

MODERN ERA: AN ESSENTIAL POINT OF THE LEARNING AND TEACHING ENVIRONMENT

Prathibha G

Asst. Professor in Commerce,
BMS College for Women, Bangalore.

Abstract

Modernization of education has changed the way of teaching and learning from Ancient education system to the present Digital way of education. The implementation of Hi-Tech technologies in education system is bridging the gap between the modern and old methods of teaching and learning. The present education system in India mainly comprises of primary, secondary, senior secondary and higher education. The changing method of teaching and learning from Black board to smart board to smart class and E-learning has taken a boon in education system. Paper will highlight on all aspects in education.

Keywords: Learning Methods, Research Methods, Educational Research, Pragmatic Approach

Introduction

Today, the world is progressing much faster in the field of science and technology, which brings a rapid change in society. As of 2014, the number of internet users worldwide, was 2.92 billion, up from 2.71 billion in the previous year. This is the change in evolution of education system. From gurukuls to classes under a tree to class rooms with black boards to white boards to projectors and now finally on computers and laptops with smart classes. The system of education has come a long way and also the teachers, classrooms even students have changed. But one thing which has not changed is imparting knowledge through learning which a never ending process is.

In ancient times, India had the Gurukul a system of education in which anyone who wished to study went to a teacher's (Guru) house and requested to be taught. If accepted as a student by the guru, he would then stay at the guru's place and help in all activities at home. This not only created a strong tie between the teacher and the student, but also taught the student everything about running a house. The guru taught everything the child wanted to learn, from Sanskrit to the holy scriptures and from Mathematics to Metaphysics. All learning was closely linked to nature and to life, and not confined to memorizing some information.

The modern school system was brought to India, including the English language, originally by Lord Thomas Babington Macaulay in the 1830s. The curriculum was confined to "modern" subjects such as science and mathematics, and subjects like metaphysics and philosophy were considered unnecessary. Teaching was confined to classrooms and the link with nature was broken, as also the close relationship between the teacher and the student. Today there are thousands of schools affiliated to the Board, both within India and in many other countries from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe. Universal and compulsory education for all children in the age group of 6-14 was a cherished dream of the new Government of the Republic of India. This is evident from the fact that it is incorporated as a directive policy in article 45 of the constitution. But this objective remains far away even more than half a century later. However, in the recent past, the Government appears to have taken a serious note of this lapse and has made primary education a Fundamental Right of every Indian citizen.

Modern Day Education

Modern day education is aided with a variety of technology, computers, projectors, internet, and many more. Diverse knowledge is being spread among the people. Everything that can be simplified has been made simpler. Science has explored every aspect of life. There is much to learn and more to assimilate. Internet provides abysmal knowledge. There is no end to it. One can learn everything he wishes to. Every topic has developed into a subject. New inventions and discoveries have revealed the unknown world to us more variedly. Once a new aspect is discovered, hundreds of heads start babbling over it, and you get a dogma from hearsay. Not only our planet but the whole universe has become accessible. Skill development and vocational education has added a new feather to the modern system of education.

There is something to learn for everyone. Even an infant these days goes to a kindergarten. Rightly said by Aristotle, "Education is an ornament in prosperity and a refuge in adversity." what everybody feels now.

Well, that was the positive side, but every story has two telling. Of all the virtue, our education system has developed into mere schooling now. Firstly our education is confined to schools and colleges. It has become a process of spoon feeding. "Spoon feeding in the long run teaches us nothing but the shape of the spoon". Not art, not books, but life itself is the true basis of teaching and learning. Cramming of facts and dates, hi-fi mathematical formulas, theories and doctrines should be at college levels when one has chosen his area of interest. Secondly, an art can only be learned from a workshop of those who are earning their bread from it. Modern education has spread more ignorance than knowledge. "How" is missing in our world which causes ignorance. Thirdly all education is bad which is not self-education. Presently, children after school are sent to tuitions. This is a clear question mark on the ability of school teacher. Students are thought of like they can't do anything on their own and so are sent even to do the homework.. Homework is a waste of time, if it is to repeat class work done today or to be repeated as class work to be done tomorrow. Our schooling does not leave us with time to get educated.

Methods of Modern Education

Initially blackboard/duster was used in classroom, but with the advancement in technology teachers started using digital systems like computers, projector, smart board, smart class, virtual classroom, flipclassroom, on-line lectures. Internet has changed the way of teaching and learning. Google is 24*7 teachers. Scientific and Technical knowledge are introduced in national curriculum. Our honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is giving more emphasis on Research, Technology, digital learning and advancement in education.

Drawbacks of modern education system

- We have to create sustainable infrastructure capable of flexible learning and changing in the rapid technology both in human sources and digital communication equipment.
- Our internet connectivity and transport system requires major and positive improvements.
- No uniformity and consistency in syllabus and course content throughout India..
- Most of professional courses and research courses should be merit based and should be able to solve the existing problems in terms of progress for a prosperous India.

Conclusion

The changes in education sector and shifting expectations for the learning environment require educational bodies to examine teaching and learning practices. The forces of change in education system seem to be the need of the hour. However, educational bodies are addressing this shifting landscape with a positive outlook. Change is the essence of progress and our education system requires major changes without which we cannot compete in the international market. We have a positive approach and will be able to reach high level of standard in Education

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