• **Meaning of Teaching Aids**

Today's age is the age of science and technology. The teaching learning programmes have also been affected by it. Teaching aids play a key role in teaching-learning situations. It works as the support to both teacher and taught in the pursuit of knowledge and curriculum transaction. Teaching aids are the tools purposefully designed to overcome verbal deficiencies in communication in a classroom situation. Teaching aids are divided into different types as per their nature of function and usability.

The process of teaching - learning depends upon the different type of equipment available in the classroom.

• **Need of Teaching Aids**

1) Every individual has the tendency to forget. Proper use of teaching aids helps to retain more concept permanently.
2) Students can learn better when they are motivated properly through different teaching aids.
3) Teaching aids develop the proper image when the students see, hear taste and smell properly.
4) Teaching aids provide complete example for conceptual thinking.
5) The teaching aids create the environment of interest for the students.
6) Teaching aids helps to increase the vocabulary of the students.
7) Teaching aids helps the teacher to get sometime and make learning permanent.
8) Teaching aids provide direct experience to the students.
• **Types of Teaching Aids**

There are many aids available these days. We may classify these aids as follows-

1. Visual Aids
2. Audio Aids
3. Audio-Visual Aids

1) **Visual Aids**

The aids which use sense of vision are called Visual aids. For example: actual objects, models, pictures, charts, maps, flash cards, flannel board, bulletin board, chalkboard, overhead projector, slides etc. Out of these black board and chalk are the commonest ones.

2) **Audio Aids**

The aids that involve the sense of hearing are called Audio aids. For example: radio, tape recorder, gramophone etc.

3) **Audio-Visual Aids**

The aids which involve the sense of vision as well as hearing are called Audio-Visual aids. For example: television, film projector, film strips etc.

[ 4. **Activity aids:** These aids induce direct participation of students and teachers to get first hand knowledge. These are:-

(i) Tours, Excursion, field trips. (ii) Collection of specimens, models, pictures, coins etc. (iii) Preparation of models, charts, puppets etc. (iv) Dramatics, Demonstration.]

• **Importance of Teaching aids**

Teaching aids play an very important role in Teaching-Learning process. Importance of Teaching aids are as follows:

1) **Motivation**

Teaching aids motivate the students so that they can learn better.
2) **Clarification**
Through teaching aids, the teacher clarify the subject matter more easily.

3) **Discouragement of Cramming**
Teaching aids can facilitate the proper understanding to the students which discourage the act of cramming.

4) **Increase the Vocabulary**
Teaching aids helps to increase the vocabulary of the students more effectively.

5) **Saves Time and Money**

6) **Classroom Live and active**
Teaching aids make the classroom live and active.

7) **Avoids Dullness**

8) **Direct Experience**
Teaching aids provide direct experience to the students.