



Acharya Patashala Educational Trust



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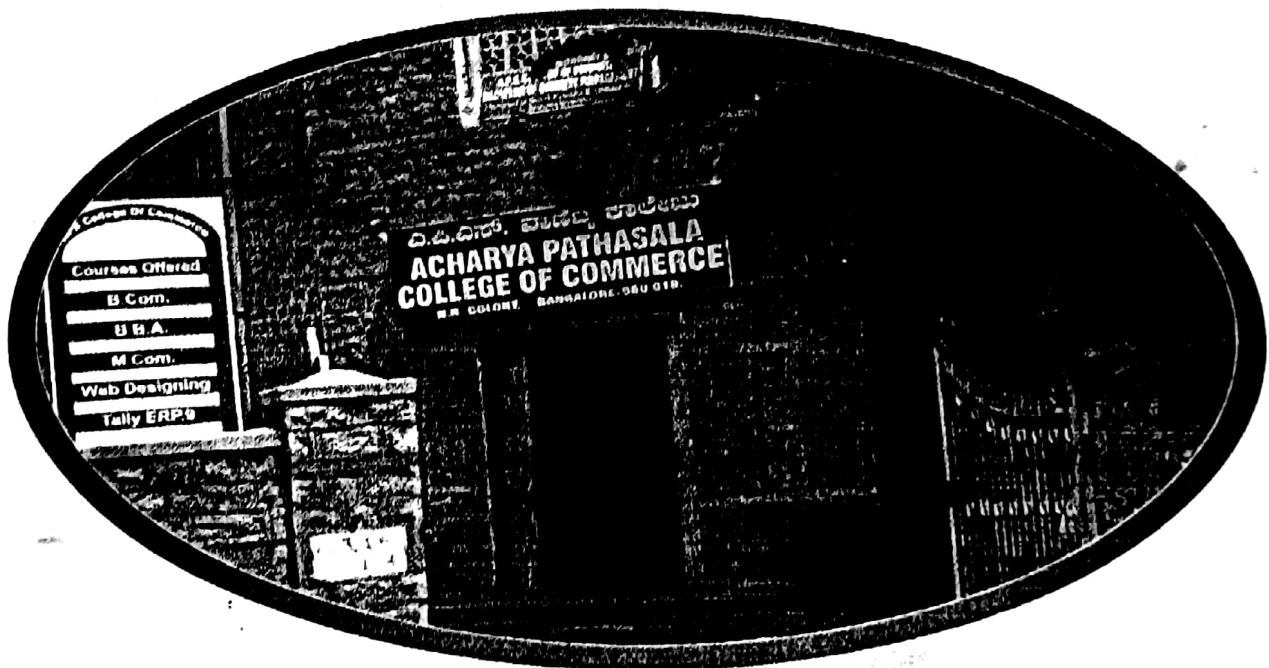


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on

'Strategies for Achieving Excellence in Business Education- A Global Perspective'

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Purpose of implementation of ICT

The main purpose of implementation of ICT in education is to provide the prospectus and trends of integrating information and communication technology to the educational activities.

ICT has been developing very rapidly these days. Therefore, in order to balance it, the whole educational system should be reformed and ICT should be integrated in to the educational activities.

The learning activities should be reoriented and reformulated from the manual source to open source.

Conventional teaching has emphasized content. Teachers have thought through lectures and presentations. To promote competency and performance ICT is needed, as it is concerned more with how the information will be used than what the information is.

Effectiveness of ICTs in Education

ICTs are potentially powerful tool for extending educational opportunities, both formal and non-formal, to previously underserved constituencies—scattered and rural populations, groups traditionally excluded from education due to cultural or social reasons such as ethnic minorities, girls and women, persons with disabilities, and the elderly, as well as all others who for reasons of cost or because of time constraints are unable to enroll on campus.

- ***Anytime, anywhere.*** Online course materials may be accessed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. ICT-based educational delivery (e.g., educational programming broadcast over radio or television) also dispenses with the need for all learners and the instructor to be in one physical location. Additionally, certain types of ICT, such as teleconferencing technologies, enable instruction to be received simultaneously by multiple, geographically dispersed learners (i.e., synchronous learning).
- ***Access to remote learning resources.*** Teachers and learners no need to depend on printed books and other materials in physical media housed in libraries, available in limited quantities for their educational needs. With the Internet and the World Wide Web, a wealth of learning materials in almost every subject can now be accessed from anywhere at any time of the day and by an unlimited number of people.

Advantages of ICT in Education

1. Promotes independent learning in students

The internet is a treasure of information. Practically anything you need to know can be found online. Although there is a question of the credibility of the source and the data provided, it can still serve as an educational resource for students. Even without assistance from parents and teachers, students can just look up their lessons online.

Unlike regular textbooks, electronic books and web-based content are updated in real time, feeding students with the most current information they can get their hands on, helping them become more knowledgeable even outside the classroom setting.

2. Prepares students for the future

From the way technological advancements are going, it is obvious that the future will be digital and

technology-focused. If students are well-versed on using technology to collaborate and communicate as early as now, they will not have trouble fitting in, competing and finding jobs in the future. Being familiar with using at least one form of technology at an early age will help them become comfortable to using it.

3. Has the potential to lower textbook and tuition prices

It is possible that students may no longer need to buy a textbook, if it is converted in to digital format. The actual books can stay in the classroom, while the content is saved on student's computer. Tuition will also decrease when learning is done online, rather than inside the classroom. By taking out the factors that contribute to a higher tuition fee, such as utility bills and transportation allowances of teachers, the overall cost of education will be lower.

4. Allows teachers to create an exciting way to educate students

Gone are the days when the only tools for teaching are limited to books, a blackboard or whiteboard and a chalk or markers. With technology integrated to education, teachers can now incorporate images, videos and other graphics when delivering lessons. Specific websites, apps and programs will also enable teachers to vary provide instructions. This creates an exciting learning environment and promotes interest in education in general.

5. Encourages development of new teaching methods

Rather than spend an hour, teachers and professors now have the option to use advanced teaching methods such as podacasts, blogs and social media. When working with a particular group one-on-one, teachers can take advantage of web conferencing technologies other online communication tools. Technology also presents universal tools that enable teachers to educate all types of students, including those who are struggling or have special needs. These include voice recognition, text to speech converter, translator, volume control, word prediction software and other assistive technologies.

Disadvantages of ITC in Business Education

1. Results in a lack of interest in studying

Because everything is now accessible online or through data saved in a computer or mobile devices, students are likely to develop poor studying habits and a lazy attitude towards education. Some of them may even think they can skip classes because they can find answers and lessons online. They may not want teachers when they get information easily through internet. This can also lead to students forgetting the basics of studying. They would rather rely on computers and the internet, instead of their books and input from their teachers. Most of them will misspell words because they often use spellcheckers. Rather than solve mathematical equations the traditional way, they would seek assistance from computers or look for the answers directly through search engines. When it is time to take the tests in the classroom and without any form of technology, students are likely to fail.

2. Makes students vulnerable to potential pitfalls

While computers prove to be an invaluable educational tool, it can also be a source of problems. This is especially true for students who lack the skills needed to maximize devices functionalities. Technical problems and computer malfunctions can causeless of assignments and other materials resulting in high level of stress those students would rather not experience. Difference in interest speed and devices capabilities can also lead to certain difficulties that will de-motivate students. Add to this other things that they will discover online ,which are completely unrelated to education and they will be discover online, which are completely unrelated to education, and they will be distracted to no end.

3. Negative views on technology

Consumerism has taught us that technologies from computers to mobile devices are widely viewed as tools to entertain rather than educate. Textbooks, on the other hand are seen as tools for learning. So, between a textbook, students are likely to gravitate towards learning when reading a book, while they are likely to use a tablet to play games or spend time on social media.

4. Raise instructional challenges

For professors and teachers to stay abreast with technology, they may need to be retained. Those who have been teaching all their lives using traditional methods may not be very susceptible to the changes being applied. They may even see it as a threat to their job security and shun technology altogether. In fact a majority of teachers believe that constant use of digital technology is affecting a student's attention span and his ability to persevere when a challenging task is thrown his way. Although such belief is subjective, scholars, experts and teachers all agree that technology has changed the way students learn.

5. Can diminish overall value of in-person education

Although research on online learning did not establish a direct link to how personal interaction affects students performance, data gathered did show that those who enrolled in online courses have higher chances of failing, dropping out of classes, and are less likely to benefit from them. This may have something to do with the fact that lessons delivered online or through digital resources lack the face-to-face interaction between teacher and student that provides a more personal experience.

6. Plagiarism

Apart from Web sites that claim to help students write term papers, there are numerous cases of students downloading information from the Net and turning them in for grades. We can minimize this problem by requiring students to cite research sources.

The Promise of ICT in Education

1. For developing countries ICT have the potential for increasing access to and improving the relevance and quality of education
2. ICT greatly facilitate the absorption of knowledge, offering opportunities to enhance educational systems, improve policy formulation, and widen the range of opportunities for business
3. ICT is a potentially powerful tool for extending educational opportunities, both formal and non-formal. May be accessed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
4. Ability to be creative in problem-solving and logical thinking.
5. Effective Communication ability to work in a team, Ability to have the competency in conveying, transmitting, accessing and understanding information, ability to apply what they learn in the classroom to real-life contexts to create relevant and high-quality products.
6. ICT can improve the quality of education by increasing learner motivation and engagement, by facilitating the acquisition of basic skills, and by enhancing teacher training
7. Motivating to learn ICT such as videos, television and multimedia computer software that combine text, sound, and colourful, moving images can be used to provide challenging and authentic content that will engage the student in the learning process
8. ICT has also been used to improve access to and the quality of teacher training.
9. Through ICT. Active learning, Collaborative learning, Creative Learning, Integrative learning and Evaluative learning are possible.

10. For developing countries ICT has the potential for increasing access to and improving the relevance and quality of education. It thus represents a potentially equalizing strategy for developing countries.

However, the reality of the Digital Divide—the gap between those who have access to and control of technology and those who do not—means that the introduction and integration of ICTs at different levels and in various types of education will be a most challenging undertaking. Failure to meet the challenge would mean a further widening of the knowledge gap and the deepening of existing economic and social inequalities.

Challenges to Using ICT in Education

While using ICT in education has some obvious benefits, ICT also bring challenges. First is the high cost of acquiring, installing, operating, maintaining and replacing ICT. While potentially of great importance, the integration of ICT into teaching is still in its infancy.

Introducing ICT systems for teaching in developing countries has a particularly high opportunity cost because installing them is usually more expensive in absolute terms than in industrialized countries whereas, in contrast, alternative investments (e.g. buildings) are relatively less costly (UNESCO, 2009).

The four most common challenges in introducing ICT into teaching are i) installing learning technology without reviewing student needs and content availability; ii) imposing technological systems from the top down without involving faculty and students; iii) using inappropriate content from other regions of the world without customizing it appropriately; and iv) producing low quality content that has poor instructional design and is not adapted to the technology in use (UNESCO, 2009)

Also since not all teachers are experts with ICT they may be lax in updating the course content online which can slow down the learning among students.

- The potential of plagiarism is high as student can copy information rather than learning and developing their own skills.
- There is a need for training all stakeholders in ICT.
- The cost of hardware and software can be very high.

Conclusion

The increasing use of information and communication technologies has brought changes to teaching and learning at all levels of higher education systems leading to quality enhancements.. The use of ICT in education not only improves classroom teaching learning process, but also provides the facility of e-learning. ICT has enhanced distance learning.. It is important that teachers or trainers should be made to adopt technology in their teaching styles to provide pedagogical and educational gains to the learners. Successful implementation of ICT to lead change is more about influencing and empowering teachers and supporting them in their engagement with students in learning rather than acquiring computer skills and obtaining software and equipment. ICT enabled education will ultimately lead to the democratization of education.

In sum, not all lessons can be incorporated into the Internet. In teaching using the Net, we have to convince that using the Net adds something new, some real value to our teaching. But also, students should be trained to use the available technology efficiently.

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CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION Background of the Study Information and Communication Technology (ICT) plays a crucial role

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ROLE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY IN BUSINESS EDUCATION

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Abstract

Technological change and globalization have created a new global economy. Information and communication technologies occupying a complex position in relation to globalization. The emergence of this new global economy has serious implications on the nature and purpose of educational institution. This article discusses the roles of ICT in education. ICT at present are influencing every aspect of human life. They are playing salient role in work place, business education and entertainment. Many people recognizes ICT has catalyst for change, change in working conditions, handling and exchanging information, learning approaches and in accessing information.

This research paper found that, confront the integration of ICT in education in the area of educational policies, planning infrastructure and language. It discusses the role of ICTs, promises, limitations and key challenges of integration systems.

The paper concluded that business education to be well equipped to anticipate and respond to opportunities created by ICT in order to participate productively and equitably in an increasingly technology rich and knowledge driven world. The paper recommended among others that the learning through ICT should be used to promote the development of basic skills, problem solving and communication skills and the professional development of the teachers. Regardless of all limitations, ICT benefits education system to provide quality education in alignment with constructivism which is contemporary paradigm of learning.

Introduction

ICT is a force that has changed many aspects of the way we live. If we compare such fields as medicine, tourism, travel business, banking sector and other fields, the impact of ICT during past two to three decades has been enormous. But when we look at education there seems to have been lack of influence and less change than other fields.

The knowledge based economy sets a new scene for education and new challenges and promises for the education sector. The education is a prerequisite of the knowledge based economy. Production and use of technology both require a more educated population and workforce. So ICT are powerful tools to gain knowledge, information and fundamental aspect of education process.

There have been number of hurdles for adopting ICT in education field such as lack of funding, purchase technology, lack of training among teaching faculty, lack of motivation among teachers to adopt ICT as teaching tools. In recent times so many factors strengthened and encouraged more to adopt ICT in to classrooms and learning settings.