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Assignment

Write a review on chapter 15.

Answer

An Overview of the Idea of Pressure Group:

Pressure groups are collection of individuals who hold a similar set of values and beliefs based on ethnicity, religion, political philosophy or a common goal. Based on these beliefs, they take action to promote changes and further their goals.

Pressure groups are different from political parties. Political parties seek to create change by being elected to public office, while pressure groups attempt to influence political parties. Pressure groups may be better able to focus on specialized issues, whereas political parties tend to address a wide range of issues.

Pressure group's existence is to checkmate and make democracy better, to compensate for the tyranny of majority of people in the society. Also, to treat the gaps in democratic process, to inform debates among ourselves, to encourage participation, and to enhance good accountability in our daily society.

Some examples of pressure groups, in Nigeria's Trade Union, Labour Congress, Moral Right, Ethnic Association, Christian Association of Nigeria etc.

Types of Pressure Group

Anomic Group: They have unpredictable action and behaviour as they work based on the moment and situation in the society. This group create pressure on the country political system through protest, riot, strikes etc. E.g "End SARS"

2 Associational Group and Non-Associational Group: Associational group are usually registered with appropriate authorities in a state or country. e.g Trade union, Labour Union etc while Non-associational group are pressure group without a formal organisation. Their arrangement and gathering are by virtue of kinship or even family attachment, tribal or even race affiliation just to mention few.

3 Interest Group. It is seen as sectional group representing its people in the society. e.g (CBI) Confederation in Business Integrit-

4 Cause Group: These group are promotion groups, which seek to promote particular causes. e.g Charities & environmental group.

5 Insider group and outsider groups: Insider group are regularly consulted by the government. They have regular access to minister or legislator. Outsider group have no access or link to government and its mechanisms. They have to use other ways to have impact.

Function of pressure group

- 1 It link government to the people
- 2 It serve as sources of information to government
- 3 It promote the interest of the minority
- 4 It influence legislation
- 5 It promotes participation in government.