Ethical and Social issues criteria in Academic Accreditation

Infusion of ethics and social issues throughout engineering, scientific and Technical curricula

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ABSTRACT

At present, Technical Curriculum deals with the study of Science and its application. The acquisition and application of scientific knowledge and techniques to various fields such as industry, agriculture, medicine, health care, transport, housing, defense etc., should result in a technology that would meet the needs and comforts to all the people of the country. Science and technology must have two factors viz., coherence and utility. They must satisfy man’s thirst for knowledge and it must also provide value addition to the life in terms of comforts. The former promotes human culture and the later, human civilisation.

Technical Education today teaches technology revolution and information explosion through the latest innovations and their practical applications in the society. This study must also inculcate the quality of ethics and imbibe basic values among budding technocrats, to be the citizens with social consciousness. Only this will make the inventions really useful to the human sector as a whole.

Ethics is a scientific study of morals, while deals with the basic principles that guide human conduct and also how these principles can be applied to concrete situations. Principles of enteries have to be understood correctly and applied to concrete situations in life. Thus both the private and social sphere of life are governed by this.

Technical graduates coming out of professional institutions must learn certain values also, which are set of principles or standards of behaviour, regarded desirable and important and held in high esteem by the particular society in which a person lives. The sources of values may be listed as self built, traditional, family background, society, religion, constitutional impulse and soon.

Value Education is to be imparted as a part of the technical education curriculum, especially in the final year of their study, to make their technical qualification more relevant to the society. As the fruit of their services are going to reach the society at the ultimate level, concern for the humanity must be inculcated in the merits of the technical students.

The title of the subject may be “Ethics and Values for Technologists”

The contents of the course may be for one year of around (90 to 100 Hours) with special emphasis on Ethics for human life, Significance of ‘value’ at different levels viz. social, spiritual and moral features, Objectives of Value education, Personality development, Dimensions of human development, Understanding of self and family as the basic social unit, work ethics, Character building, Morality building and so on.

Importance of these aspects in the decision making process and execution must be imbibed in the curriculum of this subject.

Methodology :

Teaching method for this subject must be on the basis of input session 25%, Problem solving exercises on certain practical issues in groups 50% and self preparation of assignment materials 25%.

Evaluation :

Evaluation of this subject performance in the examination must be as continuous assessment 50%, and summative assessment 50% as the end of the course, on the written answer paper, based on question papers with questions on objective, descriptive and problem solving nature.

This subject would serve as a orientation to all the technical students towards social concentration.
References:

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