

Question No.
(प्रश्न संख्या)

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The Marxian theory of alienation is about the causes of human process of alienation in the society. He was concerned with the particular form of alienation brought by capitalism where labourer becomes a commodity. There have been criticisms to the theory as provided by Marx, but the contemporary realities in societies somehow justify the Marxian theory of alienation.

Alienation is a state in which the environment we create takes on a real solidity and seems unchangeable. In capitalistic society work is forced on the workers in disregard to their interest and they work simply to meet their basic needs. So in the process the labourer gets alienated from the product he produces, the process, his colleagues and lastly from himself.

However, it can be noted that traditional capitalism has evolved manifold in forms and manifestations over the years, since Marxian era.

According to Herbert Blumer, less technical job develops less alienation. He ^{sees} ~~sees~~ less alienation in handicraft & collage industries & more in mechanical industries.

While C.W Mills finds alienation in service class. In service sector rather than producing

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an object, individual earns by manipulating his intellectual capacity. Here subjects have replaced objects. He is trained to behave in a particular way that transforms an individual from a subject to an object, which leads to alienation.

Alienation also lies in ~~low~~ bureaucracy where there is no place for creativity but operates through particular rules & regulation. This leads to frustration and alienation from the system.

Although different studies provide, that in similar working conditions not essentially all people get alienated. In modern capitalism, where human resource is precious different measures are taken to improve the working conditions like overtime, bonus, holiday packages, medical facilities etc. Also things like trade unions, labour laws, international organisations like ILO have come into force. Some MNCs are now making their workers, shareholders of the company so that they get motivated to work hard for the organisation.

But even with the changing scenario, exploitation of workers still persists. The nature of exploitation has changed but the effective level of exploitation has remained the same, if

Elton Mayo's "social needs" in human beings & management

student-
Marxism,
↓
false
needs,
↓
alienation

not increased.

The inhuman long hours of work, the enhanced level of stress and health hazards, the interference of office work through mobile phones & laptops even ^{now with} on holidays have caused encroachment on the ^{personal} personal life of employees like never before.

The irony remains, that even with the apparent ⁱⁿ betterment in the working conditions of employees, inequality—both economic & social is only on a steep rise.

Thus inevitability and inseparability of alienation from capitalist society is adequately visible as with the new dimensions of mode of production, mode of exploitation ^{estrangement} has also taken a new face. And hence, Marxian interpretation of alienation with materialistic dimension gives direction to sociologists, political scientists & administrators to study the ~~existing~~ social reality.

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