Amalgamation of ICT in Education during Covid-19

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Abstract

Educational System is not static and keeps changing with time. It meets the demands of the society, by synchronising the advances in technology. Today ICT is integrated in educational process in various manners as e-learning, collaborative learning, blended learning, creative learning, evaluative learning, open and distance learning (Sharma, 2015). All these methods are contributing significantly not only in the quality improvement, but also in making education more accessible during Covid 19. ICT worked as following ways during Covid-19.

PRE STAGE(March & April, 2020) ICT was just considered as Specific Oriented Learning. It refers to learning about ICT. It was organized in a specific course, where ICT was learnt in Insolation, how it can be expanded into virtual world have never thought about it and afterthen all were prepared to use of ICT in education, future occupation and social life in while and post stage. WHILE STAGE(May, 2020 Onwards) ICT was used as assisting tool, While making assignments, collecting data, documentation, communicating, conducting researches and others. It also helped to achieve learning outcomes during Covid-19. ICT as a medium for teaching and learning. This refers to ICT as a tool for teaching and learning itself, the medium through which teachers could teach and learner's learn. It appeared in many different forms, such as drill and practice exercises, in simulations and educational networks. ICT used as a tool for organization and management in schools. POST STAGE(October, 2020-2021&2021-22) Virtual Learning environments became a necessary part of our life. All Scholastic and Co-scholastics activities held through virtually within a ICT-mediated communication, just like in a formal classroom. A student in a virtual set up participated in synchronous mode of system, whereas teacher and students are blogged into the virtual setup at a time. In relation to professional education, use of ICT related inventions helped the learner to be more professional, focused and skillful. It has the potential to provide first- hand information with the help of which the youth could prepare according to the global demands and trends being followed.

Keywords: *ICT, Pre Stage, While Stage, Post Stage*

Introduction

Educational System is not a static and keeps changing with time. It meets to the demands of the society, by synchronizing the advances in technology. The various tools of ICT are provided, having relevance in education such as videoconferencing, audio conferencing, Television Programmes, Broadcast, Webcast and other digital equipment etc. have been used in education to make it more accessible for everyone. This synchronizing of technology in education leads to paradigm shift in education (Shaffer and Kipp 2014).

Today ICT is integrated in educational process in various manners as e-learning, collaborative learning, blended learning, creative learning, evaluative learning, open and distance learning (Sharma, 2015). All these methods are contributing significantly not only in the quality improvement but also in making education more accessible. It is assumed that well-blended education with technology can help to improve the equality and availability of the

education to the masses.

Where we were

Ahmad, J. & Rai, P. (2018) in an article entitled _supporting scientific argumentation in integrated technology classrooms 'suggested that all science teachers must possess some basic skills of using hardware and software, it was further suggested that there is dire need to overhaul the pedagogical understanding and educate teachers to use contemporary technologies in the science teaching learning process. Educational institutions should provide the ICT infrastructure so that faculties and students both can access the technology as and when they require.

Narwadiya, S. C. (2018) in an article entitled Popularization of science education through science quiz competition with documentary film screening concluded that the quiz competition attracted attention of the students. It was mentioned that film screen of socho- parkho-jano song and Darwin puzzle, DNA as detective and stem cell therapy for rejuvenation further stimulate the students and learning was done in an entertaining mode. Teachers as well as students provided positive feedback and appreciated the choice of questions.

Singh, V.P. & Husain A. (2019) in a research paper entitled _Multimedia for learning and teaching of science at elementary level, studied the effectiveness of multimedia science content in enhancing achievement level of students at elementary level and compared the achievement level of students taught by using lecture method. It was revealed that there is a significant difference in the achievement level of the students taught through multimedia content to that of students taught by lecture method. So, it can be interpreted that use of multimedia content is more effective in science teaching 90 learning process then the traditional lecture method. Hence, prospective teacher as well as in-service teachers should be oriented and encouraged to use multimedia and ICT based science content to facilitate learning in an attractive and enjoyable environment.

So, here we were using ICT as Isolation and integration at very small extent, Since Covid-19 is making us to reach virtual world, and how we could appear in the virtual world and ICT is altogether integrated in education during Covid-19, this was the curiosity to write this research article.

Rationale

"Facilitation in all subjects is being more successful because of use of Information and Communication Technology resources and looking forward for novel ways of using ICT to stimulate pupils and to extend their learning even during Covid-19". It has been seen that contribution of ICT in teaching learning is accelerating human progress through transactions in the virtual classroom environment, causing ease and effective learning outputs instructional and enhancing longer retention for timely recall and application for academic, social or personal needs. The information and communication technology are a tremendous force for human development for all those connected by providing information, enabling empowerment and raising productivity.

The National Education Policy (NEP 2020) insisted that educational technology should play a league role in the field of educational sector. Some of the research findings shows that the use of science and technology in the field of education can help in achieving desired results, thus facilitating the whole teaching- learning process with information enriched with technology that provides the necessary help and technical support required to keep pace with the technological growth. It had been touted as potentially powerful enabling tools for educational change and reform. ICT helped to expand access to education, strengthen the relevance of education to the increasingly digital workplace and raise educational quality.

Objectives

- ▪ To get to know about Pre-Stage ICT during Covid-19
- ▪ To get to know about usage of While Stage ICT during Covid-19.
- ▪ To get to know about usage of Post Stage ICT during Covid-19

Pre Stage (March & April, 2020)

ICT was just considered as Specific Oriented Learning. It refers to learning about ICT. It was organized in a specific course, where ICT was learnt in Insolation, how it can be expanded into virtual world have never thought about it and afterthen all were prepared to use of ICT in education, future occupation and social life in while and post stage.

While Stage (May, 2020 Onwards)

ICT was used as assisting tool, while making assignments, collecting data, documentation, communicating, conducting researches and others. It also helped to achieve learning outcomes during Covid-19.

ICT as a medium for teaching and learning. This refers to ICT as a tool for teaching and learning itself, the medium through which teachers could teach and learners learn. It appeared in many different forms such as drill and practice exercises, in simulations and educational networks. ICT used as a tool for organization and management in schools.

Post Stage (September 2020-2021 & 2021-22)

Technological skills became highly important for curriculum transaction in schools. Use of ICTs in Education indicates that it is directly related to the development of virtual schools and the teaching and learning environment. It was observed that new and emerging technologies were being integrated with the older technologies to make ICT applications in Education more effective. ICT not only promotes teaching- learning process, but also provides children with opportunities to use modern technology to enhance their self- learning in all subjects. Information Communication Technologies enrich the teaching and learning in all respects with all subjects.

Virtual Environments became a necessary part of our life. All Scholastic and Co-scholastics activities held through virtually within a ICT mediated communication, just like in a formal classroom. A student in a virtual classroom participated in synchronous mode of system and also teacher and students were entered into the virtual mode of education at a time. In relation to professional education, use of ICT related inventions helped the learner to be more professional, focused, skillful. It has the potential to provide first- hand information with the help of which the youth could prepare according to the global demands and trends being followed. ICT helped in providing latest information about the happenings in the job sector and enabling the user to contact the globally established companies for employment purposes. ICT blended professional education not only help the youth to get better placement but also helped to contribute for the upliftment of the society during Covid-19. There are a lot of advantages over using of ICT in education and utilization of ICTs in educational process was stressed and strengthened. The effective use of ICT gadgets simplified the teaching- learning process. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) contributed to universal access to education, equity in education, the delivery of quality learning and teaching, Teacher's Professional Development and more efficient education management, governance and administration.

Modern Information and Communication Technologies had created a "Global Village" in which people can communicate with others across the world as if they were living next door especially during Covid-19. Therefore, Information and communications technologies (ICT) include technologies which were used for transmitting communications, broadcasting, intelligent building management systems, audiovisual processing, and network access and very useful for Professional Education.

Professional Education is considered to be the back bone of a country's growth and development. Professionalism in itself is the conduct, efficiency or skilfulness expected out of a person belonging to a particular profession. Focus of professionalism is not on the fact that what a person does but on how a person do in a better way. Number of different attributes together define a person as professional. Specialized knowledge, skills, competency, reliability, accountability, self-regulation, honesty and integrity are the basic attributes of being professional. ICT helped a lot to professionals to become indigenous professional during Covid 19.

Final Thought

The experience of introducing different ICTs in the virtual classroom and other educational settings all over the world during Covid-19 was the full realization of the potential educational benefits of ICT. The effective integration of ICTs into educational system was complex and multifaceted process but continuing virtual classroom has made this process so smooth and more effective.

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