CHAPTER 5.

IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION & LIBRARY

Introduction:-

Education is the key success for any national and society. Progress of nation is depending upon the educated minds, research, invention and innovation.

Education is needed for every walk and life of the universe.

Literacy ratios among the population and their active participation in projects and practices contribute largely towards the sustainable development of the country.

The economic, social as well as the environmental issues are directly related with the sustainable development.

Adult education and its dissemination among the population would significantly help to provide and develop the scientific as well as technical skills among the educated class and would help to motivate, justify and give the required social support for pursuing and applying these skill sets.

The application of current educational values has provided and created new avenues for education in general and new courses introduced in the field of higher education in particular.
The country can progress when the quality of education is on the rise and the education policy is implemented through proper guidelines. With the rise in the population, there has been a demand for development of new educational institutes as well as new universities coming into existence. With this demand the people have started looking towards the aspects of quality of education being imparted across the nation.

This is the main reason that educational institutions have started developing modern libraries which would significantly contribute in spreading as well as disseminate knowledge among the student community at large.

The interlinked between educational development and societal development; social justice; democracy is an established fact. Further, the relationship between rural empowerment and nation’s overall progress is undisputable.

Education is one of the most important catalysts to reach free societal orthodox attitudes; ignorance; injustice and to inculcate basic democratic values; aspirations of budding and; realization of rights and duties; to bring about social and economic empowerment.

Being so, right to education finds place in Part III and other parts of the constitution of India. Since education is one of the backbones to uplift rural youths, they should be exposed to full utilization of quality education.
A well equipped and well managed library is the foundation of modern educational structure. The importance of library in education can be appreciated properly and precisely only when we try to understand the evolving concept of modern system of education of today.

The imparting of education, the benefits of library service is considered as equivalent to a body with a soul, a vehicle with an engine and a structure which has been strongly built with the right ingredients such as with the bricks with cement.

Education and library go hand in hand. In India, the education policy is formulated and implemented by the respective State Governments. This aspect of the importance of education is explicit from the fact that the father of our constitution has stressed that our policy on education as devised by the respective state as well as the National education policy to provide free basic education to every citizen of the country till he / she attains the age of fourteen years through the Rashtriya Saksharta Abhiyaan.

In a democratic country like India, enlightenment of every citizen is most necessary.

As library point of view, some universities developed norms and standards for research centers regarding library collection, as per that norms 5000 books along with national and international peer view journal in concern subject is required in their libraries. India is having largest higher education system in Asia. In 1950 there were only 30 universities, it grows to 634 universities of which 297
state, 100 private, 129 deemed, 43 central and 65 institutional at national importance.

However there were 605 colleges are there in 1950 it grows to 33023 colleges in India. Maharashtra is having 4631 colleges and is on rank first in India.

**Ideal role of law colleges:-**

Law colleges would need to play an active role to provide the platform to these youths by catering to higher quality education. But to avail fully of these multidimensional roles of education, firstly, the forces, techniques and tools of imparting quality education need to be well planned and adequately equipped. Owing to various challenges faced by colleges, the basic target intended to be achieved through education is always hindered. This failure in turn stands in the way of empowerment of citizens and ultimately affects social transformation.

The ideal role expected to be played by colleges in general, is to cater to the demands of quality higher education. Education should be a formal method of accessing and internalizing knowledge, awakening to culture, and endeavoring towards perfection in personal and social life.

The education in parted should be able to equip students with adequate skill and competence to purse their carees and to take up any challenges faced in competitive age.

The aim of education is not just in terms of conferring degrees and certificates but should uplift the overall development of students. Their knowledge should not be restricted to syllabi oriented courses, but, should also incorporate such
values which will be helpful in their personality development and their attitudes and responsibilities towards society.

The basic aspects of education has been integrated along with aspects such as development of the human body, development of the right mind set as well as control on the emotional aspects. Education is the level and a stepping stone for a better living standard and this will be going on and ever into newer dimensions day by day.

While disseminating and imparting values in education system, the law colleges and their staffs including the management body have a crucial role to play. Rural areas, being generally deprived of basic necessitates areas; it also impacts negatively on the education system.

Apart from the above general role, law college are expected to serve an additional, purpose of social reasonability to train young lawyers to appreciate social, moral and democratic values apart form training them to gain insight into the functioning of legal system of their country and with advocacy skills.

It is the prime social responsibility of law colleges to produce skilful lawyers, good academicians and social activists from rural background so that they can in turn give good service to community. Imparting of legal knowledge should also extend to common people in interior villages by creating social awareness.

Adequate infrastructure should be made available to students to make them equipped with the same standard of facility catered in urban areas. Law colleges
should introduce modern tools of educational technology to achieve more creativity and to raise the standard.

Students should not be deprived of extra curriculum activities potential for their personality development. Colleges should strive to adopt productive clinical study or practices like students teachers partnered projects on social legal issues, community services, to expose students to empirical situations, which can benefit both students and society in general. Law students should be given a fair chance to visit court and lawyers chambers to get practical experience.

Conducing of periodical lectures by inviting legal and other subject experts is essential for the students to provide better insights into certain issues since law should not be dealt in isolation from other disciplines.

Law teachers should try to maintain academic excellence by continuously exploring to update new social and legal developments in their respective specialized area as well as in other related areas. They should cultivate their research skills by adopting systematic scientific methodology.

A well qualified teacher not only in terms of degrees, but in terms of all the reared qualities necessary for quality performance is the requisite of quality education. Law teachers should be equipped with the kind of infrastructure or resource to enhance their all round development.

Furthermore, law institutes have the social responsibility to contribute to the society by creating awareness about the rights and obligations of citizens by adopting all possible means. Law institutes should also cater to the needs of
villagers seeking free legal advices by running full time free legal advices by running full time free legal aid cells.

Rural law colleges : Real scenario:-

It is not a big surprise that law colleges suffers from the problem of maintaining quality education when even the highly rated institutes in urban areas lag behind in maintaining the required standard quality.

The basic role of law colleges is to yield quality education cannot be pragmatic unless it is equipped with the necessary means to implement so. The various shortcomings faced by these colleges can be discussed as under:

1. Deficient infrastructure is one of the common problems faced by students in law colleges.

2. The Students books ratio available in library is not proportionate in many of these colleges. The books in the library are also not updated timely.

3. E-Learning services are often neglected and students are many a time, forced to avail of the services outside the college campus.

4. Strangely, some college even fail to provide the least required space for conducting routine lectures and hence, forced to conduct combined
lectures giving a tough time to the students as well as to the teachers to control the crowded.

5. A shortage of qualified teaching staffs and permanent full time lecturers is another common phenomenon observed both in rural and urban law colleges. Most private colleges in rural areas hesitate to recruit teachers even if there are qualified applicants for lectureship.

6. The reason for this may be either, an official ban on the creation of new teaching post or an unofficial self imposed restriction on recruitment of lecturers to save resources.

7. The Teachers students ratio is unreasonably disproportionate and this in turn affects the frequency of teacher students interaction and monitoring system.

8. To cope up with the deficit staffs situation each teacher is forced to teach 3-4 subjects in a week. This seriously affects the performance of the teacher since they are deprived with even the minimal time to have a cursory glance of the topic to be taught in the class.

9. Apart from this pitiful situation, teachers are also assigned with various administrative tasks and further have to carry out the tasks of organizing various curriculum activities. Being overburdened with multi tasks, most
teacher lag behind in research oriented activities even if they are eager to do so.

10. In some law colleges, even though the number of students enrolled is high, yet there is very poor response in terms of attendance and participation in any kind of activities. Such poor response may be due to lack of proper control and disciplinary actions over the students, degradation in quality of education imparted, lack of encouragement and proper counseling of students, poor facility for transport and accommodation, etc are among other reasons.

11. Due to poor attendance of student, their teachers are forced to cancel lectures or some teachers even take the advantage of the situation and rest with no work at all. It is also an open secret that various law colleges in rural areas organize academic curriculum only for the sake of putting it in record to fulfill mandatory obligations without any consideration for quality outcome.

12. There is another challenge faced by teaching faculties due to lack of sufficient funding from the institute for all round participation and academic development. This factor discourages interested teachers willing to strive hard for boosting quality.
13. Moreover, unreasonable salary discourage many qualified meritorious aspirants to choose teaching profession and are being diverted to either court practice, corporate sector or even forced to look out for suitable jobs in big cities.

14. Lack of transparency and quality in the process of recruitment of lecturers due to vested interest and greed for money is also a disappointing factor known in many of these colleges. This factor certainly affects the quality growth of the institute and the students are at the receiving end.

15. There is also few number of law colleges in rural areas thus, depriving youths from basic quality legal education.

16. Self financing colleges in rural areas do not receive grants and are consequently not assessed for quality.

17. The accountability of the college for sub standard quality is not even checked. Being placed in a rural set up, rural colleges are also faced with some unique obstacles not experience in urban areas.

18. Geographical and social factors also create a huge gap in terms of opportunity to attend various programs like orientation and refresher courses for teachers, national and international conferences, seminars, etc held at distant areas.
19. This problem has put the teachers in a disadvantaged position. Many of the recommendations on policies for reforms in the arena of academics, administration and governance., which have been well formulated and gained national consensus are not yet implemented.