

Requirement of Academic Reforms & Enactment of Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations for Board of Technical Education, Delhi

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Abstract—Need for industrialization and economic growth of the country has led to birth of separate Directorate of Training and Technical education (DTTE) to look after technical institutions in every state. It was initially meant to organize and co-ordinate technical education activities at all levels in the state. But, with increase in the number of institutions, courses and students admitted to various diploma and certificate level courses, need to have a separate body to conduct the examination of these courses was felt. Therefore, a separate board of Technical Education (BTE) for the state of Delhi was established. BTE Delhi was constituted under the “constitution” of Board of Technical education Delhi in 1968. The BTE Committee was constituted within the directorate of Technical Education. As per literature survey done till recent past, it appears that it has no statutory basis. Board has to carry out admissions, examination etc. It appears that no steps have been taken by BTE to enforce the provisions related to admission, examination etc. Through this paper, author emphasized the need of enactment of statutes, ordinance and regulations for Board of Technical education, to eliminate the deficiency in the legal framework of BTE, Delhi.

1. INTRODUCTION

The aim of state board of technical education is to enhance the quality of technical institutions in state by way of proper regulation for affiliation, approval and examination control. The system prevailing in the board of technical education (BTE) should be of national/international standard with all modern provision required for excelling the growth of technical education in the state. BTE of any state should effectively and efficiently manage the technical education system and also ensure transparency and integrity. Actually, the BTE is a state government body meant for developing technical manpower to meet the industrial need for the growth of economy.

2. BRIEF HISTORY AND BACKGROUND FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF BTE, DELHI

B.T.E. Delhi was established in 1963-64 with the objectives of conducting Diploma/Post Diploma examinations of various streams (Engg. / occupational courses) of the students and

their certification after the declaration of result. [1] It was entrusted with the job of revising curriculum in order to keep pace with time & industrial need and grant of affiliation to the privately managed Technical Institutions and their certification.

3. MISSION AND VISION OF BTE

The mission of BTE is to ensure that the Diploma Level Technical Education constantly matches the latest requirements of Technology, Industry and Organization, including the all-round personality development of students, and to become globally competitive, technology led organization.

The vision of the BTE is to upgrade the Technical Education by focusing on the resources relevant to latest Technologies, and connecting all sections of the societies. [1]

4. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF BTE

- i. Design and develop of curricula according to requirement of Industry/Organization.
- ii. Revise the curricula of the existing programs periodically as per requirement of Industry/Organization.
- iii. Grant of affiliation to the institutions as approved by AICTE for Diploma level and the closure of Institution/course (if required) in the academic interest of students and state.
- iv. Grant of affiliation of certificate level courses under SCVT.
- v. Conduct of AICTE approved diploma level semester/annual examination and SCVT approved certificate level semester/annual examination in free and fair environment and declare the result in stipulated time.[1]

5. PREVAILING PRACTICES IN THE UNIVERSITIES FOR CONTROL OF AFFILIATION, ADMISSION, EXAMINATION ETC

The university such as Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIPU) was created through an Act of the Delhi Legislative Assembly. Under the Act, there are statutes, ordinance and regulations which elaborate the procedures and conditions of affiliation, University administration, appointment of faculty/staff etc. [2] This University was started to promote general professional and technical education with private participation to share the burden of Govt. in the field of Higher Education. The Directorate of Higher education provides grant-in-aid to the University. [3]

GGSIPU is first University established in 1998 by Govt. of NCT of Delhi under the provisions of Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University Act, 1998 read with its Amendment in 1999. It is a teaching and affiliating University. The main objective of University is to facilitate and encourage the studies, research and extension work in emerging areas of higher & technical education. The University is recognized by University Grants Commission (UGC), under section 12B of UGC Act [2].

There are elaborate structures available within the University system for the procedure being followed for grant of affiliation of new courses and programmes in GGSIPU. It further has an act for fees fixation & admission regulation related matter i.e. Delhi Act 8 of 2007[4]. Therefore, the enforcement of the Act of 2007 becomes easy, because the University already has Acts, statutes and ordinances to fill in the gaps relating to the rules framed under the Act, 2007.

In the case of diploma level institutions, the problems are compounded. As such Board of Technical Education, Delhi is not constituted by a statute. It has been created by a regulation of the Government, with approval of the Hon'ble Lt. Governor in the year 1968 and is called "the Constitution". Therefore it does not have enforceable rules for the Board affiliated institutions in matters of admission, affiliation etc [5]. Though BTE/DTTE has an act for fees fixation & admission regulation related matter i.e. Delhi Act 7 of 2007[6]. But, the enforcement of this Act becomes tough, because BTE has no Acts, statutes and ordinances to fill in the gaps for general administration of its affiliated institutions.

6. REQUIREMENT OF ACADEMIC REFORMS FOR ENACTMENT OF STATUTES, ORDINANCE AND REGULATIONS FOR BTE

In the absence of proper rules framed by the Government in consonance with the Delhi Diploma Level Technical Education Institutions (Prohibition of Capitation Fee, Regulation of Admission, Fixation of Non-Exploitative Fee and other measures to ensure Equity and Excellence) Act 2007[6], the Board of Technical Education is totally dependent on the All India Council for Technical Education

(AICTE) for approval of affiliation, regulation of admission in all dimensions which includes adding, subtracting new/existing courses in existing diploma level institutions, reduction in intake, closure of programme/course, introduction and cancellation of second shift programme, change of name of the institute and change of location of the institute etc.

In all these matters, there is a vacuum as far as the BTE and the DTTE Delhi is concerned. Though BTE has uploaded a Proforma for grant of affiliation by Board of Technical Education, Delhi to the institutions running diploma courses on its website but affiliation is being granted without any inspection for establishing the fact of submitted data by institute [7]. BTE is affiliating the diploma level institutions on the basis of AICTE approval and disaffiliating the institutions if institutions are not approved by AICTE. BTE is not recording any other observation in case of disaffiliation of any institutions other than AICTE non approval status. This action indicates that the BTE Delhi is functioning as a post office to convey the orders of AICTE relating to affiliation and de-affiliation of the diploma level Institutes.

As per the AICTE Approval Process hand book [8], institute for continuing the existing courses, for admitting any new subjects and even for a closure of a few courses need specific recommendations from Board of Technical Education and Directorate of Technical Education separately. There is a single application proforma followed by AICTE which is submitted to the Board of Technical Education and also to AICTE within a time frame prior to the commencement of the academic year. The AICTE gives a period of 15 days only to the Board of Technical Education and the Government to forward their NOCs on the application for getting/continuing affiliation. If it is not done within the specific time period, the AICTE grants provisional approval to the institute without waiting for recommendations of the Board of Technical Education or the Government. It is a fact that the Government has never exercised the right of refusing "No objection" or even suggesting any changes as per AICTE norms for increasing/ decreasing intake strength of the students, in any course in any Institute [5].

The Board of Technical Education has no provision in the rules for inspecting the private/unaided diploma institutes annually before extending provisional affiliation. In GGSIPU, for degree courses, there are Joint Assessment Committees (JAC) comprising of an Administrative Officer drawn from the rank of IAS/DANICS, two academics, at least one from outside the university and one from within the University etc. The Joint Assessment Committee records its assessment for the academic year regarding suitability of the institution to continue affiliation as per university norms. Since, this mechanism is not prevailing in the diploma level institutions, BTE and DTTE are not able to exercise any control or regulation over the private affiliated diploma level institutions.

7. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, the deficiency in the legal framework of BTE, Delhi was emphasized and government needs to come out with a methodology so that there is complete integration and clarity in the Act, Rules and Regulations of BTE. This will make fool proof and enforceable provisions for BTE activities and will be helpful for better administrative control of the Institutions affiliated to BTE Delhi.

Since, the Board of Technical Education is being administered through the regulation passed in 1968. This organization doesn't have any statutory powers and unfortunately there is no linkage between the Act of 2007 and that of regulation of 1968. It is recommended to frame a statute for Board of Technical Education governing the provisions of affiliation, maintenance of academic standards and interface with the statutory bodies governing the technical education. This will enable the BTE Delhi to take penal action against the errant institutions who deviate from the admission rules or do not fulfill the norms set for running technical courses. It is also recommended the enactment of a statute for Board of Technical Education on the lines of enactment passed by other States such as Haryana, Maharashtra etc.

It was also noticed that the private/unaided diploma level institutes are not assessed on a year to year basis before recommending its affiliation to the AICTE. Whereas, in other Universities e.g. GGSIPU, there is a structure named Joint Assessment Committee (JAC) which is presided over by an Administrative Officer of IAS/DANICS cadre, comprising of two academics selected from the university (one insider + one from other university) and another faculty serving as the Member Secretary of the Committee. It is proposed that for Diploma level institutes, the Committee may comprise of one senior Administrative officer (from IAS/DANICS) as Chairman, two senior academics from the Govt. Polytechnics and Dy. Director (Technical Education) & Controller BTE. This Committee must visit the institutes every year to take stock of the infrastructure, position of faculty, the balance sheet and income expenditure account and the academic results. The committee should come out with a comprehensive inspection report for BTE affiliation of diploma level institutions. For the inspection of the accounts, an Accounts member may be inducted in this committee.

Basically, the aim of this paper is to strengthen the prevailing system in BTE Delhi to provide access, equity, and quality technical education at affordable cost to all technocrats with transparency and accountability so as to ensure sustainable economic development of Delhi state.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author would like to thank Directorate of Training and Technical Education, Delhi for the opportunity given to him to work as Dy. Director to carry out Technical education and Staff development related work of the department.

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