

Application of Information Technology in Advancement of Education

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ABSTRACT: The information technology incorporated in education provides a vision of better quality education facilitated through the adoption and promotion of IT. In education IT is helpful to provide database, to provide students access to digital technologies and internet in and outside the classroom and provides self paced learning through the tools like assignment and evaluation of learners. it also provide quality digital content access to the teachers immediate two way communication between teacher and learner. However, a feedback study was felt to have actual idea of advancement in education due to IT in the small towns like Sitapur.

Hence the study was made regarding application of IT in secondary schools by students & teachers of class ix of Sitapur district.

KEYWORDS: *Information technology advancement of education, Students of secondary school, Teachers of secondary school*

I. INTRODUCTION

By the middle of 20th century the information and communication technologies came into existence and new technologies were developed through which information was propagated systematically. These technologies included radio, telephone, teleprinter, newspaper, cinema and wireless, e.t.c. With the launch of satellites in 1960's, new generation of information technologies came into education. The new IT tools like television computer internet microchips mobile phones teletames, microwaves and software were developed. Uses of new generation technologies like internet, World Wide Web, HTTP, collectively are nowadays identified as IT. IT is spreading with revolutionizing impact touching educational field to great extent. Today IT owes its fame to computers which have affected not only economic aspect but social too.

Today the world has been converted into global village because of the daily advancing information technology. Information and communication technologies are the major factors in shaping the global economy and providing the vast changes in societies. Within past decades the tools of information technology have fundamentally changed the way of people communicate. This elementary potentiality of IT tools are basic for the transformation in the nature of education. With the emerging information technology the educational field is experiencing a sharp paradigm shift from teacher centered instruction to learner centered interactive environment. Indian government included computer education in its curriculum through national plans 1986. After a small period of time MHRD in 1992 accepted media and educational technology to be one of the major task of the department the training under this task was not for only vocational programs but to make the learner more creative and to provide them a more conducive environment for individualized learning. NCERT in 2000 developed a national curriculum for School Computer Education which was adopted by Indian information technology for teachers training. After this NCERT developed curriculum for the IT in primary education. In same year NCERT developed lesson guides and curriculum books to teach computers for the teachers and the students use. Government efforts to popularize the information technology in educational institutions are praise worthy.

The information technology incorporated in education provides a vision of better quality education facilitated through the adoption and promotion of IT.

In education IT is helpful in following ways:

- 1) For providing database: With huge capacity to store information in the form of computer hard disk, cd and DVD's and I-pods. There has been access to large amount of information. This information helps teachers to develop or improve lesson plans exchange ideas, developed evaluation tools and assignments, keep records of students categorically, finding free animation to support lessons, access to maps graphs and formulas, virtual demonstration of practical's, obviously projections.

2) For providing students access to digital technologies and Internet in or outside the classrooms to do projects , to help in home works ,to see information from net .

3) Learner centered approach is adopted by self paced learning through tools such as assignments tutorials computers etc with respect to. Different learning styles .Continuous assessment and evaluation of learners' progress is possible. Thus IT has become result oriented teaching learning enterprise.

4) Meaningful, vivid, rich in quality and culturally responsive digital content is readily available to both teachers and learners.

5) Immediate or on demand feedback is provided in two way communication of teacher and learners trough e-mail, chat sessions video conferencing, etc. that enhances active participatory learning, sharing ideas , self paced learning and allowing effective mapping of learning pathways. However a feedback study was felt to have an actual idea of advancement in education due to IT.

STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

To study the application of information technology by students & teachers of secondary schools

OBJECTIVES

Hence the study came into being with the objective as follows:

- To study the application of IT in secondary schools.
- To study the different application of IT by different subject teachers in secondary schools.
- To study the application of IT by different students in secondary schools.

NULL HYPOTHESIS

The null hypotheses framed for the study were:

- A. Students of secondary schools do not make vivid use of IT tools (computer) for learning.
- B. Subject teachers of secondary schools do not make vivid use of IT tools for teaching.
- C. Computer as IT tool is not used vividly for teaching learning process in secondary schools.

SAMPLE OF THE STUDY

Four intermediate schools of Meerut were selected purposively where computer education was part of curriculum. Teachers and students of class 9th were selected randomly as sample from the above four colleges.

TOOL USED

A self developed rating scale was used as tool for this study. Separate rating scale was developed for teachers and students. Each scale comprised of 20 statements related to different types of application of computer as IT tool in educational field

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUE USED

Chi-square test was used to analyze the data collected. Percentage was also calculated for statistical analysis

RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

Chi- square analysis led us to the following results

- Chi-square value for student's response frequency for degree of freedom 2 was found to be significant (65.74) at both 0.05 & 0.01 level. Hence null hypothesis 1 was rejected.
- Chi-square analysis of frequency responses of teachers also showed significant value (37.58) at both the levels of 0.05 & 0.01 for degree of freedom 2. Thus second null hypothesis was also rejected.
- Combined frequency responses of teachers and students yielded chi-square value (42.59) much higher than the table value chi-square at both levels. So our null hypothesis was once again rejected. Since the entire three null hypotheses were rejected we concluded as follows:
 - In secondary schools, students make vivid use of IT tools for learning purposes.
 - In secondary schools teachers make vivid use of IT tools for teaching purposes.
 - IT tools like computers are used vividly for teaching learning tasks. Despite of being conducted on a small sample the study reveals silver lining of IT in advancement of education. IT has been a great help not only in formal education system but also has become backbone for the distance education. New dimensions of e-learning, m-learning and i-pod education that has eliminated the boundaries of time, space and curriculum are evolving

rapidly. Now it is up to the policy makers to grab the opportunities to update education and step along with the ever revolutionizing Information technology.

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