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**IMPORTANCE AND CHALLENGES OF DIGITAL EDUCATION: A  
PRESENT SCENARIO OF INDIA**

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**Abstract:**

In the period of modernization, most of the people use internet regularly to expand their knowledge in this globalization era that meet that fulfil the need of general understanding. The study generally deals with the topic impact of digital education to the individual life in reference to present educational system. Due to Covid-19 pandemic people and students are suffering in their study or knowledge gaining. In different Universities and colleges of India also talks digital literacy or online class education but one thing that many of our people don't know about the utilization of digital resources in their day to day life specially students. So, the topic mostly focuses to explain the different aspects of digital education and according to give some thoughtful comments related to digital era or online system of education. The National Mission in Education through ICT, launched in 2009 and administered by the Ministry of Education, attempts to utilize ICT to make the best quality content accessible to all learners in the country free of cost.

**1. Introduction:**

Education is a procedure of enlarged the ability, attitudes, qualities of a learner. Digital education is a peripheral combination of audio-video mode of sharing knowledge, curriculum contents, improve technological mind through transmission method. The main priority of digital education is to give quality education to all children. We are in the 21st century where technology changing at a rapid pace. The students should be inspired to use the virtual learning tools and at the same time the government and the educational institutions should create consciousness

among the students about the various aspects of online education. Teacher and students can continue teaching and learning interacting via; internet, video conferencing can be used as tools for online education. But at the same time digital education faced different problems. It is not the problem of teachers and students to adjust with unexpected change from traditional setup to new trend of online education system. Now digitalization technology is the inherent part of our life. The main vision of digital education is can't breakdown the flow and continuation of education in any condition. It is a good step for engaged students in teaching-learning process in this COVID-19 pandemic scenario also.

## **2. Objectives:**

- 2.1) To study about the importance of digital education in present scenario of India.
- 2.2) To study about the various programs of digital education is implemented by the government of India.
- 2.3) To find out the challenges of digital education in India.
- 2.4) To give the suggestions of digital education in COVID-19 pandemic scenario of India.

## **3. Methodology:**

The present study based on secondary data. The secondary data are collected from various books, journals and from relevant website.

## **4. Importance:**

In modern world, digital education revolutionaries the old chalk and board process of learning in classrooms. It is modified the teaching and learning more flexible in this pandemic time. Digital education or learning never breakdown the continuation of education system in present scenario. Teacher and students should accept a new learning platform of this globalization time. Analyze the use of digital technologies offers teachers the enhance to design engaging learning opportunities in the course they teach and these can take the shape of combined or completely online courses and programs. Teachers and students can able to learn something new or innovative ideas through online education. Nowadays digital education gradually covers maximum of students to grapple with new trending education system. Digital education makes students smarter. Learning tools and technology allow students to grow effective, self-directed learning skills. The students capable of analyzing what they require learn to search and use online resources. Digital learning enlarges their efficiency and productivity. Furthermore, to appealing students digital learning tools and technology sharpen critical thinking skills which are the basis for the growth of systematic reasoning students, also develop positive feelings of exploitation offering the confidence they require want to learn even more new things.

## **5. Programs:**

### **5.1) SWAYAM:**

It is an integrated platform for offering online courses and covering school (from classes 9-12, post-graduation level). SWAYAM is an initiative launched by Ministry of Human Resource and Development (MHRD), now Ministry of Education government of India.

**5.2) National Digital Library of India:**

National Digital Library is a project under Ministry of Education. The vision is to collect and collate metadata and full text index from several national and international digital libraries as well as other relevant sources. It is a virtual respiratory of learning resources with a single window search facility virtual labs and spoken tutorials.

**5.3) e-Pathshala:**

The digital education has promoted substantial use of ICTs in the teaching-learning process. It is a portal jointly initiated by MHRD; government of India and NCERT.

**5.4) e-PGPathshala:**

It is an initiative of the MHRD under its National Mission on education through ICT (NME-ICT) being executed by the UGC.

**5.5) NPTEL (National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning):**

It is an asynchronous platform from prerecorded videos, lecture notes, assignments and quizzes and certification courses.

**5.6) SWAYAM PRABHA:**

In this platform developed by MHRD in India. It covers 32 high quality educational channels through DTH (Direct to Home) across the length and breadth of the country on 24\*7 basis. The platform is primarily aimed at making quality learning resources accessible to remote areas where internet availability is still a challenge.

**6. Challenges:****6.1) Network and geographical location:**

Speaking about the challenges faced by the students of India in digital education are mainly connectivity or communication issues. As India is a developing country and a country containing hills and ocean is one of the major challenges for telecom operators to connect India. There are many places like north-east India hill stations where people have not thought of a mobile phone yet because of many reasons like no network connectivity.

**6.2) Poverty:**

One more is the challenges of poverty. India has a big population below poverty country. Most of the people in India they can survive for their daily food/meal for minimum cost of income. Then it is impossible to most of the parents can't afford a smart phone for their child to taking their education through online mode. It is a major imbalance of equal education to all the children.

**6.3) Diversity of language:**

It is one of the most common cause of digital education. It is very difficult for providing content in all 22 languages in India as many people in India don't know the language English which contains most of the contents.

**6.4) Lack of awareness:**

Many times children are not serious about their classes. There are many reasons for it like they don't find themselves attach to the classes, difficult to adjust with system, poor network connection and so on.

### **6.5) Lack of Instructors:**

Most of the teachers are not aware to use technology properly. They have no skills, no knowledge to prepare a class digitally. Because this revolution introduced just one and half of the years ago. So teachers are perfectly not able to operate this education system.

### **7. Suggestions:**

7.1) The government of India should develop network connectivity and electricity in rural or disadvantaged areas for all the students to attend their classes properly.

7.2) The respective institutions should provide proper academic and psychological support to their students.

7.3) The government and educational institutions should be creating awareness and safety programs for different cybercrime in digital world.

7.4) The government should supply free Wi-Fi for backward areas and also give fund for those parents which are not able to afford a smart phone for their child to take the online education.

7.5) Teachers have to make their presentation more attractive for the students. Then, students give their mind attentively.

### **8. Conclusion:**

In this critical time the government of India and educational institutions try to make up the continuous chain of education system through online mode. Digital education helps to improve the education condition of a country. Now ICT has become an essential part of teaching learning process. The study highlighted the importance, challenges and possible suggestions of digital education system in India. We hope that the government of India remove the barriers faced by digital education and start a new journey with this education system.

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