

MODEL ANSWER
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK
GURU GHASIDAS VISHWAVIDYALAYA BILASPUR
ODD SEMESTER EXAMINATION- 2013
SEMESTER 3rd
M.M= 70 MARKS

PAPER: - MS 303(B) AGRARIAN SOCIAL STRUCTURE

I. ATTEMPT ALL QUESTIONS EACH CARRY EQUAL MARKS 10X2= 20.

1. Central Statistical Organization (CSO) provides the Gross Value of Output (GVO) for a set ofthat includes the non-forecast crops. **Grains**
2. Agricultural policy after independence really considered the reform of property rights in land as a means of eliminating structural inequalities in the economy and expanding the home market. **(True/False)**
3. The New Agricultural Strategy came into existence in
 - a. **1950s**
 - b. 1940s
 - c. 1960s
 - d. None
4. The Agricultural Prices Commission (APC) was established in to advise the government on the level of prices that would act as an incentive. **1965**
5. The Food Corporation of India (FCI) was established inas a link in the policy of procurement and buffer stock management. **1965**
6. The policy of nationalization of commercial banks in helped to significantly raise the availability of credit for the peasants.
 - a. 1987
 - b. **1965**
 - c. 1963
 - d. 1899
7. Poverty Reduction and increase in quantity and quality of employment is an element of inclusive growth. **(True/False)**
8. Measures for removal of poverty in India includes:
 - (a) Population Control
 - (b) Redistribution of income
 - (c) Development of Agriculture and Cottage industries
 - (d) **All the above**
9. The agrarian peasant economy is characterized by..... death and high birth rates.
 - (a) **High**
 - (b) Low
 - (c) Fluctuating
 - (d) Unfluctuating
10. The nature and character of India's post-independence agricultural policy was closely linked to its experiences during which period:
 - (a) Post -Modern
 - (b) **Colonial**
 - (c) Post- Colonial
 - (d) Modern

II. ATTEMPT ANY FIVE QUESTIONS (Write your Answers 200-250 Words) 6X5=30.

1. How does the rising consciousness of people lead to development in the Agrarian Society?

In this question, you have to examine how increasing understanding and explicit awareness of social consciousness can develop through transformations in Agrarian Society. Based on a model that emerged from a series of qualitative and quantitative studies on transformation, as we know that there are five developmental levels of social consciousness: embedded, self-reflexive, engaged, collaborative, and resonant. As a person's society transforms, awareness can expand to include each of these levels, leading to enhanced pro-social experiences and behaviour. Increased social consciousness can in turn stimulate further transformations and development in Society. We then consider an educational curriculum to facilitate the understanding of agrarian society and the cultivation of social consciousness as core capacities for twenty-first century citizens. Elaborate, Analyze and conclude it in your own words.

2. Discuss the need for agrarian and land reforms for development?

Introduction:

India's experience since Independence shows that there is a close inter-relation between agrarian structure and rural development. An outmoded agrarian structure is a serious obstacle to the modernisation of agriculture and rapid rural development. Such a structure is to be squarely blamed for the unequal distribution of the fruits of development leading to widening of the disparities in income and wealth. The upper classes that have cornered the bulk of the new prosperity have also succeeded in consolidating their political power. Consequently, it has become still more difficult to adopt and implement far-reaching institutional reforms. Even so, as the emerging agrarian structure has become a serious constraint to rural development it will be disastrous to postpone the much-needed agrarian and land reforms for development.

The background against which the national land policy was evolved after Independence. In the Five- Year Plans the objectives of land policy have been laid down as, firstly, to remove such motivational and other impediments to increase in agricultural production as arise from the agrarian structure inherited from the past and, secondly, to eliminate, all elements of exploitation and social injustice within the agrarian system and introduce agrarian and land reforms for development so as to ensure equality of status and opportunity to all sections of the rural population. Since land reform under the Indian Constitution is a state subject, and tending conditions vary from state to state, the Central government could only lay down the general principles which provided the framework for legislation as well as agricultural holdings.

Elaborate, Analyze and conclude it in your own words.

Need for agrarian and land reforms for development

- In some laws family was the unit of application, while in some others ceiling was fixed for individual landholders.
- All the laws provided for a large number of exemptions. The enactment of the ceiling laws had been preceded by a national debate attended with a great deal of publicity.
- Naturally, all prudent landowners took steps in good time to distribute the surplus land among their relatives, friends and dependants, and in some cases they arranged paper transactions to show distribution among fictitious persons.
- Subsequent efforts to nullify such transfers have not been very successful. As the Planning Commission's Task Force has put it "as a result of the high level of ceiling, large number of exemptions from the law, mala-fide transfers and partitions, and poor implementation, the results achieved have been meagre".
- The poor results are demonstrated by the fact that on the implementation of the ceiling laws only about one million hectares of land could be declared surplus. That works out to be less than one per cent of the total arable land in the country.

Elaborate, Analyze and conclude it in your own words.

3. How DWCRA is a successful experiment to Emancipate rural women in India?

Introduction

1. The special scheme for Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) aims at strengthening the gender component of IRDP.
2. It was started in the year 1982-83, on a pilot basis, in 50 districts and has now been extended to all the districts of the country.
3. DWCRA is directed at improving the living conditions of women and, thereby, of children through the provision of opportunities for self-employment and access to basic social services.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- DWCRA recognizes that banks do not cater to the consumption needs of rural women, hence they selected 'Thrift and Credit', for self-reliance.
- Improving the Status and quality of life of poor women and children in the rural areas.
- Improving the impact of ongoing development programmes by stimulating, supplementing, strengthening and integrating them.
- Involving the community in planning and implementing the programme so that need based development activity will be carried on by the communities even after outside assistance is withdrawn.

SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENT:

The main strategy adopted under this programme is to facilitate access for poor women to employment, skill up gradation, training, credit and other support services so that the DWCRA women as a group can take up income generating activities for supplementing their incomes. It seeks to encourage collective action in the form of group activities that are known to work better and are more sustainable than the individual effort. It encourages the habit of thrift and credit among poor rural women to make them self-reliant. The programme also envisages that this target group would be the focus for convergence of other services like family welfare, health care, nutrition, education, childcare, safe drinking water, sanitation and shelter to improve the welfare and quality of life of the family and the community.

Analyze and conclude it in your own words.

4. Explain the inception of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)?

Introduction:

The National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) came into effect from 15th August, 1995. The programme represents a significant step towards the fulfilment of the Directive Principles in Articles 41 and 42 of the Constitution through the enunciation of a National Policy for social assistance benefits to poor households in the case of old age, death of the primary breadwinner and maternity. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with 100 per cent Central assistance provided to States/UTs. This programme has three components: namely

- (ii) National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS);
- (iii) National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS); and
- (iv) National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS) which are targeted at people living below the poverty line.

Inception of National Social Assistance Programme: - Provide social assistance benefits to poor households in cases of old age, death of the primary bread winner and maternity, the NSAP supplements the efforts of the State Governments with the objective of ensuring minimum national levels of well-being. Provide opportunities for linking social assistance package to schemes for poverty alleviation and provision of basic minimum services. In fact, that old age pension can be linked to medical care and other benefits aimed at the aged beneficiaries. The Integrated Rural Development Programme/Jawahar Rozgar Yojana assistance may be provided in addition to the family benefit for the families of poor households, who suffer the loss of the primary bread winner. Maternity assistance can be linked to other programmes of maternal and child care.

Analyze and conclude it in your own words.

5. Define Cooperative Societies in Sustaining Livelihood in Agrarian Society?

Cooperative societies in India played an important role in development of agriculture, banking, credit, agro processing, storage, marketing, dairy, fishing and housing sectors. Cooperatives role in poverty alleviation, food security and employment generation is well established. It is observed that cooperatives may deliver goods and services in areas where both public and private sectors have failed. Several cooperatives were formed in urban and rural areas but the cooperative in village demonstrated the possibility of cooperation.

Cooperative society is an organization of group of people with collective responsibilities and thoughts for the development of needy, especially under privileged. Cooperatives helped in the development of agriculture, banking, credit, agro-processing, storage, marketing, dairy, fishing and housing and its network covers 85 percent of rural households. It occupies a key position in agricultural development with support in resource and input use, harvesting of water resources, marketing channels, storage facilities, distribution channels, value addition, market information and a regular monitoring network system. Cooperatives are also engaged in economic activities like disbursement of credit, distribution of agricultural inputs (seeds, fertilizers, and agrochemicals), etc. Cooperatives have inherent advantages in tackling the problems of poverty alleviation, food security and employment generation.

It is considered to have immense potential to deliver goods and services in areas where both the public and the private sector have failed. By and large, cooperatives (except a few large ones) are “local institutions”, addressing “local needs”, employing “local talent”, and led by “local leaders”. A situation is emerging wherein there is a possibility of people migrating back to rural areas, as the cooperatives exhibit vast potential for generating self-employment opportunities at grassroots.

Role of Cooperative Societies in Sustaining Livelihood in Agrarian Society

The Cooperative Societies which are the major players at the grassroots level, helping farmers with credit, inputs, marketing, advisories etc. Credit is a very powerful instrument for the empowerment of the resource-poor people. It can generate “accelerated economic growth,” when loans are easily available, properly utilized and repaid in time. A cumulative upward movement of “capital supply – increased productivity – higher real income – higher capital supply” is necessary for sustainable rural development.

Financial service: Cooperative members have access to loans for raising crops, poultry, dairy, sericulture, orchards, deepening wells, installation of pump sets, laying of pipe lines, purchase of cranes, trailers, power tillers, sprinklers, drip irrigation, solar lamps, tractors and other agricultural activities. Whenever possible and necessary, loans are given in

kind and in cash. The cooperative keeps essential/needed materials ready in stock to meet the supply required by the members when loan is sanctioned to purchase the items.

Input supply services: Cooperative supplies seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, sprayers, dusters, pump sets, accessories, pipelines, electric motors, seedlings, and poultry feed, medicines, poultry shed building materials, diesel and any other quality input that a large enough number of members may need to undertake production. Few supplies are purchase from manufacturers and few are made by cooperatives. Cooperatives produce quality seed. In addition to above supplies, the cooperatives also hire seasonally used agricultural machinery for the use of members, if they are expensive. The cooperative owns silt removing cranes, threshers, chaff cutters, tractors, and rigs, all available to members on a first come first served basis.

Marketing services:

Consumer services:

Welfare Services:

Elaborate, Analyze and conclude it in your own words.

6. Explain the Various Role and Functions of NGOs in rural development with suitable examples?

Introduction:

NGOs are not a new phenomenon in our country. Voluntary effort has always been an important part of our culture and social tradition. The need for organizing people into accredited associations and their involvement and participation in rural development have now been fully recognized. In recent years, they have increased in considerable number, acquired greater importance and significance and put up many new experiments in the field of rural development. NGOs can play a crucial role in rural development by supplementing government efforts as they are close to the minds and hearts of the rural people. They have their roots in the people and can respond to the needs and aspirations of the community very effectively. They can experiment new approaches to rural development. The success of the rural development depends upon the active participation and willing co-operation of the rural people through Self-Help organizations and NGOs. In recent years, the NGOs have acquired greater importance and significance than before because the administration has not been able to reach the people, especially the poor and weaker sections. They have been able to make their presence felt from the local to the national level and now at the international level also. Many of them have pioneered works in areas, which were ignored by the process of national development planning.

The role of NGOs in five years plans: After Independence, India was declared as a welfare state and relevant provisions were included in the Constitution of India. Social welfare was included as part of the Five Year Plans.

The major responsibility of organizing social welfare services continued with the NGOs. Hence, even today it is the NGOs that are taking care of welfare activities. The VII plan documents had anticipated that voluntary efforts would be forthcoming in a massive way for better implementation of anti-poverty and minimum needs programmes also in the VII plan (1992-97); a greater emphasis has been laid on the role of NGOs in rural development. The plan document states: "A nation-wide network of NGOs will be created. In order to facilitate the working of this network, three schemes relating to the creation/replication/multiplication and consultancy development have been worked out by the planning commission.

Role and Functions of NGOs in Rural Development:

Voluntary action stimulated and promoted by voluntary agencies engaged in development play a significant role at the grass roots level in the Indian social milieu; the success of rural development depends upon the active participation of the people through Self Help Organizations. The various roles of NGOs are described below for better understanding.

- a. Catalyse Rural Population
- b. Build Models and Experiment
- c. Supplement Government Efforts
- d. Organizing Rural Poor
- e. Educate the Rural People
- f. Provide Training
- g. Disseminate Information
- h. Mobilize of Resources
- i. Promote Rural Leadership
- j. Represent the Rural People
- k. Act as Innovators
- l. Ensure People's Participation
- m. Promote Appropriate Technology
- n. Activate the Rural Delivery System

Elaborate, Analyze and conclude it in your own words.

7. Discuss the composition of the General Body and Executive Committee of Central Welfare Board.

Introduction:

The Central Social Welfare Board was set up by a Resolution of Government of India dated 12th August, 1953 with the object of promoting social welfare activities and implementing welfare programmes for women, children and the handicapped through voluntary organizations. Till 1969 the Board functioned as a limb of the Government and then it was registered as a charitable company under the Companies Act to give a legal status to the Board.

The Board was given the dual responsibility of taking welfare services to the disadvantaged sections of society especially women & children, and also developing a nationwide infrastructure of voluntary agencies through which these services could be made available. In 1954 the State Social Welfare Advisory Boards were set up in the States and Union Territories to implement the programmes of the Board and assist the Central Social Welfare Board in expansion and development of welfare services. The financial assistance to voluntary organisations under various schemes is given on the recommendations of the State Boards. Presently there are 32 State Boards.

The composition of the General Body and Executive Committee are as follows:

General Body

1. All Chairpersons of State Social Welfare Advisory Boards (32)
2. Representatives from the Parliament: two from Lok Sabha & one from Rajya Sabha.
3. Five Professionals (one each from Law, Medicine, Social Work, Education and Social Development)
4. Three eminent persons with extensive experience in social work.
5. Representatives from Ministries/Departments/Government of India
6. Department of Women & Child Development, Ministry of Finance,
7. Department of Rural Development, Department of Education, Planning Commission, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Family Welfare.
8. Executive Director, Central Social Welfare Board

Executive Committee

1. Chairpersons of State Social Welfare Advisory Boards: 5 States by rotation
2. Representatives from Ministries/Departments of the Government of India Department of Women & Child Development, Ministry of Finance, Department of Family Welfare, Department of Rural Development & Poverty Alleviation, Department of Education and Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.
3. Two Professionals from General Body.
4. Executive Director, Central Social Welfare Board

Elaborate, Analyze and conclude it in your own words.

III. ATTEMPT ANY TWO QUESTIONS. 10X2=20

1. Under 73rd Amendment Act *Gram Sabha* has been vested with powers. Discuss them in detail with suitable examples?

Introduction:

The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act institutionalised Panchayati Raj as the mandatory third tier of governance in India. Yet due to a lack of extensive devolution of the three Fs – functions, functionaries and funds – most Panchayati raj institutions still operate as poor adjuncts to the bureaucracy and higher level governments. The process of devolving power to them and pinpoints the main obstacles in the path of establishing truly self-governing local bodies in rural areas. On the basis of this, recommendations are made to make them more effective.

The idea of the Gram Sabha (Village Assembly) is not new, although it got more currency after the 73rd Amendment to the Constitution and particularly after extension of this Act to 5th Scheduled Areas by Provisions of the Panchayat (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996(hereafter referred to Extension Act). States of Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat covered under fifth scheduled of the Constitution. In pre-independence days also under British regime the idea of associating villagers with the panchayat administration was accepted and incorporated in some of the provincial panchayat legislations like Bombay Village Act of 1933, which had the provision of assembling all the adults at a common place where the panchayat would read out the report on the village administration for the preceding year and activities to be taken up in the ensuing year. But the Gram Sabha was not empowered to make changes in the proposals made by the Panchayats. This was obvious because not much was expected from the alien government. However, not much interest in strengthening participatory democracy by way of making Gram Sabha as corner stone of the Panchayati Raj System. As elections to the panchayats were not held regularly, the legal provisions made by some states regarding the Gram Sabha have remained on paper. The Article 243A of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act has given the backing to make the constitution of the Gram Sabha mandatory in the states. But the powers and functions of the Gram Sabha have been left to the discretion of the state legislatures. As a result, different states have developed powers and functions to this body differently. In some states it has been made a discussing body, in some others it is made a recommendatory body whereas some states have gone to the extent of making it is an approving body of the schemes and programmes taken up panchayats. But the Extension Act is a watershed in the sphere of devolution of powers and authority at local level, as it has empowered this corporate body in taking decisions about all vital issues including jal, (water), jungal (forests) and Jamin (land) in the hands of tribals. Panchayats have been a vibrant and dynamic identity of the Indian villages since the beginning of recorded history. **Gandhi** the Father of the Nation, in 1946 had aptly remarked that the Indian Independence must begin at the bottom and every village ought to be a Republic with Panchayati, having powers. Gandhi dream has been translated into reality with the introduction of the three-tier Panchayati Raj System to ensure people's participation in rural reconstruction.

The passage of the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 marks a new era in the federal democratic set up of the country and provides constitutional status to the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). Consequent upon the enactment of the Act, almost all the States/UTs, except J&K, National Capital Territory (NCT) Delhi and Arunachal Pradesh have enacted their legislation. Except Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, NCT Delhi and Pondicherry, all other States/UTs have held elections. As a result, 227698 Panchayats at village level; 5,906 Panchayats at intermediate level and 474 Panchayats at district level have been constituted in the country. These Panchayats are being manned by about 34lakh elected representatives of Panchayats at all levels. This is the broadest representative base that exists in any country of the world - developed or underdeveloped. The main features of the Act are –

- (i) A 3-tier System of Panchayati Raj for all States having population of over 20lakhs;
- (ii) Panchayati elections to be held regularly every 5 years;
- (iii) Reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and women (not less than one-third of seats);
- (iv) Constitution of State Finance Commission to make recommendations as regards the financial powers of the Panchayats and
- (v) constitution of District Planning Committees to prepare development plans for the district as a whole.

As per the 73rd Amendment Act, the Panchayati Raj Institutions have been endowed with such powers and authority as may be necessary to function as institutions of self-government and contains provisions of devolution of powers and responsibilities upon Panchayats at the appropriate level with reference to

- (a) The preparation of plans for economic development and social justice; and
- (b) The implementation of such schemes for economic development and social justice as may be entrusted to them.

GRAM SABHA'S POWERS

The Gram Sabha has been given a key role for the effective functioning of Panchayats.

- It is the Gram Sabha, which, based on needs assessment, decides what developmental work is to be undertaken by Panchayats.
- Gram Sabhas can question and scrutinize the decisions of Panchayats in their meetings, and discuss the annual financial statements of Gram Panchayats.
- Under the Act, the Gram Sabha itself has been vested with a wide range of powers including ownership of minor forest produce, approval of developmental plans, selection of beneficiaries under various programmes, management of minor water bodies, control of mineral leases, management of village markets and regulation/prohibition of sale of intoxicants
- The Gram Sabha enables each and every voter of the village to participate in decision making at the local level. It is a constitutional body consist all persons registered in the electoral rolls of a village Panchayat.

- It provides a political forum to people in the village to meet and discuss their common problems, and consequently, understand the needs and aspirations of the community.
- It also provides a forum to meet, discuss, debate and analyse the development and administrative actions of elected representatives and thereby ensure transparency and accountability in the functioning of the village Panchayat.
- The main objective of introducing Grama Sabha is to have decentralized planning and evaluation with peoples participation at the grass root level.
- The concept of eradication of discrimination and facilitation of people's participation from all walks of social life in the management of affairs of their locality were the foundation for the emergence of comprehensive society called Grama Sabha.
- Transparency and intimacy becomes part and parcel of their institution. The realization that people's participation alone can bring sustainable development through good governance at the base level.

Functions of Grama Sabha

Grama Sabha is the basic foundation of the grass root level democratic institution and constitutionary mandated body would perform following 12 functions.

1. To examine annual statements of accounts, audit report, audit note and to seek clarification from the Panchayat.
2. To discuss report on the administration of the preceding year.
3. To review programme for the year, any new programme and review all kinds of works under taken by the Gram Panchayat.
4. To consider proposals for fresh taxation or for enhancement of existing taxation.
5. To approve the selection of schemes, beneficiaries' location, identification and implementation of various development programmes.
6. To mobilize voluntary labour and contribution of kind and cash.
7. To undertake programmes for adult education and family welfare with in the village.
8. To promote unity and harmony among all the sections of the rural community.
9. To seek clarifications from the Mukhia and members of the Grama Panchayat about schemes, income and expenditure.
10. To consider the budget prepared by the Gram Panchayat and future development programmes and plans.
11. To maintain a complete register for all development works undertaken by Gram Panchayat or any other department.
12. To approve village plan of action.

However, here is no unanimity among the states in implementing the function devolved. Most of the states are not serious in implementing the functions to achieve sustainable economic development in the villages.

Analyze and conclude it in your own words.

2. What do understand by Strategy of Agriculture Development? Analyze the theoretical approaches of Agriculture Development?

Introduction:

In this you have to define how India's development strategy, and to what extent it may be considered a success. It provides a brief history of why and how the strategy was adopted, as well as of its implementation, including the role of initial conditions, such as human capital, geographical location, and infrastructure. It analyses the extent and reasons for success of the strategy, including policy, political economy, timing, and linkage of the strategy to economy-wide development. Particular attention is given to the relative roles of domestic and international actors, including the part played by foreign investment, trade, and other dimensions of openness. You have to consider the extent to which the strategy remains viable for the future, the challenges still faced, and what other strategies might be required. It concludes with possible lessons for other countries and their future development strategies.

Elaborate, Analyze and conclude it in your own words.

3. Explain and critically evaluate the basic objections of Modernization Theory?

- a. **Modernization:** - "Modernization" has been one of the most intensely negotiated concepts of the theoretical and historical social sciences over the last fifty years. Conceptions of the term have changed considerably during the course of this discussion. Starting as an optimistic and unmistakably system-dependent derivative of the Western, European and North-American notion of progress, the concept became aware of the ambivalences, power structures, and unintended consequences of modernity. Modernization increasingly developed from an easily workable and applicable – and often perfunctory – concept into a general heuristic idea, which raises the question as to the ties holding modern societies together and the mechanisms enabling change. A controversial theoretical yet application-oriented concept morphed into a guiding principle that is, strictly speaking, no longer falsifiable.
- b. **Conceptual Understanding of Modernization:** - The concept of modernization investigated the developmental logics of modern societies. It postulated the process of unidirectional development, in the course of which societies freed themselves from the state of traditionality and increasingly accepted features of modernity. "Modernization" in this sense refers to a number of processes, the most important of which are industrialization, democratization, bureaucratization and secularization.

Modern societies are thus considered industrial, democratic, and irreligious and steered by bureaucracies. Modernization approaches proceed under the assumption that these processes exhibit a considerable degree of interdependence and interrelation. According to modernization theory, an industrialized society must therefore inevitably establish itself as a secularized society; modernized societies sooner or later make the transition to democracy.

The origins of this line of thought can essentially be traced back to evolution theory, and in most cases it made some degree of recourse to the Parsonian model of the development of modern societies. In turn, the American sociologist Talcott Parsons himself participated in the theoretical development of the concept of modernization. This was not a consistent theory in the strictest sense of the word. Rather, the buzzword "modernization" (when it did not simply refer to a colloquial understanding of renewal) became an umbrella for a whole conglomerate of approaches, which could range from long-term historical analyses of social class formation to theories on the course of economic development and empirical panel investigations of contemporary political cultures. What these approaches had in common was their tendency to think in terms of developmental stages and proceed from the assumption that processes of development followed a certain progression which merely allowed for temporary relapse. They also postulated an interdependence of the basic processes outlined above and thus assumed the future convergence of societies even if they still exhibited considerable differences.

c. Modernization Revitalization and New Criticism:-

With the end of Communism in 1990, modernization theory came to experience an unexpected revitalization. Suddenly it seemed as though, despite all criticism to the contrary, the argument of the superiority of the Western model had proved correct after all. Concerning the GDR, sociologist Mario Rainer Lepsius championed the paradigmatic argument that de-differentiation in the socialist society of equality had dried out any potential for modernization. Yet it soon became apparent that the congruence was merely superficial in nature; endemic traditions came to the fore, old elites and mentalities proved to be more inveterate than had previously been assumed. Bolstering democratization through prosperity failed in many instances. An explicit preservation and even reconfiguration of traditions, particularly religious ones, often comes along with it. The interdependence postulate, positing the evenly-directed modernization of different sectors, is thus called into question. Instead the evolution of some sectors is held possible, leaving "behind" other sectors. Proponents of such partial change argue that a more or less simultaneous modernization of all economy, politics, education, religion etc. would overcharge the respective societies.

They point to a phenomenon that had already been discovered by modernization theorists themselves: that fast-paced change involves a stronger reference to tradition, as change is what makes tradition possible in the first place. Accordingly, static societies effectively have no traditions, as the conditions of today are not significantly different to those of yesterday. Thus, even tradition can be counted as a part of modernization.

Basic Objections of Modernization Theory:

Modernization theory, the first of the four positions, was characterized by the following assumptions:

- 1) That societies are coherently organized systems;
- 2) That there are two types of social systems, the modern which is good and the traditional which is bad;
- 3) That the modern is defined in terms of very specific Western societies which are characterized as being individualistic, democratic, capitalist, scientific, secular and stable;
- 4) That historical progress is incremental, and
- 5) That the entire world is evolving towards modernity.
- 6) Neither Western or traditional societies could be conceptualized as internally homogeneous;
- 7) The concept of traditional society did not provide for historical specificity;
- 8) There was no ground for optimism that modernization would succeed. Change was not always developmental. It could be abrupt, with murderous results, and historical regression was always possible.

Elaborate, Analyze and conclude it in your own words.