Topical Learning Trends

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Abstract: The concept of e-learning is a technology-mediated learning approach of great potential from the educational perspective and it has been one of the main research lines of educational technology in the last decades. Learning is a constant aspect of our lives. There is no broadening of knowledge without learning. We learn each second, in numerous ways. There is an understanding of the vitality and the implementation of the recent course of learning and education. This article is unique and gives an insight about the upcoming setup of tutoring. Education also helps in cognitive, affective and psychomotor skills. The cognitive aspect is the most dominating aspect and is considered the single most crucial aspect for humans. Effective and psychomotor factors also contribute a lot to individual success in life. Affective is an essential aspect of students’ development, often ignored by educators in the learning process. This aspect has a significant contribution to the social life of students [1]. This means that the affective part plays an essential role in shaping individual attitudes and behaviour in social interactions in society. Therefore, education is considered a very appropriate socialization agent about attitudes and behaviour as social class indicators. You will be pleased to go through the different ongoing trends of education I have mentioned in the article.

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1. Introduction

Growth is an important factor of one’s personality. Our personality is a combination of our knowledge, body language, communication skills, thought process and the outlook we have towards life. It is not built overnight but is a constant process of inculcation and observation of our surroundings. It is achieved by various measures, including consistent reconditioning and awareness of one’s subject. It is important to be in the competition and keeping up with the modern scenario of getting upskilled.

There is no fixed setup which one can follow when it comes to education and learning. There has to be regular analysis and, innovation should be done as per requirement. There must be different levels for different age groups of students. But preliminary years are the basis of any learning and modelling an individual. The next stage depends on these initial years only. If a child’s foundation is strong, so will be his concepts in the coming future. Since, all the practical applications of basics come in later aspects of life when a person becomes professionally independent. Education prepares its wings to fly and explore the surroundings while being confident and opportunistic.

Literature survey: The available literature fairly indicates the vitality of education and learning whether it’s curricular, or co-curricular. The different trends focus on social, emotional and mental well being of a person. The most important pillars to sustain the trends of learning are Resource Management, Educational Attainment, and Professional Development and Innovation. They form a great framework for overall educational development in current scenario. As per the case studies and literature, learning is basically of four types: Technology Driven, Delivery System Oriented, Communication Oriented and Educational Paradigm Oriented. The data is very well researched and applied in different institutions. Their efficiency and effectiveness are widely tested and accepted.

Dron and Anderson [2] identified four generations of e-learning pedagogies: The behaviorist/cognitivist, the social constructivist, the connectivist, and the holistic generation. The relevance of each pedagogical approach depends on the technological capabilities that it uses. The holistic generation includes: Learning analytics, collective technologies, deep learning and artificial intelligence, disaggregated tools and services, mobility and device diversity, the internet of things and ubiquitous computing, virtual and augmented reality, and 3D printing.

Education builds individuals, educated individuals build better societies, and better societies build great nations. It is a powerful weapon that aids an individual to face the adversities of life and overcome social stigmas such as poverty, fear, status to achieve success. Education is the hope for development and success. Mandatory education builds the scope of better growth and development.

No higher-order skill will be more important for pupils to develop in the twenty-first century than critical thinking. Schools should integrate it into their curricula, thereby allowing students to acquire new skills in preparation for a dynamic and rapidly changing labour market. Educators, psychologists, and philosophers agree on the importance of critical thinking, but there is a lack of agreement on what the concept entails and on how it should be taught. It is against this background that the present study examines primary-school teachers’ perceptions of teaching strategies aimed at stimulating pupils’ core critical-thinking skills [3]. Twenty-one teachers working in European Schools in Brussels were questioned by means of semi-structured interviews, and the results showed the importance of group discussion, cooperative learning, brainstorming, and debate to teaching practice aimed at promoting critical thinking. This research contributes to defining a framework in innovative teaching methods for promoting critical thinking.
Research by Zeichner (2003) \[4\] pointed out that teachers who conduct research are more responsive to difficult situations that emerge in their teaching. Also, when conducting teacher research, teachers are encouraged to constantly reflect on their educational practice and develop a critical, reflective stance. These are all aspects of what is referred to as “research attitude”.

2. **Problem Definition**

The problem today is lack of awareness among scholars as well as institutes nationwide regarding constant improvement in their techniques. They don’t realize when and how their methods become obsolete and out of league. Sometimes, financial constraints are there which don’t let them grow and excel even after knowing their deficiencies. Systematic programs should be made to provide financial aid to such budding institutions so that they can prove to be a boon to our nation. Several factors like unemployment, poverty, safety, lack of resources makes the whole education system weak. The substantial effect of illiteracy is ‘unemployment.’ Unemployment hinders the progress of a nation-leading to low standards of living and an increased crime rate. India is stuck in a critical situation where almost 58 percent of unemployed graduates and 77 percent of the families are void of regular income. About 67 percent receive an annual income of less than 1.2 Lakh per annum\[5\].

In this circumstance, India cannot risk leaving any child illiterate, as it would push him towards a life of unemployment and misery.

Research has indicated that dialogic approaches have desirable effects in education, but it is also well-known that it can be a challenge for teachers to make the transition from the traditional teacher role to that of the facilitator. The main findings were that the teachers encountered many challenges, especially when it came to adopting the role of a facilitator and supporting the students’ reasoning and interaction. In addition, their own assessments of their performances were generally unreliable. Nonetheless, with supervised training, the teachers were successful in learning to facilitate philosophical dialogues\[6\].

India’s school education landscape is facing daunting challenges. The country was reeling under an acute learning crisis, even before the Covid-19 pandemic, with one in two children lacking basic reading proficiency at the age of 10. The pandemic threatens to exacerbate this crisis, especially because of the physical closure of 15.5 lakh schools that has affected more than 248 million students for over a year.

Coalescing with the learning crisis is the Fourth Industrial Revolution - the imperative now is to reimagine education and align it with the unprecedented technological transformation. As traditional brick-and-mortar service delivery models are being disrupted across sectors, the pandemic offers a critical, yet stark, reminder of the impending need to weave technology into education. India’s new National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is responsive to the clarion call to integrate technology at every level of instruction. It envisions the establishment of an autonomous body, the National Education Technology Forum (NETF), to spearhead efforts towards providing a strategic thrust to the deployment and use of technology.

**Role of Education in Nation Building:**

For any developing country, inclusive of India, to achieve the objectives of development, any form of social evils like a criminal offense against women, malnutrition, illiteracy, child labor, poverty, poor health and hygiene, water shortage, corruption, crime rates, gender inequality, etc. must meet its end.

Education builds individuals, educated individuals build better societies, and better societies build great nations. It is a powerful weapon that aids an individual to face the adversities of life and overcome social stigmas such as poverty, fear, status to achieve success. Education is the hope for development and success. Mandatory education builds the scope of better growth and development.

The most crucial objective of any developing country is to make its teens and youth well-educated and skilled to contribute to economic growth constructively. Education is the most potent weapon that fights against all prevailing social evils and is imperative for any nation to achieve the success of the development. Today, India is known as the world’s fastest-growing economy, which is about to surpass China to achieve sustainable development by 2030 with the rest of the world. A feat only possible through education and literacy.

3. **Methodology/Approach**

Firstly, a specific preliminary documentary search was conducted. The most frequent methodology used is case study on e-learning. The learning methods used in these case studies are as follows:

1. **Blended Learning**

The first form of learning is, Blended Learning, it is a classroom structure in which scholars learn partially from direct teacher instruction and partially in more self-directed activities. This mixture can be a perfect way, if students are learning from both school and home next year. Although it’s still difficult to predict how and when students will return to school, but the major predictions are in the favor that blended learning will be on the rise from next school year.

2. **Gamification**

Another learning strategy is, Gamification, it involves using games and rewards to teach students. This strategy has plenty of critics as well as supporters. Many of them rightly discourage the use of external rewards for learning, but others counter that when the games and rewards help child’s intrinsic motivation to learn such as rewarding a child who finishes reading a chapter from a book on their own, the benefits can be extremely heartfelt. Students who
play gamified activities in class can learn to value learning as its own reward and become active, engaged learners over time.

3. Bite-Sized Learning

Bite-sized learning is an educational technique which provides students with short, intensive activities that target specific academic skills. It has been described as an approach that “takes into account the contemporary demands of learner lifestyles that might hinder longer periods of focused study and time spent in the classroom”, by a guest with Cambridge University Press.

Considering the current trend of online classes, bite-sized learning activities may be especially useful. A thoughtful use of brief activities to teach new skills allows teachers to take into account a student’s limited capacity for long and focused lessons from home. Or, if students return to your classroom, this technique can still be useful for making the most of time spent in class.

4. Digital Citizenship

For students, digital citizenship is explained as the ability to use technology and the internet both efficiently and appropriately. Good digital citizenship has become increasingly necessary, but as assignments and class lessons moved online, students need the skills to develop a healthy relationship with digital media.

5. Genius Hour

Genius Hour is an equitably new educational technique which allows students to work on self-paced and self-chosen projects for an hour each day. This motivates students to practice their inventiveness and unconventional thinking skills, and they can also develop a genuine love of learning.

6. STEAM

STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) curriculum is comparatively familiar term, it prepares students to enter the workforce with practical, high-demand skills. But, adding the arts alongside these subjects (thus creating STEAM: STEM plus arts) can improve your students’ academic performance.

For instance, adding art assignments to science and math lessons can help low-attaining students understand STEM subjects better. And it improves innovativeness, a useful skill for any academic subject. Also, STEAM curriculum is proved to provide students with a more well-rounded and practical education than STEM alone.

7. Personalized Learning

Over the past few years, personalized learning has been on the rise. When school curriculum is adaptive to a student’s unique requirement, it’s more likely to promote student progress because each child can move at their correct pace. Plus, adaptive software programs allow teachers to use the same program for all students in their classroom, including those with learning disabilities.

8. Experiential learning

It is a strategy that allows students to develop knowledge and skills in a setting outside the classroom. For primary students, options for experiential learning may be limited. But you can still make the most of this strategy by taking students on field trips (virtual or otherwise) and providing students with assignments that encourage them to learn outside the school.

9. Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)

Social-emotional learning continues to be an important jargon. When teachers take time to nurture a student’s educational as well as social-emotional development, academic development improves and classroom behavioral issues diminish. And with the COVID-19 crisis changing many students’ lives in stressful ways, social-emotional learning will continue to be a necessity for their well-being.

Benefits associated with different types of learning-

As we can clearly observe that these methods immensely help a student become a better individual whether it’s in terms of knowledge or in terms of personality. They offer overall development of a person for a long term. These measures should be inculcated in running education system from elementary level.

Lately, poverty is on the decline in the country and is one of the greatest evils of illiteracy. Till the year 2012, India earned the appellation of having the most significant number of poor in the world.

In India, nearly 70.6 million people still live in abject poverty, and the way to discard the vicious cycle of poverty is through Education. Higher rates of literacy result in high access to employability, which in turn provides better living conditions.

The caste system is the world’s longest surviving social hierarchy in India. Caste-based discrimination cripples the path of sustainable development in India. A society that discriminates based on caste, creed, race, religion, or color remains entangled in the web of hatred, poverty, and inadequate resources. The contributing factor to the prevalent orthodox customs is illiteracy. Education changes an individual’s perspective on caste discrimination. It makes an individual caste neutral with a progressive mindset that wills to contribute productively to the nation.

Education is an integral tool that helps a nation to achieve economic growth and stability. India homes twenty million youths that graduate annually from various disciplines and set out to aid in the economic development of the nation. Educating youth and adults reveals the hidden potential, which could lead India to the path of development.
Countries with a high rate of illiteracy are bound with poor hygienic conditions and health. India has walked past the decades where it lost millions of lives to diseases that resulted from the absence of healthcare facilities and poor sanitation.

To improvise the health and hygiene sector of the country, schemes such as ‘Swachh Bharat Mission,’ Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram’ etc., draws people to come safely under the fold. A literate person gains knowledge about health and hygiene issues and the schemes of the government and benefits from them.

4. Results / Discussions

The major output generated from research methodology is that the teaching methods adopted in today’s world are very advanced and in line with the current scenario of pandemic. The technology should always stay updated and e-learning should be made a regular part of curriculum. The pupils should be provided with assignments in both online and offline medium. There should be extra classes for clearing the concepts of students if required. Some additional staff should be incorporated to avoid burdening on existing staff and increasing productivity. Education is a powerful weapon that aids an individual to face the adversities of life and overcome societal stigmas such as poverty, fear, status to achieve success. Education is the hope of development and success for most third-world countries and the world’s dominion countries. Mandatory education builds the scope of better growth and development. Education is a fundamental asset for humans. It allows an individual to explore the world through their knowledge. It is the primary factor that empowers an individual to fight the challenges. A nation is an amalgamation of different societies. The behavioral responses of individual societies reflect the overall growth and development of the nation. An educated and well-cultured society leads to a progressive society. The importance of education in a society helps it overcome the shackles of inequality, corruption, poverty, unemployment, gender inequality, economic disparity, etc., by empowering all citizens literate and by ensuring compulsory education for all.

5. Conclusion

The above measures are very effective when it comes to holistic development of a student turning into an employee or an entrepreneur. They ensure a civilized, empathetic, knowledgeable, competitive, ambitious individual, ready to face workplace challenges gracefully and also to accept the defeats if any. The trends will open up an individual’s mind to look at things with broader perspective. They will prove to be a boon if applied religiously. Educational methods should provide students with personalized, learner centered, open, enjoyable and interactive learning environment supporting and enhancing the learning processes. Education has the potential to revolutionize the course of a nation – with skilled and educated youths. A nation comprises a higher rate to achieve its targeted economic growth and sit among the league known as the developed nation. A well-educated nation discards any obstacles that hinder its growth and strives hard to attain sustainable development.

India is well-poised to take this leap forward with increasing access to tech-based infrastructure, electricity, and affordable internet connectivity, fueled by flagship programs such as Digital India and the Ministry of Education’s initiatives, including the Digital Infrastructure for School Education (DIKSHA), open-source learning platform and UDISE+ one of the largest education management information systems in the world.

A comprehensive ed-tech policy architecture must focus on four key elements - providing access to learning, especially to disadvantaged groups; enabling processes of teaching, learning, and evaluation; facilitating teacher training and continuous professional development; improving governance systems including planning, management, and monitoring processes.

This explanatory case study aims to investigate conceptual changes on the part of gifted and talented students and describe their reflective thinking with regard to problem-solving as part of the problem-based learning (PBL) process. Twenty-two gifted and talented fourth grade primary school students participated in the study. The students were taught with problem-based science modules for eight weeks. The data collection tools used were “structured reflective diaries with regard to problem-solving” and a “semi-structured interview form with regard to conceptual learning”. Data analysis revealed that the PBL enriches the conceptual science learning of gifted and talented students. The reflective thinking of such students with regard to problem-solving was mostly involved questioning and evaluation. In their diaries, the students’ reflections included explanations of, and questions about, the issues and concepts in the problem-solving process, evaluations of the comparison of solutions among their peers, and new problems in the subject area. However, students only explained the operations they performed in solving the problem superficially. Therefore, students’ reflections, which included their awareness of the activities they had performed as part of PBL, were limited [7].

6. Future Scope

The ever-changing educational tools and techniques need refurbishing in constant manner. Coaching or educational institutions cannot afford to lag behind one another in terms of measures they use in development of their students. In fact, they have to keep ahead of each other. But this competition should stay healthy and productive. There should not be any negative impact on students in the fight of institutes reaching the peak of market. Student’s interest and learning should be on top priority. Education in India refers to the process of learning, training and training human capitals in schools and universities. The Indian government reflects specific economic policies that emphasize the importance of education in India. Cross-country experience and research provide us with crucial insights on what works and what doesn’t. First,
technology is a tool, and not a panacea. Second, technology must be in service of the learning model. There is a danger in providing digital infrastructure without a plan on how it’s to be deployed or what teaching-learning approaches it would support. Third, technology cannot substitute schools or replace teachers. It’s not “teachers versus technology”; the solution is in “teachers and technology”. In fact, tech solutions are impactful only when embraced and effectively leveraged by teachers.

Conditional on good learning design, technology holds promise and has incredible potential in enabling greater personalisation of education and enhancing educational productivity by improving rates of learning, reducing costs of instructional material and service delivery at scale, as well as better utilisation of teacher/instructor time.

The Indian ed-tech ecosystem has a lot of potential for innovation. With over 4, 500 start-ups and a current valuation of around $700 million, the market is geared for exponential growth - estimates project an astounding market size of $30 billion in the next 10 years. There are, in fact, several examples of grassroots innovation. The Hamara Vidhyalaya in Namdai district, Arunachal Pradesh, is fostering tech-based performance assessments; Assam’s online career guidance portal is strengthening school-to-work and higher-education transition for students in grades 9 to 12; Samarth in Gujarat is facilitating the online professional development of lakhs of teachers in collaboration with IIM-Ahmedabad; Jharkhand’s DigiSATH is spearheading behaviour change by establishing stronger parent-teacher-student linkages; Himachal Pradesh’s HarGhar Pathshala is providing digital education for children with special needs; Uttarakhand’s community radio is promoting early reading through byte-size broadcasts; Madhya Pradesh’s DigiLEP is delivering content for learning enhancement through a well-structured mechanism with over 50, 000 WhatsApp groups covering all clusters and secondary schools; and Kerala’s Aksharavriksham initiative is focusing on digital “edutainment” to support learning and skill development via games and activities [8].

To craft a cohesive strategy, action needs to be taken on multiple fronts. In the immediate term, there must be a mechanism to thoroughly map the ed-tech landscape, especially their scale, reach, and impact. The focus should be on access, equity, infrastructure, governance, and quality-related outcomes and challenges for teachers and students.

In the short to medium-term, the policy formulation and planning process must strive to enable convergence across schemes (education, skills, digital governance, and finance), foster integration of solutions through public-private partnerships, factor in voices of all stakeholders, and bolster cooperative federalism across all levels of government. Here, lessons may be drawn from the Government of India’s Aspirational Districts Program on tech-enabled monitoring and implementation that emphasize citizen engagement, partnerships and effective service delivery.

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