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ROLE OF ICT IN DISTANCE EDUCATION IN INDIA



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Short Profile

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ABSTRACT:

Open Universities over the world are grasping ICT based showing and learning procedure to scatter quality instruction to their learners spread over the globe. In India accessibility and access of ICT and learner qualities are uneven and change from state to state. Henceforth it is essential to build up the certainties about ICT access among learners, their ICT utilization designs and their preparation to

utilize ICT for instructive reason. In perspective of this, a study was directed with the goal to discover the entrance level of ICT among separation learners. The investigation shows that greatest learners have desktop/portable PCs and the majority of them are getting to web as often as possible from their home. The examination additionally demonstrates that most extreme respondents are perusing long range interpersonal communication locales took after by instructive and email administration giving sites. Discoveries recommend that there is a need to create ICT based instructional exercises supplemented with long range interpersonal communication devices and portable applications. Study likewise demonstrates that learners are outfitted with cell telephones and they are skimming web through it furthermore profiting bolster administrations offered by the college. Thus probability of coordinating cell telephone administrations may be utilized for giving learner bolster administrations and substance conveyance.

KEYWORDS

Technology Uses in Education, Open Universities, ICT, distance education, social media, ICT accessibility, mobile Learning.

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INTRODUCTION :

Data and Communication Technology (ICT) has been assuming a noteworthy part in reforming advanced education all in all and Open and Distance Learning (ODL) specifically. ODL has been fathomed as an institutional sort of showing learning framework where learner is isolated from educator and additionally companion bunch. They have either no or rare communication among themselves and with coach (IGNOU, 2009). This situation makes an inclination of segregation among learners. In such a circumstance the utilization of ICT assumes an essential part by crossing over any barrier between learners with educators and associates.

ICT has fundamentally affected society and training in the most recent two decades. With the progression in ICT and its expanding availability, learners' group is currently moving towards computerized learning. All the more as of late the second era of web instruments; known as Web 2.0 apparatuses have developed which are changing nature and presenting fresher conceivable outcomes for training (Mc Carroll and Curran 2013). Exploration demonstrates that ICT empowered instruction has a positive effect on educators and learners (Christensen 2002); (Marshall and Cox, 2008). ICT additionally offers ascend to new computerized abilities and capability that are required for business, training and preparing, self-advancement and support in the general public. ICT assumes a key part to ideally use the human capital and potential in the general public. With the utilization of offbeat and synchronous specialized apparatuses, ICT has engaged the learner group more than ever. Messages, email bunches, online gatherings, webinars and web conferencing have made the learning process extremely adaptable, where learners can learn at whatever time, anyplace at their own pace. Learners can now be dynamic members in the development they could call their own learning encounters. Long range interpersonal communication (SN) advances like online journals, wikis, media-sharing administrations, mashups and synergistic altering instruments are saddling the "aggregate insight" of understudies and educators, advancing cooperation and the sharing of learning (Mason & Rennie, 2008). The sites like Facebook/Twitter/YouTube/Blogger and so forth can be utilized as a potential mode for conveying the supplementary course material and reiteration of the showing learning procedure (Muñoz and Towner 2009), (Griffith and Liyanage 2008). SN locales have empowered learners to associate with one another by intersection topographical boundaries and giving additionally learning open doors. It has accordingly given the inclination of distributed connectedness and learning group which can make companions, offer backing to each other, trade data and furnish recommendations to manage scholarly issues (Hsu and Wang, 2011). Exploration has shown that SN destinations encourage in creating feeling of social connectedness when utilized as a supplementary apparatus as a part of showing learning procedure. SN destinations opened up a worldwide stage for learners to meet up and examine among them and gain from shared communication. Not just this, SN apparatuses have additionally urged learners to well-spoken conclusions and have contributed towards enhancing their learning encounters. It is the data sharing component and intelligent usefulness of SN locales which is important to training particularly to separation instruction (Hung and Yuen, 2010). There has been an impressive enthusiasm for the utilization of portable innovation in instruction, despite the fact that the innovation is as yet developing (Eschenbrenner and Nah, 2007); (Ally, 2013). The worldwide acknowledgement of portable processing advances for learning is because of perpetual network, minimization and versatility of the gadget (Hsu and Ching, 2013). In this manner it can be a promising apparatus to indulge the extensive number of learners in ODL framework. As

advanced mobile phones and tablets turn out to be more easy to use and capable, they will have a tendency to supplant desktop, tablet and journal. It is assessed that the quantity of advanced cells and tablets sold in 2016 will be 1.34 billion and 384 million individually (Faille and Morrison, 2013). This exhibits an open door for teachers to bridle this eagerness for innovation and use these assets inside of an instructive structure.

In growing and also created nations, separation training has increased huge noteworthiness. Strategy creators over the world perceive the capability of separation instruction to accomplish get to, value and achieve in training. Separation training being a more adaptable and financially savvy choice has risen as a considerable option of advanced education in numerous creating nations. While one must concede that the conventional instruction framework has assumed an imperative part in growing training, especially in urban zones, one must likewise acknowledge its restrictions as a method for mass instruction, and particularly quality training for rustic regions.

New innovations can help convey instruction from the world's best sources to all the individuals who need training regardless of age, sex, doctrine, religion and financial status. Developments in data and correspondence innovation (ICT) have assumed an essential part in separation training particularly to enhance quality and extend its range. Through the utilization of new correspondence advances, instruction has been stretched out to expansive groups of onlookers particularly in rustic and remote ranges, with colossal adaptability in topic and areas served .

DISTANCE EDUCATION IN INDIA

In spite of the fact that the Indian training framework is the world's greatest, the nation additionally has the biggest number of unskilled individuals. Separation training displays a noteworthy option in connecting with them. Right now, separate training in advanced education contributes around 24 percent of the aggregate enrolment. The Indian Government has driven arrangements of expanding this to 40 percent by 2012.

India has stand out focal Open University, the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU). Every state additionally has a state Open University set up by the neighborhood state government. Despite this and because of the need of instructing a tremendous populace, numerous private, unhelped separation training suppliers have mushroomed in all sides of the nation. An absence of legitimate administrative structures for separation training has brought about sketchy quality and validity of such separation instruction programs. It is in this connection that the Symbiosis Center for Distance Learning (SCDL) was set up in 2001 to give quality instruction through the open and separation mode to understudies from India and different nations.

SCDL caters essentially to advanced education and has increased colossal notoriety attributable to its quest for greatness in separation instruction. Today, it has more than 200,000 dynamic understudies from India and more than 40 unique nations including the United States, United Kingdom and the Middle East.

The requirement for ICTs in essential training is vital as it makes instructive open doors on a wide scale for those understudies why should not able manage the cost of customary classroom showing modules because of expense inadequacy, instructor inaccessibility, and some different components.

In this regard, the Information Communication Technology assumes a much more extensive part alongside instruction modules, for example, the separation learning projects and training

endeavors for understudies not able to study in colleges of their decision, which were prior impractical. Since the presentation of long separation programs in 1950s, numerous colleges in creating countries give separation training plans and give free courseware content through print media, TV, and varying media substance, particularly for essential and advanced education understudies.

oday, these separation learning projects have now been giving course materials in separation educator preparing establishments. Prominent illustrations of a few Universities giving separation programs on the planet incorporate Mexico's Telesecundaria, China's Central Radio and TV University, Indonesia's Universities Terbuka, and India's Indira Gandhi National Open University. In any case they get a great many applications consistently and give a large number of instructive substance to the understudies, yet projects like these incapacitate the capacities of an instructor – understudy vis-à-vis association, empowering understudies with no chance to associate with the educator or the kindred understudies. This low intelligent session makes low fulfillment rates of projects or courses consequently unfavorably influencing the development of separation instruction plans.

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Web today gives a more intelligent model of separation learning, despite the fact that it must supplant the more established strategies for correspondence with the new developing social networking stages like Skype and YouTube. Not along numerous understudies were seen celebrating on the free accessibility of gigantic open online courses (MOOCs), in organization with level one American colleges and some privately owned businesses. Such courses include open and free enrolment, and give feature addresses, alongside electronically evaluated assignments and online dialog discussion where understudies can ask questions, illuminate or examine the subject openly. MOOC stages are furnished with the capacity to store huge measure of information on understudy engagement , execution, trailed by their investigation and understudy criticism which won't just help in accomplishing the understudy educator cooperation additionally will improve the courseware. MOOCs are a late improvement that came into the business sector to help understudies in training, in spite of the fact that they have gotten an enormous consideration alongside vast capital speculation particularly in advanced education segments in countries, for example, United States and Europe, however the comparable reaction in the creating countries is hard to say. Despite the fact that an extensive number of understudies who selected at the outset were from Asia and South America at the same time, the achievement of this model will be measured just on the off chance that it is broadly acknowledgement .

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speculation particularly in advanced education parts in countries, for example, United States and Europe, however the comparative reaction in the creating countries is hard to say. In spite of the fact that an expansive number of understudies who enlisted initially were from Asia and South America however, the accomplishment of this model will be measured just on the off chance that it is broadly acknowledged uncommonly in the creating scene, where instruction costs more than a living for an individual; Many profound established inquiries and undesirable extreme difficulties will concern the powers and the understudies applying, on a long run.

DISCUSSION

There are various issues and unanswered inquiries encompassing the significance and part of ICTs in separation instruction particularly for understudies of the creating scene. The rundown is vast and comprehensive.

Traditional distance learning education methods Vs ICTs

Numerous specialists will concur the need of Internet innovations to extend compass of instruction among understudies is an unquestionable requirement, hence there is most likely web advances are the most appropriate practical system to effort the instructive projects, thus the past training instrument will be universally supplanted. As talked about above, numerous colleges in Asia and Latin America have vast scale separation learning projects which totally depend on radio, print and TV. However projects concentrating on Internet use give more prominent dormancy, along these lines making a feeling of disappointment among the understudies, instructors and all inclusive effecting the separation programs as radio and TV are more in creating countries instead of normal web integration.

Numerous under creating countries, for example, countries in the sub-Saharan Africa, do not have the all around created separation learning foundation, subsequently interest in ICT is considered as a "danger taking" playing field which numerous Information Communication organizations evade to enter. Web access is hardly accessible in the area, particularly the understudies looking for instruction in poorest regions, gets courseware in any accessible configuration, which conveys test to this issue. Therefore growing the instructive substance ought to be tended to extensively through different bolster systems. As it is just not a specialized determination, it is additionally influencing the populace of some poorest countries socially and monetarily, where expense of training is higher than typical cost for basic items. Henceforth an expression of alert, the online instructive training innovations gives simple get to additionally makes another test in the improvement.

As the national training frameworks in a percentage of the creating countries not able to put resources into ICTs and instructive components, understudies who have the entrance to web innovations utilize this globalized web access mediums in courses planned by colleges, privately owned businesses, and NGOs. Presently, understudies regardless of their partners examining in choice colleges like Stanford and MIT, can now get to the courseware from anyplace on the planet, on the web. Despite the fact that an inquiry emerges, whether the understudies living in the underdeveloped countries comprehend the method for teachings by the teachers from the west. Social particular learning process and various needs of understudies from the creating scene will make trouble in comprehension the not really particularly composed courseware. It is not so much genuine that

understudies from the South Asian countries, for example, Philippines and Sri Lanka, with poor essential and advanced education

Despite the fact that an inquiry emerges, whether the understudies living in the underdeveloped countries comprehend the method for teachings by the teachers from the west. Social particular learning process and assorted needs of understudies from the creating scene will make trouble in comprehension the not really particularly outlined courseware. It is not so much genuine that understudies from the South Asian countries, for example, Philippines and Sri Lanka, with poor essential and advanced education strategies will comprehend the courseware planned by instructors with magnificent know hows from Harvard or Cambridge.

Consequently, I accept that United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development ought to investigate the circumstances of understudies particularly in the Asian and African locales. Consequently, the utilization of ICTs ought to be considered for all intents and purposes before planning any courseware, and how these advances can give a far reaching and intelligent instruction programs for the understudies profiting them in making their future secure, is imperative.

Use of ICTs in Primary, Secondary and Higher education

Separation instruction regardless to innovation needs, gets huge enrolment particularly in auxiliary and advanced education, where understudies have the fundamental know how of essential aptitudes and have get to be self proficient and fit for internet learning. The separation learning projects are likewise broadly accessible in specific orders like science and designing, where instructors are lacking in supply in worldwide, national and territorial limit. However most interest in separation training has been recorded in the larger amount, the developing interest of MOOCs being an able illustration.

Henceforth the requirement for expansive scale, practical extension of instructive open door in essential and in addition auxiliary training gives separation instruction programs the capacity to make variation element learning techniques and advances e-learning means. With the modernization in innovation new means, for example, instruction tablets, gives the understudies much more youthful and unskilled, to join this virtual classroom. Albeit some NGOs have tested this procedure by appropriating hand held instructive gadgets to kids, examination pointed that ICT empowered learning at both essential and auxiliary level was best in a mixed or crossover methodology where educators were prepared to conquer the customary classroom model . However the requirement for instruction for underprivileged youngsters in countries like Philippines and Sudan will engage the advancement in instructive procedures which will one day lessen the conventional preparing systems.

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conventional preparing systems.

Henceforth, I accept that the United Nations Commission Science, Technology and Development will consider the utilization of ICTs in instructive projects and will one day defeat the difficulties confronted in essential, auxiliary, and advanced education in the creating scene.

In India, ODL arrangement of advanced education is around 30 years of age. At present, ODL framework in India comprises of Open Universities (OUs), Institutions and Universities offering separation training furthermore incorporates Correspondence Course Institutes (CCIs) in customary double mode colleges ("Overview," 2012). Among the OUs in India, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) is the biggest and driving OU, which likewise falls in the class Mega University. IGNOU is coddling more than two million understudies in India and abroad. IGNOU has embraced different ICT apparatuses, for example, radio, TV, Teleconferencing (TC) smaller circles (CDs) and online substance to pander to understudies (VC Report, 2013); (<http://www.ignou.ac.in>). India is a creating nation and accessibility and access of ICT are uneven and fluctuate state to state. Likewise the expense of ICT and its gadgets are high and still a test for individuals to utilize it frequently particularly for their study reason. More than the accessibility of these innovations, issues, for example, topographical area, absence of learning and aptitudes to utilize ICT, and money related requirements are real contemplations in choosing what ICT to utilize and in what mix (IGNOU, 2010). It is accordingly vital to build up the truths about ICT access among learners, their ICT use designs and their status to utilize ICT for instructive reason.

CONCLUSION

The greater part of the learners were outfitted with one or more PC gadgets; subsequently ICT base is not an issue for them. They are digitally educated and in a state of harmony with the up and coming advances. Learners have slant towards utilizing web based applications like email, downloading Audio/Video, as opposed to applications like word handling, spreadsheet and presentations which needn't bother with any web integration. Comparable finding were likewise reported by Khan et al., 2011. Respondents effectively utilized long range informal communication and instructive sites for interfacing with individuals and social occasion data. This overview additionally showed that dominant part (80 %of)the respondents were beneath 30 years old. It is imperative to coddle this vast number of learners' populace through ICT based quality instructive chances to draw in more learners and get by in the worldwide rivalry. Consequently, there is a need to create ICT based instructional exercises and supplement them with social networking apparatuses for learning and instructing procedure.

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