

PART-II

Q. 2 Make a précis of the following passage and suggest a suitable title.

(15+5=20)

Sociologists recognize that social stratification is a society-wide system that makes inequalities apparent. While there are always inequalities between individuals, sociologists are interested in larger social patterns. Stratification is not about individual inequalities, but about systematic inequalities based on group membership, classes, and the like. No individual, rich or poor, can be blamed for social inequalities. A person's social standing is affected by the structure of society. Although individuals may support or fight inequalities, social stratification is created and supported by society as a whole.

Factors that define stratification vary in different societies. In most societies, stratification is an economic system, based on wealth, the net value of money and assets a person has, and income, a person's wages or investment dividends. While people are regularly categorized based on how rich or poor they are, other important factors influence social standing. For example, in some cultures, wisdom and charisma are valued, and people who have them are revered more than those who don't. In some cultures, the elderly are esteemed; in others, the elderly are disparaged or overlooked. Societies' cultural beliefs often reinforce the inequalities of stratification.

One key determinant of social standing is the social standing of one's parents. Parents tend to pass their social position on to their children. People inherit not only social standing but also the cultural norms that accompany a certain lifestyle. They share these with a network of friends and family members. Social standing becomes a comfort zone, a familiar lifestyle, and an identity.

Other determinants are found in a society's occupational structure. Teachers, for example, often have high levels of education but receive relatively low pay. Many believe that teaching is a noble profession, so teachers should do their jobs for love of their profession and the good of their students, not for money. Yet no successful executive or entrepreneur would embrace that attitude in the business world, where profits are valued as a driving force. Cultural attitudes and beliefs like these support and perpetuate social inequalities.

Q. 3 Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

(20)

TITLE : SOCIOLOGICAL CONCEPT OF STRATIFICATION

According to sociologists, social inequalities appear due to social stratification. Stratification involves inequalities among different classes of society and doesn't include individual inequalities. It is formed and supported by whole society. Its factors vary among societies. Mostly, it is based on economic system. Wealth forms classes of rich and poor in the society. Sometimes cultural beliefs provoke social inequalities. The structure of society marks a person's social standing. The key determinant of which is the social standing of his parent. Person inherits the social status, cultural norms and lifestyle from their parents. Another determinant is the occupational structure of society. A profession might be noble but low paid so results in social inequalities due to stratification.

Passage word count : 335

Precis word count : $\frac{335}{3} \approx 112$

Original word count of precis = 116