Educational Institutions and Its Extensional Activities towards Social Empowerment

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ABSTRACT

Education is the process of preparing the individual to find out one’s inherent potentialities and develop the same to the maximum extent in order to derive utility for himself and contribute to the society. Educational institution is the important social agency whose contribution to the development of the society is most expected and the national development too is revolving around it. Community oriented education, Education and its extensional activities are the modern ideologies of Education. Educational Philosophy lays great stress on the development of the society through the educational process and it is by the society, for the society and of the society. Swami Vivekanandha, a great Educational thinker assumed that service should be the guiding principles of Education. Higher Education has different objectives such as reestablishment of human principles, character building, promotion of abilities, cultivation of self-respect to foster moral values, spiritual thoughts, creating the feeling of universal brotherhood, developing scientific attitude, extension activities after teaching and research to gratify the social responsibilities also.

Extra -curricular activities will open avenue for the students to make social participation and contribute for the social empowerment they are such to mention, NCC, NSS, Youth Red Cross, Environmental Club, ECO Club, Health Club, Humanity Club, Ethical Values Club, Red Ribbon Club, Green Club, Blue Cross, and Alumni Association. The institution itself can take moral responsibility for the empowerment of the society through financial, man power, goodwill and cooperation with the agencies who work for the same. The institutes may conduct surveys, educate through rallies and street plays, they directly involve in the different campaigns by the government and nongovernment agencies. Education can better be understood when it takes effort to transcend the learner in desirable direction through prepare them to make identification of values, to make introspection, to choose right habit and reinforce them to continue until it turns into his Character and absorbed into his personality.

KEY WORDS: Educational Institutions, CSR, Extension Activities

INTRODUCTION

Education is the process of preparing the individual to find out one’s inherent potentialities and develop the same to the maximum extent in order to derive utility for himself and contribute to the society. Educational institution is the important social agency whose contribution to the development of the society is most expected and the national development too is revolving around it. Community oriented education, Education and its extensional activities are the modern ideologies of Education. Educational Philosophy lays great stress on the development of the society through the educational process and it is by the society, for the society and of the society. Swami Vivekanandha, a great Educational thinker assumed that service should be the guiding principles of Education. Higher Education has different objectives such as reestablishment of human principles, character building, promotion of abilities, cultivation of self-respect to foster moral values, spiritual thoughts, creating the feeling of universal brotherhood, developing scientific attitude, extension activities after teaching and research to gratify the social responsibilities also.

EXTENSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Bhagat (2010) defines educational institutional social responsibility as the voluntary efforts of the educational institutes, of course, inspired by the ethical excellence toward social development
through various activities. Community development through activities like enhancement of educational standard of underprivileged groups, adult education activities, environmental awareness, ecological conservation, health awareness, healthcare and sanitation, adoption of village for holistic development addition to the academic commitment of the institution.

Extensional activities are clearly given in the UGC guidelines which aim to facilitate students to generate new knowledge. Institution has wide scope for implementing extension activities. Quality Education believes in learners’ centered curriculum and promotion of extension activities as per the need of the neighbourhood of the institute, like adult literacy, women empowerment, human rights awareness, legal rights awareness, protection of environment, rainwater harvesting, health awareness, hygiene and sanitation, prevention of diseases, prohibition of alcohol consumption, power and energy saving strategy, first aid, women and child care, train for time management, financial planning, waste management and revival of culture and heritage etc. Man is a social animal and the education is for the social discipline and the social efficiency. Institution is an important social agency whose responsibility for the development of the society is inevitable and most required.

**IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN SOCIAL RENAISSANCE**

Educational Institutions in general and Higher Education in particular can contribute for the social rejuvenation in various ways. One cannot delink the institution from the society and it is the part and partial of the society. Mere policies and programs introduced by the government and the active work of NGO will not be sufficient to achieve the expected ends unless the student community takes virtual interest to restructure the society in order to arrive at social renaissance. Community orientation in curriculum transaction will facilitate the favourable attitude among students and inculcate social and national values. Nowadays the societal expectation from various services rendering sector is more and the higher educational institutions of medicine, engineering, management, teacher education, technical education, polytechnic, diploma, law, agriculture, journalism, tourism, general arts and science colleges, research institutes, Business administration, Banking and commerce education and other such stream of study has wide and extensive scope for the contribution to the development of the society through curriculum, co-curricular and extracurricular activities.

**PUBLIC OBSERVATIONS FROM THE INSTITUTION**

Educational institutions should make active and conscious interest in the implementation of mission and vision, references to citizenship, task of preparing moral human beings, prepare students for larger purpose of life with ethical, moral and spiritual aspect, and encourage students to learn, to find information, work collaboratively to acquire knowledge and skills and not mere job skills but also life lessons, nurturing whole students, prepare students to be the contributors to the society, guaranteeing atmosphere for excellence in academic, research, leadership and character, prepare students to be desirable asset to the society and humanity and so on.

Understanding the Social Responsibility of the Educational Institutions

**TRANSCENDING OF STUDENTS**

Education can better be understood when it takes effort to transcend the learner in desirable direction through prepare them to make identification of values, to make introspection, to choose right habit and reinforce them to continue until it turns into his Character and absorbed into his personality. Students should find their value heritage which has been transferred from their forefathers and enrich the same to leave it their next generation, motivate students to develop a scrapbook of great donors whom contributed for the humanity will open eyes to assume social responsibility with creative social sense, encourage students for the collection of studies of the personalities who work for the betterment society will act as the intrinsic motivation towards the meaningful contribution to the humanity and above all, the institution should find all possible ways, through curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular approach and its extensional activities to sensitize students to become socially responsible citizens.
INSTITUTIONAL SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Educational institution is by the society, for the society and of the society; hence it needs to assume full responsibility of the society where it hails from. The growth and development of the institution remains greatly on its interest towards the empowerment of the society through its extensional welfare programmes for the society because both the society and the institution are knitted well to support each other. If every educational institution takes responsibility of the society surrounds it, the great dream of empowerment can better be achieved. It can take philanthropic, ethical, legal and economic approach to improve the quality of life, avert harm, obedience to code of rules and regulations and profitable economic activity.

PHILANTHROPIC APPROACH

Adoption of any village which yet to be developed in social, economical, educational, health and hygienic spheres, which can be understood in various means such as by providing mass literacy, mass awareness about governments welfare schemes and projects and how to approach to get benefits, create awareness on productive use of time, money and energy resources, child care, women welfare, availabilities of schemes for the Challenged people, health and hygienic habits, legal rights and understanding responsibility and rights of citizen facilitate social empowerment. Currency literacy, simple electrical and electronic maintenance which highlights various methods of improving powerfactor, voltage supply, energy auditing, energy conservation schemes, adopting safety in operation and maintenance of electrical accessories and equipment will be useful to the society. Quality Health services can be rendered at affordable cast will be good, the cultural heritage and the tradition of the place should be preserved and enriched

ETHICAL APPROACH

Prevention of alcohol consumption, smoking, pan chewing and providing rehabilitation for the victims and facilitates the society to live the life happy, peaceful and meaningful with desirable ideals, standard and values among youth will speak the responsibility of the institution. Supporting NGOs and governmental agencies work on the empowerment of the society through required and expected participation and help will become ethical approach to make contribute for the betterment of the society.

LEGAL APPROACH

Obedience to the law, rules and regulation is the condition for the society and it is the society codification of right and wrong, where the institution take due interest in creating awareness among mass, the importance of obedience to the law and encourage the public to cooperate by remitting taxes in time genuinely, voting in the election, respecting democratic principles and to assure peaceful co-existence among each other will enable ideal society. The above ideals can be implemented through counseling, awareness programmes, and research projects by students.

ECONOMIC APPROACH

It makes the profitable foundation, upon which all the people rest and harvest more benefits. The empowerment of the society is spoken in the financial mobilization aspect prevalence among the mass people especially among women, socially backward and downtrodden. Creating awareness of profitable and safety saving habits, security aspect, insurance policies, medical support systems and orientation of people to right economic choice will make desirable difference in the society. Conservation of natural environment, natural resources and energy resources, promotion quality of product from agriculture, industry, entrepreneurship and service and encouraging economy and
thriftiness in using of depleting resources and make use of abundance non depleting resources will be a responsible attitude.

IMPLEMENTATION

The Educational institution has many objectives to fulfill, curriculum development, transaction of curriculum, preparation of instructional material, staff development, professional and career development of the staff, providing enough and appropriate infrastructure, learning resources, educational technology, student support system, planning for co-curricular activities, examination and scholastic achievement, placement service, orientation and training, field visit, development of research and extension activities and so on. Extra-curricular activities will open avenue for the students to make social participation and contribute for the social empowerment they are such to mention, NCC, NSS, Youth Red Cross, Environmental Club, ECO Club, Health Club, Humanity Club, Ethical Values Club, Red Ribbon Club, Green Club, Blue Cross, and Alumni Association. The institution itself can take moral responsibility for the empowerment of the society through financial, man power, goodwill and cooperation with the agencies who work for the same. The institutes may conduct surveys, educate through rallies and street plays, they directly involve in the different campaigns by the government and nongovernment agencies

CONCLUSION

Understanding the social responsibility, gratification of institutional social responsibility through enhanced extension activities will take the institution from anonymity to eminence on the part of educational institution in general and the society where it located in particular. The dream for powerful and prosperous India will be significantly possible when every corporate and educational institution take interest and rightful effort.

REFERENCES