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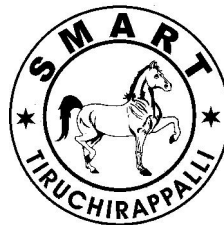
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CHANGING DYNAMICS IN EDUCATION SYSTEM

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Abstract

The society is highly networked to create knowledge- intensive environment to efficiently create, share, use and protect knowledge. The medium for transformation to develop India is empowerment through the power of knowledge. Colleges and universities around the country are scrambling to keep pace with innovations in technology, to flaunt their abilities as cutting-edge research institutions. New tools brought into the classroom offer new opportunities to improve the education process. Each new technique aims to revolutionize the learning process. Educational Institutions are gearing up to provide the information networks to give students access to the digital resources.

Introduction

Educational institutions are vested with tremendous responsibility to transform a youth into a leader by imparting value based education which demands educationists and teachers to be visionaries with an inspiring capability. Educational system should realign itself in order to meet the challenges and be fully geared to participate in the societal transformation.

Educated people are the important strategic resources. Reaching out to the youth with quality education to deal with life effectively is the ultimate goal of education. The purpose of education is to develop and enhance the potential of human resource and progressively transform them into a knowledge society.

Educational institutions have much to contribute and benefit from the vantage point of information technology for today's society. Medium of transformation is empowerment through the power of knowledge. Internet revolution has become a powerful tool for a good educational system. Applying innovative methods of teaching- learning process is a matter of concern and priority to improve the quality of education.

Rapid Changes in the Educational Context

In the context of changing external environment, the challenge that institutions face is the rising expectation. To continuously improve the quality of academics, the process of academic excellence must aspire not only to nurture the competencies of students, but also incorporate external experience relevant to the changing external environment. The rapid transformation in the global economy and technology demands that education generates and transmits a fit between up-to-date knowledge and evolving information. Needless to add, education must also address the social and economic imbalances that the emerging global society entails. The academic policies, practices and performances must reflect an educational philosophy that is not restricted by the course or limited to the classroom but one that creates pathway for maximizing individual potentials relevant beyond the campus. In short, our education must aim at producing students with higher levels of intellectual competence as well as deep commitment to values of equity and justice.

Technology Driven

Driven by the internet revolution and the demand for computer literacy skills, computational media are playing an increasing role in education from pre-school through life long learning. Adaptation of existing technology and design of new digital document technology should be undertaken with an understanding of the role these technologies can play in the effective, cognitive and social process of learning and with sensitivity to the subcultures of communities expected to adopt them.

The most persistent topic related to the role of digital document technologies in education includes

- Changing the structure and delivery of education
- Information and knowledge acquisition
- Development of critical thinking skills
- Addressing different learning styles and difficulties
- Ethics of use
- Cognitive, social and political cost

Knowledge Packaging

In 1984, University Grants Commission took up the initiative of packing knowledge into video form to support and supplement face-to-face and self paced learning. To develop education programme in a video form, 17 Education Media Research Centers (EMRC) were established. Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC), an inter university centre of UGC, was set up to co-ordinate media centers.

EDUSAT

Educational Satellite (EDUSAT) is the first Indian Satellite designed and developed exclusively for serving the educational sector. It is mainly intended to meet the demand for an interactive, satellite-based, distance

education. It strongly reflects India's commitment to use space technology for national development, especially for the development of the population through education in remote and rural location.

EDUSAT is a collaborative project of Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). EDUSAT will be implemented through following institutions

- Indira Gandhi National Open University
- All India Council of Technical Education
- Indian Council of Agricultural Research
- National Council of Educational Research and Training
- University Grants Commission

Due to the development in technology, UGC and CEC took up the initiative for a web based learning resource. Web based educational programme in text and visual form, with the support of multimedia inputs in the form of e-content, is to be developed. Upgrading of EMRC into EMMRC (Educational Multimedia Research Centre) was designed to realize this objective.

E-Content Development

E-content generation requires teamwork of content providers, industrial designers, multimedia experts and webmasters. For an effective and optimum development of both textual and visual e-content material, certain guidelines need to be followed. An integral part of e-content should contain the following

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| a) Objectives | Description about the desired learning outcome |
| b) Module | Dividing content into sections |
| c) Summary | Simple outline of the concept covered in the module |
| d) Assignment | To provide information to the learner to understand the concepts |

- e) Case study Problem based on the concepts covered in the module
- f) Quiz Multiple choice questions to check the understanding of the student.
- g) Discussion A peer to peer discussion forum to sustain the interest through participation
- h) FAQ's Questions with answers of certain important aspects of the subject
- i) Glossary List of explanation for the important phrases or words used
- j) Reference To inform the learners, where to look for extra reading material
- k) Feedback Seeking opinion regarding material and subject studied

Virtual Class

Virtual class is a convergence of three traditional modes of learning i.e distance education, open learning and on-campus face-to-face learning through technology. Virtual class requires content manager and smart personal mentor with the following resources

- § Electronic Book
- § Simulated Lectures
- § Online Tutorials

Multi Dimensional Role

Teachers must be committed to their profession and work in the interest of the students. To fully implement the aims and

objectives of the curriculum effectively, the teacher needs to employ strategies that will deliver to the students a quality of teaching that will meet the various levels of learning capacities and cater to individual differences. There is an inevitable shift from the traditional role of teachers to a multi-dimensional role as a guide, facilitator, mentor, creative thinker and instructor.

Conclusion

Teachers are encouraged to experiment and adopt a variety of innovative learner -centered, pedagogical teaching and learning approaches in order to evolve alternatives to the traditional methods of lectures that will make the classrooms engaging and enjoyable. Enhancing students' learning by integration of intellectual, social and emotional learning will enable teachers to focus on the holistic development of students.

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