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SUBJECT- BUSINESS ORGANISATION

FUNCTIONS OF STOCK-EXCHANGE

A stock exchange, securities exchange or bourse is a facility where stockholders and traders can buy and sell securities. Stock exchanges often function as "continuous auction" markets with buyers and sellers consummating transactions via open outcry at a central location such as the floor of the Exchange or by using an electronic trading platform.

* Functions of Stock Exchange

1. Economic Barometer:

A stock exchange is a reliable barometer to measure the economic condition of a country. Every major change in country and economy is reflected in the prices of shares. The rise or fall in the share prices indicates the boom or recession cycle of the economy. Stock exchange is also known as a pulse of economy or economic mirror which reflects the economic conditions of a country.

2. Pricing of Securities:-

The stock market helps to value the securities on the basis of demand and supply factors. The securities of profitable and growth oriented companies are valued higher as there is more demand for such securities. The valuation of securities is useful for investors, government and creditors.

The investors can know the value of their investment, the creditors can value the creditworthiness and government can impose taxes on value of securities.

3. Safety of Transactions:

In stock market only the listed securities are traded and stock-exchange authorities include the company name in the trade-list only after verifying the soundness of company. The companies which are listed they also have to operate within the strict rules and regulations. This ensures safety of dealing through stock-exchange.

4. Contributes to Economic Growth:

In stock exchange securities of various companies are bought and sold. This process of disinvestment and re-investment helps to invest in most productive investment proposal and this leads to capital formation and economic growth.

5. Spreading of Equity Cult:

Stock-exchange encourages people to invest in ownership securities by regulating new issues, better trading practices and by educating public about investment.

6. Providing Scope for Speculation:

To ensure liquidity and demand of supply of securities the stock exchange permits healthy speculation of securities.

7. Liquidity:

The main function of stock-market is to provide ready market for sale and purchase of securities. The presence of stock-exchange market gives assurance to investors that their investment can be converted into cash whenever they want. The investor can invest in long-term investment projects without any hesitation, as because of stock-exchange they can convert long-term investment into short-term and medium term.

8. Better Allocation of Capital:

The shares of profit making companies are quoted at higher prices and are actively traded so such companies can easily raise fresh capital from stock-market. The general public hesitates to invest in securities of loss making companies. So stock-exchange facilitates allocation of investor's fund to profitable channels.

9. Promotes the Habits of savings and investments:

The stock market offers attractive opportunities of investment in various securities. These attractive opportunities encourage people to save more and invest in securities of corporate sector rather than investing in unproductive assets such as gold, silver, etc.