Introduction

Education is conceived as a powerful agency, which is instrumental in bringing about the desired changes in the social and cultural life of nation. The whole process of education is shaped and moulded by the human personality called the teacher who plays a pivotal role in any system of education.

The Kothari Commission on Education (1964-66) has emphasized the role of school and teacher in shaping the future of the nation. The shape will undoubtedly depend on what goes in the classroom and how it goes on. This places a greater responsibility on the shoulders of the teacher as nation builders.

In the contemporary world, the teacher’s role is undergoing vast changes. Education has been envisioned as a process of all round development with a considerable emphasis on the emotional and personal spheres of the child as well.

An effective teacher must have a positive attitude towards teaching as a profession and dedication to teaching. Attitude is an important aspect in quality teaching. An attitude is an important concept to understand human behaviour. It defines outward and visible postures and human beliefs. Attitudes determine what each individual will see, hear, think and do. They are rooted in experience and do not become automatic routine conduct. Attitude means the individuals prevailing tendencies to respond favourably or unfavourably to an object, person or group of people, institutions or events. Attitudes can be positive (values) or negative (prejudice). People’s attitudes towards their profession have an effect on their performance. This case is also valid for the profession of teaching.

A teacher with a right attitude makes a lasting impact on students learning. A teacher with the right attitude puts students learning as the ultimate goal and will mix and match all the available tools and techniques to suit the teaching-learning process unique to a given subject or topic or class. Some good teachers may be born, but most of them are made, as products of a good teaching-learning process. This is because teaching is not a job but an inspired profession or passion. Even a single inspired teacher, whether at school, college or university lives a lasting impression on the minds of students, not only in terms of the knowledge and training imparted but also the values of teaching–learning and professional pride, and inspires a few students to emulate their teacher and take teaching as a profession.
Someone has rightly said, attitude creates altitude in students. The teacher’s attitude, his/her approach to life, to students and to teaching has a great deal to do with how his students will be. A positive classroom climate starts with the teacher’s attitude towards his profession and ends with a student’s attitude. Attitudes are not inborn tendencies they are the products of experiences a person encounters in his life. Attitude can be inculcated by providing conducive climate and stimulating experiences to the person. Attitude of teachers are developed during their passage of becoming teachers in their schools, colleges, university and especially in teacher training institutes. Teacher training institutions should make pain-stating efforts to equip the prospective teachers not only with teaching skills but also promotion of positive attitudes towards teaching field; as their attitude will affect their performance in the classroom.

**Significance of study**

Attitudes of an individual play an important role in determining his role performance with respect to a particular object. Attitude towards teaching can be operationally defined as the degree of positive or negative feelings of teachers towards teaching and teacher’s predisposition to act favourably or unfavourably on a scale towards various dimensions of teaching. In teaching whether a teacher is satisfied to the job or not depends to a great extent on his attitudes, values and beliefs. A positive favourable attitude makes the work not only easier but also more satisfying and professionally rewarding and teacher feels satisfied on the job. A negative unfavourable attitude makes the teaching task harder, more tedious and unpleasant and the teacher may not be satisfied on the job. Therefore attitude towards teaching must have bearing on the job satisfaction of teachers. There is a little doubt that the attitude of teachers towards teaching is of crucial importance in explaining their productivity and their job-satisfaction.

Attitude of a teacher towards teaching becomes influential in so far as children can perceive the nature of the feelings the teacher has towards them, and there are evidences to show the presence of such a perception. If a teacher has dominating and autocratic attitude, the children are likely to be aggressive or over submissive. They show little pride in their work and do not co-operate well with one another. In a classroom, where teacher has democratic and socially integrative attitude, the children feel relaxed and friendly, they work well together, and they are interested in what they are doing. A warm, sympathetic, friendly and understanding teacher is more likely to have a positive influence on students as compared to the one who is cold, unfriendly and autocratic.