



## Promoting Socially Useful Productive Activity of Student's choice in a Community.

By

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### Abstract

"Adoption of improved tools and materials, where available and the adoption of modern techniques will lead to an appreciation of the needs of a progressive society based on technology." Students learn to work as a team, with skill and deftness. It was introduced in 1978, by the Ministry of Education to promote Gandhian values and educational ideas of Mahatma Gandhi.

**Keywords:** SUPW, Community Service, Social Work, Team Work, Productive

### Introduction

Socially Useful Productive Work (SUPW) is a "purposive productive work and services related to the needs of the student and the community, which will be proved meaningful to the learner. Such work must not be performed mechanically but must include planning, analysis and detailed preparation, at every stage so that it is educational. In addition to developing individual skills, SUPW helps in developing among the students the habit to work as a community, increase awareness of scientific advancements and develop a scientific outlook. The training acquired in the classroom helps students solve the day-to-day problems of the community.

### The Concept of SUPW

It is to emphasise the principle that education should be work centred. "Socially useful productive work aims at developing harmonious development of the whole human being, i.e, his body, mind, heart and spirit. The programme of work-experience lacked the component of social usefulness of subjects. But socially useful productive work has social usefulness.

It bridges the gap between life and education, education and work. It leads to proper articulation between life and education. In so daily useful productive work educative aspect is given precedence over the productive aspect. If it is planned intelligently on the basis of this educative aspect, the ability of the student and needs of the society, it can surely fulfill its purpose.

Socially useful productive work must, therefore, be given a central place in the curriculum at all stages of education and the content of the academic subjects should be related to it, as far as possible.

A curricular activity proves meaningful when it is related to the needs of the learner and



the community to which he belongs. It becomes more meaningful when it is related to the basic needs, viz. , food, shelter, clothing, health and recreation and community and social service.

Socially useful productive work is to be developed in the light of the Gandhian philosophy of basic education which was work-centred. In Basic education as propounded by Gandhiji craft occupied a pivotal position because by education he meant drawing out of the best in the student and man-body, mind and spirit.

### **Social Service**

The component of social service in the curriculum is allied to socially useful, productive work. For example, when students participate in an environmental cleanliness programme by way of social service they can simultaneously prepare compost pits for manure.

### **Contents of Curriculum**

It should be based upon the primary needs of the student, the school and the community and the facilities available locally for implementing it. Such elective programme will vary from institution to institution.

The objectives of this programme will be:

To give the spirit to student to do something for society and nation.

To inspire the students to take the responsibility.

To motivate the student to show their quality and aesthetic quality.

To realize the student potential.

To increase the confidence of students and sense of security.

### **Implementation**

High level committees at the central level and State levels should be constituted by the respective Departments of Education so that the decisions made by them should invariably be accepted and implemented without delay.

### **Socially Useful Productive Work and Community Service**

"The merit of education through work is that it follows the natural instinct of man to translate thought into activity and activity into thought". The premium on bookish knowledge in India can only be removed by a complete change in the structure of the curriculum and allotment of time to the area of work.

### **Criticisms**



The scheme of socially useful productive work is not entirely a new thing. It is rather a modified version of the scheme of Basic Education.

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