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Impact of digitalization on education: Opportunities and challenges

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Abstract

Teaching and learning is a continuous process which starts from the day one till the death of a person. The level of learning and its impact on our life varies from stage to stage and time to time. Teaching and teaching methodology changes the level and gravity of learning. Today with the advent of technology, teaching and learning both process have been changed due to need and requirement of the time, environment and need based. As on date we require fast and easy approach to learn as well as to teach. Present paper exhibits the impact of digitalization on education. Digital learning plays an important role in handling the issues and problem of teaching today. With hi-tech network and multimedia, the education sector has emerged to be one of the fast emerging fields. Technological advancement has enabled our Indian classroom to be tech savvy.

Keywords: digitalization on education

Introduction

Education globally is one of the significant sectors to witness revolutionary changes in recent times. Digital Education is the panacea for this anathema of education all over the globe. It is in particular a blessing for developing countries which chronically suffer from ailments of access and affordability. With wise coverage over various means of communication it becomes a natural choice to learn even for those in the hinterlands.

India is one of the world's top destinations for education. With some of the best colleges and universities, it is renowned for its excellence and high standards. What's even more interesting is how technology has advanced rapidly to transform the way students in India consume educational content. Additionally, the penetration of internet-based smart phones is taking quality learning to students across geographies in India.

Digital learning plays an important role in handling the issues and problem of teaching today. With hi-tech network and multimedia, the education sector has emerged to be one of the fast emerging fields. Technological advancement has enabled our Indian classroom to be tech savvy. With the use of technology in education sector, there is an major change in the teaching and learning methods, styles, and content across many schools in India.

“Students, educators and parents agree – we need a different kind of learning experience to prepare students for the future” With the objective to make the rural India A part of digital age, Prime Minister Modi’s administration has launched the Digital India campaign. Some of this campaign’s targets include providing broadband connectivity to a quarter of a million rural villages by 2019 and making Wi-Fi connections available in schools.

The government’s steady focus on progress towards a digital future for its citizens with the Digital India program, and emphasis on skill building with the increased investment on Skill India campaign, are shaping an ecosystem which can foster the seamless inclusion of technology in education. In order to take forward a generation of new learners, and to build

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upon their unique capabilities, those with a forward looking view on education are embracing the incorporation of multimedia content, as well as access to internet resources as a way to ensure inclusive education. In addition, new-age professional avenues, and a digital environment are making it necessary for students to be equipped to interface with technology, and create digital content.

Digitalization of Education

Digitalization is the integration of digital technologies into everyday life by the digitization of everything that can be digitized. The literal meaning of digitalization gives an apparent idea of development and technology dependent world.

A complete revolution in the way we learn today has been brought by Technology. Teachers teaching in the classroom can capture the students and the full strength in the class by digital screens, thus facilitating each child to get the same base content and input from the teachers. This feature of digital era has increased the Student engagement as it combines various instructional styles.

Digital learning is any type of learning that is accompanied by technology or by instructional practice that makes effective use of technology. It encompasses the application of a wide spectrum of practices including: blended and virtual learning.

Each student gets in contact to world-class education, which is not easy to impart by the traditional white chalk and black board teaching. This new learning is more interesting, personalized and enjoyable. With this technological inclusion in the school teaching the students feel studying as enjoyable, easy, competent and above all interesting. The aim of a teacher however should be to create such an atmosphere which makes every student want to study.

Digital learning is replacing traditional educational methods more and more each day. With how rapidly classrooms are changing, it is best to forget methods you may remember from when you were in school and start thinking about newer teaching and learning techniques based on digital learning tools and technologies. The inclusion of digital learning in the classrooms can vary from simply using tablets instead of paper to using elaborate software programs and equipment as opposed to the simple pen.

This could entail using sites, services, programs, teaching tools, and technologies like study aids built for at-home use. Even social networks and communications platforms can be used to create and manage digital assignments and agendas. Irrespective of how much technology is integrated into the classroom, digital learning has come to play a crucial role in education. It empowers students by getting them to be more interested in learning and expanding their horizons. Here is how digital learning is a step up from traditional education methods.

Merits of Digital Learning

1. Digital Learning Makes Students Smarter-Learning tools and technology enable students to develop effective self-directed learning skills. They are able to identify what they need to learn, find and use online resources, apply the information on the problem at hand, and even evaluate resultant feedback. This increases their efficiency and productivity. In addition to engaging students, digital learning tools and technology sharpen critical thinking skills, which are

the basis for the development of analytic reasoning. Children who explore open-ended questions with imagination and logic learn how to make decisions, as opposed to just temporarily memorizing the textbook.

2. Digital Learning Is Making Students Self-Motivated and More Accountable: Students using digital learning tools and technology become more engaged in the process and more interested in growing their knowledge base, they may not even realize that they're actively learning since they're learning through engaging methods such as peer education, teamwork, problem-solving, reverse teaching, concept maps, gamification, staging, role playing, and storytelling.

3. Digital Learning Tools Involve Educators and Parents to a Deeper Extent: Learning tools and technologies like social learning platforms make it easy for teachers to create and manage groups. The shift to digital learning can approximate the benefits of tutoring while freeing up time for teachers to address individual and small group needs. The opportunity to customize learning sequences for each student will make education more productive by closing learning gaps sooner and accelerating progress. Dynamic grouping, workshops, and project-based learning can add lots of collaborative learning to the already present education model. Apart from educators, parents can use interactive activities to encourage their child's interest in learning since games make the process much more enjoyable and interesting. Parents can also explore online learning activities with their child which can serve as an extension to what they are learning in their classrooms. Digital learning tools and technology provide enjoyment for kids as well as numerous benefits in terms of developing a child's well-being. Everyone benefits with the digitization of learning.

4. Digital Learning Tools and Technology Is Rapidly Increasing Information Sharing: Digital learning tools and technology enable educators to rapidly share information with other educators in real-time. The explosion of free and open content and tools has created an environment of sharing economy. By embracing digital devices and connected learning, classrooms around the country and around the globe can not only coordinate with one another to share insights but also boost learning, experience, and communications skills. The practice also allows educators to enjoy a level playing field. Schools can save money while ensuring equitable access to educational material as expensive private schools.

5. Increasing Students' Employability with Digital Learning Tools and Technology: Equipping students with the requirements of higher education and holding a career at a young age has become one of the most crucial responsibilities of school education. Digital learning solutions based on problem-based learning emphasize on learning methods that are constructive, collaborative and calls the students' attention to a real-world approach to learning.

Challenges of Adopting Digital Learning

- 1. The Infrastructure:** It is a problem that both schools and students face. Most schools do not have IT infrastructure that can support large-scale eBooks and digital curriculum distribution. While a mature market like the United States has access to fast internet that can support large data downloads required for digital books, most of the developing world still struggles with this.
- 2. Resistance to change:** Let's face it, the biggest impediment to technological change has never been technology itself, rather it has been the people affected by the change. The teachers, administrators, librarians, and parents are all stuck in old ways of learning. The challenge lies in trying to get them to adapt to digital ways of learning.
- 3. Content Curation:** Digital learning is not limited to converting existing content and books to digital formats. In order to have its full effect, digital learning in schools must be accompanied by dynamic and interactive curated content. This curated content consumes time and effort that are often the reason for the increase in implementation costs.

Recommendations

1. Digital learning makes the class rooms, interactive which transform the School and learning environment.
2. Interactive classrooms lead to the fun way to learn
3. Digital learning provides active participation of students as well as teachers.
4. The automate nature of digital learning provide the alternate animations for every concept which in turn help learner (children) retain knowledge better.
5. Digital learning and teaching also helps teachers with a huge database of questions and also capable to administer on line tests.
6. Digital learning is also embedded with a learning management content system, which enables an advance search in learning components.
7. Teachers can also upload content to the content repository; create question paper and analyze student's performance

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 be successful in this learning environment the challenges to digital-learning must be overcome with support and a best practice solutions. Instructors and learners must embrace the shift away from traditional classroom practices to an e-learning approach to education.

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