

## **Aims of Economics Teaching**

Aims are constructed to guide a process. Economics teaching is a process, so aims are constructed to guide this process. Secondly, economics teaching is a thoughtful and purposeful social process; therefore, it is essential for it to have aims. Because economics is a social science, so its aims will be proximal to social ideals. In the course of this book, we shall study some such aims.

Speaking about the aims of economics teaching, **Bining and Bining** have written : **"The aim of secondary school economics**

should be to teach modern economic principles by observation and through an understanding of current practices." Further writing about the aims of economics teaching, they say : "Pupils should be trained to apply sound economic theory to everyday life." Thus, these writers lay stress on the practical aspect of economics teaching.

Discussing the aims of economics teaching, the famous economist Marshall has written : "The aims of study of economics are to gain knowledge for its own sake and to obtain guidance in the practical conduct of life and specially in social life."

Analyzing aims of economics teaching, Prof. M.P. Moffat has mentioned the following five aims :

1. To make of boys and girls efficient consumers.
2. To acquaint them with measures to augment national income.
3. To teach them about budget.
4. To acquaint them with different economic resources.
5. To teach them how to raise their national living standard.

In the same way, Prof. C.E.M. Joad has mentioned three aims of economics teaching :

1. To enable each student to earn his living.
2. To make them successful citizens of the democratic state.
3. To enable them to be able to develop natural resources and faculties and apply them in practice.

Prof. Pegou has discussed aims of economics teaching and has said that the two chief aims of economics teaching are (1) to acquire knowledge and (2) to solve different problems of practical life.

Thus, different scholars have mentioned different aims of economics teaching. In sum, we can mention the following aims of economics teaching in brief :

**1. To Acquaint Students with the Country :** The chief aim of economics teaching is to acquaint students with economic condition of the country. They should know what are our natural resources and powers, where they are available, what is their importance in economic system of the country, how they are being exploited, how they can be developed etc. The knowledge of our country's geographical location, topographical features, mountains, forests, rivers, minerals etc. are important in our economic life, and this can be made out by economics.

Therefore, the foremost aim of economics teaching should be to acquaint students with the country.

**2. To Enable Students to Earn a Living :** Each aspect of education and teaching should possess some utility. The utility of economics is to enable students for a living. If a student fails to earn his livelihood even after having studied economics, its study would amount to as good as useless. Therefore, economics teaching should make a student capable of living his livelihood. For it, students should be taught about country's industries, means of transport, market, price etc. In other words, the chief aim of an economics teacher should be to make students efficient producers.

**3. To Make Students Efficient Consumers :** While economics teaching aims to make of students efficient producers, at the same time, it aims to make of them efficient consumers too, because in lack of this quality, they will not be able to use their income properly. Economics teaching should enable them to utilize their limited resources for maximum satisfaction. They should be trained to keep their consumption balanced.

**4. To Acquaint Students with Economic Problems :** When an individual, society or country is faced with different types of economic pros from time to time, they have to be resolved. This can be done when these problems are studied properly. Therefore, students should be taught about different economic problems, and this task can be accomplished by economics well. Therefore, an aim of economics teaching should be to acquaint students with the economic problems facing the nation and society.

**6. To Cultivate Spirit of Cooperation and Coordination :** The spirit of cooperation and coordination can be cultivated in students with the help of economics teaching well. There are several places in economics which can accomplish this task easily. There is a great need for coordinate effort for leading a life; therefore, an effort has to be made to cultivate this spirit in students.

**7. To Cultivate Economic Citizenship :** An aim of economics teaching is to cultivate economic citizenship. By it, we can acquaint students with the principles of economic citizenship, and thus cultivate in them the qualities of a good economic citizen.

**8. To Cultivate Logic and Decision-making :** Man is confronted with a number of economic problems in his life. For their

proper solution, there is need to think over their different aspects, rationally and logically, and draw adequate solutions. With this in view, economy presents different types of problems before us in order to cultivate the faculties of logic and decision-making in students.

**9. To Acquaint Economic Systems :** The study of economics can help students know about different economic systems and their principles. It can explain their natures, and how they can be applied in practical life. Thus, economics is important both theoretically as well as practically.

**10. To Cultivate Scientific Attitude :** An aim of economics teaching is to cultivate scientific attitude in students. Students become able to take suitable decisions regarding economic systems, activities, processes, policies and economic decisions after their proper analysis.

**11. To Cultivate Sense of Responsibility :** An aim of economics teaching is to cultivate sense of responsibility, so that they can undertake different economic activities with a sense of responsibility and thus effect their economic progress. To make economics teaching practical and to awaken their sense of responsibility, it is necessary that the school should give students theoretical as well as practical knowledge, which may be linked to their day-to-day life. For it, the school should hold school bank, student consumer forum, cooperative store, cooperative canteen, cooperative consumer shop etc., in which optimum cooperation and participation of students can be ensured.