Role of Library in Technical Education with Reference to Chhattisgarh

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Abstract: *The development of technical education is an integral part of the development of any country. The importance of library is even more than ever before for the teachers, students and scholars of the institutes of technical education. Because of the concepts of of e-journals, digitalization, consortia and resource sharing, now a days library is not only a place for exchange of books but it is a centre of authentic and latest knowledge and information. The paper discusses the importance of library in technical education with particular reference to Chhattisgarh.*

Keywords: ICT, Digital Libraries, Higher Education, AICTE

1. Introduction

Technical Institutes play an important role in the exhaustive development of any Nation/state . In 1956 when Madhya Pradesh comes into existence it has only a few technical institutes. Chhattisgarh was also a part of Madhya Pradesh. This region is full of natural resources like forests, rivers and minerals. Coal, iron ore, bauxite etc. are found here in a large quantity. But all these resources were not being capitalised properly. The people of Chhattisgarh felt that the development of Chhattisgarh region is rather slow while being a part of Madhya Pradesh. Considering all these things Indian government formed a separate state Chhattisgarh in 2001. Understanding the present and future requirements of technically skilled human resources government opened the field of technical education for private sector also. At present private sector is playing an important role in fulfilling the demand of Technical human resources along with government sector. In any Educational Institute library is the centre from where knowledge flows to every direction. Doctor Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan has rightly said : "library is the heart of an academic Institute."

2. Technical Education in Chhattisgarh

First Engineering College in Chhattisgarh was established in Raipur in 1956 as Government College of Mining and Metallurgy. In 1964 Government Engineering College Bilaspur and in 1983 Government Engineering College Jagdalpur were established. First ITI in Chhattisgarh was established inKoni, Bilaspur in 1961. First Polytechnic College in Chhattisgarh was established in Raigarh in 1956 as Kirodimal Govt. Polytechnic College. Considering the need of expansion of technical education the state government permitted private organisations to open Universities and Technical Institutes. At present the institutes providing technical education in Chhattisgarh are as below –

Institute	Number
Engineering Colleges	45
Universities	25
NIT	01
IIT	01
IIIT	01
Government ITI	83

Importance of Library in Technical Education

Library is the heart of any Educational Institute. The standard and level of a Technical Institute can be understood by looking at its library resources. The availability of text materials and e-journals as per the norms of the AICTE, the system for utilising the resources properly, easy access for users to the library resources and theproper utilisation of library resources are the basic parameters by which one can understand the quality of education in a Technical Institute.

In any Technical Institute there is a central library along with various departmental libraries. All these libraries should work together to get the academic targets.

In a Technical Institute library is a central workshop for its teacher's students and Research scholars. For all future engineers a library has the same importance as a laboratory. For this reason library is known as centre of research and development in the field of science and technology, not only in the country but in the whole world.

In modern libraries there are many resources other than books to get knowledge and information. Modern libraries provide latest and quality information to their users regarding education and research.

By the application of ICT many libraries work together to provide e-journals and database to their users at very low cost by consortia and resource sharing. AICTE also provides consortia based information services to technical institutes at very low cost.This helps the libraries to increase and improve their resources which in turn improves quality of technical education and research to produce capable technical human resources for the development of the country.

3. Conclusion

Libraries can play a vital role in improving the quality of education and research in technical institutes if they fulfil the norms given by AICTE and utilise all the resources and facilities, which are available now a days.

But most libraries in technical institutes of Chhattisgarh do not fulfil these norms and they are not using modern facilities like library automation, digitalization, resource

sharing etc. causing less impressive effect on quality of education and research. Therefore, it is necessary to overcome these drawbacks and improve library services.

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