

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING AS COURSE: A CASE OF CO – OPERATIVE DIPLOMA PROGRAM

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ABSTRACT

In the era of globalization, there is nothing like static in the world except the “change”. It means higher the competition among the organization / industries of different sectors. Quality and value added product is the only way-out to survive in present era, which demands the trained qualified professionals. Hence industrial training becomes focal components of higher education as course.

The main objective of this paper is to describe the importance and outcomes of incorporating the industrial training as course in diploma programs. The first part of paper highlights the need of the industrial training. The second part reveals the case of the co – operative diploma programs offered by Institute of Diploma Studies, Nirma University of Science and Technology, Ahmedabad. The same also describe the outcomes of industrial training as course to the diploma students. The last part includes the concluding remarks and further suggestions.

1. CURRENT SCENARIO:

We, as a nation have accepted policy of LPG (Liberalization, Privatization & Globalization) in 1991. It means opening the country's economy to the world and faces the global competition. Because of global competition, Organizations of different areas have become more quality conscious, customer-centric & innovative for surviving in the global market. Therefore, Organizations require to offer value added products and face stiff competition, for which trained qualified professional is necessary. It is the educational institute, who can develop the trained qualified professionals for the country and higher education in particular.

Generally, we consider that the education institute teaches the theoretical knowledge and laboratory exercises. But due to the rapidly changing industry, industrial training and visits become the focal components of higher education. Industrial Training becomes more important to the diploma engineers because they are consider as middle – order professional bridging the gap between the top management and craft persons. Industrial training gives opportunity to the diploma engineer to apply the theoretical knowledge to practical situations and allow them to learn & develop logical thinking and problem solving.

2. A CASE OF CO – OPERATIVE DIPLOMA PROGRAM:

Institute of Diploma Studies has been established in the year 1997 under the aegis of Nirma Education and Research Foundation (NERF) by Dr. Karsanbhai K Patel, the founder of Nirma Industries and an internationally famous entrepreneur, along with various other institutes like Institute of Technology, Institute of Management, Institute of Pharmacy, Institute of Science and Institute of Law. Later it was established as a statutory University as Nirma University of Science and Technology, Ahmedabad in the year 2003 at the initiative of NERF. Since 2003 all institutes are constituent of Nirma University of Science and Technology, Ahmedabad.

The Institute of Diploma Studies offers Diploma programs in Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Plastic Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Electronics & Communication Engineering, Computer Engineering and Information Technology.

The academic schedules of Diploma programs at Institute of Diploma Studies provide a reasonable mix of courses in Humanities, Basic Sciences, Basic & Applied Technology and Advance Technology in interdisciplinary and advanced areas. Industrial Training of 20 weeks duration is compulsory for all students. Various supplementary courses are also included in the entire Diploma program which promotes self – development, societal and environmental awareness and living values / moral values. The duration of Diploma programs is 4 years (8 semesters).

2.1 Co – operative Diploma Program

Institute of Diploma Studies offers the co – operative diploma programs, which are specifically designed to make the students suitable for the job requirements in the industry. These include industrial training (as phase I and II) of 20 weeks as course in the curriculum which is unique. During the industrial training phase, students are provided with industrial training under the guidance of senior faculty members from institute and experts / professionals from industry. The students are evaluated continuously during the training and at the end of phase of training. The co – operative nature of Diploma programs gives students an effective edge in the performing their job skills at the industries. Industrial Training Phase I and II during the pre final year and final year of diploma program respectively.

2.2 Industrial Training Phase I & II

The students are given the training in industry in the field of his / her interest based on merit. During the training at the industry, students are gaining first hand experience of working as an engineering professional to develop the key skills. Student understands the organizational structure, processes, plant & machinery details, quality assurance system, safety measures, material handling & logistics, waste management and environment concerns.

The faculty members visit the industry during the training to guide and interact with the students on regular basis. Students are to write the daily dairy and the log book. The faculty members check the same and guide the students for preparing industrial training report. There is a mid term presentation planned at institute, where students have to present the processes / activities that they have understood. Industrial Training is evaluated based on the industrial training report, mid term presentation, feedback of industry and oral examination at the end.

2.3 Outcomes of Industrial Training:

The observations of the industrial training as course in diploma programs as outcomes are as follows.

- Industrial Training Phase I and II can be considering as induction training and on job training respectively.
- Student applies the theoretical knowledge to practical situations and understands the need of scientific and practical approach to problem solving. They are exposed to the current technological developments in the relevant area.
- Student understands the industrial culture & environment, processes & practices, and sense of responsibility.

- Student learns and develops the key skills like communication skills, problem solving, team work & leadership, punctuality, discipline, etiquettes, etc.
- Faculty members are also exposed to industry through industrial monitoring visits and training to update his / her knowledge.

3. CONCLUSION:

Industrial Training as course is now a necessity especially in diploma programs in the modern era of competition. Therefore I strongly believe that industrial training bridges the gap between higher management and shop floor workers in the organizations. I also suggest that industrial training should one of the components in the curriculum of diploma and degree program in India. At the end

**“No nation can become great or achieve prosperity without its people developing a sense of self
- discipline, social responsibility and co - operative work attitude.”**

.... Shri Swami Vivekananda

4. REFERENCE:

1. Prospectus – Institute of Diploma Studies, Nirma University of Science and Technology, Ahmedabad.