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Matric no: 19/mhs02/098

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Course: Gst 203

An Overview Of The Idea Of Pressure Group

The pressure group is referred to as ‘ the functional representative ‘ this is the idea that various pressure groups represent different sectors of the society based on their functions

According to Anifowose(1999) pressure group is described as ‘interest groups, lobby groups or even protest groups.pressure groups came into existence to compliment, enhance or even to protect the interest of their members or groups(oyeleye 1998)

While pressure groups have their important place in their scheme of things in a nation, there is some downside. Sometimes, due to their selfish interest, pressure is mounted to alter the direction of government decisions, while not considering government’s limited resources. For example when professional bodies go on strike citizens suffer and government might be incapacitated due to shortage of funds to meet the requirements of these association. ASUU and NMA may indeed have genuine agitations but when they go on strike, they hold other stakeholders to ransom and insist that government accommodate their requests

Types Of Pressure Groups

1. Interest groups
2. Cause groups
3. Insider groups
4. Anomic groups
5. Associational groups and non associational groups

1.interest groups

This group is also seen as sectional groups, representing the people in the society. The trade units, for instance, CBI(confideration of British industry) known as the voice of business in the country, and in Nigeria, convention on business integration(CBI)

1. cause groups

 These groups are promotion groups, which seek to promote particular causes, it is always aimes at achieveing a single objective like protesting about the expansion of airpots, seaports, railways, etc just to mention few

1. Insider groups and outsider groups

 These are regularly consulted by the government. They have regular access to ministers or legislators

1. Anomic group

 They have unpredictable actions and behaviour as they work based on the moment and sitution in the society

1. Associational and non-associational group

 They are usually registered with appropriate authorities in a state or country

Functions of pressure groups

1. Links government to the people
2. Promotes particapation in government
3. Serving as source of information to government
4. Curtailing of dictatorial tendencies
5. Promotion of the interest of the minority
6. Influencing legislation
7. Pressure groups lobbying