Unit –II
Basic concepts in sociology

- in sociology there are many different basic concepts. i.e.
- In this unit we will discuss on,

A) Social Structure

B) Norms and Values

C) Statues and Role

D) Functions & Dysfunctions

E) Groups and Sub-Groups.

F) Social Institution.

Social Structure

- The term social structure firstly introduced by Herbert Spencer in his book principles of sociology.
- The term structure refers to some sort of ordered arrangement of parts or components.
- The term social structure means a more or less stable pattern of social arrangements within a
- particular society, group, or social organization.
- In the classical sociology Herbert Spencer and August Comte saw social structures as groups, collectivities and aggregates of individuals.
- The concept of social structure became popular amongst the sociologists and social anthropologists.
- Sociological theories exploring the concept of social structure are generally associated with macro or structural perspectives oriented to understanding .

Definitions of Social Structure

- **Ginsberg:** the study of social structure is concerned with the principal form of social organization that is types of groups, associations and institutions and the complex of these that constitute societies.
- **Talcott Parsons:** the term social structure applies to the particular arrangement of the interrelated institutions, agencies and social patterns as well as the statuses and roles which each person assumes in the group.

MacIver and Page : the various modes of grouping together comprise the complex pattern of the social structure. They have also regarded that social structure

Features of Social Structure

From the above definitions we can conclude that…

- 1. Social structure refers to the network of social relationship.
- 2. Social structure is an abstract and intangible phenomenon.
- 3. Social structure is composed of several groups like family, church, community etc.
- 4. Social structure is arrangement of the interrelated institutions, agencies and social
- patterns.
- 5. Social Structure is relatively stable as compared to the functional aspect of society.
- 6. others Features of Social Structure……

Elements of Social Structure

- 1. Status and Role.
- 2. Groups and sub- Groups.
- 3. Social Norms.
- 4. cultural values.