Collective Bargaining

 Collective bargaining takes place when a number of work people enter into a negotiation as a bargaining unit with an employer or group of employers with the object of reaching an agreement on the conditions of the employment of the work people. Collective bargaining is probably the most effective method of resolving industrial disputes. It occurs when representatives of a labour union meet management representatives to determine employee's wages and benefits, to create or revise work rules, and to resolve disputes or violations of the labour contract.

• The bargaining is collective in the sense that the chosen representative of the employees (i.e. the union) acts as a bargaining agent for all the employees in carrying out negotiations and dealings with the management.

Concept

- Effectively, collective bargaining is a managerial tool
- Collective bargaining constitutes the negotiations between the management and the union with the ultimate objective of settlement of the disputed issues.
- Collective bargaining is basically a give and take process

Features of Collective Bargaining

- Group Activity
- Activity Levels
- Flexibility
- Win-Win situation
- Builds Relationships
- An art and a Science

Objectives

• I. To provide an opportunity to the workers, to voice their problems on issues related to employment

 2. To facilitate reaching a solution that is acceptable to all the parties involved • 3. To resolve all conflicts and disputes in a mutually agreeable manner.

• 3. To prevent any conflicts/disputes in the future through mutually signed contracts

• 5. To develop a conducive atmosphere to foster good industrial relations

 6. To resolve issues through third party (government) involvement in case of conflicting interests of the practices involved. 7. To provide stabile and peaceful industrial relations in the organization 8. To enhance the productivity of the organization by preventing strikes, lockouts etc.

Importance

 It helps increase economic strength of both parties at the same time protecting their interests. It helps establish uniform conditions of employment with a view to avoid occurrence of industrial disputes.

- It helps resolve disputes when they occur.
- It lays down rules and norms for dealing with labour.
- It helps usher in democratic principles into industrial world.

Process of Collective Bargaining

- I. Preparing for negotiation
- 2. Identifying Bargaining issues
- a. Wage related issues
- b. Supplementary Economic benefits
- c. Institutional Issues
- d.Administrative Issues

- 3. Negotiating
- 4. Settlement and contract agreement
- 5.Administration of the agreement

Essentials for Successful Collective Bargaining

• 1. There should be a single union, or in case of multiple unions, a common agreement among them. Clash of interests among union leads to chaos and uncertainty, which would result in a loss to the employees.

 2. Management should be open to the requests of the trade unions and should identify the union representatives. 3. The culture of the organization should foster the right spirit for collective bargaining to be successful. 4. The role of a third party should be minimized and agreements should be based on bipartite bargaining. • 5. All the parties involved should aim at a win-win situation and not a win lose situation. The common interests of the organization and its employees should be taken into consideration while reaching any agreement.

Quality circle

 QC is a small group of employees who work voluntarily on company time, to address work related problems such as quality control, cost reduction, production planning and techniques and even product design.

Objective of QC-

- (a) Improvement in quality of product manufactured by the organization.
- (b) Improvement in the methods of production and productivity.
- © Development of employees participating in QC.
- d) Promoting morale of employees.
- e) Respect humanity and create a happy workplace worthwhile to work.