



# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CREATIVE RESEARCH THOUGHTS (IJCRT)

An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

## E-learning Initiatives of Indian Government

Hansa Subnani 1, Monika Khatri 2

Hansa Subnani, Research Scholar, School of commerce & Management, Poornima University, Jaipur Rajasthan

Monika Khatri, Associate Professor, Poornima University, Jaipur Rajasthan

### Abstract

As we all know the world has faced the dangerous and deadliest consequences due to infectious novel corona virus. In these circumstances digital education is important tool to access, quality and equity of education. Education institutions have adopted the use of ICT in various levels such as communication, examination and in evaluation also. This paper explores & discuss about the several initiatives at the forefront of this noble battle launched by the Govt. of India. This research evaluated initiatives commenced by Rajasthan government during a pandemic for continuing education.

**Key words** – E- learning- Online leaning, Government initiatives, COVID-19

### Introduction

Worldwide research has shown that information and communication technology or digitalization plays an important role in student learning and positive impact on student achievement. In India student's efficiency is increasing day by day due to use of digitalization, awareness about digital program, govt. policies & facilities to promote digital education. The main target of government is now on encouraging states for improvement within the quality of education, so digitalization in education can be a boon in quality of education.

The new education policy which was approved on 29 July 2020 suggests equipped school digitally, more virtual labs and friendly software which makes teaching and learning more interesting and interactive. For ensuring quality of digital education at primary school level both the teachers and the learners requires skill. Some prominent initiatives in India taken up in this direction include SWAYAM, NEPTEL, e-Pathshala, NCERT textbooks and many more.

## Review of literature

ICT is one of the major tools driving the learning system in the 21<sup>st</sup> century (Oliver,2002; Khlaisang & Kooraneekij,2019), Karishma Sharma, Dr. Mukesh Sharma, Dr. Rajiv Gandhi wrote an article on “SMILE: A tool for enhancement of digital education in Rajasthan” Govt. of India has taken many initiatives but recently Rajasthan launched SMILE (social media interface for learning engagement) in April 2020. This paper discuss about the concept, various dimension and working of the SMILE, main purpose of this to provide online courses and classes in all Govt. schools of states by combining of social media.

Karishma Sharma, Dr. Rajiv Gandhi, Dr. Mukesh Sharma wrote an article on “Government initiatives for continuing school education during lockdown: A study of Government schools in Pratapgarh district of Rajasthan” in earlier author talk about SMILE online platform but in this paper, researcher want to identify which Govt. initiatives has been able to achieve the plan and which constraint are there in Pratapgarh district and also want to identify the awareness of students and teachers towards online platforms. This study is based on descriptive research design and data is collected by 50 govt. school students and 50 Govt. school teachers. This study found that SMILE project is effectively implementing in Pratapgarh district and 96% teachers are sending link on watsup for study material, 68% majority of students unaware about the online platforms that launched by GOVT. of India and network connectivity and lack of smart phones in tribal areas s major issues. E-learning is differentiated into two approaches synchronous and asynchronous (Shahabadi & Uplane, 2015). Government Agencies, Educational Institutions should be aware about the benefit & challenges of two approaches to make productive decision in their online learning initiatives.

## Objective of the study

- Assess the online learning initiatives of the Government of India.
- To study the opportunities and challenges of online learning.

## Research Methodology

This study is conceptual and analytical; research design is descriptive and purely based on the secondary sources such as books, national & international journals, websites, published reports and newspapers.

## Government E-learning initiatives

### Government E-learning initiatives

- SWAYAM
- Diksha App
- Swayam Prabha
- National Digital Library of India
- e-PGpathshala
- e-Basta
- Shaala Darpan
- Siksha Vani
- SMILE

The ministry of education has taken various initiatives to assist scholars, students and teachers. Some of the key initiatives are-

**SWAYAM** (Study Webs of Active- Learning of Young Aspiring Minds) - This program is launched by government of India on 9th July 2017 and designed to achieve three principles of education policy- access, equity & Quality. SWAYAM has been developed by MHRD and AICTE with the help of Microsoft. This platform provides free access from 9th to post graduation. SWAYAM has four quadrants: e-content, e-tutorial, discussion forums & assessments. According to SWAYAM there are 12,541,992 students are enrolled and 2,748 completed courses are present. Under digital India, government of India provides free entry to web courses.

**Diksha App-** (Digital Infrastructure for knowledge Sharing) it is a national platform for school education. It has launched on 5th Sep 2017 and has been adopted by 35 states across as well as CBSC and NCERT also. Diksha platform offers learning material to students, parents and teachers. Students revise lesson, do worksheet and understand concepts as well as teachers have access to worksheets, activities & lesson plans to make enjoyable class experience. Diksha makes it possible to use of technology for the benefit of teachers and learners across the India.

**SWAYAM PRABHA-** It is education learning platform which is launched by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2017 to provide 32 high quality of channels on 24/7 basis. It has new content every day for at least 4 hours and would be repeated 5 times in a day. DTH channels cover the higher students, school students (9 to12), curriculum based course and assist students for competitive examinations. The contents are provided by NEPTel, UGC, CEC and IGNOU. Swayamprabha.gov.in web

portal has an archive of telecasted videos which can be assessed anytime and students can find information about upcoming programs and timetable on website easily.

**National Digital Library of India (NDLI)** - NDLI provides free accessible books in English and other Indian language. The portal has open access for all people around the world; some contents are available for only registered user. Most of School don't have proper computer facilities which decreased the importance of digital library so the Govt. should first establish the well maintained computer labs in the schools.

**e-PGpathshala**- It is a gateway of post graduation courses being executed by the UGC. This platform provides curriculum based, high quality and interactive e-content in 70+ languages by the subject experts working in Indian Universities. It provides digital textbooks, learning material for all classes. Video, audio and workshops are available for students, teachers, parents, educators and researchers. It is an open education source where no teacher support is available for students. Every subject has a team of content reviewer, paper coordinator, content writer and multimedia team.

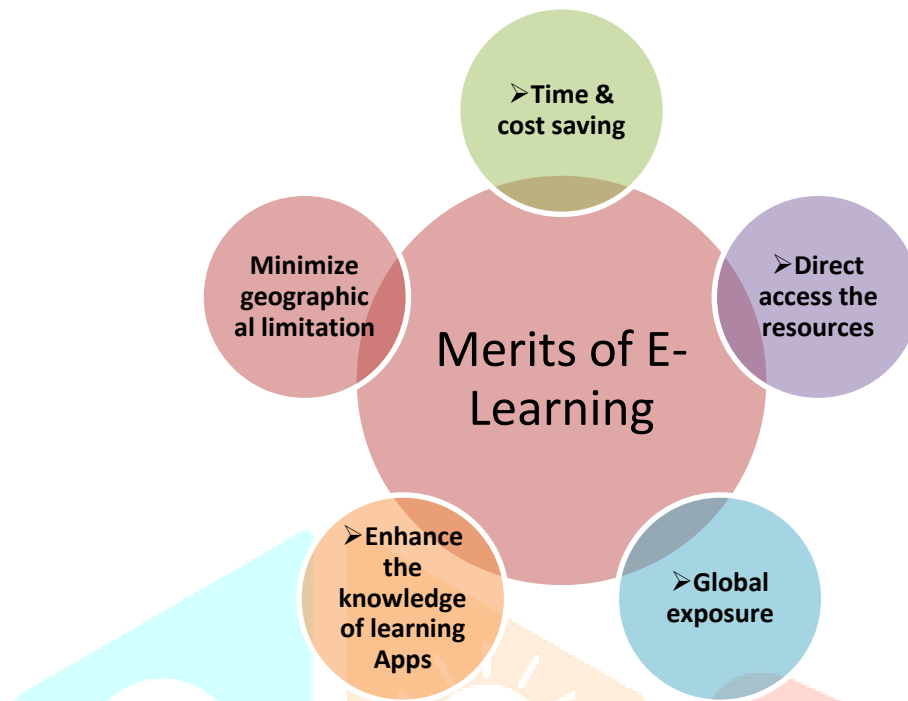
**e-Basta**- In this project government of India provides books in digital form as e books to be read and used on laptops and tablets. The main purpose of this platform to bring various publisher and schools together on one platform and students can easily access the dynamic content with text, graphics, videos and charts. e-Basta are portable and delivered through the internet with no shipping and packaging. It is a collection of e- content 'Anywhere and Anytime'.

**Shaala Darpan**- This platform is launched by government for all Kendriya Vidyalaya. The main purpose of this e-learning platform is to improve quality of teaching-learning process, good governance and strengthen of school administration. This web portal is versatile, enhances the productivity and performance, trigger the growth of each individual. This Shaala darpan bring teacher and student together on one platform. It gives real time digital view of the school to the administration.

**Shiksha Vani**- This app is launched by Central Board of secondary education in 2019. It is broadcasted via 25 stations of All India Radio. The reason behind it to provides up to date information to students, teachers and parents regarding new initiatives and tools of e-education. It can improve educational outcome and stay in touch with the stakeholders.

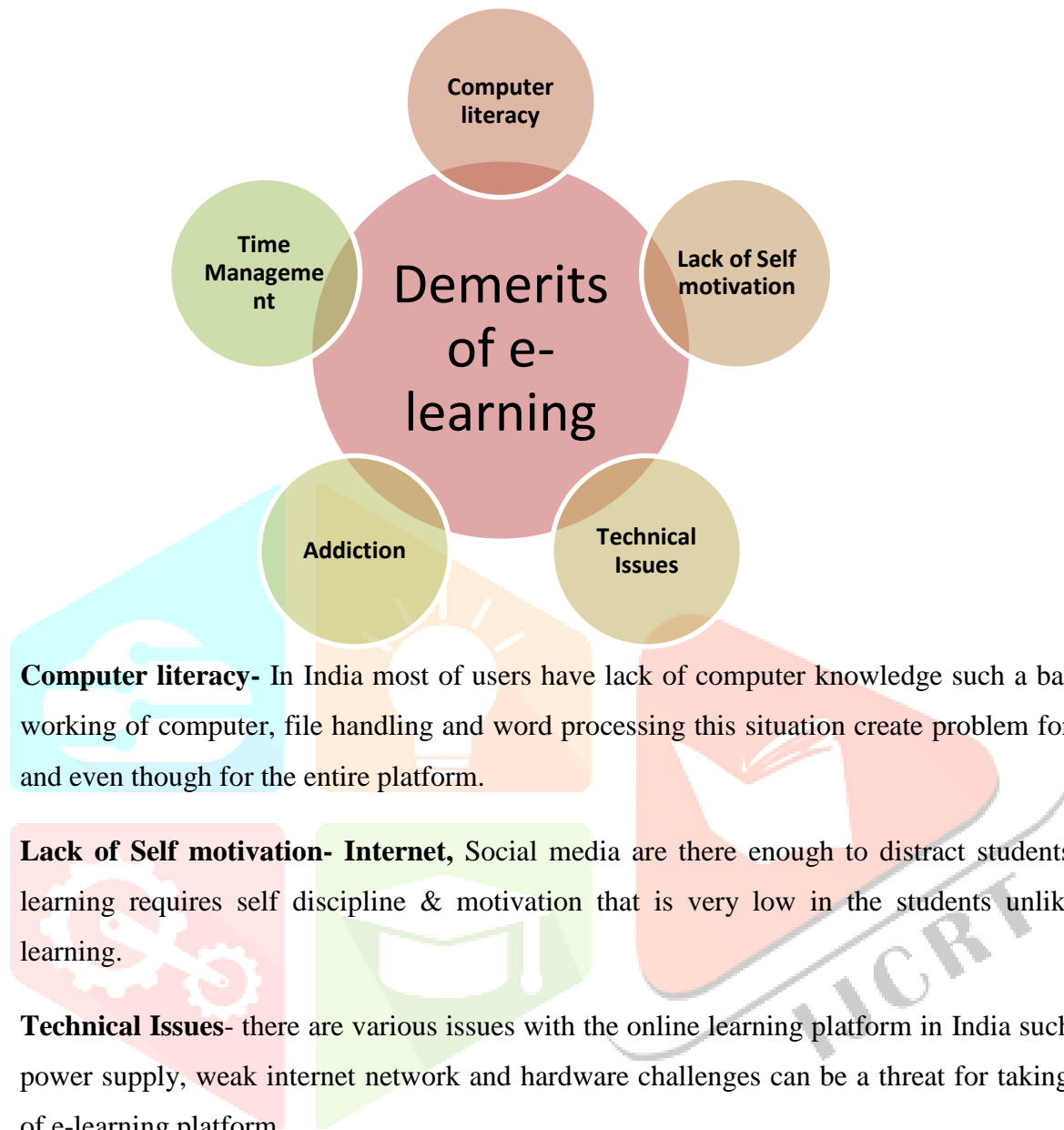
**SMILE (Social Media Interface for Learning Engagement)**- This program kicked off by Govt. of Rajasthan on 13 April 2020 to ensure continuous learning for students and teachers at home during corona. Students and teachers of grade 1 to 12, receive daily video content via WhatsApp group. This content is reviewed by subject expert from SCERT, students and teachers just click on the link and access the content easily. To ensure that these groups reach maximum children, Panchayat level Education officers communicating with the teachers. Quality of content is very good that is surveyed by students and teachers.

## Merits of e-learning



- **Time & cost saving-** Various studies have shown that e-learning has yielded time saving over traditional classroom. It saves time of learner without sacrificing the quality of service. It gives freedom to student to learn at their desired time, when it compared by traditional method there is a huge saving of cost and time.
- **Direct access the resources-** E-learning is the paramount **to the** global education system because it provides useful content to the learner without any difficulty. It is the flexible system that can be accessed anywhere and anytime.
- **Global exposure-** Digitalization of education is open way for students to get exposure and communication irrespective of national boundaries. E-learning make sure that the information is shared among the mass category students.
- **Enhance the knowledge of learning Apps-** Students are able to explore various digital learning apps by the smart phones from their home itself. They use different e-learning portals or apps to enhance the knowledge in various subjects.
- **Minimize geographical limitation-** In e-learning there is no need of being present physically in the classrooms, no need to go anywhere for examination or assessment on online learning. So online learning cross the boundaries for the students.

## Demerits of e-learning



- **Computer literacy-** In India most of users have lack of computer knowledge such a basic skills for working of computer, file handling and word processing this situation create problem for themselves and even though for the entire platform.
- **Lack of Self motivation- Internet,** Social media are there enough to distract students and online learning requires self discipline & motivation that is very low in the students unlike classroom learning.
- **Technical Issues-** there are various issues with the online learning platform in India such as unstable power supply, weak internet network and hardware challenges can be a threat for taking full benefit of e-learning platform.
- **Addiction-** Due to continuous use of electronic modes smart phones, laptops for completion of assignments and projects, for seeking more information, online homework has proved harmful and health being impacted.
- **Time management-** E-learning gives freedom to learn at their desired time at the same time extra care must be taken to schedule to learning because students are too busy in their day to day work.

## Conclusion

Education is most important weapon for heightening of the country and education institutes started to become digitalized, online learning became a necessity. The central government and state governments have taken many initiatives to reach every student of the nation. Online learning is need of the nation for the achievement of digital literacy environment before 2030. Government publicizes existing e- learning projects like SWAYAM, NEPTEL, EDUSAT and CLASS etc. launched various new platforms for online learning such as SMILE, Shiksha Vani, e-basta, NDLI and many more. The state government also plays a major role to promote online learning in the situation of pandemic. The main purpose of this study to analyzes government initiatives for the digitalization of education and merits & demerits of online learning.

## References

1. Karishma Sharma, Dr. Mukesh Sharma et.al, "SMILE: A tool for enhancement of digital education in Rajasthan", 2020
2. Karishma Sharma, Dr. Rajiv Gandhi, Dr. Mukesh Sharma, "Government initiatives for continuing school education during lockdown: A study of Government schools in Pratapgarh district of Rajasthan", Mukta Shabd Journal, Vol-9, Issue-6, 2020
3. Dr. Shrikant Dewedi, "A study of Indian government initiatives for digital literacy for continuing education with special reference to covid-19 lockdown period", Shodh Sarita, Vol- 7, Issue-28, 2020
4. Madanjit Singh et.al, "Indian government e-learning initiatives in responses to covid-19 crisis: A case study on online learning in Indian higher education system", Education and Information Technologies, Issue-26, 2021
5. Dr. Rachna Tyagi et.al, "Status of ICT in education and support of govt. of India", International journal of engineering research and general science, Vol- 3, Issue-1, 2015
6. Geetha K. Joshi, Venkata Subrahmanyam C. V.et.al, "The Need and Importance of On-Demand E-Learning for Customized Management Skills Enhancement", IOSR Journal Of Humanities And Social Science, Vol-19, Issue-1, 2014
7. Dr. Himanshu Rastogi "Digitalization of education in India – An analysis", International Journal of Research and Analytical Reviews (IJRAR), Vol-6, Issue-1, 2019
8. K Seethal Dr. B Menaka "Digitalization Of Education In 21St Century: A Boon Or Bane", 8Th International Conference On Digital Outreach And Future Of Management Practices – 2019 International Journal For Research In Engineering Application & Management (IJREAM), 2019
9. Himakshi Goswami "Opportunities And Challenges Of Digital India Programme", International Education & Research Journal [IERJ], Vol- 2, Issue -11, 2016
10. Mr. Rampravesh Gond, Dr. Rashi Gupta, "A Study On Digital Education In India: Scope And challenges Of An Indian Society", Anveshana'S International Journal Of Research In Regional Studies, Law, Social Sciences, Journalism And Management Practices, Vol- 2, Issue -3, 2017

11. Rajendra Singh "Status Of ICT In Education And Support Of Govt. Of India", International Journal Of Engineering Research And General Science, Vol- 3, Issue -1, 2015
12. Nurul Islam , Martin Beer1, Frances Slack, "E-Learning Challenges Faced by Academics in Higher Education", Journal of Education and Training Studies, Vol-3, Issue-5, 2015
13. Mansureh Kebritchi, Angie Lipschuetz and Lilia Santiago, "Issues and Challenges For Teaching Successful Online Courses in Higher Education: A Literature Review", Journal of Educational Technology Systems, Vol-46, Issue-1, 2017

