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## FLEXIBLE EDUCATION FOR ALL

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### Key words

Flexibility, Demography, Restrictions of Geography, Ethics, disability, Innovation, Investment.

Man today is at the peak of civilization. It transformed itself from the Stone Age and cave man to the position of governing and observing the phenomena. This is all because of education. Education is a learning experience. Education brings about an in heart and permanent change in a person's thinking and capacity to do things. Education is a process in which and by which the knowledge. Character and behavior of the human being are shaped and molded. It lead to the enlightenment of mankind, which enables and individual to distinguish between the true and false.

**Aristotle-** said A Education is a process of creation of sound mind in a sound body. Thus education is something which distinguishes human being from other creation.

### FLEXIBLE EDUCATION OR LEARNING

An approach to learning in which the time, place and pace of learning may be determined by learners is flexible education. Flexible learning is also used in other terms as open learning, distance learning, work based learning as well as e-learning, which are all forms of flexible learning. In that they provide flexibility to the student in terms of time place, aces, content or delivery mode. In this system students may choose to complete some of learning on campus or off campus.

Today we need Flexible education as shifts in demographic have led to a change in the student with greater numbers of mature students expectations for their education. With greater emphasis on job and self directed experiences and employer expectations for their workforce. Flexible education can help to meet the needs of a diverse of students, allow students to combine work study and family and enable students to develop skills an attributes to successfully adapt to change.

The higher education system in today's scenario is faced with many challenges like competitiveness, management, financing unemployment by laying equal emphasis on quality of higher education, ethics and values together with assessment of educations institutions. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century education can be used as a powerful tool to build knowledge based society. The needs and expectation of society is changing at a fast pace and hence the quality of education needs to be enhanced.

### **Challenges for the Indian education system and need of Flexible education**

- **The Restrictions of Geography-** Many higher education institutions are located in large population centres. Student living away from these centre's-rural and remote find learning to their interests and skills Difficult. Flexible learning can address some of these needs.
- **The Limitations of Gender-** While access to higher education by women has greatly increased but there are still regions where women have yet to achieve equity of access.
- **The implications of disability-** Disabilities, whether linked to physical or learning conditions. Have a divesting effect of participation in higher education. Flexible education can help in this by providing equitable opportunities.
- **The implications of culture-** Not all families, communities, institutions and government policy frame work know how to support certain groups ex-who are first in the families, those from low income families, indigenous or under re-presented groups.
- **Luck of Differentiated and effective support-** Not all students arrive at higher education institutions with the knowledge and skill to succeed. Dropout rates for higher education remain high with many students who start but not completing a programmed. In such problems electronic delivery of learning support is particularly effective.
- **Innovations required-** The curriculum of many of the colleges, universities is more or less obsolete and does not import lasts knowledge to the students. Or do not equip them with necessary skills. Due to this fact the employability of the passed out student comes in question. Flexible learning is an answer for this.
- **Investment in Education-** If we measure the expenses on education as a percentage to GDP India lays behind some of the developing and developed nations. This gap can be filled by the private sector playing a vital role. In this Flexible education could help a lot.
- **Upgrading the quality of education-** Instead of mere lecture methods, we should use case studies, group discussion, paper presentation, seminars, curriculum related quiz etc. This would result in more reasoning, self confidence and learning.
- **Ethics in Education-** A trend of repayment of education loon can be seen. If the student do not repay the banks would be skeptical in sanctioning educational loans to reduce default of education loans the education system needs to be enhanced and Flexible education can meet the needs.

### **Conclusion**

For meeting of challenges and obtaining an answer or solution for such challenges Flexible education is one of the ways. Te sources of Flexible learning like open and distance learning (ODL) and the use of open educational resources (OER) can have major impact on higher education. UNESLO reviews the impact of open education. Distance education has been growing steadily with online learning expanding quickly. online access may be used to reach groups of students who cannot travel to campus. many institution have successfully combined online learning with face to face classrooms the growth of Massive open online courses in the institutions are adapted as educational resources. The Indira Gandhi National Open University in New Delhi is one of the universities which provide Flexible access of learning.

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