

SOME ISSUES CONCERNING "STUDENT CENTRED ACTIVITIES" IN POLYTECHNICS

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ABSTRACT

An around Development of the students is very much imperative in the present day circumstances, where we see the students take interest in playing fun and take pleasure in disobedience and arrogance. 'Student Centred Activities' is a platform for the teachers and students to come close and do something worthwhile.

This paper deals with some issues concerning the ideas and implementation guidelines regarding the student centred activities.

On the basis of norms and standards prescribed by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) for Polytechnics, the Board of Technical Examinations, Maharashtra, has revised curriculae for the I, II and III year diploma courses in various disciplines.

An innovative aspect of 'Student Centred Activity' has been introduced in the curriculum. The circular (No.BTE/D-6/STY/Rev/4027) to this effect has been sent to every Polytechnic in the state. It is proposed to conduct five periods of 45 minutes duration per week.

The main aim of this innovative aspect is an around development of the student.

It seems now-a-days that people remain un-scrupulous regarding moral values and moral responsibility. Society experiences general degradation of ethics and spiritual life. Young generation is surrounded by unnatural dangers; in fact, the modern

civilization has caused human misery and worries. The college campus circumstance, in most cases are alarming and draw our attention. We see students take interest in playing fun, take pleasure in disobedience and arrogance. Teacher in such circumstances feel helpless and unconcerned. One may ask a question who is responsible for this sorry state of affairs? Though the issue is disputable, it is not one sided.

We see a good number of teachers are engaged in private tuitions. It is a promising business. for a few: There is a feeling among students that attending classes for some teachers is only to fulfill the prescribed attendance requirements. A section of student rely on private tuition or they have to study themselves.

In olden times, teachers were respected even by the kings and barons. They enjoyed very prestigious and respectful life. Our culture provides many excellent

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examples of the 'Highness' of our 'Gurus'. It is worth to remember Dronacharaya and Eklavya, or the maratha Empire builder King Shivaji and Dadaji Kond Dev etc. Teaching is a noble profession and a teacher has to maintain a noble code of conduct and ethics. He should maintain high standards of his professional life. In modern civilization our teacher has been slowly drifting away from his high profile. It seems that, there is lack of professionalism and the teachers are in the race of material and wealth. But the society looks at the teacher with some expectation and respect.

Students' around development is not only his part of duty but it is his moral responsibility. There is an opportunity for the teachers and students to come close and do some thing worth-while useful and concrete.

The role of a teacher is considered crucial for effective implementation of any educational programme. Teacher has great responsibility in moulding student's personality. He influences students attitude, values, interests, morals, ideas, their behaviour and conduct. It is rightly said that 'Destiny of a nation is shaped in its classrooms'. Today a teacher is expected to perform variety of jobs, like research, subject updating, counselling etc. Out of this student's development is one of the most important jobs assigned to a teacher. Student centred activity is a platform for the teachers to contribute something valuable for the students.

S.C.A. is divided into four important Domains viz. self development, Social Development, continued learning and Earning for living. We can practice different activities related to the above mentioned four domains. The selection of activities depends upon the surrounding - geographical, socio-economic features etc.

of particular place where a polytechnic is located.

Generally following activities in relation to the four domains can be practised all over the state.

1) SELF DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN

Individual development of student is concerned with his special qualities, hobbies, his health, culture, religion, intellectual and moral duties. It is also related to his attitude, behaviour, manners and communication skill.

Following activities are important form self development point of view:-

- 1) Seminar
- 2) Group-Discussion
- 3) Interview Techniques
- 4) Communication Skills
- 5) Hobbies
- 6) Debating
- 7) Yoga
- 8) Dairy Writing
- 9) Banking work
- 10) Social gathering
- 11) Sports
- 12) Study of Indian Polity and economics.

2) SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN

Students should have good interaction with our society. He has some responsibility relating to his family, community, his environment in particular and the nation in general.

Following activities are important from social point of view:-

- 1) Literacy
- 2) Family Survey
- 3) Importance of family Planning
- 4) Blood Donation
- 5) Study of energy crisis.
- 6) Environmental study
- 7) Plantation.

3) CONTINUED LEARNING :

A technician of the 21 century has to keep pace with the rapid changes in the field of science and Technology. In order to keep update knowledge of his subject, he should have the habit of continued learning. This habit can be developed through following activities:-

- 1) Reading of different journals,
- 2) Reading Newspapers, Magazines and bulletins,
- 3) Cuttings from newspapers on special topic,
- 4) Collecting information on a particular subject from the electronics media.

4) EARNING FOR LIVING DOMAIN

In order to get a better job, a student should have deep knowledge of his subject. He should know application of theory to practice and should be able to develop new processes. But unfortunately educational system makes the student to memorize particular topics, question-answers, from particular books. Ironically, our examination

system leads to tremendous wastage of himan resources and material.

In this critical situation, we can motivate the students to acquire deep knowledge of their subject through following activities.

- 1) Referring to text and reference books.
- 2) Practice in deliverying lectures on the selected topics.
- 3) Project work.
- 4) Industrial Visits,
- 5) Study tours
- 6) Group Discussion.

Beside these activities mentioned in relation to four domains. the activities may vary from Polytechnic to Polytechnic. To implement the programme of S.C.A, it is necessary to decide the numbers and kinds of activities that can be performed. Depending upon the strength of the students & the teachers, we can form the groups of 3 to 5 students, having a common field of interest. A teacher who has interest in a particular acivity should look after that particular group. A systematic record should be maintained by the concerned teachers and at the end of the year it should be submitted to the concerned authority. Good students should be awarded certificates.

The principal, goverment authority or management should take keen interest and provide adequate infrastructural facilites for the efficient execution of S.C.A. programme.