***CAUSES OF STUDENT UNREST:***

i) Quest for Freedom

Students and youth have time and again stood for their quest for freedom. For instance, during the National Liberation Movements in India (and many other countries), participation of students and youth was seen in large numbers. Indian student and youth movements began on an anti-colonial note during the early twentieth century. During the Emergency in India (1975-77), students of Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi University etc., played a major role in keeping the spirit of defiance alive in their quest for freedom (Banerjee 1998).

ii) State Policy

Government policy is to a large extent responsible for student and youth protest. The government policy in the education sphere, for instance, directly affects students. Similarly, absence of policy related to employment generation is a major agenda for many youth movements. So, any policy which adversely affects the students or youth is bound to lead to student and youth agitations. For example, the reservation policy pursued by the Government of India has time and again led to student and youth movements in 1990, 2006 and 2015.

iii) Unemployment

Unemployment often leads to student or youth unrest. Due to excessive growth of population and other socio-economic factors the problem of unemployment is increasing day by day in our nation, which creates disturbance youth unrest. On the other hand, due to lack of proper planning and vast policies on the government’s end, youths are not placed on proper place according to their abilities and qualifications, for which youths are losing faith on the whole system. On 29th October, 2014, The Telegraph reported that the students of Aliah University in Kolkata started an indefinite class boycott demanding job placements.

iv) Political, social and economic inequalities

Youths of today’s generation are very much sensitive to political, social and economic inequalities and defectiveness. It is seen that due to existing inequalities on the aforesaid sectors, youths of today are developing aggressiveness and negative attitude towards the society and these factors contribute to youth unrest.

v) Education System

The education system naturally affects the students the most. In most countries, the education system is authoritarian and bureaucratic. Defective, old pattered, irrelevant system of education can not inspire students for doing good work and acquiring good habits. Due to structural conditions prevailing in our education system, the teachers often deliberately distance themselves from students and becomes like a banker doling out knowledge (Freire 1986).

vi) Generation Gap

A generation may be defined after Feuer (1969: 25) as "persons in a common age group who in their formative years have known the same historical experiences, shared the same hopes and disappointments, and experienced a common disillusionment with respect to the elder age group towards whom their sense of opposition is defined." Since the sixties, many scholars have sought to explain virtually every student and youth movement in terms of generation gap. They range from the youthful bohemianism of the hippies in the sixties much more sophisticated ideology based movements like the New Left or Civil rights Movements in the sixties of the last century.

vii) Social background

The social background of students or youths greatly affects their chances of becoming an activist. Mostly, the political leadership comes from the middle and lower class students. While the snobbish and sophisticated rich students enjoy all the good things in life, the middle and lower classes suffer from all the disadvantages - poor housing, lack of textbooks, etc. Naturally, they are discontented.

ix) Use of quick information system like Internet

The 21st century has seen extensive use of the social media in organizing protest movements. It can disseminate propagandas in a very quick manner. The Egyptian Revolution, which overthrew President Hoshni Mubarak, may be cited as an example. Using digital tools, members of the wired generation emboldened each other to challenge the status quo. Indian youths have also extensively used the social media.

x) Administrative failures:

Youth unrest may also be resulted from defective administrative system in educational institutions. Lack of effective leadership in educational, political, economic and social sectors is conducive to youth unrest. In most cases, lack of sympathetic attitude and irresponsible behaviours of administration bounds students to misbehave and make them unstable.

xi) Lack of opportunities: Sometimes, it is seen that due to lack of opportunities students are not able to express themselves. If youths are not given adequate opportunities to develop their abilities or use their energies in a positive way, then in such cases there is every possibility that they may revolt in some way or the other.

xii)Deprivation and Injustice

Social deprivation and injustice also provoke youths to launch social movements.