

AIMS OF EDUCATION

All the activities in the world are focused towards some goal or the other. When an action begins, it also ends at some level. If we know where the end of the action will be at the beginning of the action, then the purpose of that action can be known. Thus, the foresight of the end of an action is, in a way, the purpose of that action. Some scholars deny the existence of purposeless action. Education is also a kind of activity and it also has a purpose. Education without purpose is meaningless.

Meaning and Definition of Aims of Education

Purpose is the over-expressed goal, to achieve which, a person contemplates with gratifying enthusiasm. In every aspect of human life and every activity of daily life, purpose has special importance to make it successful. Without purpose, one cannot succeed in any field of life. The same is true in the field of education. The reason for this is that there is a deep gap between the natural child and the needs and ideals of a progressive and developed society. To fill this gap, education is the only tool that can purposefully develop the basic instincts of the child keeping in view the changing needs and ideals of the society so that both the individual and the society continue to develop.

Objectives are very important in the field of education. According to Encyclopedia of Modern Education, "Education is a purposeful and moral activity. Therefore, it cannot be thought without aims."

Thus, the objectives of education are those principles that motivate the behavior of the individual to follow the right and higher direction. It is only because of purpose that education moves in a right direction and progresses. A good objective expresses the duration of various actions. The real luxury of filling is not only the purpose, but also the path of action. It is the center of education.

In addition, a good objective should be fully defined, which arose from the current circumstances. Its nature should be tentative so that it can be changed as per need.

Need for Educational Aims

Without considering the objectives of defense, the process of education cannot be conducted smoothly. These objectives provide the foresight to the educational planner. Without them, the education system is sure to fail. Education without purpose is useless.

There is a great need for objectives in education due to the following reasons:

It provides direction to the teacher and student

It makes the learning process meaningful

To avoid wastage of time and energy

All teaching methods, curriculum and assessment are made according to the objectives of education. The system is shaped and changes are made in them.

Thus, a clear knowledge of the objectives of education awakens determination and confidence in the minds of students and teachers. They are focused and want to do their work with full enthusiasm.

Factors Determining/Formulating Aims of Education

Education is the mirror of society. The progress or decline of society depends on education. In the society, the kind of education there will be, there will be the same kind of society. Since the objectives of education are related to the objectives of life, therefore, formulating the objectives of education is exactly the same as determining the objectives of life. Some objectives of education are traditional, fixed and unchanging and some are flexible, adaptable and variable. The reason for their difference in nature is their different bases. The main foundations of education are four - idealism, naturalism, utilitarianism and realism. According to these four bases, all kinds of objectives of education have been created, are happening and will continue to happen.

There are many factors at work in determining and constructing educational objectives for a nation which affect every stage of human life and restrict socio-cultural conditions. Some of these main factors are as follows;

1. Philosophy of Life: Educational objectives have a direct relationship with people's lives. Diverse ideological and philosophical views influence education and its objectives. For example, “idealism” emphasizes self-experience while “naturalism” emphasizes self-expression, and “empiricism considers life as a process of socialization of the individual. Similarly, existentialism and other philosophies set their own educational objectives of education.

However, the philosophy of life that a society or its people believe in determines the objectives of education. For example, India's educational objectives are based on democratic elements. Thus, the various pressures of life determine the objectives of education and help in their formulation.

2. Different Philosophers: Different philosophers have different ideas about the universe, which is made up of elements, such as its spiritual, ethereal and irrational, true and real, etc. Teachings are made on one or the other element of his human nature. Educationists have generally emphasized only one element. For example, Herbert (Herbart) was a follower of idealistic philosophy. According to him education has only one purpose, morality. Similarly, Herbert Spencer's philosophy of life was the perfection of the external world. Therefore, he explained that the purpose of education is preparation for a full life. In general, idealistic scholars believe that the aim of education should be to cultivate the spiritual side and subjugate the animalistic side to it. Therefore, the aim of education should be to develop the divine power in man. In contrast, naturalists like Rousseau emphasize the animal nature of man. The purpose of education for them should be to provide the child with opportunities for self-realization and self-satisfaction.

3. Political Ideology: Any education system can survive without being affected by the political ideology of the country. In this form, the political ideology of the country also sometimes affects the educational objectives. For example, different political ideologies, such as democratic, authoritarian, communist, capitalist, set different educational objectives in the state. The same educational objectives that may exist in a democratic system may not exist in a communist or totalitarian political system. Although the objectives of education in a democratic system are flexible, they emphasize on elements like freedom of life, fundamental rights, importance of

human being. On the contrary, in authoritarian states, be they monarchical or patriarchal, the aim of education is to be subservient to the rulers and obey their orders.

4. Socio-economic problems: Determination and construction of the objectives of education, the social and economic conditions of a country also do. To develop the countries whose social and economic conditions are bad, to build good citizens and improve their business efficiency etc. In our country, there are many types of socio-economic problems. These have affected the objectives of education here. Therefore, the development of secularism, socialism and democratic sentiments and traditions has also been included in the educational objective.

5. Cultural Cards (Cultural Factors): The social and cultural background of a nation also affects the objectives of education in one way or another. It is believed that Sikhs should work for the development and protection of the cultural tradition of the country. This is the purpose of education, and that is why it is included in our education system.

6. Technological Factors: Technological progress also has an important place in determining and building the objectives of education. In today's technological age, the emphasis is on industrial advancement. In industrially backward countries, one of the main objectives of education may be science and technology education. This does not mean that if countries have made technological progress, they should not do so. In fact, they do so for more technological progress. Today, all the advanced countries of the world, America, Russia, Japan etc. are doing the same. Our country, being behind in technological and industrial progress, is following in the footsteps of western countries and is making full efforts for such progress.

7. Religious Ideology: Religion also determines the objectives of education. This is a very important factor in our country. India is a secular state. Therefore, every religion is respected here. Here, the development of moral and spiritual values is fixed as one of the objectives of education.

8. Psychological Ideology: Educational objectives are also based on psychological ideology. This is a new ideology of the modern age. The main function of psychology is to understand human nature. Accordingly, the objectives of education should be according to the child's interests, needs, desires, abilities and tendencies and therefore the mental level of the child should be the basis. These should be relevant to the child's life.

9. Exploration of knowledge (Explosion of knowledge): The present age is the age of science and technology, Every day, new explosions of knowledge are happening here. New technologies, new concepts are entering in every field. Nowadays, education seems to be based on science and technology. In the same situation, the objectives of education cannot remain unaffected by new knowledge and technology. Our government is encouraging the study of modern science so that children can get the latest world class knowledge.

10. Higher Ideals of Life: The ultimate goals of education in the present society are influenced by the higher ideals of life. Indian philosophers believed that the purpose of education should be the development of the spiritual side of the child. It was for this reason that the noble values of life are given special place in Indian education. This aspect has significantly influenced the objectives of modern Indian education.

Aims of Education in Emerging India

India got freedom after centuries of slavery. Therefore, its basis of education was Indian culture and it had no national purpose. The ruling rulers continued to provide education here according to their will, which was suitable for their father. After independence, Indian scholars also identified new objectives for Indian education, to adapt it to Indian culture and democratic principles. India's first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had said, great changes have taken place in the country and the education system should adapt itself to those changes (Great changes have taken place, the entire basis of education must be revolutionized).

In this fashion, the determination and formulation of the objectives of Indian education should be done very carefully. They should be determined at individual, society, nation and international level. Therefore, revolutionary changes have to be brought in the entire structure of education. Today that society is surrounded by many problems. The social, political and economic conditions of the country are changing very rapidly. Therefore, it is important that in this situation educational objectives should be set according to them. In this context, some of the lessons learned can be as follows.

Here a brief description of these education objectives is given

(1) Individual Aim of Education

Individualism in education means that education should develop individuals according to their interests and capabilities. Its simple meaning is the independent development of human personality. To take care of every child who receives education in such a way as to help in the full development of his personality. In ancient Greece, the Sophists strongly supported this cause. Even today, due to the development of modern educational psychology, special emphasis is being placed on this objective.

Arguments for Individual Aim

1. Democracy emphasizes the freedom of the individual.
2. Naturalists like Rousseau, believe that the central purpose of education is the self-fulfilling development of the individual. (Autonomous Development of the Individual)
3. Biologists believe that each person is a special creature in himself. According to Thomson, "Education is for the individual. Its function is to provide support to the person in life. Education helps to protect a person's life. Therefore, the individual and not the society should be the center of effort in all educational activities.
4. According to psychologists, "Education is an individualizing process. No two people have the same cognitive capacity. Therefore, education should be person-oriented."
5. Progressive thinkers believe that the ultimate good of society, the intrinsic value of the individual is in raising.
6. All the good things in the world have come about because of the free efforts of man. Therefore, the purpose of education should be the development of the individual.
7. The society is controlled by individuals for their own benefit. Therefore, the purpose of education should be the development of the individual.

2. Social Aims of Education

Dewey has expressed the meaning of social purpose in another way. The leader of the society is more important than the individual. He emphasized that the ideal of schools, these two types of skills must be achieved. Social purpose in its extremist form considers the individual as a member

of the society and hands over all the duties and responsibilities of the individual to the hands of the state. A person does not have his own separate existence in this half. He is only a tool of the society. If According to Edwin, individuality can only be defined in a social sense and in no other sense."

Arguments for Social Aims

1. A person is born in the society and grows up in the society. Therefore, society should be given more importance than the individual.
2. It is the society that teaches a person the lesson of citizenship and makes him civilized
3. Some philosophers are of the opinion that liberation comes through social service.
4. Complete development of a person is possible only in the social environment.
5. Society gives man the opportunity to transform his solitary life into a collective life.
6. The social purpose of education is more important.

3. Character Building Aim of Education

Some scholars are of the opinion that the purpose of education should be to develop and build character. According to him, the purpose of education is not to acquire knowledge and increase the strength of the body, but to build a superior character. Herbert says that the main purpose of education should be character building.

According to some educationists, character means - a stick of inner determination and personality. A person of character acts according to his ideals and principles. He does not obey any external pressure. But his principles may be moral or immoral. It means character alone is not enough. Character must be moral. Henderson while clarifying the meaning of moral character has written, It means that individuals should act according to the principles by which they have best personality development. Thus, the purpose of character development means developing not only superior character but also superior morals.

4. Cultural Aim of Education

Cultural Aim of Education means propagation of culture. In a narrow sense, one aspect of this purpose is related to food, drink, clothing, manners, life imprisonment etc. In a broad sense, it is

associated with all the good habits, thoughts and conduct of man. In the words of Humayun Kabir, “the continuity of culture and traditions is an essential condition for the life of any nation.” The aim of education is to maintain and enhance the continuity of cultural traditions. Emphasizing this function of education, Ottaway has written, "One of the functions of education is to impart the cultural values and patterns of behavior of the society to the mature members".”

5. Spiritual Aim of Education

According to the idealist thinkers, the purpose of education is to develop the soul spiritually. It is necessary, with which he does not get caught in the illusion of the world, and tries to achieve unlimited joy. Spiritual purpose empowers the human mind and soul. Almost all Mahatmas of India, individuals and gurus have accepted the spiritual purpose of education. In words, the purpose of education is neither national efficiency nor international unity, but to make him realize that there is something more important than intelligence in him, which if you can say soul.

6. Physical Development Aim

In general, in almost all countries and periods, physical development has been considered an important aim of education. This purpose means that education should be like this. By which body becomes healthy, beautiful and strong. In ancient times, in the kingdoms of Greece and Sparta, 'physical development' was the main aim of education.

Plato (Plato) gave the main place to physical development in his education plan. Rousseau also laid great emphasis on physical development. According to him, "It is through physical strength that one becomes smart and active." So, for children, there should be provision of sports and exercise etc., only then their physical strength will develop and they will become healthy.

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