**Social Welfare has Four Levels of Functions**

* ***1) Remedial*:** removing disabling conditions, regaining normal functioning; needy groups, under-privileged sector in society, minimum standard of service provision, emergency relief, ad hoc basis, remedy gross hardships and human sufferings, minimum state intervention, private and family care, alleviate abnormalities, short-term basis; also related to residual services;
* ***2) Preventive*:** early prevent abnormal behavior and conditions; creating new conditions; eliminate causes of problems, research analysis on causes for effective prevention, prevention is better than cure, screening service, early identification, systematic planning, universal services...etc.;
* ***3) Developmental*:** improving situations, development of individual and society, constructive planning, social investment, awareness on social responsibility, develop potentials and new capacities, growth towards mature and responsible citizenship;
* ***4) Supportive*:** achieving objectives of other sectors in society; mutual benefits among various services and clienteles, support services, education and continuous training, community support; inter-related nature of various social policies; better effectiveness and efficiency, economy;
* functions or emphasis of welfare is largely determined by philosophy and value preferences of the government, social and political situation and economic affordability, inter-related functions of services, complementary roles of services at different levels;

**5 . it can have different levels of *Coverage:***

* from the poor and most needy to all citizens, in different socio-economic strata;
* from almsgiving, charity to social development in general;
* from particular to general; from selective to universal;

**6. *Different TYPES/ CLASSIFICATION:* (narrow vs broad conception)**

* individual, personal; fiscal; occupational; social (including all 5 systems of social services);
* classification by role/ functions: (above) :\* range from "revolutionary" to "social control" role;
* classification by targets: elderly, youth, family, disabled, offenders, communities, women, adults.....etc.;
* classification by objectives:

a) Achieve optimal income security, income redistribution in society;

b) Provide basic need like housing, health, material needs, education, environmental quality, safety

c) Guarantee social rights, social functioning;

**7. Characteristics of social welfare programs:**

1. serve community interests - derived from community need assessment, service design to satisfy such needs;
2. value-based - e.g. human rights, citizen responsibility, social justice, prosperity, stability, equity,....etc.;
3. non-market activities - not directly capital generating, not subject to purely market mechanism/ dynamics (i.e. demand and supply), depends on donation, subsidy, fee charging; [but more recent theories suggest that welfare can also be operated in a ‘mixed market’ mode]
4. accessible to all - citizen right, efficient service delivery system, equal opportunity;
5. accountable to public - effective public and social administration, professional code of practice;