



ISSN Print: 2394-7500
ISSN Online: 2394-5869
Impact Factor: 5.2
IJAR 2019; SP4: 83-85

Sunita Rani
Assistant Professor,
Satyam college of Education
Ghall Kalan, Moga, Punjab,
India

(Special Issue- 4)
One Day National Seminar
“DIGITALIZATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION”
(2nd March, 2019)

Digital education in India

Sunita Rani

Abstract

Education system of India is one of the largest education system and India is known for this. The number of schools, colleges and universities is so big that no one can question the top class education. We have around 1.4 million schools, 35,500 colleges, and 600 universities; still our graduate's employment rate is inadequate. This inadequacy of our graduate employability shows the lack of educational infrastructure. To improve the infrastructure, start online education system. When it comes to online learning in education, the model has been pretty straightforward - up until the early 2000s education was in a classroom of students with a teacher who led the process. Physical presence was a no brainer, and any other type of learning was questionable at best. Then the internet happened, and the rest is history. E-learning is a rapidly growing industry, the effects of which we can trace back to the 1980s and even well before that (in the form of distance learning and televised courses). Now that affordable e-learning solutions exist for both computers and internet, it only takes a good e-learning tool for education to be facilitated from virtually anywhere.

Keywords: Digital education, educational infrastructure

Introduction

In globalisation of education, education in India is no longer just a teacher talking to a bunch of students in a classroom. With more than 370 million internet users and hundreds of local as well as global business tycoons willing to invest in the future of education, online education in India has picked up pace. In fact, the e-learning market in the country is estimated to be worth more than \$3 billion. India is now the third largest online market for education in the world. This enables people to take better advantage of the resources available online. We have more than 1 million registered schools and 18,000 higher education institutions. However, 4 percent of children never start school, 58 percent don't complete primary schools, 90 percent don't complete secondary school and only 10 percent go on to college. What is going to happen to the 90 percent? This is where start-ups like many academies enter the market with meticulously curate content, even in Indian languages, based on NCERT textbooks. In fact, online education helps people get access to a world-class learning experience when traditional higher education is simply not possible due to financial or personal constraints. With hi-tech network and multimedia, the education sector has emerged to be one of the fast emerging fields. With the use of technology in education sector, there is a major change in the teaching and learning methods, styles, and content across many schools in India. Today, cloud technology is being explored by students, wherein they can easily submit and review their assignment regularly. With the inclusion of these facilities in a digital learning environment, the classroom becomes much more comfortable and welcoming to students. Alumni from respected business schools like IIT, Wharton, and UCLA also participated in this education revolution with their own venture called Slide Rule, through which they claim to help people discover the best online courses available in every subject.

Correspondence
Sunita Rani
Assistant Professor,
Satyam college of Education
Ghall Kalan, Moga, Punjab,
India

Basic difference between digital education and the class room education

Those days when classroom training was restricted to textbook learning, teachers using the blackboard to explain things and students writing down notes in copies. The traditional teacher-centred methods of teaching and task-based approaches to learning focused more on making notes and memorization. However, it's no more chalk and talk in most schools. Classroom teaching has become more and more interactive nowadays with the use of digital methods such as PPTs, video presentations, e-learning methods, practical demos, online training and other digital methods or platforms.

Future trends in the education sector

Growing trend of Digital classroom/Flipped Class rooms

Technology is leading to a revolution in the way we learn. It is helping solve the problems of scale, quality of education, and learnability of the student. Teachers can now reach the full classroom through digital screens, enabling each child to get the same base content. Student engagement is higher as it combines various instructional styles. And each student gets exposure to world-class education, something that was just not available in a chalk and talk approach.

Learning on the go

On the self-learning front, we believe that it is still nascent stage due to lot more school involvement of the child (typical student reaches home only at 2:30pm) and over reliance on neighbourhood tuition centre. However, trend here we are observing is desire to have proper evaluation of the child by parents to help him in specific areas. Therefore, I believe that new trend here will be personalized learning based on rocket science level evaluation state machine.

Learning at the speed of need

Today, due to hi-tech network and multimedia, the education sector has emerged as a fast developing field. Another prominent result of the use of technology in education is that there is an extensive change in the teaching and learning methods, styles, and content across many schools in India. Today, students use a unique form of technology called cloud technology wherein they can easily submit and review their assignment regularly. When a school includes such facilities in a digital learning environment, the classroom becomes much more comfortable and welcoming to students. The aim of a teacher however should be to create such an atmosphere which makes every student want to study. Moreover, considering that the young students today are usually surrounded by computers, iPads and mobiles, bringing the same technology into the classrooms makes them feel easy and acquainted.

Video based learning

Video-based learning makes education engaging, entertaining and exploring. The interactive preface of this segment ignites learning with a pedigree of learning out of leisure with creativity, fun and entertainment on cards via the wonderful Apps, podcasts, videos, interactive software, e-books and online interactive electronic boards. Children are excited and operative with interest to manage the showcase via their intelligence, exploring the weak techno skills of teachers and assist them in public with pride and

honour and recognition. Now the classes are student-friendly, student-operated and info-packed.

Popularity of online courses – MOOCS & Other distant learning programs

Talking about the popularity of MOOCs in India, India is the second biggest market for MOOCs in the world, after the USA. It is however expected that India in the coming years will supersede the USA. Our country has the second largest population in the world after China and is the third in terms of university enrolment worldwide. Respectively, the USA and China are first and second for university enrolment at the moment but this may soon change. MOOCs have opened the gateways for a lot of Indians in terms of being part of an educational revolution. It gives a great opportunity to avail high quality learning with the help of internet connectivity. Two foremost reasons as to why MOOCs is a good idea in India is millions of Indians live in poverty and are unable to afford or gain access to a higher education and secondly there are more applicants than seats in the Indian Universities.

Game based learning is creating a buzz in the K12 sector

Game based learning creates an environment where the learners easily relate themselves to and get involved. The world we have today is cultivating children who are more than just well aware of both the developments in their surroundings and their skills and abilities. Transforming the k-12 sector, game based learning undoubtedly will revolutionize the education world products and give us a better self-trained generation. In schools, programme learning take place to make learning more motivated.

How does digital education benefit the child?

- **Interactive:** With digital education, classroom teachings have become more fun and interactive. Children tend to be more attentive. They are not only listening but also viewing it on the screen which makes their learning all the more effective. Here, sounds and visuals go hand-in-hand which is easy for the child to grasp.
- **Attention to details:** Interactive Online presentations or practical sessions in educational content through interactive screen time help the students to pay more attention to details which enable them to complete their activities on their own.
- **Quick completion:** Using tabs, laptops or notepads, instead of pens and pencils, motivates children to complete their tasks quickly.
- **Vocabulary:** Active online screen time helps students develop language skills. By reading eBooks or accessing study materials online, they learn new words and expand their vocabulary.
- **Learn at his pace:** Many a times, a student hesitates to ask a question to his teacher in classroom training. But with digital education, even if he does not understand anything at one go, he can attend the recorded sessions to clear his doubts. Technology enables a student to learn at his own pace.

- **User-friendly:** The best thing about digital education is that it is user-friendly. You can very well access your curriculum wherever you are. You can learn on the go. Even if you miss certain classes, you can access the class notes and download files from the school website.
 - **Learn on his own:** Also, nowadays, online study materials are easily available. Even if the entire education system is not digitalized, yet students can leverage the power of digital content depending upon their capabilities. So students, can access exclusive online study modules of various subjects, which help them to enhance their knowledge even without a teacher.
 - **External Guidance:** With online education, students can even further connect with distant counsellors and faculty to seek guidance or resolve queries.
3. Butler D *et al.* "A Consultative Paper Building towards Learning Society: A National Digital Strategy for Schools", 2013. Retrieved September 2015, from <http://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Colleges/Information/InformationCommunicationsTechnology-ICT-in-Schools/Digital-Strategy-for-Schools-Building-Towards-a-Learning-SocietyANational-Digital-Strategy-for-Schools-Consultative-Paper.pdf>
 4. Digital learning India- Asia's premier monthly magazine on ICT in education 8(8), August 2012, ISSN 0973-4139.
 5. Psychological foundation of teaching learning and experiences –Dr. B.S. Rajput, New light publications, Delhi-2010-2011
 6. <https://inc42.com/resources/future-trends-digital-education-india/>
 7. <http://www.ijiris.com/volumes/Vol3/iss9/16.DCISSP95.pdf>

Main reasons for the growth of digital learning

There has some reason behind why digital education take big place in our education

- With nearly a billion people on mobile phones and over 200 million mobiles connected to the internet, there has been a considerable rise in digital learning.
- The use of best-in-class content, real-time learning and feedback methods, and personalized instructions has encouraged online learning.
- People are stepping towards digital learning as the ed-tech firms are providing them the comfort of 'live and interactive' anywhere learning in digital format, through its online programs.
- These online courses are affordable and easily accessible.
- Digital learning aims to break the numerous barriers that are preventing people from receiving quality education in the physically bound classrooms.

Conclusion

With so many different ways to define digital learning and the educational approaches that can be taken in these learning environments, it is the conclusion of this author that digital learning is an innovative approach to learning. It is a holistic way of teaching and learning that meets the needs of today's digital natives. It is an environment made up of collaboration, choice, and an array of technological resources that supports a successful online learning experience. However, in order for learners to education. to be successful in this learning environment the challenges to digital learning must be overcome with support and best practice solutions. Instructors and learners must embrace the shift away from traditional classroom practices to digital learning approached education in the physically bound classrooms.

References

1. Rajesh M. "A Study of the problems associated with ICT adaptability in Developing Countries in the context of Distance Education," Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education, 2003, 4-6.
2. Future Trends of Digital Education in India, Retrieved from http://www.educationinsider.net/detail_news.php?id=1326, Accessed on 1st May, 2016