

SYLLABUS OF SOCIOLOGY

PAPER – I

FUNDAMENTALS OF SOCIOLOGY

1. Sociology – The Discipline:

- Modernity and social changes in Europe and emergence of sociology.
- Scope of the subject and comparison with other social sciences.
- Sociology and common sense.

2. Sociology as Science:

- Science, scientific method and critique.
- Major theoretical strands of research methodology.
- Positivism and its critique.
- Fact value and objectivity.
- Non- positivist methodologies.

3. Research Methods and Analysis:

- Qualitative and quantitative methods.
- Techniques of data collection.
- Variables, sampling, hypothesis, reliability and validity.

4. Sociological Thinkers:

- Karl Marx- Historical materialism, mode of production, alienation, class struggle.
- Emile Durkheim- Division of labour, social fact, suicide, religion and society.
- Max Weber- Social action, ideal types, authority, bureaucracy, protestant ethic and the spirit of capitalism.
- Talcolt Parsons- Social system, pattern variables.
- Robert K. Merton- Latent and manifest functions, conformity and deviance, reference groups.

- Mead – Self and identity.

5. Stratification and Mobility:

- Concepts- equality, inequality, hierarchy, exclusion, poverty and deprivation.
- Theories of social stratification- Structural functionalist theory, Marxist theory, Weberian theory.
- Dimensions – Social stratification of class, status groups, gender, ethnicity and race.
- Social mobility- open and closed systems, types of mobility, sources and causes of mobility.

6. Works and Economic Life:

- Social organization of work in different types of society- slave society, feudal society, industrial /capitalist society.
- Formal and informal organization of work.
- Labour and society.

7. Politics and Society:

- Sociological theories of power.
- Power elite, bureaucracy, pressure groups, and political parties.
- Nation, state, citizenship, democracy, civil society, ideology.
- Protest, agitation, social movements, collective action, revolution.

8. Religion and Society:

- Sociological theories of religion.
- Types of religious practices: animism, monism, pluralism, sects, cults.
- Religion in modern society: religion and science, secularization, religious revivalism, fundamentalism.

9. Systems of Kinship:

- Family, household, marriage.
- Types and forms of family.
- Lineage and descent.
- Patriarchy and sexual division of labour.
- Contemporary trends.

10. Social Change in Modern Society:

- Sociological theories of social change.
- Development and dependency.
- Agents of social change.
- Education and social change.
- Science, technology and social change.

PAPER – II

INDIAN SOCIETY : STRUCTURE AND CHANGE

A. Introducing Indian Society:

(i) Perspectives on the study of Indian society:

- Indology (GS. Ghurye).
- Structural functionalism (M N Srinivas).
- Marxist sociology (A R Desai).

(ii) Impact of colonial rule on Indian society :

- Social background of Indian nationalism.
- Modernization of Indian tradition.
- Protests and movements during the colonial period.
- Social reforms.

B. Social Structure:

(i) Rural and Agrarian Social Structure:

- The idea of Indian village and village studies.
- Agrarian social structure – evolution of land tenure system, land reforms.

(ii) Caste System:

- Perspectives on the study of caste systems: GS Ghurye, M N Srinivas, Louis Dumont, Andre Beteille.
- Features of caste system.
- Untouchability – forms and perspectives.

(iii) Tribal communities in India:

- Definitional problems.
- Geographical spread.
- Colonial policies and tribes.
- Issues of integration and autonomy.

(iv) Social Classes in India:

- Agrarian class structure.
- Industrial class structure.
- Middle classes in India.

(v) Systems of Kinship in India:

- Lineage and descent in India.
- Types of kinship systems.
- Family and marriage in India.
- Household dimensions of the family.

(vi) Religion and Society:

- Religious communities in India.
- Problems of religious minorities.

C. Social Changes in India:

(i) Visions of Social Change in India:

- Idea of development planning and mixed economy.
- Constitution, law and social change.
- Education and social change.

(ii) Rural and Agrarian transformation in India:

- Programmes of rural development, Community Development Programme, cooperatives, poverty alleviation schemes.
- Green revolution and social change.
- Changing modes of production in Indian agriculture .
- Problems of rural labour, bondage, migration.

(iii) Industrialization and Urbanisation in India:

- Evolution of modern industry in India.
- Growth of urban settlements in India.
- Working class: structure, growth, class mobilization.
- Informal sector, child labour.
- Slums and deprivation in urban areas.

(iv) Politics and Society:

- Nation, democracy and citizenship.
- Political parties, pressure groups , social and political elite.
- Regionalism and decentralization of power.
- Secularization

(v) Social Movements in Modern India:

- Peasants and farmers movements.
- Women's movement.
- Backward classes & Dalit movement.
- Environmental movements.
- Ethnicity and Identity movements.

(vi) Population Dynamics:

- Population size, growth, composition and distribution.
- Components of population growth: birth, death, migration.
- Population policy and family planning.
- Emerging issues: ageing, sex ratios, child and infant mortality, reproductive health.

(vii) Challenges of Social Transformation:

- Crisis of development: displacement, environmental problems and sustainability.
- Poverty, deprivation and inequalities.
- Violence against women.
- Caste conflicts.
- Ethnic conflicts, communalism, religious revivalism.
- Illiteracy and disparities in education.