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The Role of Universities in Skill Development

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Introduction:

Lifelong learning is a main component of education system. In today's situation, skill development is essential in each and every sector. Employment is a burning issue of the society, for creating the providing the jobs, good infrastructure is essential. Skill development of the youths is important aspect. So, we should have to provide the skill facility to each and every youth.

Education is the basic need of human life. It creates honesty and integrity among the human life. Ideal citizen is an asset of the nation. It is observed that education shapes the person as well as nation. In the globalisation, skills, holistic approaches, multi disciplinary skills, intersectoral applicability skills, professional skills play a vital role in the development of the nation.

The role of the technical institutions and universities is important in providing the employment to the youths. Our major portion of the workers is unskilled. So, our productivity is low. Majority labour force have engaged in the agriculture. So, National Skill Development corporation decided to train the 15-crore people.

Universities should have to arrange the special research and training centres. Those centres will be trained to the youths. It would be useful for the medical, engineering, industry and film industry also. Such type of trainings would stimulate new products in each and every factory. The University should have to keep the main objective to develop knowledge, skills attitudes and values appropriate to the industry. Lifelong Learning is a innovative concept in education. Education is a continuous process. It starts with families, communities, schools and institutions. Lifelong learning is a global system. It is a mixture of formal, non-formal and informal education. It tries for create ability for continuous lifelong development of quality of individual and social life. It is a process of human potential through a continuously supportive process which stimulates and empowers

individuals to acquire knowledge, values, skills and understandings that will require throughout their lifetime and to apply them with confidence, creativity and enjoyment to all role's circumstances and environment.

Generally, development is measured with economic development. But in real sense "Development means positive transformation/ change to the people's ways of living, attitudes, behaviours among other as a result of their accessing relevant adequate and timely informative services." In human life mental development is the best development. It is the root cause of each and every development. It might be physical, cultural, social and economic development. It is accepted by world level, that education is the best weapon of change. Education shows the way to the people from known to unknown. It helps to achieve the final goal.

Higher education, particularly university education is important for the whole development process. In 1857, the British government established three universities at Bombay, Madras and Calcutta. After the independence the number of universities and colleges have increased. As per the statistical data of the year 2009-10, it is found that there were 6,99,564 teachers have engaged in higher education institutions our central and state government is trying to increase the access to students in higher education. Our higher education rate is only 12% which is very low in comparison with the world rate 23.2%. So, we have a need to increase our higher education percentage. Infrastructural facilities are important for increasing the higher education percentage. Financial assistance also helps for this achievement. New education policy 2020 suggested different modification and changes in higher education from top to bottom. It is the best instrument for achieving the target. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru addressed in Allahabad University in convocation programme "A university stands for tolerance, for a reason, for progress, for adventure of ideas and for the search of truth. It stands for the onward march of human race towards even higher objectives. If the universities discharge their duties adequately then it is well within the nation and the people. If the temples of the learning become a home of narrow bigotry and pity objectives, how then will the nation prosper or a people grow in a stature." When we evaluate our today's university status, we find that our universities have not acquired the place in the minds of the people as Nehru desired.

Lifelong Learning is a base of each and every system of education. In 1970, The idea of lifelong learning has cleared by the UNESCO. Delor was the chairman of committee appointed by UNESCO. Delor's report says, "Learning throughout life is a continuous process for each human being of adding to and adapting his or her knowledge and skills, and his or her indulgent and capacities for action. It must enable people to become aware of themselves and their environment, and to play a social role at work and in the community at large. Knowledge knows how, knowing how to live with other people and 'life skills' constitute four intimately linked aspects of the same reality. Learning throughout life is a day-to-day experience punctuated by periods of intense effort to

understand complex data and facts, and is the product of multidimensional dialectic. Although it involves the repetition or imitation of actions and practices, it is also a very special way of learning and of achieving something personal and creative. It combines non-formal with formal learning, and the development of innate abilities with the acquisition of new competencies.” (Learning the treasure within-1996)

Now it is clear that lifelong learning is an important concept for the human life. This learning is not only limited to the individual but also the whole human environment. So, this concept of lifelong learning is accepted worldwide. In this context Delor reports, “Education must be organised around four fundamental types of learning which, throughout a person’s life, will in a way be in the pillars of knowledge; learning to know, that is acquiring the instruments of understanding; learning to do, so as to be able to act creatively on one’s environment; learning to live together so as to participate and co-operative with other people in all human activities and learning to be, an essential progression which proceeds from the previous three. Of course, these four paths of knowledge all from a whole, because there are many points of contact, interaction, an exchange among them.” (Learning: The Treasure within 1996)

The skill development communicates effectively and develops the positive attitude among the people to deal with demands and challenges of everyday. Our country is known as a country of youths and the strength of the youths is growing rapidly. So, there is a need to decide a particular strategy about the skill development programme. Skilled youths are the big asset of our nation, hence there is a need to shape their personality through the skill development programme.

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