



Smart Technology for Smart Learning

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ABSTRACT

The present technological boom with user friendly interface, interactivity and easy access has made increase in the learner's satisfaction on e-education. Although the letter 'e' in e-learning is termed as electronic, it has so many abbreviations like enhanced evolving, everywhere, everybody and every time. E-learning does not mean just using internet, but also electronic devices like CD-ROM are also used. It helps the school students by providing activities for each subject. A recorded session is given, which help the students use whenever and wherever they need. The study aims in exploring the challenges in e-learning and suggests strategies to make students get interested towards e-learning. The faculty should ensure to create interest towards the subjects through attractive animations, voice notes and different modes of teaching. This is because sitting in front of the system for the whole day will be difficult and in fact boring and stressful to the students. The faculty should find all possible ways to make the student enjoy the subject.

KEY-WORDS: *technology, e-learning, challenges, faculty*

I. INTRODUCTION

The Country's development lies on many aspects, out of which e-education plays a pivotal role. In modern era everybody is thinking about growth. Proper planning should be made to devise strategies for e-education to get fruitful results. Prior to Independence there was no uniform education system. India has to face lots of challenges to bring in uniform education across the country after independence. Education was provided to many as much as possible with the help of schemes provided by the government. All the efforts helped in increasing the literacy rate from 12% in 1947 to 77.70% in 2020. The present technological boom with user friendly interface, interactivity and easy access has made increase in the learner's satisfaction on e-education.

Any learning activity involving internet and intranet is referred as e-learning. In a general sense, it is any learning activity which is mediated, enabled or delivered by electronic technology is termed as e-learning. Although the letter 'e' in e-learning is termed as electronic, it has so many abbreviations like enhanced evolving, everywhere, everybody and everytime. It means that everyone from any place has the right to learn whatever they need through e-learning resources.

It has been found that many faculty teaching professional courses are satisfied with e-learning mode and they find it easy to use. It helps them in many aspects. Whereas in non-professional courses it is found that e-education is not having a greater impact. Web-based learning helps as a vital tool for face to face teaching. As the strength of the students increases the e-learning concept will help them to learn more as the interaction with the faculty will be more compared to classroom teaching. As the e-learning concept among the students have increased, more emphasis have been given to enhance the multimedia content to enable a proper e-learning environment. Be it websites that provide content, Wikipedia, blogs and other e-learning resources, all are enhanced to make it easily accessible to the e-learners. Though it is a much talked concept in India now, it has been the major mode of education for many students across the international universities, as it helps in learning a concept on all possible ways.

Though e-learning has been in the country for more than a decade, much importance was not given to it. The students motivational level on e-learning was not studied. As the technological impact on education is growing at a peak, e-learning is gaining its importance. As the growth of technology is increasing, the significance of e-learning is also increasing. As the learners are increasing, importance is given in creating learning modules. Various surveys are considered on e-learners so that a suitable platform can be created according to their choice. The 21st century has seen a drastic increase in the e-learners. The educational



institutions can no longer have the old syllabus pattern and materials, as the students prefer to learn the advances in each subject. They yearn to learn something new, which is not there in the internet. Many students feel that the online mode of education is helping them to gain more knowledge than the traditional methods. And in fact, it helps them to study from anywhere and anytime. E-learning has made a greater transformation in the educational sector, by making learning a easy concept if there is a passion for technology.

E-learning does not mean just using internet, but also electronic devices like CD-ROM are also used. It helps the school students by providing activities for each subject. A recorded session is given, which help the students use whenever and wherever they need. A positive environment is created in the classroom when the learning is internet enabled, as it uses many interactive multimedia. Interested students have many online tutorials, where they and learn and assess themselves by attending the tests. The well performing individuals will get the certificated. It motivates the students to attend more tutorials to gain more knowledge. The interactive class which will have graphics, sound, attractive texts and other multimedia which make students to attend online class with utmost interest. In the highly developing environment students cannot survive in the market only with the text book learning.

It may give them grades, but they cannot succeed in their career. E-learning helps in improving the teaching and learning process, with the main advantage of providing the educational programme to more audience at a lower cost. The study aims in exploring the challenges in e-learning and suggests strategies to make students get interested towards e-learning.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Wlodkowski in his study emphasis that students tend to learn much more when they are using web- based computer-based learning techniques rather than the traditional methods of teaching. This is because the percentage of

interaction among the students is more which in turn is increasing the participation level of the students. This in turn helps in increasing the engagement among the students and the ultimate result is the student's capacity to complete the task will increase. They show more interest in learning more and completing the work on time.

According to Rosenberg (2001), e-learning is a technique where Internet is used to deliver and enhance knowledge among the broad category of students, in order to increase their performance level and to enhance their knowledge. Based on the research findings of the author, e-learning is based on 3 basic criterions. The first one is instantly updating, storing, distributing, retrieving and information sharing using networking. The second one is usage of World Wide Web as a tool to deliver the content using computer. The third one is, a wider and broader perspective is created on learning and learning solutions through e-learning.

Students are adopted to bookish knowledge when they are in their schooling. When it comes to higher education, it is becoming very difficult for them to get adopted to the transformation. They find it very difficult to meet the competitive level, thus creating a huge gap among the learners (Rosário et al., 2015).

The research work of (Banning, 2005) identified different styles of teaching; namely socratic, didactic, experimental and facilitative method. All the methods are traditional methods of learning. It emphasises that teacher has the prime responsibility to instil knowledge among the students. They have to facilitate in all means while teaching to make the students gain knowledge.

Macharia and Pelser's (2012) undertook a study on the impact of computer technology on the higher education. The study paved ways in providing new ideas to enhance higher education management by using computer technology in all possible ways to enhance e-learning. The research concluded that the character, quality and knowledge of the faculty play a lead role and the access and availability of computer technology plays an essential role in the success of E-Learning.

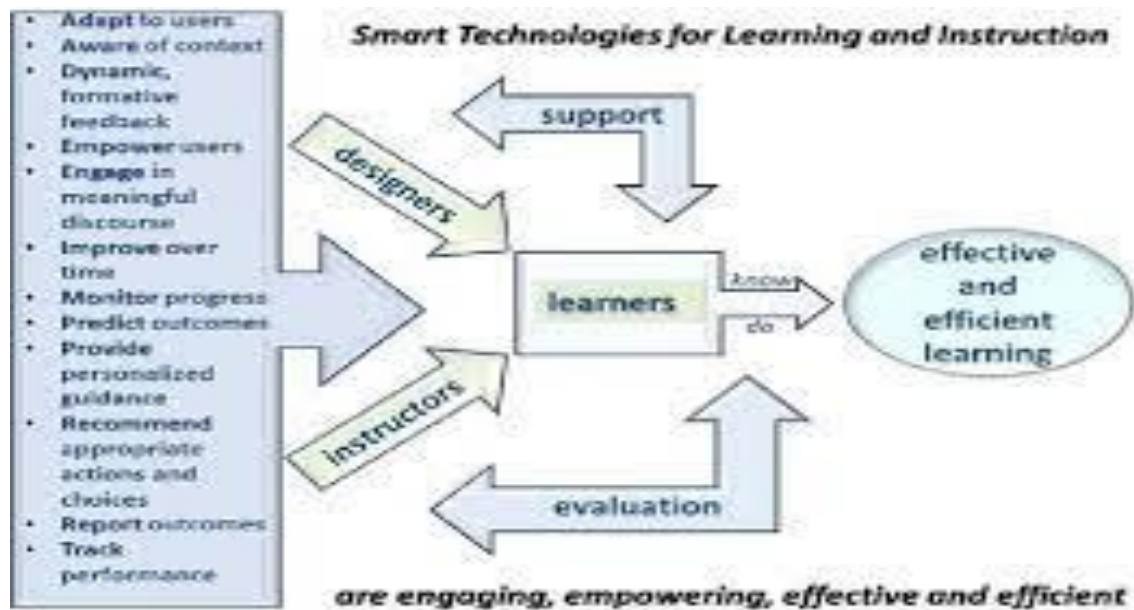


Figure 1: Technology for Learning

III. CHALLENGES IN E-LEARNING TECHNICAL CHALLENGE

The key requirement for e-learning is high speed internet connection at both ends. They should be familiar with apps to upload assignments and view documents. If they have low speed internet there are chances of missing live sessions. The downloading will be difficult and time lapse in relaying will happen. That too during exams if proper technical support is not there things will turn out to be tougher.

MALLEABILITY

Learning and teaching through the traditional mode for so many years it has become a challenging task for students and teachers to adopt to online learning. Their comfortability level to the computer based is very low, because it is happening for the whole day which is leaving them drained. Though the so called new normal should be accepted without no other option, many are still finding difficult to adopt./

KNOWLEDGE OF COMPUTERS

Though everyone is always busy with their smartphone, it does not mean that they are tscho-friendly. Coming to e-learning a good knowledge of computers is needed at both ends to make the learning interesting. That too teachers who are adopted to the chalk piece-board teaching are finding it really tough to manage the teaching. That too during live classes, the familiarity about various icons are essential.

STIMULUS

It will be very difficult for the student to stare at the screen for the entire day for classes. If the power

point or the notes shared in the screen are plain, in the sense vague then the interest among the students will decrease. The notes shared should not have lots of text, rather images, videos and animations will stimulated interest among the students. This also includes the font colour, font style and size too.

DISTRACTION

Most of the students listen to online classes through their mobile phones. It means they will have variety of distractions through calls and other social media. Besides all these distraction the faculty should take all measures to make the students listen to the class. Apart from these the students have so many distractions and diversion as they listen to class when they are travelling too. The faculty should take all possible alternative measures to make students attend the class with interest.

STRATEGIES FOR SMART LEARNING

While implementing the new technology a proper analysis should be performed. The strengths and drawbacks of the delivery system including audio, data, video and others should be checked in advance before delivering. The mode of delivery namely, fibre optics, microwave, satellite, etc should also be analysed. Above all these the key important thing is that before selecting the technology of the mode of delivery the learners requirements should be analysed and matched with the course requirements.

Be it the faculty or the students, all should be trained on the usage of the learning mode. If the university is planning to conduct test through online



mode, then a mock test should be conducted to make students aware of the options available in the software. Similarly, the faculty should also be given a pre-chance to monitor the students.

A proper analysis should be made on the options available in the learning link. Contact number should be provided to ensure that students can contact when they are stuck in between the process. Meeting should be conducted among the students regarding the guidelines, rules and standards. The opinions of the learners should also be consulted to enhance the output. The sites should be easily accessible to the students. The data should be organised. The learning materials should be simple. The functional options should be user friendly as it will develop interest among the learners.

Although physical presence is not possible in e-learning the virtual presence of the faculty should be there to have an interactive experience among the learners. A classroom atmosphere should be created among the students, so that they enjoy learning as well as they tend to know someone is monitoring them. This will help them to clear their doubts as and when possible. Chat box options can also be created to clarify their doubts. When a person is creating a learning module for the students, it should be supportive. A short introduction about the faculty should be provided, so that the students will have a comfortable zone. It is the responsibility of the online teacher to provide an interactive environment to the learners. However good the materials are, the way it is presented will attract the learners. As well as there should be a proper response from the learners too. A two-way communication will pave way in greater satisfaction.

The better way to achieve this is by encouraging both the student and teacher in engagement activities. Similarly, the interaction among students should also be encouraged. Instead of starting with the lessons directly, a brief introduction should be asked from the learners. So that the pressure among the learners are reduced. A discussion forum should be provided, which will increase the mode of networking among the learners.

IV. CONCLUSION

Though learning is taking place through online, feedback is necessary for that too. Because the feedback act as a sense of motivation, informative and engaging. The learners should be given constructive and continuous feedback so that it will help the students to know on what all the

aspects they need improvement. Initially a student should be made aware for what purpose he/she is studying a subject. The scope of the subject should be clearly instilled among the students so that they get interest towards the subject. This will be like a preview of the subject. So once they are entering the course, their likeness towards the subject will increase. The faculty should ensure to create interest towards the subjects through attractive animations, voice notes and different modes of teaching. This is because sitting in front of the system for the whole day will be difficult and in fact boring and stressful to the students. The teachers should find all possible ways to make the student enjoy the subject.

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