

“DIGITAL REVOLUTION IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND ITS IMPLICATION IN RURAL COLLEGES OF KALBURGI DISTRICT” - A STUDY

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ABSTRACT:

Joseph Addison once said, what sculpture is to a block marble, education is to the human soul’

A human soul without education like marble in the quarry, which shows none of its inherent beauties till the skill of the polisher fetches out the colors, makes the surface shine, and discovers every ornamental cloud, spot and vein that runs through the body of it.

The need of the hour is education should encompass all the aspects of modern day learning. There seems to be resounding cry for reform echoing around us and it is almost inescapable given the nature and degree of intensity. Learning and teaching process have taken on whole new dimension, urging us to redefine them. What we really need, with evolution of education, is teaching that provides students with frequent and well designed opportunities to depart from what we see in the traditional classroom, changes that are largely significant. Teachers need to undergo to drastic transformation, assimilating newer, alien titles into her vocabulary. Teaching is now an authentic, student centered activity which given a student enough leeway to formulate ideas and knowledge based on his own unique experiences.

Implementing innovative method of teaching learning among the rural colleges is a big challenge. Lack of funds, absence of basic infrastructure, inadequate power supply, composite colleges, inaccessibility of resources, diversity of students with their economic strata are some of the challenges among the institution of higher education.

The study was conducted with objectives of identifying the challenges faced by the institution and its faculty in rural area and explores the hurdles in teaching learning process.

The study was based on primary and secondary data. Information obtained from selected rural educational institutions, survey and questionnaire, institutional report. 40% of the institutions have the infrastructure problems and they are running composite college as Pre University, degree, and B.Ed courses at a time. 50% of the colleges lack in ICT Lab. 55% of the faculty are computer illiterate or they are not attained any kind of training. Socio economic status of the students also matter in using ICT technology through mobile.

Key words: Higher Education, digital revolution, implication, challenges, rural colleges.

INTRODUCTION:

“A teacher without knowledge, a politician without values and education without character is useless.”
....M.K.Gandhi.

This is very true, but progressing world of today, human being seem to have left behind their moral values and human qualities. The progress under taken in this 21st century is worth praising but the dark sides of the consequences are worth mentioning too.

Today’s digital age it is not wrong to say that computers will start thinking like human being is not the problem but human brain will start thinking like computers with no morality to impart is where the problem lies.

Deteriorating the human values is the biggest proof of it.

New technologies and especially social computing provide new opportunities for education and training as they enhance learning –teaching and facilitate collaboration, innovation and creativity for individual and organization. The benefits of deploying social computing and ICT for learning depends on the learning approach used, emphasizing the role and the skill of the teachers and the need for supportive settings for both teachers and learners.

Government of India initiated a planned development of Higher education in the country. UGC provides grants plan and non plan scheme to the educational institution. In addition grants are also provided to maintain and improve the standards in the educational institution through various programme like RUSA, MOOC, SWAYAM, ARPIT, PMMMNMTT, GIAN, TEQIP, are being implemented to improve the quality of teaching in higher

education. A number of initiatives are also undertaken by UGC and AICTE for quality I improvement of teaching in higher and technical education.

SURVEY OF THE STUDY:

D.kalyani and K. Rajasekaran in their article optioned that innovative teaching methods which could easily be imparted knowledge to the students and help in motivating them by capturing the students' attention, and putting across ideas in such a way that it stays with them long after they have left the classroom .Gupta D and Singh stated that usage of e- learning is a powerful tool for a teacher to fill a gap between the student and teacher.

Indrapreet Kaur Chachra has suggested that by following the student-centered method of teaching learning based on innovation, the institution can cater the divers' need of the students and improve teaching learning process. It in turns helps the institution to improve the enrolment profile. NCTE national curriculum framework for teacher education: towards preparing professional and human teacher also stress on ICT in education.

NEED OF THE STUDY:

Digitalization, globalization and privatization have brought the revolution in education process. Its effect can be easily observed in urban Indian students. Innovation in education encourages teachers and students to explore research and use all the tools to uncover something new. It involves a different way of looking at problems and solving them. ... Innovation improves education because it compels students to use a higher level of thinking to solve problems. But the rural India is facing the number of challenges.

Objectives:

1. To study the infrastructure facilities provided by the institution for teachers and students.
2. To identify the usage of innovative method by the faculty.
3. To identify the challenges faced by educational institution, faculty and students in rural colleges.
4. To explore the hurdles in implementing creativity and innovative teaching learning process.

METHODOLOGY:

Study area:

GULBARGA was known as KALBURGI in former days which means stony land in Kannada.

This district is situated in northern Karnataka between 76°.04' and 77°.42' east longitude, and 17°.12' and 17°.46' north latitude, covering an area of 10,951 km². Gulbarga There is nearly 30 B.Ed colleges out of which only 10 institutions has chosen for study.

Sample:

The study was based on primary and secondary data. Information obtained from selected rural educational institutions by the means of survey and questionnaire. Research have also referred secondary resources like report, published article in journals and websites.

This paper has been made attempt to highlight on three important aspects of education are institution, faculty and students. Education revolution contours not only for the teachers but also for student and the institution. The challenges of higher education system can be analyzed is these three ways and tried to understand the problems of implementing the creativity and innovations. The sample of the study was selected by interrogating 10 educational institution, 100 faculty member and 300 students.

DATA ANALYSIS:

Challenges of higher education system

The higher education system includes institution of the Government, Private, faculty and students all these aspects are interrelated to each other. So, the lacunas and drawbacks in one aspect lead to inefficiency of the other. Each aspect has its own challenge which effects the development of higher education system as a whole.

Institutional challenges:

Implementing innovative methods of teaching learning among the rural colleges is a big challenge. Many colleges do not have proper basic infrastructure, no independent building, composite school and colleges. Colleges are running in shift system as various courses offered by institution. Lack of funds, problems of power supply, lack of resources etc.15 institution has chosen but only 10 institution complete data which had been taken into consideration.

Tableno.1 shows the areas and percentage of problem faced by the institution.

S.No.	Areas of challenges	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Affiliation and grants related issues	01	20
2.	Administrative and decision making matter	02	20
3	Infrastructure facilities	03	30
4	ICT facilities	04	40
5	staff	04	40
6	Financial aids and grants	01	10
7	Other maintenance problems	01	10

Figure of the table exhibit that rural High Education institution face more challenges in Implementing innovative and creative teaching - learning.40 percent of the institutions are not having the ICT facilities even these colleges findings getting the staff to teach and 30 % of them lagging in infrastructure other 10% of them showed the financial aids and grants and Maintenance problems.

Challenges faced by the faculty:

Kothari commission (1964) has highly said, Destiny of India is being shaped in the classroom.

today's techno savvy era changing the scenario of these classrooms .so, the teacher must adopt and change their role from chalk board master to the techno master it is the need of the hour teacher has to understand ,it is the time not only reconsider these typical realms but also to propose new description of the term "effective teacher. "in today's fast changing world ,teachers as knowledgeable ,responsible and mature individuals in the lives of children and can impart multiple roles like guide, facilitator, mentor ,assessor, planner , resource developer, role model on the job , set himself as an exemplar which is better than percept. Questionnaire distributed among the 100 faculty members only 75 of them completely answered .following are the areas where the rural college teacher are facing the problem in implementing the innovative method in their teaching learning process.

S.No.	Areas of challenges	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Lack of computer literacy	36	48
2.	Absence of formal and practice training	45	60
3.	Overburden of curriculum	31	41
4.	Lack of equipment	50	66

5.	Administrative interference and responsibility	20	26
6	Others	22	29

Analyzing the challenges faced by the faculty members, in table 2 found that as 66 % of the teachers said that their institution are not having the equipment lab facilities or computer in the lab, if lab is there is no connectivity or power problem. 60% of them complain about the lack of formal practice training. Private institution management due to financial constrain unable to hire qualified teachers with SLET, NET, JRF, PhD, etc. Unqualified staff ready to work on less salary and perform multiple roles and responsibilities. 29 percent of faculties opined application of advanced teaching learning process is hampered due to absence of formal and practical training. They are also pressurized by the semester and CBCS system they do not have sufficient time to finish the syllabus and adopt new innovations in the changing education system.

Challenges of Students

Learning and teaching has taken on a whole new dimension urging us to redefine them. What we really need evolution of education, is teaching that provide students with frequent and well designed opportunities to depart from what we see in the traditional classroom. In the globalised world student can be exposed to various innovation like online learning sites, learning apps, YouTube and other e-resources by using system, Smartphone's, I-pads , etc. but lack of modern learning equipment in the rural sectors and inadequate awareness among the faculty members may deteriorate the learning capabilities of the students.

S.No.	Areas of challenges	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Vernacular medium of learning	105	35
2.	Connectivity is poor	70	23.34
3.	Difficulty in coping up with the teaching	82	27.43
4.	Poor socio economic background	51	17
5.	Other problems	75	25

It is noted that students from rural colleges are unable to follow the innovations due to their vernacular medium of learning which account in 35%. Teacher teaching should be activity oriented, more interactive, supportive, challenging and rewarding for students. But lack of such potentialities among some faculties it creates

problems. 27.43 % of students feels difficulty in coping up with the innovative teaching. Lack of language lab, computer lab and full furnished laboratories in the rural colleges do not support the students to deal with innovations. Due the poor socio economic background, 25% of the girl students are not able to equip themselves with innovations. 17% of the students face problems like family pressure and personal problems are also responsible in reducing their interest and involvement in innovative teaching learning process.

CONCLUSION:

National Education Policy 2019 influential report on ‘full development of the human personality’ is the new education system has accordingly been crafted to ensure that it touches the life of each and every individual, consistent with their ability to contribute to not only their own socio economical development but also in the nations development.

‘Learning: The Treasure Within’, which the International Commission on Education for the Twenty-first Century chaired by Jacques Delors, submitted to UNESCO in 1996. The Report argued that education throughout life was based on four pillars: i) Learning to know ii) Learning to do iii) Learning to live together and iv) Learning to be - developing one’s personality and being able to act with autonomy, judgment and personal responsibility, while ensuring that education does not disregard any aspect of the potential of a person: memory, reasoning, aesthetic sense, physical capacities and communication skills are an articulation of a broad view of education encompassing the holistic development of students with special emphasis on the development of the creative potential of each individual.

Creativity and innovations go hand in hand. They are the essence of teaching and learning process. Students are always motivated by creative, innovative and interesting teaching. Teaching strategies, tool and techniques are very important for effective learning in this process of teaching learning, teaching excellence and innovative practices can add an exemplary model for the entire teaching community. Digital evolution in higher education system face challenges but in a fast growing society education institution should strive hard to overcome the challenges and try to expose themselves into era of innovation and creativity. All the poles of education should be strong and play their respective effective roles in order to bring the desirable change.

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