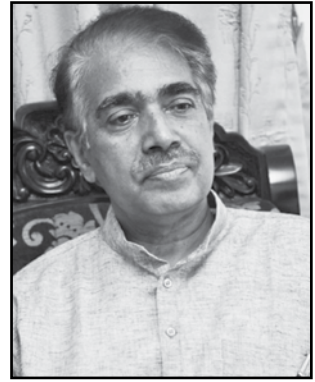EDITORIAL

Ethical Values

Some believe that Ethics and Values are embedded in the soul - "the divine self within" in the new born child. As the child grows up these will get further developed or corrupted / covered with dust and dirt depending upon how the parents are bringing up the child and the circumstances / environment in which the child grows up. Teachers during primary education have an important role in developing and reinforcing the ethics and values in a child's mind and help in the development of good character and personality. Parents and teachers through their own actions and their response to circumstances and incidents influence the child's mind and its behaviour. Some parents impart wisdom through good stories and parables with moral values. Parents, teachers, friends, elders, other people in the society, the visual and printed media and the like can also exert considerable influence. What type of influence is the question? Good to develop the *Angel* in the child or bad to develop the *Devil*. This is why it is so important that at this stage parents, teachers and all well-wishers must guide and ensure that children are in the company of good and wise people and they are told stories of role model personalities, who have upheld good values and ethics and contributed to Society and Nature. It is also important to take the children out, exploring the Nature and make them know the wonders of Nature and realise the importance of preserving Nature and Environment, so vital for sustaining life on our planet. In the ancient days of Gurukula and later periods, there was considerable emphasize in personality and character development, imparting wisdom along with education in knowledge and skills. Over the years there has been a lot of deterioration in our current education systems, particularly during primary and higher education, both parents and teachers push the children to pass examinations and score higher marks to enable them to get into good professional courses and later get better and better career prospects and salaries. As they acquire knowledge and skills in the bread winning areas, they are not given appropriate education about nature, environment, social responsibilities, honesty, integrity and humility and the like and wisdom to use their knowledge wisely without causing damage to others, environment and society. In many countries and in India the UGC and Council of Technical and Management Education and have mandated the academic institutions to provide special courses to students on environment, sustainable development and on values and ethics in their personal and

professional life. However, this is not being adhered to by all institutions with passion and commitment. There is a need for academic institutions, management and, teachers, parents and students and concerned government administrative bodies and professional bodies to emphasize and implement theoretical and experiential learning of the right use of knowledge and technology for continued progress of human civilization without endangering nature, society, environment and sustainable development.   Develop character and personality with wisdom along with skills and knowledge to enable wise thinking, planning, decisions and actions. Various governments have enacted laws, rules, and guidelines for ethical practices in general and also specific to various professions. Professional associations, industries, NGOs and the like have also prepared ethical code of conduct and professional ethics to be adhered to by professionals belonging to each type of profession. It is also necessary for the teachers of the academic institutions to become aware of this and make their students aware of where the information on these can be obtained in more detail for their own further learning and to live and to contribute as responsible citizens of the Nation, Society and the World.

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"Everyone has two eyes, but all may not have the same view. Understand and appreciate others views."