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MORAL EDUCATION WITHIN HIGHER EDUCATION-TODAYS CONCERN

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Abstract-

Education systems at colleges and universities level have greater responsibility of shaping future of lakhs of youths which are adding them regularly to the work force of our country. To provide those suitable jobs and upgrading their entrepreneurship level is must for growth of economy. At the same time we must give priority to the herculean task of training them for social welfare activities. Higher education in India have emphasized more on building education infrastructure, institutional arrangements, designing courses and making arrangements for delivering of information but these things will not help us in creating value laden knowledge society. It is time to reward exemplary services by employees working in different areas of government as well as private sector. By rewarding their good work we are making appraisal of their service motive earned by the teachings of their institutions. Higher education have bigger responsibility to preserve the real sense of knowledge.

Keywords: Conscience, value education, cultural ethos, inculcating values, enlighten, ethics.

Introduction-

Education with ethics provides set of principles that guide us throughout our lives. We should learn to follow the path of righteousness and honesty through education and that will lead to success in long run. Character of a person is not built overnight but it is the byproduct of moral values taught to us through our parents and teachers. Values can be imparted to the younger ones mainly through our own examples and not by precepts. Value laden society will eliminate problems like violence jealousy, dishonesty, war, corruption etc. Deen Dayal Upadhyay, a great political thinker says that Moral education converts man into human. Human building leads to society building and that leads to nation-building. He said that education should be able to create such circumstances which develop the multi-dimensional personality of our present generation. The form of education should be such that there is development of coordination between the student and the society and there should be development of greater social feeling within the student as ultimately the student has to become a carrier of the progress of society and country. Education means our consciousness about socio-political, cultural, ecological and also philosophical perspective of social life. The purpose of education to mankind is to find true purpose of life and upliftment of society in which we live. The education is not only the information of subject streams like science, statistics, management or biotechnology but also about their relevance for humankind. Our education can only be enriched by inculcating the humanistic values, cultural ethos,

behavioral ethics, respect and dignity. The education is broader term than literacy as it is not only the ability to read and write words and sentences but we must have sense of 'what is right' and 'what is wrong'. We must have logical and ethical understanding to visualize ideas of social welfare, economic well-being and political awareness. When we say we are giving higher education to our students it means higher level of learning not only by the parameter of grade but also quality level. Students will be taught at the young age about importance of doing what is right. They will have true opportunity to learn from Jataks, hitopadesh, Panchtantra and inspiring tales from Indian tradition books.¹ They should require way of thinking based on Indian ethos. The institutes of higher education now have more responsibility of maintaining well-being of society because majority of crimes are committed by youths passing out of these colleges and institutions in which they get education.

Everyone knows that there are laws and regulations in society to punish those who breach them but laws like I.P.C., Cr.P.C., SC &ST atrocities act 1989 are not sufficient enough to eliminate crimes from the society. In an ideal society ethics and morals automatically governs the mind of citizens. Ethics comes from within and it is men's desire to preserve his self-respect. Ethics plays an important to maintain harmony between individual and Society. Unethical person may seem to be more professionally competent in short run but will definitely lead to social and economic loss for the society as well as for his profession in the long run. Higher education in colleges and Universities have greater responsibility of inculcating values for long run values .The higher education of our country have the goal of enhancing the capabilities of the youth, developing entrepreneurship, enhancing self-employment opportunities and trying to nurture them to face the challenges of future. The capability, entrepreneurship, enthusiasm and goal of younger generation is directly related to the development of a country because they are the future. More the energy and enthusiasm in youths more the development of a country. This perspective is more important for India as the demographic dividend is showing the signs of gain for India in near future. We have capacity to emerge as the greater economic power as well as most successful democratic nation if we will be successful in utilizing the talent of millions of our youths. The IIT'S, IIM'S, IIITMS, IGNOU, JNU, Agricultural universities, research institutions and hundreds of institutes are engaged in providing education but time has come to look into the quality and value perspective of education. We today have to examine whether the education level of our country is capable of achieving the goals of our society .Whether it is able to wipe out bad influences in society like crime, child-abuse, human trafficking, corruption, violence. New education policy 2020 says that education must build character and enable people to be ethical, rational and compassionate. We should move towards a more holistic and multidisciplinary education system which take best part of every discipline. Baanbhatt's Kadambari described a good education as knowledge of 16 classes of Arts.² This idea promotes the perspective that all branches of Creative human Endeavour must be brought back to

Indian education and learn from practices of each discipline. This will increase positive learning outcomes, increase creativity, innovation, critical thinking problem solving ability, more in-depth learning which will have positive effect on creating job opportunities. More job opportunities in economic sector in turn will provide creative favorable environment for meaningful innovative and learning environment. We cannot get success until we have self-confidence and faith in ourselves. Swami Vivekananda preached for twin values of faith and broadmindedness. To quote his own words, ...”to preach the doctrine of Shraddha or genuine faith is the mission of my life... I am ready to prove here that throughout the whole of India, there runs a mutual and cordial string of eternal faith in the perfection of humanity, and I believe in it myself. And let that faith be spread over the whole world. Determination to get success in result of self-confidence we gained through moral education.³

Value education maintains our 'consciousness' and enlightens our 'conscience'. Conscience is judgment of reason whereby the person recognizes the moral quality of concrete act that he is going to perform is in the process of performing or has already performed. That inner Conscience guides our behaviour and decision making process in hypothetical situation. Take the example of higher level police official whose jurisdiction area is known for its religious and cultural rigidness which has led to recurrent clashes between different groups of people. No doubt that police officer with intellect handle situation of crisis with guidance of higher law enforcement agencies but ultimately it is his 'conscience' which will enlighten his administrative skills to tackle hypothetical situation. The higher education of India have provided brilliant minds who have done exemplary works in their field like Ex-President Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam (defence research), sir C.V. Raman (physics), C. Ramanujan (mathematics), Homi Bhabha (atomic energy) Hanuman Poddar (literary work publisher) JRD tata (business and entrepreneurship) E. Sridharan (metro train development) M.S Swaminathan (agricultural reforms) Baba Amte (leprosy treatment) Sundelal Bahuguna (chipko movement) Prof. G.D. Agrawal (river conservation) and like .Their fame was not due to their power position but because of their dedication towards 'people's welfare' by the medium of their work. The foundation of our Indian education lies in making education more relevant so that it will upgrade the living standards of underprivileged sections of society. This is possible by cementing the relation between different spheres of knowledge. Convergence of ideas gave importance to enrichment of all spheres of formal education available in colleges and universities. We shall be required to produce such institutions as will kindle the spirit of action in us, which will replace the self-centredness and selfishness by a desire to serve the Nation, which will produce not only sympathy towards our brethren, but a sense of affection and oneness with them.⁴

Aesthetic value (love, beauty) enriches education field like music, fine arts, painting, recitation etc. spiritual values helps in encouraging Sports and activities like Yoga meditation. The program of National cadet corps NCC and National service scheme NSS at college and universities level effectively

activates students who are interested in community services. They learn honesty, discipline, self Reliance, social values, responsibility towards society by the activities of blood donation, tree plantation, water management and social awareness programmes. These activities gave them chance to celebrate National Day of dignified personalities and freedom fighters of India. 'Environment clubs' are created for spreading consciousness towards the conservation of environment. These extracurricular activities at college level work for good citizenship. By many employment training programmes colleges and universities prepare entrepreneurs and managers of tomorrow. Take example of 'employment fairs' organised through Swami Vivekanand Yojana scheme of Higher education department of Madhya Pradesh. In current scenario, higher education in India provides degrees to lakhs of youths irrespective of the fact that many of them do not even have quality education level equivalent to 10th standard student. Because of this reason they are again examined through different employment agencies. The youths in rural areas or semi-urban areas are struggling for suitable jobs but they have to shift their residence at city to get job. It is very necessary to provide counseling to rural students at school level itself for their future studies and suitability to their job requirement and better job place. Parents should not force his /her children to take subject or career of others choice. The guidance for career as well as aim of their career advancement is important for students in rural areas. If a young boy/girl wants to be a doctor, he/she should be motivated to work for eradicating and curing diseases not for making money or indulging in illegal activities. Emile Durkheim rightly said that each new generation is reared by its predecessor; the latter must therefore improve in order to improve its successor. The movement is circular.⁵ What we taught our generations will surely passed to next generation. It is to be noted that a corrupt doctor can make society unhealthy, a dishonest administrator can delay the supply of ration for poor, a brutal policeman can be responsible for turning a youth into naxal, a bad politician can hide a criminal as social worker .These all situations ultimately lead to a society where the anarchy will rule everywhere. The society is dependent on belief for each other and this can ultimately be maintained by upgrading the morality in our higher education system.

All India survey on higher education 2018-19 states that there are 993 universities, 39931 colleges, 10725 stand-alone Institutions, 385 are privately managed. 60.5 percent colleges are in rural areas and 11.04 percent are exclusively for women.⁶ Such a great higher education network in India will surely enlighten the minds of lakhs of worked force for productivity of our economy in every sector. The ethical standards and moral practices should be taught in every area of education field. The people joining the police, armed forces should be made sensitive about human rights laws. They should be aware of legislations like SC/ST atrocities act 1989 so that they will work with more responsive and efficient manner. The sports culture, dramas, competitions, village tours should be promoted by higher education institutions because they are useful to promote brotherhood, unity, cooperation and mutual

trust among students of different backgrounds and regions. It will also help to develop gender sensitivity among all the participants. They all should be aware of fundamental duties defined in the constitution of India. Doctors, Lawyer should have been made aware about ethical standards of their profession. Administrators should be given training about 'emotional intelligence concept' so that they will prove themselves better managers of administration.

Conclusion-

Teacher should be able to be role model for students. They should imbibe moral values by telling moral stories. In our higher education we have emphasized delivery of infrastructure and rewarded the capacity of information but it does not help in creating knowledge society. Education helps to develop tolerance, kindness, sensitivity, courage, conviction, commitment and selflessness as well. Dr. Ambedkar once rightly said that an educated man without character is more dangerous than beast and if his education is detrimental to the welfare of poor he is curse to the society. In this way we have to understand the whole education system and one thing to remember is more important that when educating the minds of our youth we must not forget to educate their 'heart'.

References-

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² Ministry of education, Draft national education policy 2020, P.g. 17, 4.28.

³ Swami Vivekanand on himself, 2007, Advaita Ashrama pp.279.

⁴ Pandit vasant Raj, integral humanism, Deendayal Research Institute. April, 2002.

⁵ Durkheim Emile; Moral education, A study in the theory and application of sociology of education.

⁶ Key results of AISHE report, Pg. 8., All India survey on higher education -2018-19- ministry of education, Govt. of India.