UNIT – 1
PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATIONAL IMPORTANCE

Psychology, defined first in its history of evolution as the study of the soul has been known progressively as the study of the mind, study of consciousness and finally as the study of behaviour. Today, it is considered as the science of behaviour in its comprehensive meaning and covering all types of behaviour of all living organism.

Psychology is quite scientific in nature. It is a developing behavioural science which is in the process of becoming as objective, exact and accurate as possible to come on par with the developed sciences. Therefore, it is turned as a developing positive science of behaviour. It has many branches and field of study like General Psychology, Abnormal Psychology, Social Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Educational Psychology, Clinical Psychology, Industrial Psychology and so on.

Educational Psychology as one of the branches of the branches of psychology tries to study the behaviour of the learner in relation to his educational environment. Most of the definitions centre around the fact that educational psychology as a specialized branch of psychology concerned itself with suggesting ways and means of improving the processes and product of education, enabling the teachers to teach effectively and the learners to learn effectively by putting in the minimum, effort. It is thus designated as the science of education. The scope of educational psychology covers all the situation related to learning knowledge of psychology helps the teaches to develop a broader, deeper and more effective understanding of education and its processes and also needed for better serving the cause of education.

The study of behaviour in educational psychology can be made through the observation of a learner's behaviour. This observation may be carried out in various forms by employing a variety of methods like Introspection method, Observation method, Experimental method, Case History Method, Genetic method, Sociometric method, Projective method and Statistical method.