



Review Article

A Study of Online Education in India and it's Impact

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Abstract

It has been apparent for the past several years online education has emerged as a powerful contender for the next new education technology. Although the previous technological breakthroughs that have failed to live up to their initial promise, I strongly believe this time really is different. Several online courses have been run in the recent past that has taught many thousands of students in a variety of topics. The human experience of online education is about to change; we should understand the issues behind the phenomena. Technology is touching every aspect of society and changing it dramatically. But there is one very important and indispensable part of the society that has also been tapped by new innovations and discoveries and that is the concept online education. It is an effective tool for development of educational sector in India.

Keywords: Education, educational development, online learning, online training, interactive.

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Introduction

The process of imparting education has gone through a sea change if we look at the picture 10-20 years before now. Technology has taken over almost every field of our lives and the onset of online courses came as a path-breaker. No longer did one need to have access to schools, time or a lot of money! All one needed was a good internet connection and a computer [1]. Online education is learning, utilizing electronic technologies to access educational curriculum outside of a traditional classroom. In most cases, it refers to a course, program or degree

delivered completely online. Right to Education is the primary right of every citizen of India, whether a child resides in a high-profile society or in a faraway not so developed secluded village, according to the Article 45 of Indian Constitution the basic elementary education must be provided to all the children up to the age of fourteen years. Online learning is a combination of learning services and technology to provide high values. Though India is at a nascent stage when it comes to digital education compared to developed nations, none the less it's growing at a

substantially rapid rate of 55 per cent. Edutech is certainly ushering the new age of learning in India.

Education and Learning Humans have been learning about their surrounding world since the beginning of time. The establishment of the schools as a distinguishable environment for teaching and learning was created about 4000 to 5000 years ago, an environment that beside teachers and students also included janitors and other people with various tasks, roles and characteristics that have remained throughout the centuries (Lundgren & Säljö, 2014). In order to organize learning within the school so as to achieve educational needs, about 2500 years ago something that today is known as the curriculum was created.

Digital Technologies And Education

Through passing of some time, a curriculum was created consisting of seven subjects, divided into two groups: (1) trivium³² consisting of grammar, rhetoric and logic, and (2) quadrivium³³ consisting of arithmetic, geometry, astronomy and music. The division of trivium and quadrivium can to the current day be seen in our education despite the changes made in these subjects throughout history. Lundgren and Säljö (2014) describe the division between humanities/liberal arts and natural sciences to be a legacy from

those eras. How education is shaped and what it includes is strongly connected to the structure and development of a society's economic, cultural and social systems. Within each educational level, what should have been learned and what is to be taught are influenced by two things: (1) What is worth knowing? and (2) What is the social significance of this knowing? (Lundgren, 2014). Lundgren (2014) argues education is driven by ideological documents specifying what the purpose of the education is, as well as by the surrounding environment defining what knowing and knowledge is. As can be noted by the brief history above, there is a historical inheritance for each subject curriculum and educational system.

The disciplines are often perceived as complicated, contradicting and confusing as evident in discussion about pedagogy and didactics from a higher education perspective in the field of architecture (Melissinopoulos, 2013). Melissinopoulos (2013) argues that each one of these disciplines, despite their common use of epistemological perspectives, is a distinct field within the same territory of educational research. He states the concept of pedagogy refers to the theoretical and organizational underpinnings of education, derived from political science and drawing upon educational philosophy, educational

sociology, as well as educational theory. Pedagogy refers to educational goals, he asserts, rather than referring to programs and methods. The aim of pedagogy is for the learners to become a social subject in their future role in society (Melissinopoulos, 2013). Similarly, within the Swedish pedagogical literature, Lundgren (2014) describes pedagogy as having two meanings: that which can be taught, and that which is taught (Lundgren, 2014, p.141). The second component of educational research, i.e., didactics, is divided by Melissinopoulos (2013) in three different regions: (1) what-region, concerning the content of teaching, (2) how-region, concerning the method of teaching,

Objective of The Study

- 1) To understand the concept of online education.
- 2) To study current state and future of online education in India.
- 3) To study the challenges of online education.

Research Methodology

This research paper is conceptual and Exploratory in nature. In order to meet such objective secondary method is adopted. The secondary data was collected through books, periodicals, and journal and published material related digital learning for the study.

Development of Digital Learning

Following are the main reasons for the growth of online education in India: 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

- People are stepping towards digital learning as the edutech firms are providing them the comfort of 'live and interactive' anywhere learning in digital format, through its online programmes
- 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.

How is online learning changing education?

'Live and interactive' digital learning empowers the learners to receive par excellence, quality education anytime and anywhere. Whether it is career and technical education or project-based learning, it gives learners a more interactive platform for learning and assessment

- Free online courses open up avenues for both education providers and students. People are more confident to

take these courses and when they see results, they do not hesitate to pay for more

- Online education gives students an opportunity to plan their future course of action and fast track their careers

On-Linear E-Learning Education Increases The Applicability Power

The impact of new technologies in educational contexts has been mostly positive as new technologies have given educators the opportunity to enhance their knowledge, skills, and therefore, enhance the standard of education through constructivist learning environment with digital storytelling

- Audio visual aids, interactive, educational simulations help understand concepts and theories enabling better learning.
- They also benefit by learning from eminent corporate leaders, business academicians as well as the industry connoisseurs. These experts share their valuable insights on the relevant, practical and must know aspects of the corporate world, enabling the students to gain comprehensive and specialized knowledge.

Social Media As A Learning Instrument

Social media as a tool can be used to enhance eLearning experience and make it

more engaging, relevant and culturally diverse.

- Students can critique and share feedback on each other's assignments, work in collaboration to create content that can be easily accessed
- Social media helps in making the students aware of the current happenings, concerns, issues, social activities and prospective employment. Thus the relationship between classroom-based learning and social media is significant in the fast pacing modern day world

Rural India And Digital Education

- Digital education is breaking the numerous barriers that are preventing students in rural India from receiving quality education in the physically bound classrooms: 'Direct to Device' technology will empower these students to get quality education, anytime and anywhere.
- It will enable them to save time, by having more freedom to move at their own pace as well as help them save money by avoiding "hidden costs" of education, like transportation fees etc.
- By not having to be at a certain class at a certain time, it will assist working students to not limit their work schedule, helping them to not

lose on wages that they can potentially earn

- With the flexibility of online courses, students can conserve more hours and more money, enabling them to learn with a purpose and instill a sense of self-belief in them.

Current Senerio of E-Learning In India

Current state of E-learning in India the education sector in India is no longer bound to just classrooms. Thanks to new start-ups and higher internet and smartphone penetration, the online learning space in India is growing manifold. The e-learning market in India is estimated to be around \$3 billion. The central government's efforts to make digital learning available to students in every corner of the country is also aiding the sector. Currently, online training in India focuses equally on both school and college-based courses as well as mid-level professional courses. For instance, Bengaluru-based Entrance India provides practice papers for all engineering and medical entrance tests in India.

The company aims to help students focus on the right subjects and contents rather than swim blindly in an ocean of study materials available across different media. Also, they focus on convenience-based training because online capability enables students to get access to subjects anytime

and anywhere. According to studies, India and China will lead the growth in project management roles, generating about 4 million and 8.1 million roles, respectively, by 2020.

Hence, the business looks to grow from now on. Another reason why online training will gain momentum is because of the need for re-skilling, for instance, about a decade ago, all that a software professional was required to know were programming languages. Now these professionals need to update themselves on other aspects like big data analytics and cloud computing. Better salary hikes and promotions are also the reasons why people undertake new courses. A lot of start-ups are already setting their foot in what they think will be the next big thing in India after e-commerce. While some companies like Simplilearn and Intellipaat look to generate content, especially aiming at mid-level professionals, others like Learn social plays more of an aggregator role. These companies also offer blended classes, integrating both online and offline experience, along with self take courses. Bengaluru-based Simple learn offers more than 200 certification courses in project management, information technology service management, Microsoft certification, quality management and financial management. The company has

over 300 courses across 150 countries, with over 600 employees and has trained over 200,000 professionals across the globe. Intellipaat, started in 2011, provides online training to IT professionals including corporate training, and self-paced courses and offers over 80 technological courses across different domains.

Scope of on Line Education

The future of digital learning With the Digital India programme's vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy, the education sector in India is poised to witness major growth in the years to come. Technology-led reach and easy access will bring about a socio-economic difference in the lives of Indian learners.

Challenges

- Lack of Infrastructure and hardware facilities which hamper reliability of online learning.
- Problem in finding willing skilled manpower to training illiterate rural areas of India.
- No or very less computer-based courses/skills taught to students in government primary schools to increase their knowledge about ICT importance in rural development.

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