11. EVALUATION STRATEGY

11.1 INTRODUCTION

Evaluation plays an important role in the teaching-learning process. The major objective of any teaching-learning endeavor is to ensure the quality of the product which can be assessed through learner's evaluation.

The purpose of student evaluation is to determine the extent to which the general and the specific objectives of curriculum have been achieved. Student evaluation is also important from the point of view of ascertaining the quality of instructional processes and to get feedback for curriculum improvement. It helps the teachers in determining the level of appropriateness of teaching experiences provided to learners to meet their individual and professional needs. Evaluation also helps in diagnosing learning difficulties of the students.

Evaluation is of two types: Formative and Summative (Internal and External Evaluation)

Formative Evaluation

It is an on-going evaluation process. Its purpose is to provide continuous and comprehensive feedback to students and teachers concerning teaching-learning process. It provides corrective steps to be taken to account for curricular as well as co-curricular aspects.

Summative Evaluation

It is carried out at the end of a unit of instruction like topic, subject, semester or year. The main purpose of summative evaluation is to measure achievement for assigning course grades, certification of students and ascertaining accountability of instructional process. The student evaluation has to be done in a comprehensive and systematic manner since any mistake or lacuna is likely to affect the future of students.

In the present educational scenario in India, where summative evaluation plays an important role in educational process, there is a need to improve the standard of summative evaluation with a view to bring validity and reliability in the end-term examination system for achieving objectivity and efficiency in evaluation.

11.2 STUDENTS' EVALUATION AREAS

The student evaluation is carried out for the following areas:

- Theory
- Practical Work (Laboratory, Workshop, Field Exercises)
- Project Work
- Professional Industrial Training

11.2.1 Theory

Evaluation in theory aims at assessing students' understanding of concepts, principles and procedures related to a course/subject, and their ability to apply learnt principles and solve problems. The formative evaluation for theory subjects may be caused through sessional/class-tests, home-assignments, tutorial-work, seminars, and group discussions etc. For end-term evaluation of theory, the question paper may comprise of three sections.

Section-I

It should contain objective type items e.g. multiple choice, matching and completion type. Total weightage to Section-1 should be of the order of 20 percent of the total marks and no choice should be given in this section. The objective type items should be used to evaluate students' performance in knowledge, comprehension and at the most application domains only.

Section-II

It should contain short answer/completion items. The weightage to this section should be of the order of 40 percent of the total marks. Again, no choice should be given in section-II

Section-III

It may contain two to three essay type questions. Total weightage to this section should be of the order of 40 percent of the total marks. Some built-in, internal choice of about 50 percent of the questions set, can be given in this section

Table II : Suggested Weightage to be given to different ability levels

Abilities	Weightage to be assigned
Knowledge	10-30 percent
Comprehension	40-60 percent
Application	20-30 percent
Higher than application i.e. Analysis, Synthesis and Evaluation	Upto 10 percent

11.2.2 Practical Work

Evaluation of students performance in practical work (Laboratory experiments, Workshop practicals/field exercises) aims at assessing students ability to apply or practice learnt concepts, principles and procedures, manipulative skills, ability to observe and record, ability to interpret and draw conclusions and work related attitudes. Formative and summative evaluation may comprise of weightages to performance on

task, quality of product, general behaviour and it should be followed by viva-voce.

11.2.3 Project Work

The purpose of evaluation of project work is to assess students ability to apply, in an integrated manner, learnt knowledge and skills in solving real life problems, manipulative skills, ability to observe, record, creativity and communication skills. The formative and summative evaluation may comprise of weightage to nature of project, quality of product, quality of report and quality of presentation followed by viva-voce.

11.2.4 Professional Industrial Training

Evaluation of professional industrial training report and viva-voce/ presentation aims at assessing students' understanding of materials, industrial processes, practices in the industry/field and their ability to engage in activities related to problem-solving in industrial setting as well as understanding of application of learnt knowledge and skills in real life situation. The formative and summative evaluation may comprise of weightages to performance in testing, general behaviour, quality of report and presentation during viva-voce.

11.3   ASPECTS OF QUESTION PAPER SETTING

Validity and reliability are the most important considerations in the selection and construction of evaluation procedures. First and foremost are the evaluation tools to measure the specific outcomes for which they are intended to measure. Next in importance is reliability, and following that is a host of practical features that can be classified under the heading of usability.

For weightage of marks assigned to formative (internal) and summative (external) evaluation and duration of evaluation has been given in the study and evaluation scheme of the curriculum document. Teachers/Paper-setters/Examiners may use Manual for Students' Evaluation developed by National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training & Research, Sector-26, Chandigarh to bring objectivity in the evaluation system.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EFFECTIVE CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION

Teachers are educational managers at class room level and their success in achieving course level objectives lies in using course plan and their judicious execution which is very important for the success of programme by achieving its objectives.

Polytechnic teachers are required to plan various instructional experiences viz. theory lecture, expert lectures, lab/workshop practicals, guided library exercises, field visits, study tours, camps etc. In addition, they have to carry out progressive assessment of theory, assignments, library, practicals and field experiences. Teachers are also required to do all these activities within a stipulated period of 16 weeks which is made available to them.. With the amount of time to their credit, it is essential for them to use it judiciously by planning all above activities properly and ensure execution of the plan effectively.

Following is the gist of suggestions for subject teachers to carry out T-L process effectively:

1. Teachers are required to prepare a course plan, taking into account departmental academic plan, number of weeks available, course to be taught, different learning experiences required to be developed etc.

2. Teachers are required to prepare lesson plan for every theory class. This plan may comprise of content to be covered, learning material (transparencies, Video Films, Models etc.) for execution of a lesson plan. They may follow steps for preparing lesson plan e.g. drawing attention, state instructional objectives, help in recalling pre-requisite knowledge, deliver planned subject content, check desired learning outcome and reinforce learning etc.

3. Teachers are required to plan for expert lectures from field/industry. Necessary steps are to plan in advance, identify field experts, make correspondence to invite them, take necessary budgetary approval etc.

4. Teachers are required to plan for guided library exercises by identification of course specific experience requirement, setting time, assessment, etc. The tutorial, assignment and seminar can be thought of as terminal outcome of library experiences.

5. Concept and content based field visits may be planned and executed for such content of course which otherwise is abstract in nature and no other requisite resources are readily available in institute to impart them effectively.

6. There is a dire need for planning practical experiences in right perspective. These slots in a course are the avenues to use problem based learning/activity learning/ experiential learning approach effectively. The development of lab instruction sheets for the course is a good beginning to provide lab experiences effectively.

7. Planning of progressive assessment encompasses periodical assessment in a semester, preparation of proper quality question paper, assessment of answer sheets immediately and giving constructive explicit feed back to every student. It has to be planned properly; otherwise the very purpose of the same is lost.

8. The co-curricular activities like camp, social gathering, study tour, hobby club , NCC, NSS, Library studies, Civil Defence and Disaster Management etc. may be used to develop generic skills like task management, problem solving, managing self, collaborating with others etc.

9. Wherever possible, it is essential to use activity based learning rather than relying on delivery based conventional teaching all the time.

10. While imparting instructions, emphasis may be laid on the development of cognitive, psychomotor, reactive and interactive skills in the students.

11. Teachers may take working drawings from the industry/field and provide practices in reading these drawings.

12. Teachers may take initiative in establishing liaison with industries and field organizations for imparting field experiences to their students.

13. Students be made aware about issues related to ecology and environment, safety, concern for wastage of energy and other resources etc.

14. Students may be given relevant and well thought out minor and major project assignments, which are purposeful and develop practical skills. This will help students in developing creativity and confidence for their gainful employment (wage and self).

15. A Project bank may be developed by the concerned department of the polytechnics in consultation with related Industry, Research Institutes and other relevant field organizations in the state.