

CHARACTERISTICS

Following are the essential characteristics of a good business:

1. Capital

Capital is the lifeblood of every business. It is the most essential and important element of business. In case of deficiency, loans can be taken from various financial institutions.

2. Creation of Utility

Utility is an economic term referring to that characteristic of a certain commodity, which can satisfy any human need. Business creates utility, which gives benefit to the entire society as well as the businessmen.

3. Dealing in Goods and Services

Every business deals with sale, purchase, production and exchange of goods and services for some consideration.

4. Employment

Business is a good source of employment for its owners as well as for other people, for example, employees, agents, transporters etc.

5. Islamic Process

Business is an Islamic way of earning living. Income from business is known as profit, which is Rizq e Halal. The Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAWW) himself did prosperous business.

6. Motive

The motive of business is to earn profit. Otherwise it will not be termed as business.

7. Organization

Every business needs an organization for its successful working. A proper organization is helpful in the smooth running of business and achieving the objectives.

8. Production or Purchase of Goods

A businessman deals in production or purchase of goods. These goods are supplied to the people. So, it is necessary that more goods should be produced so that demand of people may be fulfilled.

9. Regular Transaction

Business has a nature of regular dealings and series of transactions. So, in business, only those transactions are included which have regularity and continuity.

10. Risks and Uncertainty

Business involves a large volume of risk and uncertainty. The risk element in business keeps a person vigilant and he tries to ward off his risk by executing his policies properly.

11. Sale or Transfer for value

Another characteristic of business is the sale or transfer of goods for value.

12. Social Welfare

Business does not only satisfy the producer, but also the consumer when products are offered for sale at low prices in markets.

NATURE OF BUSINESS

The following points state the nature of business in brief:

1. Economic Activity

Business is an economic activity as it is concerned with creation of wealth through the satisfaction of human wants.

2. Human Activity

Business is an economic activity and every economic activity is done by human beings. Thus, business is one of the most important human activities.

3. Social Process

Business is run by owners and employees with the help of professionals and customers. Thus, business is a social process.

4. System

Business is a systematic arrangement of various elements, which lead to the attainment of particular objective, according to a well established plan.

COMPONENTS AND SCOPE OF BUSINESS

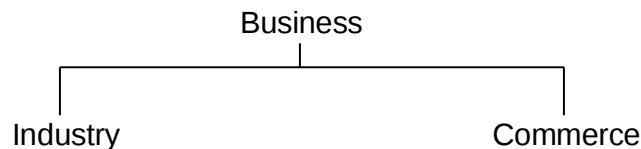
BUSINESS

The word “Business” includes all human activities concerned with earning money. In other words, business is an activity in which various persons regularly produce or exchange goods and services for mutual gain or profit.

COMPONENTS OF BUSINESS

Business bears the following components:

f Industry
f Commerce



INDUSTRY

Industry is connected with the production and preparation of goods and services. It is a place where raw material is converted into finished or semi finished goods, which have the ability to satisfy human needs or can be used in another industry as a base material. In other words, industry means that part of business activity, which is concerned with the extraction, production and fabrication of products.

KINDS OF INDUSTRY

1. Primary Industry
2. Secondary Industry



1. PRIMARY INDUSTRY

Primary industry is engaged in the production or extraction of raw materials, which are used in the secondary industry. Primary industry can be divided into two parts:

- (a) Extractive Industry
- (b) Genetic Industry

(a) Extractive Industry

Extractive industries are those industries, which extract, raise or produce raw material from below or above or on the surface of the earth. For example, fishery, extraction of oil, gas and coal etc.

(b) Genetic Industry

Genetic industries are those, which are engaged in reproducing and multiplying certain species of animals and plants. For example, poultry farm, fishing farm, dairy farm, plant nurseries etc.

2. SECONDARY INDUSTRY

These industries use raw materials and make useful goods. Raw material of these industries is obtained from primary industry. Secondary industry can be divided into three parts:

- (a) Constructive Industry
- (b) Manufacturing Industry
- (c) Services Industry

a) Constructive Industry

All kinds of constructions are included in this industry. For example, buildings, canals, roads, bridges etc.

b) Manufacturing Industry

In this industry, material is converted into some finished goods or semi finished goods. For example, textile mills, sugar mills etc.

c) Services Industry

These industries include those industries, which are engaged in providing services of professionals such as lawyers, doctors, teachers etc.

COMMERCE

Commerce is the second component of business. The term “commerce” includes all activities, functions and institutions, which are involved in transferring goods, produced in various industries, from their place of production to ultimate consumers.

In the words of Evelyn Thomas:

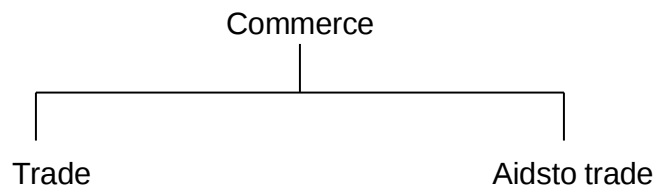
“Commercial occupations deal with the buying and selling of goods, the exchange of commodities and distribution of the finished goods.”

In simple words, “trade and aid to trade” is called commerce.

SCOPE OF COMMERCE

The scope of commerce can be explained as:

1. Trade
2. Aid to Trade



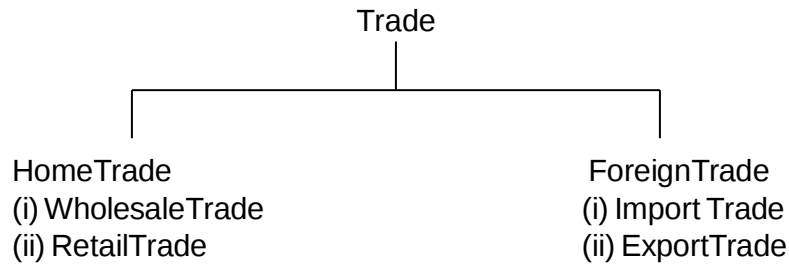
1. TRADE

Trade is the whole procedure of transferring or distributing the goods produced by different persons or industries to their ultimate consumers. In other words, the system or channel, which helps the exchange of goods, is called trade.

TYPE OF TRADE

There are two types of trade:

- (a) Home trade
- (b) Foreign Trade



(a) HomeTrade

The purchase and sale of goods inside the country is called home trade. It is also known as 'domestic', 'local' or 'internal trade'. Home trade has two types:

- (i) WholesaleTrade
- (ii) RetailTrade

(i) WholesaleTrade

It involves selling of goods in large quantities to shopkeepers in order to resell them to the consumers. A wholesaler is like a bridge between the producers and retailers.

(ii) RetailTrade

Retailing means selling the goods in small quantities to the ultimate consumers. Retailer is a middleman, who purchases goods from manufacturers or wholesalers and provides these goods to the consumers near their houses.

(b) ForeignTrade

Trade or exchange of goods and services between two or more independent countries for their mutual advantage is called foreign trade. It is also called international trade. Foreign trade has two types:

- (i) Import Trade
- (ii) ExportTrade

(i) Import Trade

When goods or services are purchased from another country, it is called import trade.

(ii) ExportTrade

When goods or services are sold to another country, it is called export trade.

2. AIDSTOTRADE

Trademansbiting and sellingof goods,whereas,aids to trade mean all those things which are helpful in trade.

- a) Banking
- b) Transportation
- c) Insurance
- d) Warehousing
- e) Agents
- f) Finance
- g) Advertising
- h) Communication

(a) Banking

In daily businessroutine, commercialbanksand other financial institutions help the seller and the buyerin receivingand the buyerin receivingand makingpayments.

(b) Transportation

Thegoodswhich are manufacturedin mills and factories,reachthe consumersby different meansof transportationlike air, roads,rails,seasetc.

(c) Insurance

Thetransfer of goodsfrom one placeto another is not free from risk of loss. Thereis a risk of lossdue to accident,fire, theft etc. The insurancecompanieshelp out the traders with this problemthrough insurancepolicy.

(d) Warehousing

The manufacturers today, produce goods in large quantity. Therefore, a need for warehousesarisesin order to store the manufacturedgoods.

(e) Agents

Theyare the personswho act as the agentsof either buyer or seller. Theyperform these activitiesfor commission.

(f) Finance

A large amount is needed to set up an industry. Financialinstitutions provide long term finance to the producers. The producersalone are unable to manufacturegoodswithout financialhelp.

(g) Advertising

The consumer may sometimes not know about the availability of goods in the market. The producer must sell his goods in order to remain in business. Advertising is an easy way to inform the large number of customers about the goods. This can be done through TV, newspapers, radio etc.

(h) Communication

The producers, wholesalers, retailers, transporters, banks, warehouse keepers, advertisers and consumers live at different places. The post office, telephone and other similar media are very useful for promotion of trade and industry.

FACTORS OF PRODUCTION:

Factors of production are the resources or inputs that are required for the production of goods or services. The components of factors of production are:

- i. Labor
- ii. Capital
- iii. Entrepreneurship
- iv. Physical resources

i. Labor

Labor is the most important factor of production. Labor are the people who work in an organization and provide physical and mental efforts in the production process.

ii. Capital

Capital is the amount or property which is invested by investor(s) in the business to produce goods and services.

iii. Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship is the management ability of the people to run the business.

It involves:

- (a) Identification of opportunity
- (b) Allocation of resources
- (c) Creation of wealth by assuming the necessary risk

iv. Physical resources

Physical resources include land, natural resources, building, vehicles and machinery that are used in the production process.

ECONOMIC SYSTEM

Economic system is defined as a system for allocation of resources. Commonly, it has following two types as below:

- a) Planned economy
- b) Free market economy

a) Planned economy

In planned economy the government decides that how many resources are to be generated and how these resources will be allocated. In this system government determines the key economic functions. How the factor of production will be utilized and how much will be the economy's output is decided by the government.

b) Free market economy

In free market economy demand and supply in the market determine the allocation for resources with little or no government intervention. In this economy market mechanism decides the key economic functions (what, for whom and how to produce). Free market economy increases the efficiency and productivity, firms and organizations with better quality products and low costs (produced efficiently) will survive in the market.

ENVIRONMENTAL FORCES

Forces that influence the performance of organizations can be divided into two categories as under:

- 1) External Factors (External Environment)
- 2) Internal Factors (Internal Environment)

External Factors:

External factors are the factors which are found outside the organization. These factors are not controllable by the organization. External factors bring the opportunity or threat for the organization. External factors include technological factors, economy of the country, political and legal factors, socio-cultural factors and demographic factors.

Internal Factors:

Internal factors are the factors within the organization that affect the performance of business. Strengths or weaknesses of the organization are the internal factors. Strengths may include experienced and trained workers, strong financial resources, strong brand name, good reputation and organizational culture and weaknesses of an organization may

include lack of sufficient capital, weak brand name, poor reputation, inexperienced and untrained workers.

SWOT Analysis:

SWOT analysis is an analysis of an organization's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. Strengths and weaknesses are the part of internal environment and opportunities and threats are the part of external environment. SWOT analysis helps an organization to focus on strengths, to reduce weaknesses, to exploit the opportunities and to neutralize threats.

Strengths:

Strengths are the capabilities of an organization that enable it to perform efficiently. Strengths may include skilled manpower, strong financial resources, strong brand name, good reputation and organization culture, well established distribution network etc.

Weaknesses:

Weaknesses are the internal characteristics of an organization that prohibit it to perform well. Organization's weakness may include lack of sufficient capital, weak brand name, poor reputation, unskilled manpower, inefficient management, poor distribution channels etc.

Opportunities:

Opportunities are the external environmental factors that may bring the prospects for growth and higher performance. For example: technological advancement, market developments, changes in lifestyle, changes in government regulation related to your business.

Threats:

Threats are the external environmental factors that may undermine the organization's performance. For example, new regulation that may affect the business, changes in consumer tastes, if an organization does not adopt new developed and modern technology it will become a threat for the organization.

QUALITIES OF A GOOD BUSINESSMAN

The modern business is very complex. Due to scientific and technological development, changes are taking place very fast in every business field. Following are the basic personal skills or qualities which a good businessman must possess:

1. Ability to Plan

A businessman, if he wants to shine in business, must have the ability to plan and organize it.

2. Activator

He had to activate his workers. If he activates his workers then this is good for business.

3. Bold or Courage

Courage is a great asset of a businessman. A good businessman should be a courageous and bold person. Maybe his some angry decisions gave him loss in future, so he has to be courageous and be bold.

4. Cooperation

A good businessman should have to cooperate with his workers. With the help of cooperation with his workers he can run his business well.

5. Courtesy

Courtesy is to business what oil is to machinery. It costs nothing but wins a reputation. So businessman has to win the heart of everyone with his polite manners.

6. Decision Making

A good businessman should be a good and quick decision maker. Quick decision of a businessman is an important asset of businessman. And businessman has to know that his quick decision will give him benefit or not.

7. Discipline

A good businessman should have to care about the discipline of the business. If he doesn't care about the discipline then nobody (who concern to his business) obeys the discipline and business can't go well.

8. Evaluator

A businessman has to check himself that how he is working. This thing can make the business good in progress.

9. Foresight

A good businessman must have the quality of foresight. He must keep in touch with the business world. He should move about and see what is going on for he has to estimate new wants and new inventions for creating fresh demands.

10. Honesty

A businessman should be honest in dealing with others. Honesty of a businessman helps him in his business.

11. Hardworking

A businessman must be hard working. Without having working no business can be successful. If the owner is not hard working then other workers of the business can't be hard working.

12. Initiation

The business world is moving at a very fast speed. A businessman should have the ability to take initiative by producing new things and new methods of marketing the products and services.

13. Knowledge

A good businessman should have knowledge of his business. It should be supplemented by the knowledge of trade, finance, marketing, income tax, etc.

14. Leadership

Leaders are not made, they are born; but the businessman has to get some qualities of a leader. With the help of leadership a businessman can control his business and workers.

15. Negotiator

If a businessman is a good negotiator, then he can run his business well, because without good communication he can't impress his consumer.

16. Personality

A businessman should have a graceful personality because it can impress his customers. If his personality is not good or not graceful then his business can't go well.

17. QuickDecisions

A businessman has decision making power. He decides on all matters in the best interest of the business. A businessman must have technical knowledge, judgment power and intelligence to take sound and quick decisions.

18. Responsibility

A successful businessman should have to realize his responsibilities. If he doesn't do his duty then his business can't go well.

19. Reviewer

A good businessman has to review his mistakes, which he committed in the past, and try his best never to do it again in his life.

20. Sound Financial Management

Sound financial management is an important factor for successful business. Without it no business can go well. So a business must possess good financial position.

21. Self Confidence

A good businessman should have self confidence. Without self confidence he can't make quick decisions and business suffers a lot.

22. Tact

A good businessman should be a tactful person. He has to handle persons or his customers very tactfully. It helps to earn profit in future.

23. Technical Skills

A good businessman must have the knowledge about technical skills. He should have complete command of specialized knowledge in his field, which he has to perform.

Lecture 2

ORGANIZATIONAL BOUNDARIES AND ENVIRONMENTS

All businesses, regardless of their size, location, or mission, operate within a larger external environment.

External environment:

Everything outside an organization's boundaries that might affect it.

- a. Organizational Boundaries: that which separates the organization from its environment. Today boundaries are becoming increasingly complicated and hard to pin down.
- b. Multiple Environments: include economic conditions, technology, political or legal considerations, social issues, the global environment, issues of ethical and social responsibility, the business environment itself, and numerous other emerging challenges and opportunities.

THE ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

Economic environment—Conditions of the economic system in which an organization operates.

- c. Economic Growth
 - i. Aggregate Output and Standard of Living
 - 1. Business cycle—Pattern of short term ups and downs (expansions and contractions) in an economy
 - 2. Aggregate output—Total quantity of goods and services produced by an economic system during a given period
 - 3. Standard of living—Total quantity and quality of goods and services that a country's citizens can purchase with the currency used in their economic system
 - ii. Gross Domestic Product—Total value of all goods and services produced within a given period by a national economy through domestic factors of production

Grossnational product (G N P)—Totalvalue of all goodsand services produced by a national economywithin a given period regardless of where the factors of production are located

1. Real Growth Rate—the growth rate of GDP adjusted for inflation and changes in the value of the country's currency.
 2. GDP per Capita—GDP per person and reflects the standard of living.
 3. Real GDP—GDP calculated to account for changes in currency values and price changes versus Nominal GDP, GDP measured in current dollars or with all components valued at current prices.
 4. Purchasing Power Parity—Principle that exchange rates are set so that the prices of similar products in different countries are about the same.
- iii. Productivity—Measure of economic growth that compares how much a system produces with the resources needed to produce it.

There are a number of factors which can inhibit the growth of an economic system including:

1. Balance of Trade—the economic value of all the products that a country exports minus the economic value of imported products.
 - a. Trade Surplus —A positive balance of trade results when a country exports (sells to other countries) more than it imports (buys from other countries).
 - b. Trade Deficit—A negative balance of trade results when a country imports more than it exports.
 - c. National Debt—Amount of money that a government owes its creditors.
- d. Economic Stability

Condition in an economic system in which the amount of money available and the quantity of goods and services produced are growing at about the same rate.

Factors which threaten stability include:

- i. Inflation—Occurrence of widespread price increases throughout an economic system

Measuring Inflation: The CPI—Measure of the prices of typical products purchased by consumers living in urban areas

- ii. Unemployment—Level of joblessness among people actively seeking work in an economic system. Unemployment may be a symptom of economic downturns.

- 1. Recession and Depressions

Recession—Period during which aggregate output, as measured by real GDP, declines

- 2. Depression—Particularly severe and long lasting recession

- e. Managing the Economy

- i. Fiscal policies—Government economic policies that determine how the government collects and spends its revenues

- ii. Monetary policies—Government economic policies that determine the size of a nation's monetary supply

- iii. Stabilization policy—Government policy, embracing both fiscal and monetary policies, whose goal is to smooth out fluctuations in output and unemployment and to stabilize prices

- iv. Three Major Forces

- 1. The information revolution will continue to enhance productivity across all sectors of the economy, most notably in such information dependent industries as finance, media, and wholesale and retail trade.

- 2. New technological breakthroughs in areas such as biotechnology will create entirely new industries.

- 3. Increasing globalization will create much larger markets while also fostering tougher competition among global businesses; as a result, companies will need to focus even more on innovation and cost cutting.

- v. Projected Trends and Patterns—there are a number of projections for the near future. Sudden changes in environmental factors, such as war, can alter these projections.

DEMOGRAPHIC ENVIRONMENT

Demographic environment is the study of characteristics of population such as size of population, population growth rate and population distribution on the basis of gender, age, income level, level of education, geographic location, family structure, etc. these factors influence the size of demand, buying pattern, liking and attitude of customers. Demographic factors are important to managers as the changes in these demographic factors affect the business planning.

Total population determines the size of market, huge population size and growth rate brings a large number of customers, more consumption and more opportunities for business, cheap and abundant labor supply will also be available. It affects the business positively. Another demographic factor that affects the business is education level. If education level of public is high then the supply of skilled labor will increase and supply of unskilled labor will decrease. In case of low education level supply of skilled labor will decrease. Education level also affects the buying pattern of customers; if they are highly educated then the business enterprise must be careful about the quality of its products and services. In the same way, gender and age composition, income level, geographical location etc are also important demographic factors.

POLITICAL AND LEGAL ENVIRONMENT

Legal and political factors include legal and governmental system organizations operate. Political and legal environment strongly affect the business decisions. Aspects which are considered in political and legal environment are the preferences and priorities of the government, political stability in the country, laws/rules and regulations, taxation policy and attitude of the government towards business.

Government decides that what sort of economic activities the country should have, in which areas the private sector should be encouraged, also defines the areas where foreign companies may enter. Laws and regulations influence the decision making and limit the businesses for the country's well-being.

THE TECHNOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

Technology has a variety of meanings, but as applied to the environment of business, it generally includes all the ways by which firms create value for their constituents.

- f. **Product and Service Technologies**—the technologies employed for creating products (both physical goods and services) for customers. Although many people associate technology with manufacturing, it is also a significant force in the services sector.
- g. **Business Process Technologies**—are used not so much to create products as to improve a firm's performance of internal operations (such as accounting, managing information flows, creating activity reports, and so forth). They

also help create better relationships with external constituents, such as suppliers and customers.

- i. Enterprise Resource Planning—Large scale information system for organizing and managing a firm's processes across product lines, departments, and geographic locations

SOCIO CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT

Social and cultural factors affect the working of business enterprises significantly. Socio cultural factors include the societal values, attitude, customs, religion; beliefs, habits and preferences etc. socio cultural trends have considerable effect on the demand for products e.g., dominant religion of any society has influence over the buying behavior of that society.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Geographical and ecological factors such as changes in weather and climate, earthquake, floods, storms and natural resources are considered in natural environment. Natural factors are not in control of any business unit however while considering natural factors managers will develop their product, production planning, marketing planning etc. For example, weather conditions influence the buying pattern, demand for heaters; sweater and woolen cloths will be more in winter while in summer there will be more demand for air conditioners, fans and cold drinks etc.

Lecture3

BUSINESS ORGANIZATION & SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP

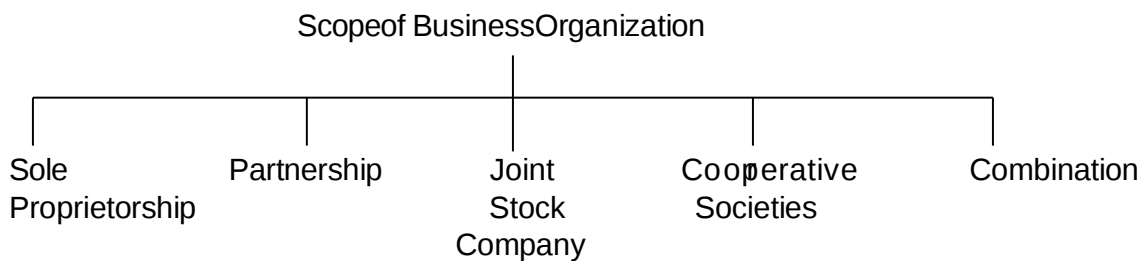
Business organization is an act of grouping activities into effective cooperation to obtain the objective of the business.

In the words of L. H. Haney

“It is more or less independent complex of land, labour and capital, organized and directed for productive purposes but entrepreneurial liability.”

SCOPE OF BUSINESS ORGANIZATION

The scope of business organization can be defined as under:



1. SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP

According to D.W.T. Stafford

“It is the simplest form of business organization, which is owned and controlled by one man”

Sole proprietorship is the oldest form of business organization which is owned and controlled by one person. In this business, one man invests his capital himself. He is all in all in doing his business. He enjoys the whole of the profit. The features of sole proprietorship are:

- f* Easy Formation
- f* Unlimited Liability
- f* Ownership
- f* Profit
- f* Management
- f* Easy Dissolution

2. PARTNERSHIP

According to Partnership Act, 1932

“Partnership is the relation between persons who have agreed to share the profits of a business carried on by all or any of them acting for all.”

Partnership means a lawful business owned by two or more persons. The profit of the business is shared by the partners in agreed ratio. The liability of each partner is unlimited. Small and medium size business activities are performed under this organization. It has the following features:

- f Legal Entity
- f Profit and Loss Distribution
- f Unlimited Liability
- f Transfer of Rights
- f Management
- f Number of Partners

3. JOINT STOCK COMPANY

According to S.E. Thomas

“A company is an incorporated association of persons formed usually for the pursuit of some commercial purposes”

A joint stock company is a voluntary association of persons created by law. It has a separate legal entity apart from its members. It can sue and be sued in its name. In the joint stock company, the work of organization begins before its incorporation by promoters and it continues after incorporation. The joint stock company has the following feature:

- f Creation of Law
- f Separate Legal Entity
- f Limited Liability
- f Transferability of shares
- f Number of Members
- f Common Seal

4. COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES

According to Herrik

“Cooperation is an action of persons voluntarily united for utilizing reciprocally their own forces, resources or both under mutual management for their common profit or loss.”

Cooperative Societies are formed for the help of poor people. It is formed by economically weak persons of the society. In this form of organization, all members enjoy equal rights of ownership. The features of cooperative society are as under:

- f Easy Formation
- f Protection of Mutual Interest
- f Limited Liability
- f Equal Distribution of Wealth
- f Equal Rights

5. COMBINATION

According to J.L. Hanson

“Combination is the association, temporary or permanent, of two or more firms.”

Business combinations are formed when several business concern undertaking units are combined to carry on business together for achieving the economic benefits. The combination among the firms may be temporary or permanent. The salient features of business combination are:

- f Economy in Production
- f Effective Management
- f Division of Labour
- f Destructive Competition

IMPORTANCE OF BUSINESS ORGANIZATION

The following points elaborate the role of business organizations:

1. Distribution

Another benefit of business organization is that it solves the problems of marketing and distribution like buying, selling, transporting, storage and grading, etc.

2. Feedback

An organization makes possible to take decisions about production after getting the feedback from markets.

3. Finance Management

It also guides the businessman that how he should meet his financial needs which is very beneficial for making progress in business.

4. Fixing of Responsibilities

It also fixes the responsibilities of each individual. It introduces the scheme of internal check. In this way chances of errors and frauds are reduced.

5. Minimum Cost

It helps in attaining the goals and objectives of minimum cost in the business.

6. Minimum Wastage

It reduces the wastage of raw material and other expenditures. In this way the rate of profit is increased.

7. Product Growth

Business organization is very useful for the product growth. It increases the efficiency of labor.

8. Quick Decision

Business organization makes it easy to take quick decisions.

9. Recognition Problems

Business organization makes it easy to recognize the problems in business and their solutions.

10. Reduce the Cost

Business organization is useful in reducing the cost of production as it helps in the efficient use of factors of production.

11. Secretariat Functions

It also guides the businessman about the best way of performing the secretarial functions.

12. Skilled Salesmen

It is also a benefit of the business organization that it provides the skilled salesmen for satisfying various needs of the customers.

13. Transportation

It is another benefit is that it guides the businessman that what type of transport he should utilize to increase the sales volume of the product.

PREREQUISITES OF BUSINESS

Following are the main prerequisites of a successful business:

1. Selection

The first and most important decision before starting a new business is its selection. If once a business is established, it becomes difficult to change it. One should make a detailed investigation in the selection of business.

2. Feasibility Report

A person should prepare the feasibility report about the business to be started. This report will provide the facts and figures whether the business is profitable or not.

3. Nature of Business

There are various types of business like manufacturing, trading and services. The businessman should decide that what type of business he would like to start.

4. Demand of Product

The businessman also keeps in view the demand of the product which he wants to sell. If the demand is inelastic, the chances of success are bright. If the demand of a product is irregular, seasonal and uncertain, such business should not be started.

5. Size of Business

The size of business means the scale of business. The size of business depends upon the demand of commodity in the market and organizational ability of entrepreneur. The determination of size of business is an important decision of a person.

6. Availability of Capital

Availability of capital is an important factor in the business. Capital is required for the purchase of land, machines, wages and raw materials. A businessman must decide that how much capital he can arrange.

7. Business Location

A businessman has to select the place where he wants to start his business. He should select that place where raw material, cheap labour and transportation facilities are available. He should also check the location of business competitors.

8. Government Policy

The businessman should also carefully consider the policies of government before starting a new business. Some areas are declared as 'tax free zones' and for some particular businesses the loan is provided without any interest.

9. Availability of Raw Material

Availability of Raw material is essential to produce the goods at low cost. Sometimes the raw material is to be imported which may create a problem for him. So a businessman must keep this factor in mind.

10. Availability of Machines

Availability of new machines is also an important factor for a business. A businessman must see whether these machines are easily available inside the country or not. If these are to be imported then it may create the problems for him.

11. Availability of Labor

Skilled and efficient labor is essential to run the business in profit. But if efficient and skilled labor is not available where business is going to be started then it will not be profitable.

12. Means of Transportation

Quick and cheap means of transportation are essential for low cost of production and high profit rate. A businessman must keep in view this factor.

13. Power Resources

There must be availability of power resources like water, oil, coal and electricity. So a businessman must keep in view this factor.

14. Hiring Employees

A businessman must hire the efficient and competent employees in the business. The proper training must be given to employees.

15. Product Pricing

A businessman must decide the price of his product. In the beginning the price must be low. He must keep in view that whether he will cover cost of his product and other expenses with such price.

FUNCTIONS OF BUSINESS

Following are the main functions of a business:

1. Production

Production of goods and services is the first main function of the business. The production must be regular. The goods and services must be produced in such a way which can satisfy human needs.

2. Sales

The sale is another important function of the business. Sales are of two types:

- f* Cash sales
- f* Credit sales

The sale must be regular and at reasonable price. It is a very difficult job because there is hard competition in each market.

3. Finance

It is also an important function of the business to secure finance. Finance is required for establishment and expansion of business. There are two sources of raising funds:

- (a) Owner's Capital
- (b) Borrowed Funds

4. Management Function

“To do things efficiently and effectively” is known as management. The functions of management are:

- f*Planning
- f*Organizing
- f*Leading
- f*Controlling
- f*Staffing

The management also provides direction for all subordinates.

5. Innovation

In this era of competition, for the survival of business, innovation is essential. The businessman must try to find new techniques of production because the business may not sell present output in future.

6. Accounting

Another function of the business is to maintain its records properly. To record the business activities is called accounting. With proper accounts, the owner can know the actual performance of business and chances of fraud are reduced.

7. Marketing

According to Harry Hensler

“Marketing involves the design of the products acceptable by the consumers and the conduct of those activities which facilitate the transfer of ownership between seller and buyer.”

Through marketing, goods are moved from producers to consumers. It is an important function of the business. This function includes buying, selling, transportation, product designing and storage, etc. The concept of marketing mix is very important in marketing. It includes four Ps:

- f*Product
- f*Price
- f*Place
- f*Promotion

8. Quality Improvement

Quality of product must be improved to increase the sale. If quality of product is poor then business may suffer a loss.

9. Motivation

Motivation is very essential for increasing the efficiency of employees. Motivation encourages the employees to give their best performance.

10. Research

Research is also an important function of any business. Research is a search for new knowledge. By research, business becomes able to produce improved and new goods. The research is of two types:

- f Basic Research
- f Applied Research

11. Public Relation

It is a very important function to make friendly relations with public, in this way sales volume is increased.

SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP

Sole Proprietorship and its Characteristics

Sole proprietorship is a simple and oldest form of business organization. Its formation does not require any complicated legal provision like registration etc. It is a small scale work, as it is owned and controlled by one person, and operated for his profit. It is also known as “sole ownership”, “individual partnership” and “single proprietorship”.

DEFINITION

Following are some important definitions of sole proprietorship:

1. According to D.W.T. Stafford

“It is the simplest form of business organization, which is owned and controlled by one man.”

2. According to G. Baker

“Sole proprietorship is a business operated by one person to earn profit.”

CHARACTERISTICS

Following are the main characteristics of sole proprietorship:

1. Capital

In sole proprietorship, the capital is normally provided by the owner himself. However, if additional capital is required, such capital can be increased by borrowing.

2. Easy Dissolution

The sole proprietorship can be easily dissolved, as there are no legal formalities involved in it.

3. Easily Transferable

Such type of business can easily be transferred to another person without any restriction.

4. Freedom of Action

In sole proprietorship, single owner is the sole master of the business; therefore, he has full freedom to take action or decision.

5. Formation

Formation of sole proprietorship business is easy as compared to other business, because it does not require any kind of legal formality like registration etc.

6. Legal Entity

In sole proprietorship, the business has no separate legal entity apart from the sole traders.

7. Legal Restriction

There are no legal restrictions for sole traders to set up the business. But there may be legal restrictions for setting up a particular type of business.

8. Limited Life

The continuity of sole proprietorship is based on good health, or life or death of the sole owner.

9. Management

In sole proprietorship, the control of management of the business lies with the sole owner.

10. Ownership

The ownership of business in sole proprietorship is owned by one person.

11. Profit

The single owner bears full risk of business, therefore, he gets total benefit of the business as well as total loss.

12. Size

The size of business is usually small. The limited ability and capital do not allow the expansion of business.

13. Success of Business

The success and goodwill of the sole proprietorship is totally dependent upon the ability of the sole owner.

14. Secrecy

A sole proprietorship can easily maintain the secrecy of his business.

15. Unlimited Liability

A sole proprietor has unlimited liability. In case of insolvency of business, even the personal assets are used by the owner to pay off the debts and other liabilities.

ADVANTAGES OF SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP

Following are the advantages of sole proprietorship:

1. Contacted with the Customers

In sole proprietorship a businessman has direct contact with the customer and keeps in mind the like and dislikes of the public while producing his products.

2. Direct Relationship with Workers

In sole proprietorship a businessman has direct relationship with workers. He can better understand their problems and then tries to solve them.

3. EasyFormation

Its formation is very easy because there are not legal restrictions required like registration etc.

4. EasyDissolution

Its dissolution is very simple because there are no legal restrictions required for its dissolution and it can be dissolved at any time.

5. EasyTransfer of Ownership

A sole proprietorship can easily be transferred to other persons because of no legal restriction involved.

6. Entire Profit

Sole proprietorship is the only form of business organization where the owner enjoys 100% profit.

7. Entire Control

In sole proprietorship the entire control of the business is in the hands of one person. He can do whatever he likes.

8. Flexibility

There is great flexibility in sole proprietorship. Business policies can easily be changed according to the market conditions and demand of people.

9. Honesty

The sole master of the business performs his functions honestly and effectively to make the business successful.

10. Independence

It is an independent form of business organization and there is no interference of any other person.

11. Personal Satisfaction

As all the business activities are accomplished under the supervision of sole owner, so he feels personal satisfaction that the business is running smoothly.

12. Prime Credit Standing

A sole proprietor can borrow money more easily because of unlimited liability.

13. Quick Decisions

Sole proprietor can make quick decisions for the development and welfare of his business and in this way can save his time.

14. Personal Interest

A sole proprietor takes keen interest in the affairs of business because he alone is responsible for profit and loss.

15. Saving Interest on Borrowed Capital

Sometimes, a sole proprietor borrows money to increase his capital, from his relatives, without interest.

16. Saving Legal Expenses

As there are no legal restrictions for the formation of sole proprietorship so it helps in increasing savings as legal expenses are reduced.

17. Saving Management Expenses

The owner of the business himself performs most of the functions so it reduces the management expenses.

18. Saving Taxes

The tax rates are very low on sole proprietorship because it is imposed on the income of single person.

19. Secrecy

It is an important factor for the development of business. A sole trader can easily maintain the secrecy about the techniques of production and profit.

20. Social Benefits

It is helpful in solving many social problems like unemployment etc.

DISADVANTAGES OF SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP

The disadvantages of sole proprietorship can be narrated as under:

1. Continuity

The continuity of sole proprietorship depends upon the health and life of the owner. In case of death of the owner the business no longer continues.

2. Chances of Fraud

In sole proprietorship, proper records are not maintained. This increases the chances of errors and frauds for dishonest workers.

3. Expansion Difficulty

In sole proprietorship, it is very difficult to expand the business because of the limited life of proprietor and limited capital.

4. Lack of Advertisement

As the sources of single person are limited so he cannot bear the expense of advertisement, which is also a major disadvantage.

5. Lack of Capital

Generally, one man's resources are limited, so due to financial problems he cannot expand his business.

6. Lack of Inspection and Audit

In sole proprietorship there is lack of inspection and audit, which increases the chances of fraud and illegal operations.

7. Lack of Innovation

Due to fear of suffering from loss, a sole proprietor does not use new methods of production. So, there is no invention or innovation.

8. Lack of Public Confidence

The public shows less confidence in this type of business organization because there is no legal registration to control and wind up the business.

9. Lack of Skilled Persons

One person cannot hire the services of qualified and skilled persons because he has limited resources. It is also a great disadvantage.

10. Management Difficulty

One person cannot perform all types of duties effectively. If he is a good accountant, he may not be a good administrator. Due to this, business suffers a loss.

11. Much Strain on Health

In this type of business organization there is much strain on the health of the businessman because he alone handles all sorts of activities.

12. Not Durable

This type of business organization is not durable because its existence depends upon the life of sole proprietor.

13. Permanent Existence

In this type of business there is a need of permanent existence of a businessman. In case of absence from business for few days may become the cause of loss.

14. Risk of Careless Drawings

In sole proprietorship, owner himself is a boss. There is no question to his decisions or actions. So, there is a risk of careless drawings by him.

15. Risk of Loss

In case of sole proprietorship a single person bears all the losses, whereas in the case of partnership or Joint Stock Company all the partners or members bear the loss.

16. Unlimited Liability

In sole proprietorship there is unlimited liability. It means, in case of loss personal property of the owner can be sold to satisfy the claimants. It is a great disadvantage.

CONCLUSION

From the abovementioned detail, we come to the point that despite the above disadvantages sole proprietorship is an important form of business organization. This is due to the fact that its formation is very easy and due to unlimited liability the owner takes great care and interest in the business, because in case of loss, he is personally responsible. As he enjoys entire profit, this factor also encourages him to work with great efficiency which promotes his business.

PARTNERSHIP

Partnership and its Characteristics

Partnership is the second stage in the evolution of forms of business organization. It means the association of two or more persons to carry on as co-owners, i.e. a business for profit. The persons who constitute this organization are individually termed as partners and collectively known as firm; and the name under which their business is conducted is called "The Firm Name".

In ordinary business the number of partners should not exceed 20, but in case of banking business it must not exceed 10. This type of business organization is very popular in Pakistan.

DEFINITION

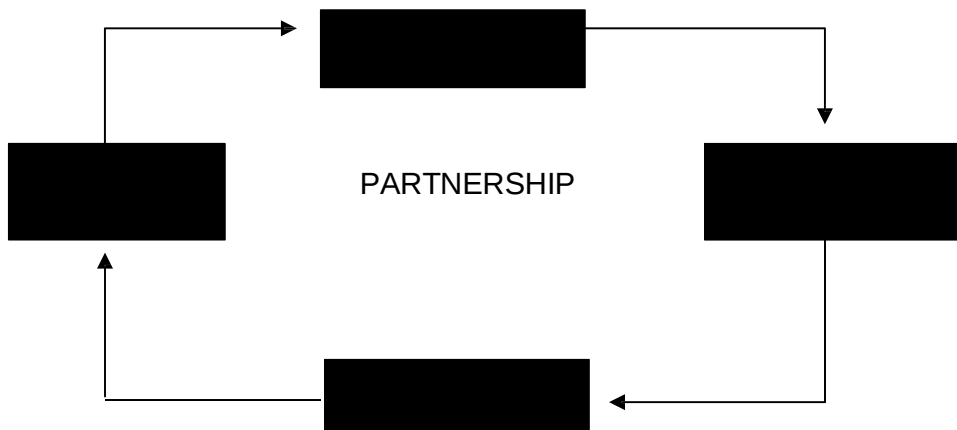
1. According to Section 4 of Partnership Act, 1932

"Partnership is the relation between persons who have agreed to share the profits of a business carried on by all or any of them acting for all."

2. According to Mr. Kent

"A contract of two or more competent persons to place their money, efforts, labour and skills, some or all of them, in a lawful commerce or business and to divide the profits and bear the losses in certain proportion."

StructuralDiagram:



CHARACTERISTICS

The main characteristics of partnership may be narrated as under:

1. Agreement

Agreement is necessary for partnership. Partnership agreement may be written or oral. It is better that the agreement is in written form to settle the disputes.

2. Audit

If partnership is not registered, it has no legal entity. So there is no restriction for the audit of accounts.

3. Agent

In partnership every partner acts as an agent of another partner.

4. Business

Partnership is a business unit and a business is always for profit. It must not include club or charitable trusts, set up for welfare.

5. Cooperation

In partnership mutual cooperation and mutual confidence is an important factor. Partnership cannot take place with cooperation.

6. Dissolution

Partnership is a temporary form of business. It is dissolved if a partner leaves, dies or declared bankrupt.

7. Legal Entity

If partnership is not registered, it has no legal entity. Moreover, partnership has no separate legal entity from its members and vice versa.

Lecture 1

INTRODUCTION

CONCEPT OF BUSINESS

Literally, the word “business” means the state of being busy. Generally, the term business includes all human activities concerned with earning money. In other words, business is an activity in which various persons regularly produce or exchange goods and services for mutual gain or profit. The goods and services produced or purchased for personal use are not included in “business”.

DEFINITION

1. **According to L. H. Haney**
“Business may be defined as human activities directed toward providing or acquiring wealth through buying and selling of goods.”
2. **James Stephenson** says that:
“Every human activity which is engaged in for the sake of earning profit may be called business.”
3. **In the words of B. W. Wheeler**
“An institution organized and operated to provide goods and services to the society, under the incentive of private gain” is business.

Structural Diagram

