SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

Coimbatore-35.

An Autonomous Institution

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A++' Grade Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

COURSE NAME : 19GET201 PROFESSIONAL ETHICS & HUMAN VALUES

IV YEAR/ VII SEMESTER

UNIT – II ENGINEERING AS SOCIAL EXPERIMENTATION

TOPIC: A Balanced Outlook on Law

A BALANCED OUTLOOK ON LAW

The 'balanced outlook on law' in engineering practice **stresses the necessity of laws and regulations and also their limitations in directing and controlling the engineering practice.**

Laws are necessary because, people are not fully responsible by themselves and because of the competitive nature of the free enterprise, which does not encourage moral initiatives.

Laws are needed to provide a minimum level of compliance.

Ethical Responsibilities Beyond the Law:

Professional Integrity: Engineers are expected to act with integrity, which involves making decisions based on ethical principles rather than simply following the letter of the law.

Moral Courage: Sometimes, engineers may need to challenge or question laws that they believe are unjust, outdated, or harmful to public welfare. This requires moral courage and a commitment to doing what is right, even in the face of legal pressure.

Public Welfare: Engineers must prioritize the safety, health, and welfare of the public, even if this means going beyond what is legally required. This might involve adopting higher standards of safety or environmental protection than those mandated by law.

Educational Implications:

Teaching Ethics:

Engineering education should emphasize the importance of both legal knowledge and ethical reasoning. Students should be taught to navigate the interplay between law and ethics in their professional lives.

Ethical Leadership:

Engineers are often in positions where they can influence the behavior of others. By modeling a balanced approach to law and ethics, they can lead by example and encourage a culture of ethical responsibility within their organizations.

Case Study

Environmental Regulations:

In some cases, environmental laws may not fully protect ecosystems. Engineers working on projects that could impact the environment might choose to implement more stringent safeguards than those required by law, demonstrating a balanced outlook on law.

19GET201 -Professional Ethics and Human Values/Mrs.R.Poornima/ECE/SNSCT