



Traditional Education through new Technology - A Syllabus Designer's Perspective

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In today's world of Information Technology Competition, computerization and globalization different skills are required from students.

Modern technology, Education and Fundamental research are the means of knowledge creation and this is the main reason of playing a significant role of Education and Research in knowledge oriented development. Therefore, it is necessary to increase the use of Modern technology as per the changing time. Economical, social, similarly political status is changing very fast on global level. To think on international level is the call of the time.

OBJECTIVES :

- To increase the use of modern technology in the traditional education for increasing the students' inclination towards the traditional education.
- To understand the challenges against higher education by the social science teaching staff.
- To take advantage on individual and organizational level, of the funds, those
- Which are prescribed for the progress in technology of the University Grants Commission and Local University, and to bring it in use for the technology awareness, knowledge creation and Research.
- To think over the difficulties arising in the revise of the syllabus and the effects of the different social strata and develop technology.

In 1950, there were only 25 universities, 700 affiliated colleges and 15,000 teachers in India. The universities and colleges had one lakh students. Presently, there are more than 112 lakh students taking education in 371 universities and are more than 18,000 colleges giving professional traditional education. Similarly, strength of teachers is more than 5 lakhs, 12 to 14 %

students are taking professional and remaining 86 to 88 % students traditional education. In the first 4 decades post-independence, the traditional education organization progressed fast. The policy to give chance of receiving education was implemented. In general, since 90's, economical, liberalization and industrial fields had to face the globalization. As the professional field needed skillful and trained human power, in the last 15 to 18 years, there was remarkable growth in professional education institutes. In the year 2000, the number of professional education institutes was 5774 and at present it has reached 13,000. Every year, 3,000 students come out holding degree from different branches. After the independence, it is noted that, there is growth in the availability and strength of high education; similarly, there is increase in the facilities in research and technology too.

The use of modern technology is mandatory in current education. The most significant role of Educational Institutes / Syllabus Revision Committee (University) / Teaching staff is regarding the increase in the students' inclination towards the traditional education, and also minimizing the difficulties rising in getting employment opportunities to the fresh degree holders who achieved education through increasing use of modern technology.

FACULTY WISE STUDENT SURVEY :

A survey of students of arts, science and commerce faculty was taken, in which following points came to notice:

- In the science departments, laboratory, computer, mobile, CDs are used on large scale.
- Compared to science department, technology is used in lesser proportion in Commerce Faculty. But through the practicals, CDs,



educational visits technology is conveyed to the students.

- Compared to science and commerce departments, technology is used in lesser proportion and theoretical knowledge is stressed more.

SURVEY ACCORDING TO ECONOMIC STANDARD :

Compared with the students admitted in Science and Commerce branch, those in Arts branch have come from low economic status. They cannot afford to use mobile / computer / internet personally for getting technological knowledge.

GENDER ORIENTED SURVEY :

In family, there is discrimination against male child and female child are taken. The female child in the family compared with male child is given less opportunity to use mobile / computer / internet. While selecting options for further education female students are more inclined to arts branch and parents seem more insistent on it.

FAMILY SURVEY :

Uneducated parents or less educated parents are found putting limits on their ward about the use of technology. They don't understand its significance. Accordingly, the total responsibility of the selection of branch, course of study and use of technology falls on the ward. Not having capacity to use technology or not being aware about it, he / she has to find alternatives.

SURVEY OF SOCIOLOGY TEACHING STAFF :

- More stress on teaching in class and theoretical teaching.
- Charts, Role play, Educational Visits, Film Shows are used continuously by some teachers in urban areas.
- Implementing such activities, getting funds becomes difficult.
- The teachers in rural area find limitations in using library or modern technology.

Facilities like funds, necessary material like, CDs, LCD projectors, Computer, and Internet are not provided to all. Consequently, it seems that, stress is given on teaching the subject in the class.

Today, use of Information and Technology has occupied all the fields. The facility of Internet can be made available now, at a small price.

Teachers are habituated in urban areas are familiar with words, such as E-learning digital school, Virtual at-home education, On-line Examinations, Demand Examination, Mobile Computing, Virtual Classes. There are many social science teachers who are unaware about all these concepts. It is a regrettable fact. It is true that when these teachers get acquainted with this concept, then only they will be able to create awareness in the students and their curriculum.

BOARD OF STUDIES AND REVISED SYLLABUS COMMITTEE MEMBER'S ROLE :

The following points are noted while working as Board of Social Studies Member and Members of Syllabus Re-structuring Committee :

- While preparing syllabus Committee experiences limitations due to UGC Guidelines and also inadequate flexibility.
- Common syllabus is prepared for both the urban and rural students.
- While preparing syllabus, limitations of students based on familial, economical, gender oriented background cannot be taken into account.
- Discrimination against the facilities offered to the colleges / institutes and teaching staff of the urban and rural areas.
- Lack of awareness of different funds.
- Lack of technological knowledge.

While preparing revised syllabus, the syllabus is prepared according to the guide lines only given by the University Grants Commission. The flexibility seems inadequate. While preparing syllabus, it seems

- Difficult to consider the needs and problems on local level.
- The students from rural areas are deprived of well equipped library, computer, mobile, educated parents, and awareness. Therefore, this remains the main difference between the comprehensive ability of urban and rural students. Still we prepare the same syllabus



for both categories. This is a sheer injustice on one of them.

- The inequality in social strata is also not taken into consideration while preparing revised syllabus.
- Problems of urban institutes are different from those of rural institutes. Availability of facilities at both places also seems different.
- There is difference between the awareness about funds and implementation of technology into urban and rural area.

CONCLUSION:

Considering from the point of view of our nation's prosperous future, there is a need of experts. To transfer the culture from one generation to the next one is the fundamental responsibility of education. The education should be such that it will link the old stream to new one. In the modern information technology age, there will be mainly the necessity of values. The Educational Institutes should have respect for values and should use them in education and activities. Along with the use of technology, this aspect of values should be considered.

To update the knowledge of teachers and students, there is availability of UGC, Local Universities, NGO, and different funds of other institutes. The institutes should get benefit of it. The inequality based on different social strata like Social / Economical / Gender based levels, is not going to change all of a sudden. But the role of educational institutes with reference to the above said strata is important to make comprehensive policies. Though there will be difficulties in using technology personally, they can be removed on organization level.

The inclusion of practical in Arts and Social Sciences will be helpful in the use of technology.

I would like to conclude my paper with an extract from the lecture rendered in the Parliament, by Lord McCauley, who had founded our education system :

I have travelled across the length and breadth of India and I have not seen a person, who is beggar, who is thief, such wealth I have seen in this country, such high moral values, people of such a caliber-that I do not think we would ever

conquer this country unless we break the very back bone of this nation which is her spiritual and cultural heritage and therefore, I propose that we replace her old and ancient education system, the culture, for if the Indians think that all that is foreign and English is good and greater than their own, their native culture and they will become what we want them, a truly dominated nation.

Having observed current situation, we can say that the purpose of Lord McCauley is served.

While considering about modern technology, care should be taken not to decline the traditional education, culture and values.

Let us hope that, the traditional education and modern technology should advance hand in hand.

So that, while moulding new generation of traditional education by using modern technology, they shouldn't come out as mere "Vidyarthi" (student: who is expecting to get only "Vidya" — rote-learning knowledge), but become a pure "Dyanarthi" (accomplishing sheer knowledge) and that will give true satisfaction. Also we can avoid Science/ Technology explosion, the increasing superiority of computer, bustle or greed for money that creates numbness and frustration and be possible to respect our breed, culture and values.

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