studies by Elton Mayo where he
studied behaviour and productivity
of employees in variable scenarios
and reached following conclusions-

- ① Informal organization at workplace
lead to productivity enhancement
- ② Job coherence, leadership, work satisfaction
incentive ^{employees} more than wage increase.
- ③ Group collaboration invites more
productivity than Taylorism process
of splitting activities.

- ④ Groups perform better when they set their own goals.
- ⑤ Lack of central surveillance brings out more freedom and high trust system is generated.

The effect of Elton Mayo study was seen in the world in the form of institutionalized HR management in big corporates and group working especially in software firms.

However this school is criticised due to its over emphasis on behavioral considerations at expense of material ones.

5. (c) Critically examine the features of 'critical social research'.

Critical social research,

pioneered by Lee Harvey aims at
uncovering the reality beneath
grand sociological narratives and
promoting revelatory outcomes eg
feminism is a form of critical
social research which criticizes
mainstream sociology as male-centric.

① It aims to empower subaltern
perspectives missing in mainstream
research.

② Based on premise that
social research should
empower the marginalised.

③ social research should be

continuously criticised and revisited
as there is nothing such as complete
knowledge.

- ① Provides Triangulation methods
and novel epistemologies.

However critical social
research is criticised by certain
sociologists.

- ① Allan Bryman ~~researcher~~ says that
distinction between qualitative and
quantitative methods help in frame
of reference for research.

- ② Neo functionalists describe it as
myopic due to its tilt towards
Marxism and feminism.

In the wake of LGBTQ
movement, critical social research is likely
to get more recognition in sociology.

5. (d) Write a short note on "Industrial conflicts and strikes".

Industrial conflicts and strikes are viewed by different sociologists as manifestation of subjective states of employees as well as objective condition of workplace.

① Marxists view them as symbol of class antagonism and efforts of Proletariats to counter Bourgeoisie.

② Functionalists like Durkheim see Industrial conflicts as product of unchecked individualism and dissintegration of ceilings of morality leading to anomic division of labour.

- ③ Robert Blauner associates with alienation caused by increasing technology.
- ④ Merton believes that conflict is caused by deviance (due to structural strain causing anomie).
- ⑤ Gunnar Myrdal explains institutional faults like labour reforms delay behind industrial unrest.
However post globalization industrial conflicts and strikes have reduced due to insecure job profiles as noted by Arjun Sen Gupta (Second Labour Commission head).

5. (e) Discuss the importance of 'Pilot Studies' in sociological research.

Pilot Studies are the ones conducted before main study to assure the preparation and methodology of research by choosing a smaller sample

Importance

- 1) Reveals limitation of research method before actual research
- 2) Provides for unintended (latent) dysfunctions, if any, arising out of research
- 3) Correction of typology and nomenclature for research design
eg. Gallup replaced Lewin

class by working class and
results changed drastically.

4) Provides for new typologies
in resource constrained situations
eg. Glasgow media study of strikes

5) Allows for middle range theory
and small sized research.

6) Modifying questionnaire before actual
survey based on pilot study
results.

Hence pilot study enhance
reliability and validity of research
methodology

6. (a) "In the sociology of deviance, no single theory has emerged as dominant." Discuss. 20

Deviance refers to the deviation from the social norms and action by an actor. It must be separated from the non conformity as deviance aims at rejection while non conformity aims at restructuring the present social context.

Sociology of deviance sees deviance as a social phenomenon unlike psychologists who view deviance as a specific mental state. There have been multiple explanations for deviance —

- ① Albert Cohen explains deviance in terms of particular subculture. For example, the offsprings of Italian American gangsters are socialised in a particular context which glorifies and supports deviance.

According to Cohen, deviance does not necessarily correspond to a motive e.g. Vandalism; which does not have any motive.

② Miller envisages deviance as a means of thrill by young and teenagers where they challenge societal norms for adventure.

③ Merton sees deviance as product of anomie. This anomie results due to structural strain arising out of discrepancy between socially available means and culturally defined goals. Since lower strata is less likely to have resources for fulfilling goals, it is more likely to be prone to deviance. e.g. Machine Parties like drug smuggling.

④ Marxists see deviance in form of

Proletarian discontent against injustice
propelled by wheels of capitalism e.g.
Paul Willis study of counter-school
culture in 12 poor boys.

⑧ Howard Becker employs symbolic interactionist
view and defines deviance in terms
of labelling theory. He cites example of
Jazz musicians which are labelled as deviants
due to racial segregation and marijuana habits

⑨ Levinson says deviance is a product
of political structure and power defines
what is conformity and deviance. e.g.
Deviant behaviour in Russia is homosexu-
ality which is normal in Canada.

Thus, there are multiple
theories of deviance which differ from
each other, thus, one should apply the
theory based upon contextual demand of
social setup.

6. (b) Enumerate the characteristics of 'informally organized work' in certain types of societies. 20

International labour organization

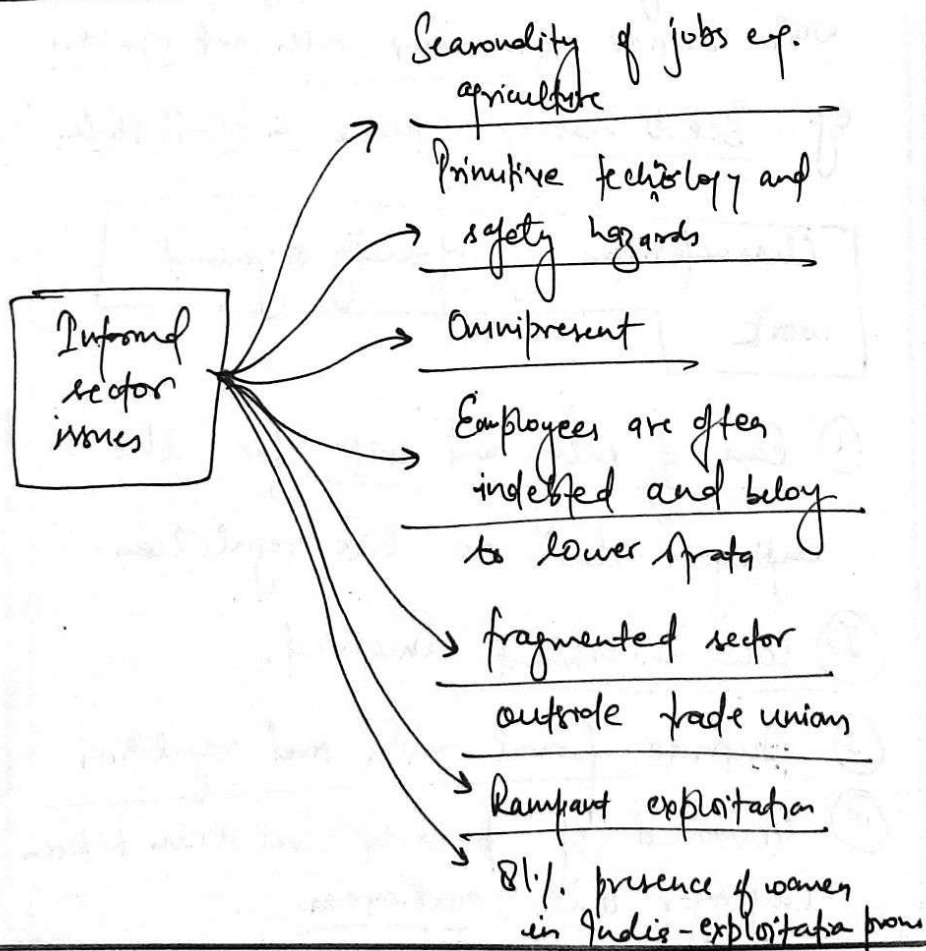
(ILO) defines informally organized work as "a set of activities organized around the motive of providing employment to the persons concerned." In colloquial terms, informal work is defined as the work outside government rules and regulation eg Beedi making at home in Jamil Nader.

Characteristics of Informally organized work

- ① Ease of entry and exit for the employees due to lax regulations.
- ② low investment involved.
- ③ Outside formal rules and regulation
- ④ Governed by personal relation between employer and employees.

⑤ Manual skills dominate instead of diversified skill portfolio.

⑥ Involves Immigrant labour predominantly
However nature of these jobs
often makes them vulnerable to social
insecurity and exploitation -

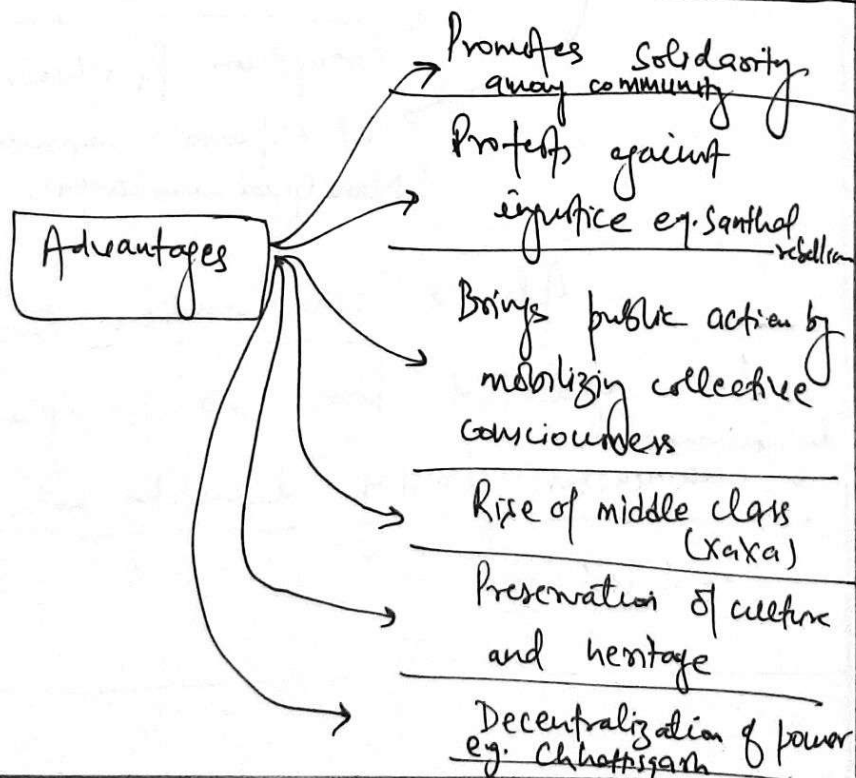


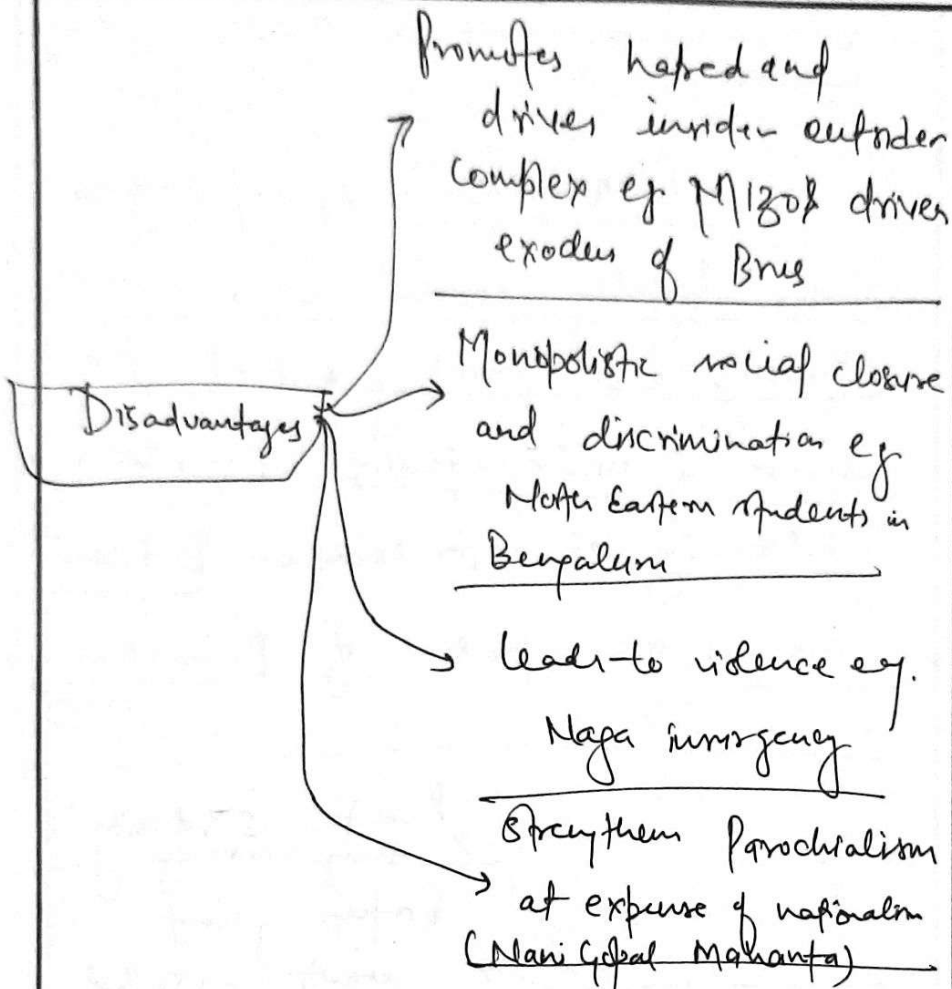
Structuralist school views informally organized work as necessary to survival of competitive capitalism while Voluntarist school says informally organized work is chosen to maximize profit by avoiding government scrutiny.

Post globalization, the culture of outsourcing and contractualization has resulted in informalization in organized workforce also. Applebaum cites example of Chinese workshops working for giant manufacturing firms in this race to bottom; for profit maximization, which is likely to increase in future. eg. Gig economy, freelancers.

6. (c) What do you mean by ethnocentrism? Discuss its advantages and disadvantages in sociology. 10

Ethnocentrism is referred to express loyalty towards one's own ethnicity and prioritising it at the expense of wider identity like religion, nationality etc. For example - Bodoland demands are product of Bodo ethnocentrism





Hence ethnocentrism should be regulated from transforming into dysfunctional chauvinism driving identity hatred and violence.

8. (a) "Cyclical theories examine pattern of social structure & culture that recur at regular intervals". Discuss. 20

Cyclical theories of social change envisage societies in terms of recurrent patterns of evolution and decline; the nature and pace of which differ from one to other.

① Spengler's cyclic theory of social change envisages society in the form of an organismic system subjected to cycle of life i.e. birth, growth, maturity, old age and decay. for him, world war-II was sign of decay of western societies.

② Toynbee's concepts of society and culture goes beyond Spengler. He says that circle of societies continues in recurrent cycle of growth and decay i.e. growth follows the decay and vice versa.

He was also optimistic that each society offers greater resilience to upcoming challenges by learning from failure of previous societies.

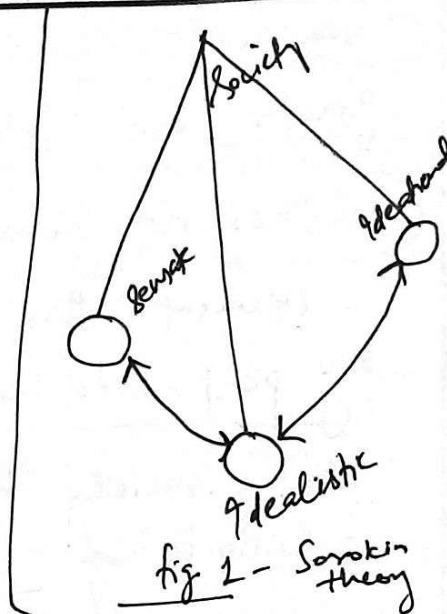
① Pareto in his work "Mind and Society" offers circulation of elites theory, where he explains that ruling elites in a society change from foxes (who rule by cunningness e.g. Chanakya) to lions (who rule by idealism). This circulation of elites drive a society's power structure and consequential progress; ~~as~~ is in social setup.

② Sorokin offered a socio cultural explanation where he explains that core of a social structure lies in culture and any change in cultural

dynamics leads to a change in social structure as well. He envisaged two extreme stages -

(i) Idealistic - based on spirituality, morality and customs eg. Renaissance

and (ii) sensate based on materialism and sensual pleasures eg. Industrial age.



Society moves to and fro along these stages and passes through a transitory stage called Idealistic stage.

Critique of cycle theories

① Circulation is rarely seen in practical life. eg. Racial segregation and Castelism do not follow cycle form.

② Value bias i.e. societies are seen

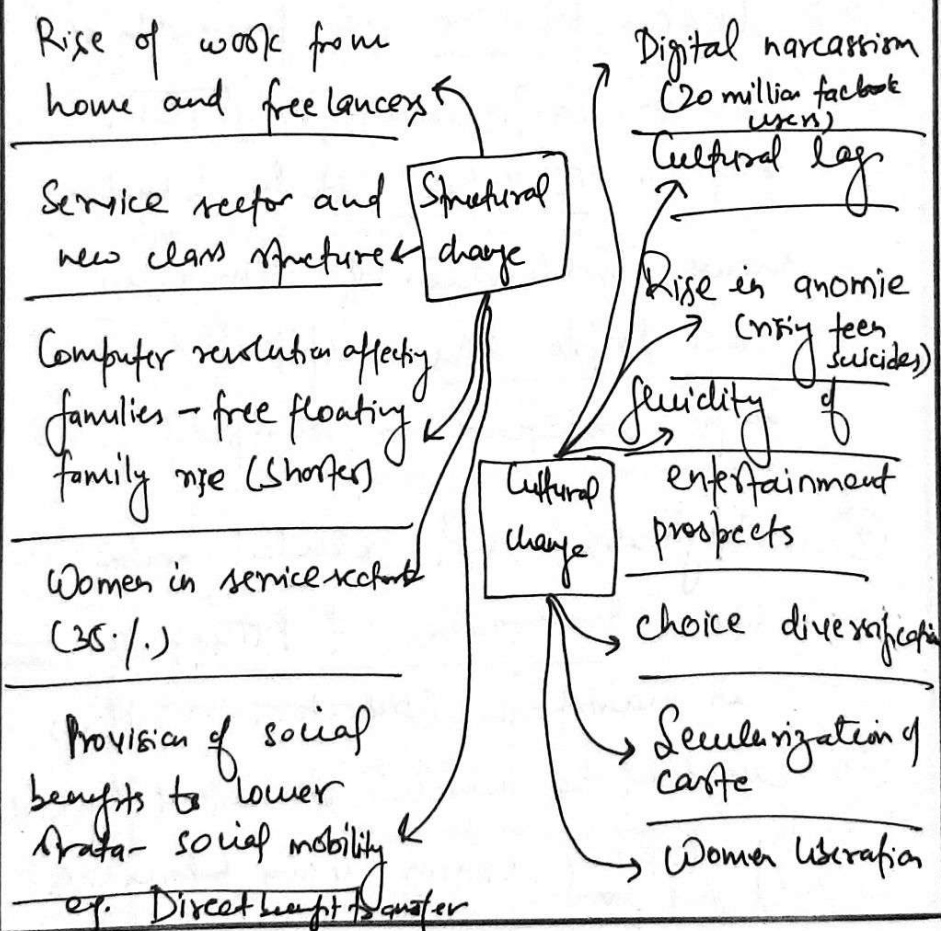
from western perspective; and decline and growth are subjective phenomenon.

③ Does not envisage and take into account the uncertainty caused by post modernity. Incorrect assumption that society has a shape (Postmodern critique by Lyotard)

However relevance of cyclic theory is seen in religious revivalism i.e. ideational stage in the wake of materialism imposed by globalization (concrete stage).

8. (b) Can digitalization of Indian Society be considered as an agent of social change? In what manner can it establish a new social order in India? 20

Digitization refers to usage
of tools of information and communica-
-tion in diverse aspects of society.
Indian sociologists often see digitization
as a major source of social change-



Despite the potential of social change, certain factors limit its efficacy as social change driver —

- ① Huge digital divide i.e. only 30% internet penetration in rural area.
- ② Digital illiteracy i.e. only 15% literacy in digital tech. among Indians
- ③ Leaky pipeline i.e. prevention of women participation in STEM sector. T.S. Papola study is known shows proliferation of women in low profile jobs despite their ample competence in tech. field.
- ④ Marginalised and excluded section like transgender and PVTGs; not in mainstream. (subaltern perspective)
- ⑤ can lead to negative or latent dysfunctions by deepening existing divides between rich and poor.

Establishing a new order

① Rise of new social movements like Metoo

due to heightening of relative deprivation
and decline of pluralistic ignorance.

② Can reinforce Xenophobia and revivalism
manifested in mob lynching.

③ As Baudrillard said, postmodern society
will be dominated by sign and image of
mass media e.g. fake news and paid news.

④ Alienation and marginalization from
family.

⑤ Rise of consumerism (Anita Mocha
study on software professionals)

⑥ NGOization of women activism due to
rise of Internet as global civil society (A. Lingam).

Hence, Digitisation can prove
to be an evolutionary universal for India
(in Parrsonian sense).

8. (c) Protests and agitation are symptomatic of skewed development in society. Discuss in context of India along with relevant examples. 10

Protests refer to crystallization of dissent in society whereas agitation refer to open expression of dissent prevailing in a society.

Protests and agitation as symbol of skewed development

① Resource constraints provide fertile base for protests due to deprivation experienced by population. e.g. Thakhand protests led by Taipal Singh.

② Social discrimination in the form of casteism, communalism also leads to ~~develops~~ protests e.g. Dalit Panthers protests.

- ③ Anomie of injustice arising out of discriminatory policies of state and capitalist exploitation (Gail Omvedt) eg. Niyamgri protests against mining.
- ④ Perceived injustice can also lead to protests eg. Anti-CAA protests.
- ⑤ Overdevelopment can also lead to agitation as seen in fragmented Khalistani agitation and Gurdar's Rail Poko agitation in wake of green revolution. (Kellars)
- ⑥ Historic experience of underdevelopment in Imphal is leading to protests against Bri resettlement.

Hence, skewed development is fertile base for collective action.