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STUDENT SUPPORT FACILITIES WITH REFERENCE TO TEACHER EDUCATION: A CASE STUDY

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ABSTRACT:

The provision of student support services including personal and financial counselling, careers guidance and support for students with disabilities is an established part of the support available to students in all Teacher education institutions.

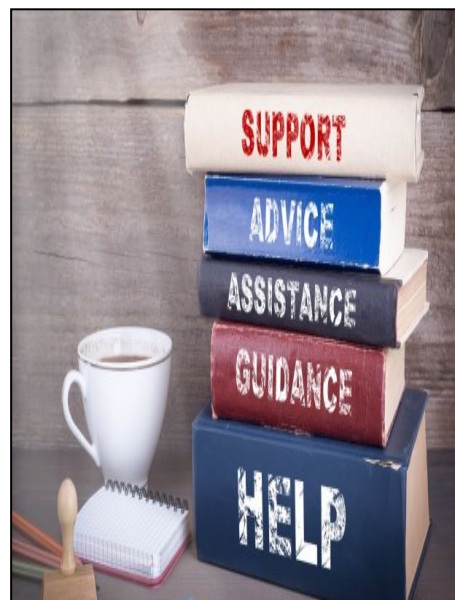The aim of this study is to discuss the concept of student support facility. This paper is mostly based on some observations for the identification of availability of student support facilities in the Teacher education Institution. The main objective of the study has been to understand the availability of resources and facilities in Teacher Education Institution for student learning and support, and their problems.

KEYWORDS : Teacher Education, Teacher Education Institution, Quality Assurance, Teacher Educators, Diploma in Education, National Council for Teacher Education, National Council of Educational Research and Training, Student Support, Student support system.

INTRODUCTION:

The curriculum of secondary teacher education programme generally include course on social and philosophical bases of education, educational psychology and pedagogy of various school subjects. Some of the courses have a strong component of practical work, and thus separate space is required in a Teacher Education Institution (TEI) to ensure effective transaction of curriculum.

The secondary teacher education institutions are setting up the essential facilities and student support services for the use and reference of both teacher educators and student teachers. So in teacher education institutions there are more importance of various laboratories such as ICT lab, Psychology Lab, ET Lab and Science lab etc. The laboratory in the context of a TEI ought to be perceived as 'Centre' with potential to provide 'Resource Support' to both teacher educators and student teachers. Hence the teacher educators are expected to device their own strategies to make the best possible use of the available resources.

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What Is A Student Support Facility?

The provision of student support services including personal and financial counselling, careers guidance and support for students with disabilities is an established part of the support available to students in all Teacher education institutions. The increasing diversity of students entering TEIs has resulted in additional support being made available to support the academic and personal development of students, including study skills to support academic writing skills and subject specific support to address gaps in subject knowledge and understanding.

This support contributes to the quality of the students' learning experience and to their educational achievement. Thus evidence of the importance of student support is increasingly but it also becoming more difficult to manage as growing numbers of students need access to high quality support. The aim of this study is to explore the availability of the student support system.

Each Student support Services Plan must minimally include guidelines for the systematic
Provision of the following components:
1. Alternative education programs
2. Institution psychological services
3. Institution climate management
4. Institution counseling and guidance services
5. Institution health services
6. Institution social work/visiting teacher service s

RESEARCH QUESTIONS OF THE STUDY:

While working in a Kasturbai College of Education institution as an assistant professor the following research questions came up:
1. Which Student support facilities are available in Kasturbai College of Education for the development of students?
2. What is the opinion of Students about the availability and use of learning resources and student support facilities in KCE?

Title of the Research:

In order to address some of the above mentioned research questions the research with the following title was undertaken:

A Case Study Of Avaliability OF STUDENT Support Facilities In Kasturbai College Of Education

OBJECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH:

The study was undertaken with the following objectives.
1. To find out the Student support facilities are available in Kasturbai College of Education.
2. To study the opinion of Assistant Professors about the availability and use of student support facilities in KCE.

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RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

1. Method:

Since the objective demanded Case Study was chosen as a research method. The Case study was done for getting data from KCE teacher education institution and also collects the information about availability of student support facilities in the KCE from Assistant & Associate Professors working in KCE.

2. Sampling of the Research:

The sample for the research was drawn from Kasturbai College of education, Solapur, Maharashtra, India. Out of 07 Assistant & Associate Professors of Kasturbai College of Education 04 Assistant & Associate Professors were involved in the research.

3. Tools of the Research:

The following tools were taken for the research.

- **Questionnaire:** The questionnaire was used for Assistant Professors. To collect the opinion of Assistant Professors about availability of student support facilities in KCE Institution.
- **Check List:** The check list was used for checking the availability of student support facilities in KCE institution.

4. Actual Data Collection:

- **The Student Support facility in KCE:**
- **The curricular, co-curricular and extracurricular activities:**

The entire activity is planned at the beginning of the year. Academic calendar is prepared with the inclusion of expected dates of all the activities viz. Microteaching, content-cum-methodology, models of teaching, Evaluation workshop, Tutorials, Internal exams, various programmes, Social Service Camp, Excursion, Physical education, School exp., Celebration of days of National and International Importance, rallies etc.

- **Availability of library & other facilities for passed-out/Past students:**
- **Placement Services:**

The institution has placement cell which gives detailed information to students about the vacancies in various schools, institutions and institutions. The teachers work as subject experts in the selection processes of different institutions. The placement cell in-charge, Principal and concerned teachers give their recommendations for the selection of a particular student. The placement cell also carries following processes till the student gets job.

Placement cell process involves following activities.

1. Preparation of Method wise distribution and profile of students
2. Demand from schools, institutions
3. Provide information to the students
4. Recommendation for appointment

Difficulties faced by placement cell:

a) The private granted schools some times ask for donations to students.
b) The students leave the jobs due to harassment by the school management.

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c) Non-aided schools / institution do not give the salary as per Govt. norms.
d) Students are not interested in going in hilly/remote areas.
e) Students are not interested in working in different districts other than home Districts.

- **Mentoring arrangements:**

   Teacher work as mentors for the students facing any type of difficulties, personal problems, and curricular problems which he/she is unable to discuss in front of the entire faculty and other students. The teachers take the students in their confidence and do necessary counseling so as to overcome the problems.

- **Website of the Institution:**

   The institution has it's website **http://www.kcebed.org**. The entire information about history of the institution, the board of trustees, courses available, papers and subjects available, on line news, Jain minority merit-list publications, contact details, available faculty members, hostel facility, library facility, laboratory facility etc is displayed on the website. The institution has displayed mandatory disclosure, affidavit on the website as per NCTE rules. The website is updated and maintained by the faculty members as per requirements.

- **The remedial programme for academically low achievers:**

The low achievers are identified by various activities such as tutorials, Practice teaching lessons, Microteaching workshop, Creativity and personality development programmes, internal examinations, general observation of students etc. These students are given extra guidance and time for their improvements.

- **The teaching strategies adopted for teaching:**

a) Advanced learners: The advanced learners are identified and are given following facilities along with guidance
- Guidance for Internet access / searches for accessing more information on the topics.
- Motivation for reading more additional reference books
- High order questions

b) Slow learners: The slow learners are identified and are given following facilities along with guidance
- Supervised study
- Extra- time for practicing and studies
- Additional learning material provided
- More exemplification & explanation
- Revision

- **Guidance and counseling services:**

Guidance and counseling services are provided to students for following activities.
- Career development
- Personality development
- Teaching skill development
- Developments related with affective domain
- Developing research attitude
- Perusing higher education
- Guidance and motivation for appearing for SET/NET examinations

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- Competitive examinations

- **Grievance Redressal System:**
  - The students complaints grievances are resolved in discussion with the members of student council and the principal along with the staff-members.
  - The complaints of parents are resolved by the principal after discussion with the student along with his /her parents & concerned staff.
  - The student also drops their complaint, suggestions in a suggestion box. The suggestion box is opened once in a weak and the suggestions are discussed with the staff-members for implementation or acceptance or resolving.
  - Provisions of right to information act, human/civil rights are available.
  - All the teacher and principal give open visiting time for the students every day for their grievances redressal**.**

- *Alumni Association:*
      The alumni meeting is held once in a year. The alumni exchange their ideas with the faculty and the present students. It also helps to keep record of all the alumni with information about their employment, their employers and nature of their present work, contact addresses, phone numbers and e-mail IDs. Such information helps the present students to contact the alumni for suitable placement.

- **Encouraging students to publish materials:**
      The institution always encourages and motivates the students for their involvement in publishing their materials like paintings, greeting cards, handicrafts, SUPW & different articles. The students are also encouraged to publish their thoughts and articles in the institution magazine "Kasturi" every year.

- **Various Committees with student representatives**:
The institution has formed various committees which have students representations on it.
1. The BC Cell committee
2. Women harassment prohibition committee
3. Anti-Ragging committee
4. Alumni Association

- **Feedback from students & employers for growth and development of institution:**
  - The institution collects feedback from students about the teachers, curriculum and over all evaluation of the programme.
  - Such feedback from the students provides valuable inputs for improving the support services like library, hostels, sports activities, health care, transportation, financial aspects, and other instructional and infrastructural resources.

RESEARCH FINDINGS:
1. The KCE institution formed the various committees for Student support.
2. The KCE institution actively involves the students in various committees as a member.
3. The KCE institution has to improve in utilisation of placement cell, guidance and counselling cell and grievance redresal cell.

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4. The KCE institution has a mechanism to monitor learning resources and student support systems.

5. The KCE institution is successful in student development with the help of student support systems and learning resources.

CONCLUSION:

The student development has become one of the most important Concerns of 21st century not only at local, state, national level but also at the international level. Efforts by the Govt. are on to ensure availability of sufficient infrastructure and resource centres but Government initiatives alone would not be sufficient to achieve this goal. Educational Institutions must take initiative to create a culture in which students have full opportunities of Self decision making and use the every student support systems.

Every Educational institution has provided the environment for student development and progress. For this the institutions are planned or ready the action plan of specific activities for students. I conclude my research paper with the hope of every educational institute set their goals and objectives for developing students learning and carrier.

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