

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

In the modern context physical education has been recognized as an integral part of general education. It is necessary to have basic knowledge regarding the topic education itself. Therefore, this unit deals with the vital issues concerning education and projects various facets of education as well.

### 1.1 Objectives

- (i) To create interest among the students about the foundations/ origin of education.
- (ii) Providing knowledge regarding meaning and concept of education.
- (iii) To acquaint the students about the aims and objectives of education.
- (iv) To make aware the students regarding the importance of education in modern era.

## 2.0 MEANING OF EDUCATION

### 2.1 Education-A Preview

Man is a social animal and the primary distinction from other animals is his ability to learn. He has been endowed with intelligence which enables him to modify his animal tendencies in accordance with the demands of the environment and the society. It is, however, the education which enhances his intelligence and capabilities so as to ensure proper progress in life. Education is a process which enables a man to acquire knowledge through productive attitude, which is essential for being a human.

*"Education is a process in which and by which knowledge, character and behavior of the young are shaped and moulded."*

*-Prof. Drever*

It is a constructive process leading to enlightenment and development of all the aspects of an individual's personality i.e. physical, mental, emotional, social, intellectual and spiritual. To sum up, education leads to his integrated, balanced and all-round development, making him civilized, mature and responsible member of the society possessing dynamic personality.

For a primitive man, food, shelter and clothing were his primary needs. These needs, however, increased with the progress of the society and among others education, health, recreation etc. came to be added in this growing list. These human needs can be classified into biological, sociological and psychological aspects of life, Man has made a great progress in fulfillment of all these needs and education has played a great role in this ever continuing process of evolution of man from being primitive to the present, cultured and civilized human being.

*"Education is the development of the power of adaptation to an ever changing social environment".*

*-P.C. Banerji*

*The task of education is to assist natural development towards its destined end.*

*-Froebel*

*Education is a process whereby an individual developed qualities relating to religion, knowledge and morality, and thereby established his claim to be called a human being.*

*-Comenius*

*A perfect education is one which trains up every human being to fit into the place he or she is to occupy in the social hierarchy, but without in the process, destroying his or her individuality.*

*-Aldous Huxley*

*Education is the development of all those capacities in the individual which will enable him to control his environment and fulfil his possibilities.*

*-John Dewey*

*Education is the development of the power of adaptation to an ever changing social environment.*

*-P.C. Banerji*

*The aim of education is the development of valuable personality and spiritual individuality.*

*-Rus*

*By education I mean the influence of the environment upon the individual to produce a permanent change in his habits of behaviour, of thought, and of his attitude. Education should facilitate the task of adaptation of the child to his environment.*

*-G.H. Thompson*

*Education is a process in which and by which knowledge, character and behaviour of the young are shaped and moulded.*

*-Drever*

*Education means the bringing out of the ideas of universal validity which are latent in the mind of every man.*

*-Socrates*

*The purpose of education is to develop in each individual the knowledge, interests, ideals, habits and powers whereby he will find his place, and use that place to shape both himself and society towards nobler ends.*

*-Report of the Commission on the Reorganisation of Secondary Schools, U.S.A.*

*Education is the organisation of acquired habits of such action as will fit the individual to his physical and social environment.*

*-James*