

B.Ed SEM II  
CURRICULUM AND KNOWLEDGE  
UNIT - IV  
TOPIC  
**Socially Useful Productive Work**

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**INTRODUCTION**

To make our educational system more realistic and productive and to strengthen the link between Education and Productivity , the need was felt for inclusion of work at all the stages of school Education. It was perceived that work Education can be made a powerful tool in development of skills and values and thereby promoting self-reliance among students which would be helpful in accelerating the economic development of country through community service and social work.

## RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMISSIONS ON WORK EDUCATION

- The National Education Commission also known as Kothari Commission (1964-66) pointed out that there should be Work Experience followed by vocationalization of education in the school system. It was stated that the curriculum of school education should be directly linked with the productivity so as to contribute to our National Development. So it was proposed to implement the concept of work experience in Indian schools.
- The Review committee also known as Ishwarbhai Patel committee was appointed in 1977 to examine ten year school system , in which the committee recommended the term “ socially useful productive work” (SUPW) to work experience (WE) and recommended that SUPW to be an integral part of curriculum at all stages of school education. In the light of recommendations of committee SUPW was introduced at the school level in different states and Union Territories
- It has been introduced and implemented under different names , such as Craft education (1937) , work Experience (1967) and then socially useful productive work (1977).

### Meaning

#### “ Socially Useful Productive Work ”

The term “**Social** ” refers to the child who has attained a minimum level of education would be able to work efficiently in his/her community in respect of social and work skills and also in terms of adjustment to the immediate group.

The term "**useful**" refers to the functional nature of the activities and the products resulting from the activity. This means, the work should lead to something that is useful to the child and also to the general group in terms of returns.

The term “**Productive work** ” Any learning activity ( acquisition of skills) in Education that result in some product or service that is consumable by society.

## Definition

The Review Committee In Its report entitled "The Curriculum for the Ten-Year School"(1977,p.10) defines SUPW as:

**Socially useful productive work is defined as purposive, meaningful, manual work resulting in goods or services which is useful to the society.**

So according to above definition the education should be based on the principle of work – centeredness and by incorporating SUPW in school education we can achieve goal of production and social usefulness.

## Characteristics of SUPW

- **It is a purposive work.** If the learner understands “ Why” and “for what” of the process of work performed then he is able to perform the work intelligently. So the work must include planning, analysis and detailed preparation at every stage so that it is executed scientifically . The scope of work must not be limited to mechanical skills only but also according to the needs of a progressive society based on technology.
- **It is a meaningful work** - It is considered to be meaningful as it is related to the needs of the learner and to the community to which he /she belongs. It becomes more meaningful as it is related to the six basics needs of human beings ie. Food, clothing, shelter, health and hygiene , culture and recreation , community and social service.
- **Manual work is the essential component** - The main purpose of including manual work in SUPW is to instill the dignity of labour among students. The manual work develops stamina and skills which helps them to perform the jobs efficiently it is based on the principle of learning by doing.
- **It results in either Goods or Services.** SUPW either result in some product which are material in nature or it involves students in some form of service which may be remunerative or performed as social service. Example of production orientated activities are some tangible goods , and service oriented activities include transport , communication and office work.
- **It is useful to community** - when any work is performed for the school or community and which results in the attitudinal change in community( School to which learner belongs) students , and teachers then it becomes socially useful as well as productive.

## **General objectives of SUPW / Work Experience according to NCERT**

### Knowledge and Understanding

To help the child:

- identify his needs and the needs of his family and his community with respect to food , health and hygiene , clothing, shelter , recreation and social service.
- familiarize with the different productive activities in his community.
- Understand the scientific principles involved in various forms of work.
- To acquire knowledge of sources of raw materials and different tools and equipment used in the production of goods and services.
- Understand utility of Productive work and services to community.
- Understand the needs and requirement of technologically advanced society in terms of productive , processes and skills.
- Understand the process of planning and organization of productive work.
- Develop an awareness of social problems.
- Develops an understanding to solve the problems and come up with new ideas and innovations.
- Develop his/her abilities for self- evaluation of performance.

### Skills

To help the child:

- develop skills for the selection, procurement, arrangement and use of tools and materials for different forms of productive work.
- develop his /her skills to observe, manipulate and participate in work practice.
- develop skills for the application of problem solving methods In productive work and social service situations.
- develop his/her skills for greater productive efficiency.

- enhance his/her working competence sufficiently so as to enable him to earn while he learns .
- use his/her creative faculties for devising innovative methods and materials

### Attitudes and Values

To help the child:

- develop respect for manual work and regard for manual workers.
- inculcate socially desirable values such as self-reliance, helpfulness, cooperativeness, team-work, perseverance, tolerance, etc.
- develop proper work ethics such as regularity, punctuality, honesty, dedication, discipline.
- develop self- esteem through achievements in productive work and service.
- develop a deeper concern for the environment and a sense of belonging, responsibility and commitment for the society.

### **Place of Socially Useful Productive Work (SUPW) In the School Curriculum**

The Review committee in its report entitled “ The curriculum for 10 years school ” (1977.p.11) recommended that SUPW be given a central place in school curriculum at all stages of school education and the content of the academic subjects should be related to as far as possible.

According to NCERT while selecting SUPW activities following criteria may be kept in view

**It should be educative** and so activities should

- be according to the developmental level of children
- help to develop total personality of children
- involve problem solving skill and creative thinking.
- help in developing values.
- help children acquire relevant knowledge and skills.
- **To be productive** the activities should result in
- Products which are directly consumable by the students and the community , particularly school community,

- If needed be saleable or  
Services having social and economic values.
- **To be socially useful**, the work should be relevant to meet the needs of the community and the individual child.
- In addition to the above criteria, the following criteria should also be considered:
  - (i) Necessary tools, materials, techniques, facilities are readily available.
  - (ii) Adequate resource persons should be available.
  - (iii) It should be feasible to carry out the activity to useful completion

### **SUPW activities conducted at different stages of school education**

#### At the lower primary Stage

Paper folding and paper crafts , kitchen gardening, flower gardening, growing plants, use of hand fork, shovels , etc. , to cover a book , to make envelopes, school and campus cleaning, clay work, paper cutting, Visits to various work situations where people are engaged in in local community activities, like pottery , weaving, carpentry .. and also visit to various service centers of community like bus stop, post office, farm house, dairy farms etc.

#### SUPW activities conducted at upper primary stages

Clay models, making dolls, stitching and knitting work, book binding, cleanliness drive, preparation of teaching models , beautification of school campus, plantation in school , home and community, maintaining scrap books ( stamp collection, seed collection, collection of pictures of dresses of different regions)., participation in community service programe , helping parents, classmates, school mates.

#### SUPW activities conducted at secondary

The activities are now introduced under vocational education that includes knitting , garment making, repair of domestic appliances, printing, book binding,pisciculture, horticulture, sericulture , carpentry . Under “ Earn while You Learn ” scheme activities like manufacture of coir door mats, dusters , file boards, preparation of squash, Jam , pickles, candles, school bags, cloth dyeing and printing, stitching.....

## **Importance of SUPW**

- Prepares pupils to practice and perform manual work individually or in groups.
- Acquaints the children with work and services prevailing in the community.
- Develop sense of respect to manual workers.
- Develop a desire to work and contribute to the society.
- Inculcate positive attitudes of team work.
- Development of values like tolerance , cooperation and helpfulness.
- Belief in dignity of labour and self – reliance.
- Helps in understanding the principles involved in various forms of work.
- Motivates active participation of students in productive work in different stages of school education and enable them to earn while they learn.
- Helpful in applying classroom learning and knowledge to solve day -to - day problems of the community.
- Participate in Nation building activities.
- Realization of goals of the state and national development.

## **Conclusion**

SUPW will have great impact on students life if it is integrated with school curriculum in such a way that the student develops his / her aesthetic sense, enjoys and feels pride in participating in school and community activities. School along with their stakeholders can play an active role in imbibing the real spirit of work culture among the students, which in future would facilitate in realization of goals of National development.

## **References**

SUPW - Shodhganga [shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in](http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in) › bitstream

## **Related references**

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