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Motivation

Motivational behaviour is a drive that leads to a goal directed behaviour, it is measured by the intensity or the rate of consumatory behaviour, eg in eating, drinking, mating or by the rate of intensity of work, the animals do to reach the goal. From the neurological point of view, the motivated behaviour is said to be controlled by the hypothalamus region of the brain.

Instincts are the most complex of stereotype behaviours, seen in the organisms. In higher organisms, innate mechanism is greatly modified by learning. Motivated behaviour can be analyzed by 'Drives' or 'goal directed behaviour' and 'satisfactions' in mammals. The motivated behaviour is regulated by the combined effects of the internal environment, sensory stimuli, cortical influence and learning behaviour of the organism.

There are three stages of motivation seen in the organism's behaviour.

(11)

Different Types of Biological Drives

① The Thirst Drive - Animals have a tendency to quench their thirst, which is necessary for the body. A thirsty animal learns to find water (goal) quickly. This is a stereotype behaviour. The thirst drive is a regulatory device which operates in the body. The nerve endings in the tissue of mouth and throat bring sensation in the organism to make it conscious about thirst. The thirst drive is activated by the hypothalamus of the brain. On the other hand, urination is also important in the water balance. The nerve cells present in certain hypothalamic nuclei activate the pituitary gland to release A.D.H. hormone in the blood stream which activates the kidneys to retain water.

① A phase of "Appetitive behaviours" i.e. searching for its goal which is modified with experience e.g. predators search for prey -

② A phase of "consumatory acts" once the goal is located, the behaviour of the animal changes with stereotyped fixed actions e.g. eating is a consumatory act of feeding and drinking for thirst etc.

③ A phase of "Quiescence" which occurs after achieving the goal.

Two categories of motives are seen which are

① Innate or 'Biological drive'

② Psychological motives.

Biological drives result from the basic need of the tissue of the body like food, water, sleep etc. They are satisfied by the influence of learning and many other cultural patterns.

Psychological motives are of acquired nature as a result of experience of organisms which are also influenced by cultural factors.

(10)

2. Hunger Drive ◦ — the hunger drive is complex of all the biological drives. It has been seen that blood sugar level in the blood is responsible for producing hunger drives which is eliminated after food intake. Production of hunger and its control both are operated through the hypothalamus.

3. Sleep Drive ◦ — Animals have a habit of sleeping or taking rest. Sleeping is caused by certain chemical factors which stimulates certain centres of the brain and nerves whereby muscles are relaxed. It has been seen that sleeplessness can be caused by injury injuring some lower centres of the brain which control the sleep drive.

4. Heat and cold Drive ◦ — Weather affects organisms by the skin of organisms, a few receptors may be sensitive to heat and a few other to cold. Body temperatures are maintained at constant level by complex mechanisms in the higher vertebrates. The excess of heat, during summer, is removed from the body whereas in cooler days it conserves heat. Many hormone of the body play important role in balance of heat.

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5. Sexual Drive ◦ — In both the sexes, presence or absence of certain hormones play an important role for developing the sexual drive. This is also influenced by the emotional state of the organism. Different hormones regulate the development of sexual drive in organism. In males, androgen released from the testis, ACTH and gonadotropin released from the pituitary are responsible for the sexual maturity. After a certain age, due to various social factors, sexual urge in an organism goes on decreasing.

6. Air Hunger ◦ — Oxygen is required by the body of every organism. Whenever there will be little oxygen is replaced by methane. The organism loses consciousness and a discomfort occurs in the body due to accumulation of CO_2 . The presence of excess CO_2 provides stimulus to the mechanism of air hunger.

7. Pain Drive ◦ — Pain in the body can become a drive if it persists for a longer time in the organism. It has been seen that mental cases are less responsive to pain stimuli than the normal individual.

Psychological Motives :- Many psychological motives are seen in man. Man has curiosity about his ~~poly~~ political and religious beliefs and his capacity to hate and love and his ambitions to acquire a high position in the society. This has become more important than his other biological drives. Monkeys have a capacity to learn many things even without rewards but in the case of dog, a quick learning may be seen when they were offered different rewards.



Satiation :- *To satisfy a need fully or to excess.

* Point at which satisfaction of a ~~need~~ need or familiarity with a stimulus reduces or ends an organism's responsiveness or motivation.