Innovative Practices In Education

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ABSTRACT

Education is the process of providing knowledge especially in school, college or in university for the betterment of students. It shapens one's thoughts, skills, beliefs which helps in building his/her career. The main technique of imparting knowledge is through books. But with the passage of time, books are not enough for serving the purpose, there is a need of novelty in the field of education to get accustomed with the changing scenario. This study emphasis on various innovative methods to improvise the educational system. The paper throws light on the impact of different innovative techniques on education around the world. Various techniques are 3D learning in Dubai, Robot teachers in South Korea, Paperless classroom in England, Literacy Brigades in Cuba etc. Along with these techniques there are some others like audio-visual aids, brainstorming, welcoming new ideas, starting school clubs etc. The puorse of this study is to explore not only the lessons of textbooks but also for the lessons of life. Education plays a pivotal role for all individuals in the society. It helps in making them socially and economically viable. This article shows that advancement is necessary to adapt the modern methods of education.

Key Words: Innovation, Education, Techniques, Knowledge.

INTRODUCTION: The root of the word "Education" is derived from Latin words, a) Educare- to nourish b) Educatum- act of teaching definition c) Educare- to lead forth. It is a process of learning which is transferred from one generation to the next through teaching, training or research. It is basically preparing a person to face everyday life. Education encourages people to think about what they learn. It helps us in becoming active and effective. There are different categories on type of education. Ist is formal education which is basically in school where a person learns variety of skills. From kindergarten to elementary school continues with secondary school and post secondary
education which is usually in college or in university. IIInd is non-formal education means education equivalent to school level but not actually in school. It is imparted through distance learning, home education, programmed learning. Third is informal education includes learning of students by the parents such as how to ride a bicycle or How to eat etc. It is that type of education when you are not using any particular type of learning method.

Innovation means to do something creatively. It is measured by the people whose lives have been transformed, how many proposals have been implemented and how many discoveries have been made. Innovation is today's need especially in the field of education and that must commence from teachers. A good teacher inspires a student for gaining knowledge whereas a bad teacher on the contrary, totally destroys a student aspirations. Because of creativity, teacher should always be ready for open discussion and welcoming students' suggestions butto be creative, teacher should improve their skills. Lots of good books, professional courses and various techniques available for serving the purpose which is going to be discussed in this article.

**PURPOSE :** The first and the main objective of education is to educate all the learners and to give them a chance to be successful in life. Education works as an engine for our economy. It act as a base for developing culture. Earlier the main purpose of education is to teach one and all so that they think intensively and critically. Man would become the most unpredictable criminal if he has no moral values. Intelligence alone doesn’t hold sufficiency but if it merged with character, the ultimate goal of education can be achieved. As time changes, scope of education has been widened up. So in order to maintain the widened scope, some innovation techniques have to be initiated. Now the focus is on overall development of each learner to live creatively, ethically, morally and productively. But now education not only provides morals, overall development but it helps in developing the intellect, for serving social needs, to be economically independent, for creating an effective workforce, for promoting a social. Or political system. To maintain the ancestral roots, innovative techniques must be adopted in the educational system. To help the students in becoming critical thinkers, innovation is required. It helps the students in competing globally.
NEED:- Education is the need of hour. It widens our outlook. It helps us in knowing what is right or what is wrong and to make better choices. Education enhances our thinking capacity and ennobles our mind and improves our sensing ability. It promotes understanding among all the people. It contributes towards a change for the betterment of society. For implementing change, there must be some innovation in education sector from time to time. These innovations help in making learner feel enthusiastic and career-oriented. Mirsha(2007) has a different viewpoint regarding styles of teaching. Mirsha supports three styles of teaching. These are discipline-centered, instructor-centered and student-centered. Discipline-centered is a structured form without any flexibility for what is to be and when it is taught. This is an ineffective approach because teaching must require some flexibility. In instructor-centered style, learners are very much dependent on teacher. They can't gather information on their own. This approach also has limited scope. Student-centered style of teaching is the learner centered and focuses on cognitive development of students. It lays more emphasis on the needs of the individual learner which helps them to learn various ways and develop various abilities. All these styles need some improvement from time to time which is possible only through new ideas. Innovation makes student understand the subject rather than cramping it. It grabs the students' attention in the classroom.

INSPIRING INNOVATIONS IN EDUCATION:- Education basically, belongs to impart knowledge and enhance various skills. The most interesting thing about innovation & education is that innovation is frequently aspired by education but education till now has never been extremely impacted by innovation. With the changing era, the value of education technology has increased manifold. Future education is all about learning on their own which leads to end of universities and networking with smart people.

1) Duolingo:- It is a language teaching software launched in 2012 having 50 million users. The main purpose of Duolingo is to give each and everyone an opportunity to learn a language free of cost. Duolinguists interpret the texts for CNN and buzzfeed with the help of navigate in that app. It is a science based
technique. Various languages served such as Italian, Portuguese, German, French, Spanish, Russian, Japanese, Dutch, Swedish, Irish, Turkish etc. It's founder is Luis von Ahn, Severing Hacker.

2) **Minerva:** Minerva schools at Keck graduate institute is an educational organisation which was founded in partnership with Keck graduate institute, member of Claremont university consortium. It is established in 2012 in San Francisco, USA. It is a for-profit projects that provides technology, infrastructure and support services. It offers online and on-campus courses that are highly integrated.

3) **Divergent Thinking:** This concept is given by Ken Robinson. The main idea behind divergent thinking is that there are lots of possible answers to a question and not stick to one option as a norm. The main point is to see the range of possibilities in everything rather than single one. In 1960's, a test was carried out to check the divergent thinking abilities of 1,600 school kids between 3 and 5, 8 and 10 and finally 13 and 15. Initially 98% of group ranked as "Divergent Thinking Geniuses". By age 10, only 30% of same group qualified to such level. By age 15, only 10% of kids were thinking at a genius level of divergence.

4) **MOOC.Courses:** It stands for Massive open online course. It is an online course aimed at unlimited participation and open access through web. It is offered by top universities and colleges in a wide variety of subjects like computer science, data science, business and management. It provides an affordable and flexible way to learn new skills, delivering quality educational experiences and helps in advancing one's career. MOOC.org is an extension of edx, a leader in online learning and education.

5) **Mc-Graw Hill SmartBook:** SmartBook is the digital version of course textbook. This book customises the content towards student's individual needs. It is a one point destination for all courses and assignments. As student started reading on the platform, he/she is introduced with the number of questions. SmartBook determines the topics based upon the answers that students have given. McGraw Hill is the first company which provides this
kind of platform. It is the best way to read the whole book from start to end.

6) **Andela**: Andela was founded in 2014 for building a technology network in the African continent. It tries to bridge the gap between the United States and Africa. A team of twelve people put best possible efforts to make Andela. Their motto is to make Africa a world-class technical leader. Christina Sass is the president of Andela. It gives a chance for undeveloped talents to work for American tech companies.

7) **Avanti**: Avanti learning centres were opened with a mission of providing help to students across India to get into renowned engineering and medical colleges. It was started by two people one is Akshay Saxena, co-founder & director and other it Krishna Ramkumar, co-founder & CEO and later on various people joined this organization. For attaining their basic purpose Smart Gurukals(learning centres) at various places like Chennai, New Delhi, Ghaziabad, Mumbai, Karnata, Kolkata etc. were opened up with a classroom technology to give effective science and mathematics education to over 4,000 students. Their program focus on preparing the students for IIT, JEE, NEET, CET. Their work is appreciated by Echoing Green, Draper Richards Kaplan Foundation, Ashoka and Forbes. Their philosophy is to make a blend of traditional and modern system of "Guru Shishya Parampara". Gurus are not only academically good but they are full of motivation who really transforms the student's ideas into reality by focusing on each and everyone.

8) **Cloud Computing, Intel**: Cloud computing is a method for delivering information technology (IT) services in which resources are retrieved from the internet through web-based tools and applications. It makes storage easy and saves time. It is called cloud computing because information doesn't require to be at a specific place. It is basically the use of hardware and software to provide service over a network which is usually the internet. Google's Gmail is the best example of cloud computing. Users of Gmail can access the applications and files which is hosted by Google through internet. Various options in cloud computing technology are there but only Intel with its latest generation Intel Xeon processors provide that level of performance and protection.

9) **Execonline**: (excellence for every executive):- It is one of the leading
provider of leadership development to senior leader. This platform provides various development programs which help in understanding one's business challenges. These programs are tied up with the world class business schools including Columbia, Berkeley, MIT, UC, IMD and Yale. Stephen Bailey is the founder and CEO of EXECONLINE. In this system, employee attain continuing education even though at their workplace without leaving. SAMSUNG, NEXT, ERICSSON, AirCanada, HARMAN, Exelon, Duke Energy, PEPSICO, Cliffs, Boston Scientific, McCain, America Cancer society etc are its various clients. Programs which are offered are leading strategic growth and implementing winning strategies in Columbia Business School, Leading Innovative change in Berkeley University of California.

11) 3D Learning in United Arab Emirates:- Teaching in a lecture hall with 3D glasses, watching a hologram of human brain. This is available in GEMS Modern Academy in Dubai. Here classrooms are connected with a high-speed fiber optic network and science lectures are delivered on a 3D platform.

12) Literacy Brigades In Cuba:- In 1961, Fidel Castro sent "literacy brigades" into island's hinterlands. The program inspired a method of community-based intensive literacy education called "Yo Si Puedo" means "Yes I Can" which has been replicated in various countries of the world. It is a literacy revolution in the scenario.

13) Paperless Classroom In England:- In this type of classroom an iPad and are equipped with cutting-edge projectors. Classes are organised with Apple's iTunes U, which makes all digital materials at one place. Students are free to design their own digital courses.

BARRIERS:- Undoubtedly education is the key to success and various new techniques have been implemented.
Although every new thing comes with certain limitations or boundaries because nothing is perfect and also there are concern people or organization who are not well enough to execute the variety of new methods successfully. These obstacles are:

1) **Busy Parents:**- Parents are now-a-days are very busy in earning more income and raising their standard of living, rarely have enough time for their children. Mostly parents are accustomed to only one way of education and that way is "school". They are afraid of involving their children in some innovative techniques in the field of education because new tools confuses them. If parents refuses then children might refuse as well. This must be corrected.

2) **Little Research and Development:**- As compared to other sectors, there is less percentage spent on education's research and development. As per study, United States spends only 0.2% of its education budget on R&D. Even in India, there is a very less amount spent on R&D in the education sector. In India, the focus of imparting knowledge in the field of education is through books only so they care little less.

3) **Complexity:**- High level of education to the diverse population is very complex task. Every child has its own level of understanding things and to manage this work is very tough. It involves more cost and time which creates hurdles in implementing the recent innovations in the field of education.

4) **Low Level Of Sharing:**- Now a days education brings teacher to work in an isolation which results in making them individual practitioners only. There is a lack of support and guidance which in turn have a negative impact on the students. Personal growth of both the teachers and the students are reduced. Due to this situation, level of education brings down.

5) **Weak Incentives:**- The incentives in the field of education are relatively weak as compared to other sectors. Even in government agencies and non-profit organizations, incentive is too poor. Poor incentive to the people will cause lack of their involvement in
the innovation process. Teachers are not paid fairly for the work they do.

6) **People:** The biggest failure of implementing the new techniques in education is people themselves. There is a biggest myth that innovation fails because of technology but it is not true. But the actual fault lies with the people who are unable to use the technology to an extent it should be or they may feel threatened by seeing the dark side of it.

7) **Technology Brings A Whole New Dimension To Cheating:** Dishonesty in the education is not new. It has been continuing since many years. As long as students are given home assignments or tests, students complete their work with the help of new technology. They don't use their own brains which creates hurdles in their growth.

8) **Use of Traditional Method of Teacher Training:** As compared to the past students, modern classrooms are full of sophisticated youngsters who need more exposure. Their thinking is beyond me books and they need immediate access of the information by using smartphones and widespread socialisation. Teachers don't get a clean slate instead they get young minds disarrangements with the ideas which need to be fostered.

**SUGGESTIONS:** Schools must develop anti-cheating policies that include any of the technology and these policies must be updated on continuous basis. Teacher must be quick observant when it comes to their students’ activity in the classroom and also how technology ruins their mind and playing a negative role in their growth. There must be awareness of the parents regarding the appropriate ways to alert them about unethical behavior and makes education a top priority. There must be smart classes in every school so that every child gets exposure of practical aspect. By providing more assistive technology to the students with the disabilities. The other effective way to introduce something new is to welcoming the new ideas. With the help of audio-visual aids like movies, pictorial representation, filmstrips and graphics etc, students’ interest in learning process can be enhanced.

**CONCLUSION:** There is a urgent need of innovation in education to make
teaching more interesting and impressive. It contribute towards the change for the betterment of society. Learning must include positive attitudes, potential to acquire knowledge, to allow the learners to extend their own knowledge and then apply that knowledge in everyday's life. A teacher must build the basic concepts so as to make learner learn independently and they can gain knowledge to build their confidence.

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