

## **SOCIAL WORK AS A PROFESSION**

### **Skills, Techniques and Tools:**

Skill is the worker's capacity to apply knowledge and understanding to a given situation. Skills in social workers are developed through teaching and training. Social worker through the skill of programming arrives at satisfactory and fruitful relationships. He is skillful in analyzing the social situation, individual groups' feelings, using agency and community resources serving the client. The social worker applies three important tools, i.e. the use of himself, the program planning and his relationship with the client.

### **Social Work Education:**

Social work has a separate identity in the area of education. In most of the countries there are provisions for graduate and post graduate level of education in the universities and other teaching institutions. In Pakistan, ten social work departments produce professional social workers including The Islamia University of Bahawalpur. Students are directed to implement their classroom knowledge into the field work agencies.

### **Professional Organizations:**

There are a number of professional organizations on international and national level. The most important organizations are American Association of Social Workers, British Association of Social Workers, National Association of Social Workers, Association of American Schools of Social Workers, International School of Social Workers, National Association of Social Workers (Karachi) etc.

### **Social Approval:**

Social work as a profession has been accepted by the governments. Both governmental and nongovernmental organizations employ trained social worker on various posts.

### **Code of Ethics:**

A social worker follows some code of ethics during his practice which include respect and dignity of each human being, matching resources with needs and serving as a 'change agent' from behind the scene so that the individual or group of the community may emotionally feel that the change was not imposed from the outside. He has full faith in the client's freedom of expression and self-judgment. He always operates on the democratic principles and values. He does not believe in any type of discrimination on the basis of caste, creed, religion etc. Thus, it can be said that social work is a profession because all the essential characteristics are founded in it.