

# Social Welfare, Capital and Work: Reflection of a Hong Kong Social Worker

**Prin. Dr. S. B. Chandanshiv**  
Associate Professor  
Dept. of Commerce  
Shankarrao Patil Mahavidyalaya  
Bhoom, Dist: Osmanabad

**Dr. D. R. Gholkar**  
Assistant Professor  
Dept. of Commerce  
Shankarrao Patil Mahavidyalaya  
Bhoom, Dist: Osmanabad

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## Abstract:

This paper shares the impression of the creator as he sees that welfare frameworks are presently drawing in more discussions out in the open discussions. He detects that social work calling is getting to be minimized by different standard divisions, as it neglects to get engaged with new what's more, elective answers for manage difficulties of welfare and monetary change. The paper follows the changing origination of social welfare, welfare state, and social work. The cutting edge meaning of social work and its center purposes have recognized social work from the tight origination of social welfare. The origination that social welfare is social work is in this manner misjudged. Albeit social work envelops a scope of center purposes, an essential connection is as yet missing in the global definition, which is social capital building. Social capital is tied in with systems administration association with trust, commonality and correspondence, which empowers systems to cooperate all the more productively and successfully than people and individual systems acting alone. The paper gives the pilot encounters of the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund of the Government of Hong Kong Special Administration Region. The Fund means to fabricate social capital at network levels by giving direct concedes to community ventures of NGOs and the private division, just as government subvented NGOs willing to change itself to receive the social capital building approach. The encounters show that social specialists need to receive a change in perspective to outfit themselves with expansive helping points of view and multi-abilities so as to wind up a compelling social capital manufacturer and profit themselves as accomplices of all parts in the general public in managing difficulties of the cutting edge times.

## Introduction

This paper shares the impression of the creator as he sees that welfare frameworks pull in more discussions openly banter. The social work calling also is getting to be minimized by different standard segments. Social work needs to locate the missing connection that associates itself with the advanced time. The reflection starts with the discussions on social welfare now and again of society's quick change, and people in general misguided judgment that social work is social welfare. The reflection proposes that social work as a calling ought to incorporate building social capital as one of its center purposes with the goal that it could really serve all people groups of a general public.

## Traditional and prevailing conception of social welfare

Social work has frequently been taken as an equivalent word for social welfare. In any case, the term social welfare has a free significance, and may mean diverse things in various locales on the planet. In Hong Kong welfare arrangements are regularly taken as those administrations worked, financed or checked by the Social Welfare Department of the Hong Kong SAR Government. Clearly as a custom most social work

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graduates will search for employments in welfare administrations. In any case, this pattern is changing and the change is brought about by a scope of complex variables, both inside and outer to the social work calling. It additionally mirrors an adjustment in strategy bearings and methodologies in welfare arrangements. Such changes will have significant effect on social work calling and these will be talked about beneath.

### **Social welfare and welfare state**

Social welfare for the most part alludes to states' administrations intended to shield subjects from the monetary dangers and frailties of life. The western style social welfare programs were introduced in light of industrialization in urban communities. Throughout the decades, a general agreement is achieved that states are in charge of ensuring each one of those helpless to think about themselves for whatever reasons. Social welfare involves right as opposed to of need. Financing of states' social welfare programs essentially originates from open income. In this respect, social welfare is one of the frameworks of exchange installments to cross over any barrier between poor people and the rich. As the organization and nature of social welfare programs winding up progressively extensive and differentiated, covering progressively more areas of the society, meeting increasingly distinguished requirements; the prior form of social welfare has changed considerably in the cutting edge period.

In the cutting edge period social welfare is regularly translated with a wide importance to incorporate open arrangements of instruction, wellbeing, and lodging and open help. As such, it is all the more properly associated with the origination of the welfare state. In a perfect welfare express the administration assumes a key job in the assurance and advancement of the financial what's more, social prosperity of its residents, in light of the standards of uniformity of chance, impartial dissemination of riches, and open duty regarding those powerless to profit themselves of the negligible arrangements for a sensible standard of life.

### **Reforming the welfare system**

The perfect welfare state where the state is the key player maybe never exists. It has been proposed that, in view of European experience, the business sectors and welfare frameworks are connected in various ways (Ferge and Kolberg, 1992), bringing about veering encounters in dealing with market disappointments (for example drawn out joblessness), and welfare cut. The moving of the weights of consideration to casual minding frameworks when stood up to with an unsure modernization of the economy has offered ascend to a plausibility in rebuilding the connection between the state, economy and common society to encourage the change from a welfare state to a general public of prosperity (Evers and Wintersberger, 1990). For explicit administration segments, for example in the area managing the consideration for the older, there develops a typical motivation for the change, which is described by a move from institutionalized to customized consideration game plans; increasingly strong administrations for casual family carers; better coordination between administrations in a pluralist welfare framework; and more noteworthy interest in administration arranging and the executives (Kraan et al., 1991). There is moreover expanding acknowledgment for the need to scan for a superior parity and blend of suppliers from state, common society and the private division. The discussion and situation brought about by clashing qualities and standards among suppliers of various areas would proceed, as well as scan for approaches to pay for expense of consideration, and require more arrangement investigate (Evers and Svetlik, 1993; Evers, Pijil and Ungerson, 1994).

### **Changing conception of social welfare in Hong Kong at times of economic transformation and financial crisis**

The term social welfare today has never pulled in such a great amount of debate as in the history of Hong Kong. Amid the decade prior to the difference in sway in July 1997, Hong Kong had profited by a mutilated and air pocket economy. Its open welfare using had expanded many overlay, so was the job of the legislature. Amid this period, numerous new welfare arrangements were made to meet developing social

issues and issues, without giving due respect to the coordination and interfacing of old and new arrangements, just as their long haul supportability. Not long after 1997, Hong Kong started to feel the effect of the Asian money related emergencies, to be trailed by the breakdown of the genuine domain showcase and the intense difficulties of financial change. Subsequently the joblessness rate hits recorded statures, and the economies' withdrawal proceeds unabated. The Government is currently confronting an emergency that if its verifiable spending deficiency can't be returned, the money related frameworks will be under serious difficulties from universal monetary networks. In the meantime, the personal satisfaction in the network is disintegrating quickly. More individuals are picking or compelled to live on open help, number of single parent families and separated from families are expanding quickly, number of family savagery cases is expanding, and progressively youngsters are living inactive without work and tutoring. Hong Kong can never again bear to depend on its conventional welfare way to deal with manage every one of these difficulties. Open conclusions towards the welfare framework have changed. In the first place, there was an open clamor that low compensation workers are acquiring not exactly those individuals, with comparable family foundation, accepting open help; more individuals are enticed to avoid paid work, and fall into the standardized savings net. The expression that welfare breeds reliance instead of serving its unique capacity of social security for the poor has turned into a well known news thing, despite the fact that the genuine picture of the foundation of the considerable number of individuals on government disability isn't totally that basic. Second, welfare administrations are no long taken as free administrations. Expense charging just as discovering ways of raising assets from non-government sources has turned out to be standard prerequisites. Third social welfare ought not to be the sole worry of government, NGOs, and administration beneficiaries. It ought to be possessed and shared by different segments, the rich and the elites. Welfare framework ought not to isolate the rich and poor people, yet crossing over them through systems of regular concern. Fourth, supportability of welfare arrangements has picked up a basic spot in approach plan. Manageability alludes to the proceeded with limit of activity without depending exclusively on government financing, however with help from non-government subsidizing sources.

### **Social work, not social welfare**

Social work calling started its main goal in belligerence that social welfare was not philanthropy. It has received strengthening and prosperity of people, gatherings and networks as its center practice. Social work is to be grounded on social equity, guided by points of view that are creating and basic, sustaining individuals' quality, and identifying assorted variety. Social work as an equivalent word of social welfare is an erroneous recognition. Present day social work has in actuality retired away the idea social welfare. The International Council on Social Welfare (2003) embraces a statement of purpose which is "to advance types of social and financial improvement which mean to lessen destitution, hardship and helplessness all through the world, particularly among distraught individuals. It takes a stab at acknowledgment and assurance of central rights to sustenance, cover, instruction, medicinal services and security. It trusts that these rights are a basic establishment for opportunity, equity and harmony. It looks for additionally to propel fairness of chance, opportunity of self-articulation and access to human administrations." It is critical to take note of that the term social welfare does not show up in the statement of purpose, yet rather social and monetary advancement. Worldwide Association of Schools of Social Work and the International Federation of Social Workers characterize worldwide social work in July 2001 that it "advances social change, critical thinking in human connections and the strengthening and freedom of individuals to improve prosperity. Using hypotheses of human conduct and social frameworks, social work mediates at the focuses where individuals communicate with their surroundings. Standards of human rights and social equity are crucial to social work." In accordance with this definition, IASSW's dialog archive on worldwide qualifying guidelines for social work instruction and preparing (The Joint Committee of the International Association of Schools of Social Work and IFSW, 2002), recognizes the accompanying center reasons for social work:

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Facilitate the consideration of underestimated, socially avoided, seized, defenseless also, in danger gatherings of individuals;

Address and test hindrances, imbalances and treacheries that exist in the public arena;

Assist and activate people, families, gatherings and networks to improve their prosperity and their critical thinking limits;

Encourage individuals to participate in backing with respect to appropriate nearby, national, territorial and additionally global concerns;

Advocate for, and additionally with individuals, the detailing and focused on usage of strategies that are predictable with the moral standards of the calling;

Advocate for, and additionally with individuals, changes in those auxiliary conditions that keep up individuals in minimized, confiscated and powerless positions;

Work towards the security of individuals who are not in a situation to do as such themselves, for instance kids needing care and people encountering dysfunctional behavior or mental impediment inside the parameters of acknowledged and morally stable enactment.

A key idea is absent from the rundown of social laborer's center purposes, which is about social venture or social capital building. By including this idea, the difference in worldview of the social work calling might be encouraged, and the change will be seen in in any event the accompanying zones:

from a helping point of view to a far reaching social improvement viewpoint

from issue introduction to social capital building

from compartmentalized consideration to add up to mind, interfacing among formal and casual consideration, and the private area

from administration conveyance to limit assembling and long haul maintainability

from a pushing aptitude expert to a multi-ability proficient

Hong Kong's Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (CIIF): An alternative to traditional welfare approach

The Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region set up a Community Venture and Inclusion Fund in August 2002 by to help the community endeavors of network associations and the private segment. The store intends to empower shared concern and help among individuals;

to advance network support at the nearby dimension; what's more, to help cross-sectoral projects to create social capital. Given these destinations, the CIIF hopes to: (1) advance network support, common help, backing and social incorporation gave through fortified network arranges in the network which will thusly help strengthen the feeling of having a place in the network, upgrade the informal organizations of people and families, expand the help base accessible to help them to determine their issues and address normal concerns; and (2) empower and encourage collaboration between associations of various nature, (for example, non-legislative associations and the private segment), just as cross-sectoral cooperation, (for example, welfare offices and training associations) in long range interpersonal communication what's more, network bolster ventures. To achieve these objectives, the Fund energizes base up arrangements that look to advance the improvement of social capital, and by supporting nearby or region wide network ventures started by the network itself. This would at last advance joint endeavors between local gatherings, corporate bodies or on the other hand proficient gatherings and the Government to add to the social prosperity. CIIF not just separates itself from customary government subsidizing for social welfare administrations. It offers need to joint endeavors of NGOs and the private area that does not have government subsidizing, just as supports conventional government financed activities to change its methodology in managing neighborhood challenges. The accompanying two representations will feature the noteworthiness of CIIF with regards to welfare change and monetary change.

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## Conclusion

The creator's appearance on the social work involvement in Hong Kong demonstrate that the customary models are presently observed to be lacking to manage difficulties of the advanced time, realized by the quick financial and welfare change in our general public. The social work calling, if keeps on entertaining itself with an inside segment job, working what's more, centering itself basically with aiding and support purposes, may get itself progressively minimized by the standard society. The social work calling ought to exhibit to the general population that it isn't about social welfare, and it has the ability to convey effective undertakings that are practical through social capital working among systems from cross areas in the general public.

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