MOOCs: Competence in Learning

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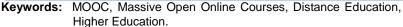
Abstract

In the modern global scenario where most of the countries of the world are using English language for their communication for sharing their ideas. Use of technology is increasing day by day in every sphere of life. This vast growing digitalization is beneficial for teaching learning. Many programs are run by government and private institutes of India and abroad by the experts and highly beneficial for the students of any corner of the world. English as a common medium is thus required if we want to go beyond and are ready to explore the horizon.

Open, flexible and online learning is possible due to Information and Communication Technology (ICT), which is not restricted to a specific course but available for all the courses. 21st century witness a massive paradigm shift in education with the use of ICT.

Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) is easy for everyone to enrol and free online courses. Learning by experts make content easy to understand and not restricted to anyplace. Many universities across the world provide open online course. In India many private as well as IITs, IIMs provide a platform for online learning. Distance education is beneficial as well as a motivation factor in the new way of learning. Its emphasis on the use of digital education and hence empower the students. MOOCs prepares us for graduation, post-graduation and higher studies. Where the traditional method of education restricted to limited no of students per teacher, MOOC is latest trend in teaching learning process. Sometimes technology may create challenge for learners but as a whole it makes us digitally sound and help us to make a pace with the world in higher studies.

Keywords: MOOC, Massive Open Online Courses, Distance Education, Higher Education.

Introduction

"Education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world."

-Nelson Mandela

Education is for welfare for the human welfare and at present time it is more focused on the present economic and social need of the people. Due to lack of resources many students, especially marginalised and poor students leave their education in middle of their course. India covered a long way for the improvement in education and now has become second largest in higher education in the world. In the changing global world scenario, lots of development has done on modern technologies and innovations to compete the growing economic development. During last few years, many new universities in India are opened but unfortunately the quality of education required some improvement. With the increase in universities and college we require to improve excellence in teaching and learning. To overcome from this difference Government of India is taking initiatives to improve learning. Form thousand of years onward India is always been learning destination. The first university in the world is Takshashila andĀryabhaṭa who invented 0 digit are both from India. In the words of Albert Einstein:

"We owe a lot to the Indians who taught us how to count, without which no worthwhile scientific discovery could have been made".

Due to change in the paradigm shift there is robust growth in the Indian economy, it provides opportunity for individuals with cultural diversity. To promote international cooperation, emphasise is made on higher education and new development in teaching and learning process. To motivate students for learning, there is shift in teaching, now more focus is laid on student cantered approach which was earlier concentrated on teacher cantered. Worldwide primary agenda is focused on the quality education where large number of students get benefit. For foreign students India is favourite detitanation as variety of courses are available with quality

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teaching. Each day traditional teaching learning methods are replacing with the new digital learning. There is rapid change in the learning method in classroom with the inclusion of digital learning is replaced. Now a days digital learning plays a crucial role in education with the expansion of the horizons. Digital learning enables students to self-direct learning, they identify their weakness and find out what they need to learn which resultant in the increase in their efficiency and productivity.Digital learning is for more helpful in learning and remembering compare to reading books. As online learning is fundamentally flexible, working professional and persons engage in family responsibilities are easily learn when they find free time for them. Online education provides students for further learning without leaving their career. Traditional learning was very rigid and therefore have no solution for the mobile generation. Students who learn better through self-studies can choose any online study course and easily learn.Language learning and teaching is a dynamic process. Nothing is fixed, resulted in change in methodologies and approaches.World Bank published World Development Report 2018 which was manly focused on education and in this regard Jim Yong Kim, President of the World Bank Group, writes,

"For individuals, education promotes employment, earnings, and health. It raises pride and opens new horizons. For societies, it drives long-term economic growth, reduces poverty, spurs innovation, strengthens institutions, and fosters social cohesion."

In modern fast changing technology is unescapable. The growing use of technology is everywhere including daily life. As technology is becoming easy to accessible and has become affordable to the public. Internet is possible due to contribution to technology. Science is bane and boon. If we use technology for betterment for studies then without doubt it will be helpful for the students who are not able to afford education in reputed universities of not only in India but to abroad. Working individual who cannot go regular classes can use online teaching by the experts. Online teaching is more entertaining as video lectures are more comprehendible. If we integrate technology with teaching then learning will be easy. So, in order to maximise the learning integrated technology is sufficient for knowledge. Teaching learning process is cantered to learner, and this is the reason more developments are in progress to motivate the learner. Computer Assisted Language Learning is an application is useful to increase the self-confidence of the learner through enhancing the knowledge. Now a day's mobile phones are used by the learners. Different apps are available which they can easily download for their learning. Those whose are not able to afford formal education are could easily learn anytime, anywhere free of cost or at minimal cost with the help of MOOCs.

Technological modification has brought a radical change in teaching learning. Geographical boundaries with the help of these technical advancements in studies. are completely removed Information and communication technology has benefited the learners. Learners are active hence remember more information. Lot of education material is being available for practice and this give a chance to revise and to self-evaluate. Training to teachers is required to gain the optimal use of technology and for the better result. New err also arise new responsibility for the teachers. Technology is utilized for the upliftment of modern styles; it satisfies both visual and auditory senses of the students.

With the spread and development of English around the world, English has been learned and used by more and more speakers.Some learners drop the course as they find it more advanced for them.Teaching learning will become more fruitful even usage of English will improve with the help of technology enhanced learning environment. Teachers need to learn technology if they want to improve learning.English is second language in most of the countries of the world and also diversity is seen with regards to age and nationality. The use of multimedia in technology featuring audio-visual, animation effect is useful in the teaching makes favourable condition for learning English. Educational experts of English give another way for teaching.Due to globalization there is increasing use of English as a common medium of communication is seen in the lives of people all over the world. There is rapid increase in the use of English as a second language.Due to emergence of Globalization "English rules" has become is an old phrase, "English language rules" is the new phrase which has emerged out.Higher Education in Colonial India was influenced by the British colonial influence. Importance of English According to Minute of Macaulay of 1835, whichstates:

To sum up what I have said, I think it we are not fettered by the Act of Parliament of 1813; that we are not fettered by any pledge, express or implied; that we are free to employ our funds as we choose; that we ought to employ them in teaching what is best worth knowing; that English is better worth knowing than Sanskrit or Arabic; that neither as the language of law, nor as the language of religion has the Sanskrit or Arabic any peculiar claim to our engagement that it is possible to make natives of this country good English scholars, and that to this end our efforts ought to be directed.(Dongerkery, 1967 p. 2)

Now a days it is common for the student's internet with the help of technology in classroom. Earlier it was not affordable to have technology but now a days it is affordable to everyone. We just cannot use chalk and talk to develop proficiency in English language.Technology has many options for the learners and make their learning interesting. The motive of new developments in technological based teaching is to create interest in study, to promote

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students for further learning, to expose western culture and to create insight and understanding in the students and to improve the effect of teaching and to improve teacher student interaction. Use of multimedia online technology has many advantages but has limitations. Proper use of internet and technology is necessary for both teacher and learner. The user should have some advance knowledgeof technology.So, knowledge of different software is essential. Onlineteaching is also very effectual as it is not necessary for the learner to stick to a lesson. According to the choice of the student any lesson can be selected. Every student is different so their way of learning is also different. Learning is just not only to remember the facts. Learning require use of mind and body, to have many ideas of discussion and to explore new way to gain knowledge is very essential.

In professional, official and academic area English is plays an important role in India. Hybrid culture and rapid change in modern society provide a scope of English language. Due to migration people of different culture and language come together and use global language for communication. Different electronic devices with the use of internet make is possible to share knowledge through the medium of English language. English language is a medium by which we can remove the barriers to gain knowledge. Invention of internet, different sites, various programs run by government and private institutions changed the use of English. Various seminars, conferences are conducted at national and international level to emphasise the importance of English and to overcome from the lacks behind it. These platforms provide a necessity platform to understand the upcoming ideologies and to upgrade for better learning.

A Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) is an online course. With thehelp of web unlimited participants can access. It has interactive courses which support students and community interactions, interaction with professor and teaching assistance. With new and advanced learning method it also has traditional learning material for the course like problem sets, reading material, evaluation exercises, written text, assignments and filmed lectures. In interactive session students get immediate feedbacks for assignments and quizzes.MOOCs is made to provide distant education for unlimited number of learners with the help of web portals. The University Grants Commission (UGC) along with the HRD (Human Resource Development) Ministry has started different course by providing MOOC program from9th class till post-graduation. In regular campus where strict curriculum is followed these MOOC program provide almost cover all subject taught. MOOC has become on of the most popular interest of the students. Quality education is being provided by the experts.Through MOOCs teachers learn tremendous professional development. They learn many teaching learning methodologies, different styles.

Through training they also learn new educational requirements for MOOC classes. Training supplement teachers to make a better lesson plan. So likewise, teachers to are active in this process and

hence they themselves are learners. Although MOOCs do not provide any degree but not all students are able to pay and arrange a good tutors or coaching classes, here MOOCs are good platform which is free for students and benefit them to take additional academic assistance by experts of that subjects.So, MOOCs are a good supplement for the regular classes where students can advance their career. MOOCs provide a lifelong opportunity for the students. Majority of the MOOCs classes are free of the cost. Wide range of subjects are covered by MOOCs. As the MOOC courses are electronically, students must have software, electronic devices and internet. Some of the MOOC courses provide certificate.

Various institution run by government of private are providing MOOCs worldwide. NPTEL (India),Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and Indian Institute of Science (IISc.) is an excellent platform where learner get free of cost and distant learning from experts. WizIQ (India and USA), IIT Delhi, India is another platform where minimum fee is charged for the registration and provide course for different courses. Open2Study, this is the platform provided by Australia. Coursera, edX and udemy are USA based platform, mooKIT, IITBX fordifferent distant online courses.

SWAYAM or 'Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds' is a new web portal run program by Government of India. Six institutes such for school education NCERT and NIOS, IGNOU, CEC, NPTEL, NPTEL graduate and post graduate education is offered. The main moto of the program is providing access, equity and quality. Aim to provide best resources for teaching learning to all anywhere and anytime. Audio-visual medium, illustrations, research and case studies with self-assessment are few of the mediums chosen to approach the study of these courses.

National Programme onTechnology Enhanced Learning in short NPTEL is Technology Enhanced Learning program funded by MHRD, which was initiated in 2003. Seven Indian Institute of Technology (IITs) and Indian Institute of Science (IISC) has taken joint initiative. Initially engineering and science courses were offered by now wide variety of courses are available.

MooKIT is another MOOK platform of Indian Institute of Kanpur (IITK), in 2014. It is using Open edX as an open-source. National Mission on Education provide its funding through Information and CommunicationTechnology (NME-ICT), Ministry of HumanResource Development (MHRD), Government of India. Blended learning is provided by it where face to face online education system is available. "Blended Learning - MOOCModel of IIT Bombay (BLMM)" is the name of this new model.

MOOCs is not the traditional way of teaching learning but its surly bridge the gap between different schools of learning. MOOCs has certain limitations like some of the institution require registration fees which is not affordable to poor user. Learner is not monitored and confined to a place.

So, we can say that education is important for individual as well as for the nation. *Guru* or *prabhu* were the supervisors of earlier education in India. Initially, Education was seen as a method to gain *Moksha* and it was open to all. As the time progressed, education was only for the upper class people. The society was divided into many cast according to the work done by them. The *Brahmans* were learning religion and scripture, the *Kshatriya* were involved in warfare, the *Kshatriya* were knowledgeable in warfare aspect and the *Kshatriya* were working class and were skilled in specific work. Students stayed in ashrams which was away from the city with *guru* with a strict discipline*.* Education was closely related to tradition and religion. In early Middle Ages in India , many scholars came to India to learn Buddhist texts, among them were Chinese scholars Xuanzang and Yi Jing. Late Middle Ages, islam was the traditional education method increased during the reign of Islamic rulers.*Madrassas* and *maktabs*in India were traditional Islamic institution. The Britishers changed the education system.The present system of education was introduced and founded by the British in the 20th century, by the recommendations of Macaulay. It has western style and content. The British government did not recognize the traditional structures and so they have declined. It is said that even Gandhi described the traditional educational system as a beautiful tree which was destroyed during the British rule. British education gave less importance to the traditional education system. Gandhi was in favour of traditional education and consider it as a beautiful tree. Lord Thomas Babington Macaulay in 1830s introduced English language with limited modern and specific subjects. Rama Krishna Mission and the Theosophical Society of India tried to bridge the gap between the ancient and modern education. Now education is for all without any discrimination and for all. Dayanand Saraswati and Raja Ram Mohan Roy were the social reformers who challenged the caste system and encouraged the girl education in India. They consider that education should develop all round development of individual. But still many shortcomings Education is not only read and write. Reason and correct approach to life should be involved in education so that difference can be made between right and wrong and should have moral education. The condition of women still require some improvement as it is said that educate a man you educate an individual but if you educate a woman you educate a family.`

Aim of the Study

The aim of this article is tomakes us understand the importance of MOOC with the current trends in teaching learning process especially in the usage of English language as a mode for learning. Educational paradigm witnesses a shift especially in the 21st century. Open, flexible and online learning if possible due to ICT, which is not restricted to specific course but available for all the courses.

Conclusion

With the emerging order of the global world, India emerging as a knowledge emerging economy.

Educated people helps in the development of the country as they are well aware of the socio- economic scenario of their country. With the rapid development of technology we are not confined to a limited simple learning. The whole of education system is now converting into digitalization and as a result various techniques are emerged for the improvement of the quality of education. Digitalization and the old class room system walking hand in hand will surly improve our education system

"Technology can become the 'wings' that will allow the educational world to fly farther and faster than ever before; if we will allow it." - Jenny Arledge

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