INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY:

A Changing Agent of Quality Education

Editors

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However, for effective implementation of student faculty interaction class students be able to change their traditional passive mind set towards an active learning orientation and teachers to develop democratic temperament facilitating redesign of teaching methods.

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17.

USE OF ICT IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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1. Introduction:

ICT stends for "Information Communication & Technology" it refers to technologies that provide access to information through telecommunication. It is similar to Information Technology but focuses primarily on communication technologies. This includes the internet, WIFT, cellphones and other communication mediums. It means we have more opportunities to use ICT in higher education.

So, ICT is a force that has changed many aspects of the way we live. The impact of ICT across the past two or three decades has been enormous. But when one looks at education, there seems to have been an uncanny lack of influence and far less change than other fields have experienced.

There have been a number of factors impeding the wholesale uptake of ICT in education across all sectors.

ICT acts as a powerful agent to change many of the educational practices to which we have become accustomed.

2. Definition of ICT:

According to UNESCO: ICT is a scientific, technological and engineering discipline and management technique used in handling information, its application and association with social, economic and cultural matters."

Teacher is the main part of the educational field in our society, ICTs are making dynamic changes in society. They are influencing all aspects of life.

Operational definition of terms information communication and technology (ICT) refers to the computer and internet connections used to handle and communicate information for learning purpose.

According to information technology association of America (ITAA) ICT is, " the study design development, implementation, support or management of computer based formation systems, particularly software. Software applications computer hardware"

3. Challenges of ICT in Higher Education:

First is the high cost of acquiring installing, operating, maintaining and replacing ICTs.

The four most common mistakes in introducing ICT into teaching are.

1) Installing learning technology without reviewing student need and content availability.
2) Imposing technological system from the top down without involving faculty and students.
3) Using in appropriate content from other regions of the world without customizing it appropriately.
4) Producing low quality content that has pror instructional design and is not adopted to the technology in use.

The other challenge faced is that in many colleges the basic requirement of electricity and telephone networks is not available. Alsomany colleges do not have proper rooms or buildings so as to accommodate the technology.

4. UNESCO principles on ICT in education:

1) Old and new technologies need to be used in a balanced way on the air and off the air radio / radio. Cassetle, television and offline video assisted technologies are still considered valid and cost-effective modes of education delivery as important as more intrachive computer, internet based virtual education or online distance learing.
2) Meeting the international education goal by 2015 will require huge investments teacher training institutions.
3) The demand for higher education cannot be met in both the developed and developing world without distance or virtual modes of learning.
4) Vocational training needs cannot be met without virtual classes, virtual laboratories etc.
5) Educational goals cannot be met without gender sensitivity wherever possible; the proposed indicators will address the need to measure the gender gap.

5. ICT developments in India:

Telecommunication networks form an integrate part of access, communication and transmission of information without which information dissemination cannot be achieved. In Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is responsible for providing and maintaining national telecommunication facilities and the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL) are responsible for providing and maintaining international telecommunication facilities. Reliance Jio is also providing network facilities on private basis. After allowing private sector entrance to the ICT sector in India, lots of ISPPS, mobile phone service etc, appeared with a commutative edge and improved quality.

India has been able to achieve a modest success in making computer networks of national. Few networks still remain in the planning stage. The general data communication networks in India are INDONET, NICNET, GPSS, RABMN, I-NET and ERNET and some specialized library and information networks are INFLIBNET, BTISET, ADINET, BONET, MANLIBNET, CALIBNET, MLIBNET, MYLIBNET& DFLNET. In India several information system have been developed during the last two decades, viz, NISCAIR, Defense Scientific Information and Documentations Centre (DESIDOC). The national social science documentation center (NASSDOC) , the Environmental Information system (ENVIS) and the Biotechnology Information System (BIS).

6. ICT tools in higher educations:

Many ICT tools are available in the modern world that can be used to create and disseminate knowledge. Tools include radio, TV, Internet, Mobile Phones, Computers, Laptops, Tablets and many other hardware and software applications contain ICT tools such as laptops, Mobile phones and PDAS, have implications for education. These devices can be used to provide education and training for teachers and students most ICT tools are exaggerated, but until now they did not go well. Teachers can use ICT tools to take advantage of the use of these tools in content, curriculum, training and assessment.

7. <u>ICT Advantage in higher educations:</u>

After knowing real facts ICT entire slobeacapted the use and implementation of ICT in higher education.

For daily use in our life we are using ICT for.

- Gathering information
- Categorizing and consolidating
- Summarizing and combining
- Examining and assessing
- Speculating and forecasting

<u>The main advantages of ICT in education.</u>

1) Enables students to learn round the clock. Affords coaching to the requirements / necessity of the student.
2) Provides educational activities in geographic areas larger.
3) Empowers effective education.
4) Deliver instructions according to the student necessities.
5) Oftens educational activities covering large geographical areas.
6) Boost the individual learning habit.

ICT lead and innovation of open Eductional Resource (OER) which enables storing and reuse of information materials among the student and teacher.

Conclusion:

By using ICT in education have a positive impact on teaching, learning & research, ICT can affect the delivery of education and enable wider access to the same. In addition, it will increase flexibility so that learners can access the education regardless of time and geographical barriers in the 21st century.

ICT can faster better teaching and improved academic achievement of students. The overall literature suggests that successful ICT integration in higher education in 21st century. The quality of education through awareness among ICT and stakeholders will positively influence society. ICT can help with the quality and standards of education by implementing it at different stages of education.

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