

# The Contribution of Information Technology in the Democratization of Education

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**Abstract:** Education is a most important element in the development of a society. In this Digital Era, people like Teachers, Researchers, and Planning Executives were agreeing with the positive and important effect of ICT in the arena of education. Despite of this a discussion is still going on how ICT will help in the improvement of education with the process of democratization. And what would be the effective way of using ICT in retrieval of education. A survey done by "PEW Global Attitudes" in 32 countries reported that in most of Developed and Developing Countries, Internet has been taken as an important tool for spreading education. They also mentioned that maximum people agreed with internet has a positive impact on the formulation of personal relation as well as maintaining the economic conditions. With this internet also makes the education, which is out of reach from the common people in their reach. People were get freedom from high fees structure and now in real means education became facilitate to each and every one in the society. It is a demand of this Information Era that the modern and effective ways of ICT should be used for fulfilling the stimulated achievements in the field of education. The Education Planners, Academicians and Teachers need to decide about the basic structure for implementing the ICT facility in education. It is a tough job for most of the people as planning any initiative is tougher than structuring a plan. In this research paper, policies, researches, planning strategies, implementing techniques, reports and their results related to the education are included. With this, different medium usage for learning, TV education, Radio education, Web based education programs, Digital Libraries, usage of media, old age education and women education, use of ICT for making proficient teachers, and school management are included.

**Key Words:** ICT, Education and Informational Impacts.

## 1. INTRODUCTION:

Education is undoubtedly a very important investment in the formation of Human Resource. This is a medium which not only helps in the making of an educated brigade but also creates a technically innovative country that opens up a new way for the economic development. That's why Government of India has been started many projects and schemes like Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan, Free and Compulsory Primary education for all, National Literacy Mission for improving the condition of education in the country.

In the last 14 years Central and State Government cordially started many programs for upgrade the quality of education and make it reachable for everyone in a broader perspective. In the implementation of these programs many innovative ideas were used by the Planning Team for underprivileged and economically- socially weak children. In the Tenth Five Year Plan, Central Government has advised some important points for strengthen the partnership between the government and private education institutes. Under which they concerned about facilitating the same facilities to the students of Government school which a student of Private school is getting. Indeed so far education is still not accessible to all the classes of the society, despite of all the efforts of government. Second, the students of government schools were not getting full benefits of the allocated budget for their education as it is not utilized properly by the schools. Corruption in the field of education is same as posses in other departments of government mechanism.

Third, comparative to the Private Schools academic environment and quality of education is extremely weak in the Public Schools. This creates two different standard of society on the basis of education in coming years. Society is clearly making a dichotomy of one who belongs to the Private Schools and another, those belongs to Public Schools. Clearly, deluge this trench is a tough job for the government.

To meet this challenge many attempts has been done in last 14 years. This includes Primary education, Girls' education, Child rights, child-welfare, National Education campaigns, Information and Communication Technology in schools, the Right to Education, Model school etc. Even tough, how much condition of education has been improved and status of these education schemes must be scrutinized by every concerned citizen of India. In recent years, it is interesting to finds that how the information and communication technology can be used in the field of education. Easy access to educational resources is the most valuable contribution of the information and communication technology in the field of education. Now with the help of information and communication technology student can

access to e-books, question papers of previous years, mock question paper etc. They can also easily contact to resource persons, mentors, experts, researchers, professionals and colleagues anywhere in the world.

ICT's most unique feature is that it can be adjusted in time and space, so anyone can use it anytime anywhere in this world. By considering this special characteristic, Information and technology makes the two totally opposite dimensions one. Now, students can read the online contents according to their own wish.

The information and technology also make possible to learn any information and knowledge, by not be physically present there, through the help of Television and Radio Programs. Since ICT is used as a medium for education, it has served as an impeccable driving means. In which Television, Radio, Computer software which uses color, sound, video may include. This adds depth to the student learning process.

A 12 years Meta analysis research conducted by the US education Department resulted that students perform better who had access to e-resources for studies than the students who uses traditional resources. BETS (2009) present a major argument in favor of E-learning. The use of information and communications technologies within the curriculum embedded knowledge base enables learners to develop essential skills for their development. They also argue that in this way the learners have major implications for curriculum design and evaluation.

## **2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:**

### **2.1 Research Objectives:**

- Study the Role of Media in expanding the dimensions of Education.
- Study the contribution of IT in the expansion of Education.
- Study the need of Information Technology in a democratic society.
- Study the use of Information technology in the field of Education.

### **2.2 Study Area:**

In this study the Education Experts of Bhopal city like Public Relations, Advertising, New Media, Information Technology, Media, Teachers, Media Researchers, Information Rights Activists, NGO workers, students were included.

### **2.3 Methods of Study:**

In this study Survey Method is used for collecting the data. For this four Universities of Bhopal were selected. They are Makhn Lal Chaturvedi National University of Journalism and communication, Barkatulla University, Rajiv Gandhi Technical University, R.K.D.F university. From every university ten male students and ten female students were selected for this study. So, my total sample is 80 students. I have collected data by the help of a self structured questionnaire. Besides this a group discussion on the topic "The contribution of Information Technology in the Democratization of Education" has been done by selecting five students from each university. While this debate and discussion every important point are incuse. Interviews were also conducted on this topic by the Professor Anil Ankit Rai of Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidalaya and Dilip Sakya of Jamia Milia Islamia University. Both the professors were using IT and they were experts of this subject. This Interview has been done for knowing the causes of changes in the field of education because of Information and Technology and also to find the future prospect of this technology in education. In this research an interview of people related to Public Relation and Right to Information were also included.

## **3. DATA ANALYSIS:**

In this research, while asking question about the use of Information and Technology 82% respondents were agreed that they use ICT frequently. These people believe that they came to know about their respective universities just because of Information Technology. On the other hand 18% agrees that they received information about this from other sources too. While answering about the role of Information Technology, 48% agrees with the statement that IT makes the education a easy going process, 22% said it helps us to know about our rights, 18% told it gave dimension to education whereas 12% totally disagrees with these benefits of the Information Technology in the field of education.

By answering the question that what is the role of media in education, 23% students admitted that media worked for informing and sensitizing the people but with that it also corrupted the society. The education system needs to be connected to information technology so that education can be truly democratized. Experts believe that for this concern all the section of society can stand on one platform. The education system may be truly democratized when every people can enjoy similar rights. All round development is only be possible when it is added with new Technologies. Students belong to rural India believes that they getting every information only through the channel of Technology. They were getting proper education because they have the knowledge of Internet and Computer. Experts are given some important suggestions to promote different dimension of Education. These are as following:

- Technology should be used fully in Education process.
- Examination process should be conducted through the help of Technology.
- There is a need of huge grant for the education as population of the country increases rapidly.

- Teleconferencing should be used for lessen down the distance between the teacher and student.
- Audio visual content should be used for maintain the quality of education of each and every student of the country.
- Education should be accessible by the use of Satellite Communication.
- Student's problems should be rapidly solved by the help of electronic medium. So, that education's quality stands off against the formal education.
- The education Revolution concept should became realized by the help of knowledge explosion.

#### **4. CONCLUSION:**

Now a Days course related to Information Technology is emerged as an interesting field of Education. Despite it is a newly emerged subject, it helps a lot in the empowerment and development of society as it became an attractive course for the youth. Media has played a pivotal role in the expansion of the information revolution. It has created several major challenges for students and teachers. The flow of information is rapidly changes with the changing technology. Today, Information Technology is a key factor in the democratization of Education. Everyone is having equal opportunity for getting Education and it is just because of Information Technology. In technical education, Information and Communication technology became a latest technique for conveying means to know the concepts and their implementations.

Education is a life-long ongoing process. It is a backbone of development. Development of any country without education is just next to impossible, regardless of the nation might have full of natural resources. But the changing phase of environment has particularly influenced the education. On one hand changes persist in the human relation on the other hand the growth of science has changed the direction of Education too. Scientific innovation has creates landmark changes in every field. Human advances their own life through the technological advancement. The whole world has been dominated by the globalization and open economy.

Now, in this wave of changes a question arises that is every human being's socio-economic, political, mental development has been done. If not then what would be the possibilities of improvement in this. Education is the weapon by which the individual's quality of life can be made higher. The system of education should be like that the lowest of the lowest possible person benefited by it and he can certainly play an important role in this globalization era. An unprecedented change can be seen in the current generation of students. They accepted the offer of school education but beyond this they also started the exigency for education.

In this era, Development is being explored by the help of Information Technology. For increasing the growth of education rate information technology has been used. And the maintenance of the quality and utility of education, by using all efforts, is still continuing. That's why a need for giving education a practical approach instead of the theoretical one is increases. This twenty first century has been started in the form of Information Era. Today, Politicians, Planning Actors, Administrators, Businessmen, scientists, Researcher, Persons associated with the Media, Entertainers and Visionaries have impulses on information technology. As Education having significance in the implementation of national development, global trade, commerce, industry and agriculture promotion and development of healthcare, education, national unity and other economic, social and cultural .

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