



INNOVATIVE TEACHING-LEARNING PRACTICES IN CONTEXT OF TEACHER EDUCATION

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Abstract: Education is the mean for the transformation of individuals' personality through developing reflection, enlightenment, and critical investigation within them. Through education we are able to identify our potentialities which further help us in our holistic development. In the present time of technology and scientific advancement in each and every aspect of our life, innovative approaches and practices plays very crucial role in better understanding of teaching learning process. It is essential specially in the context of teacher education which is related to skill-based education for future teachers in all parts of training, whether it is theoretical or practical. The purpose of this paper is to explore the importance of innovative practices in the field of teacher education and to identify the challenges or obstacles while using of these new ideas or approaches in the area of teacher education.

Index Terms- Education, Reflection, Enlightenment, Innovative practices.

I. Introduction:

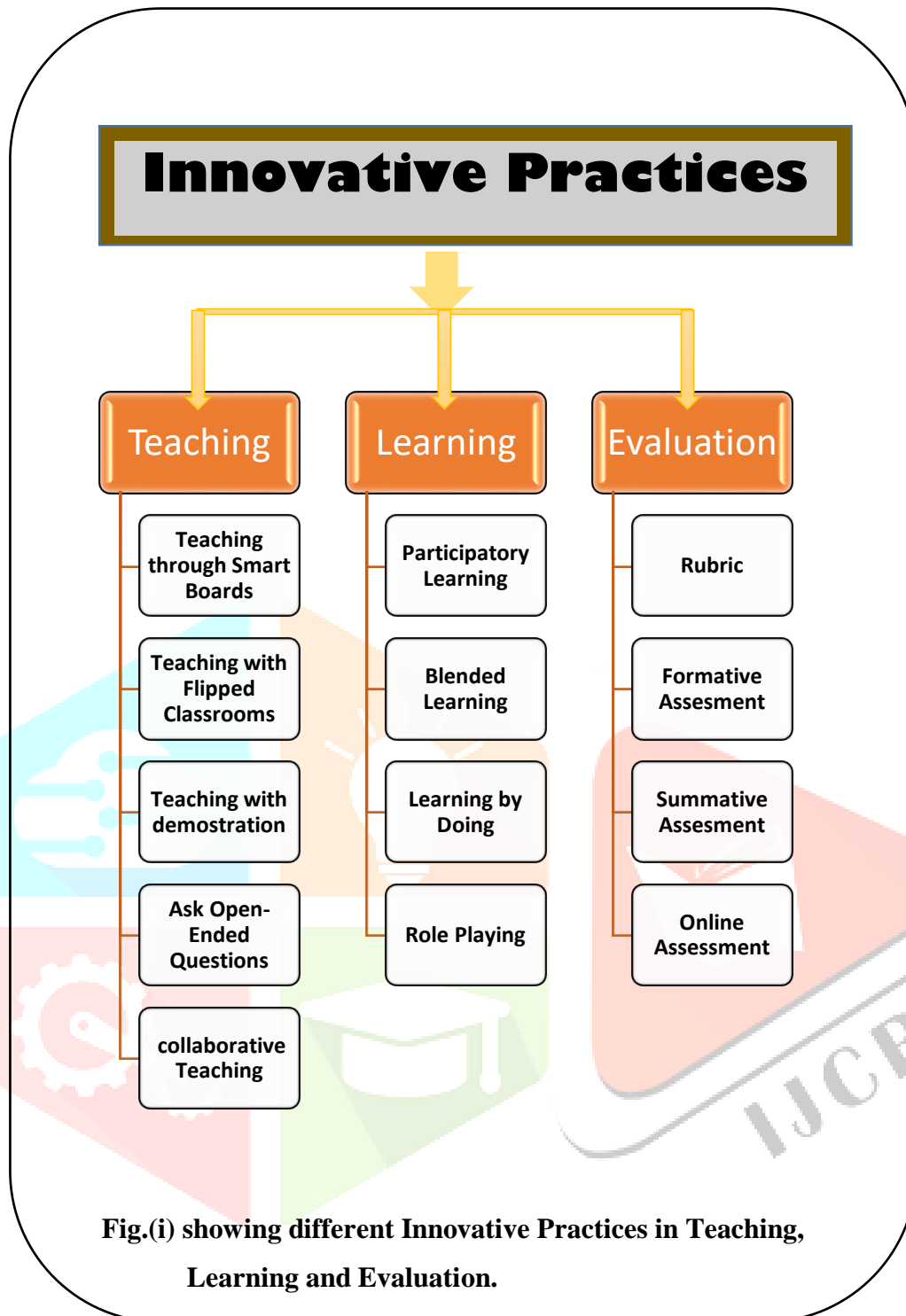
Teacher education institutions are most powerful place where the future of the nation is built. When the education system of the nation will be strong than only it will be helpful in the development of the country. According to the National Education Policy 2020 Teacher Education is an important place where school teachers will shape the next generation. It will improve the level of integrity and credibility and further helpful in reaching to that level. But our education system needs more improvement for enhancing the quality of teacher education and this regard, it is the demand of the time that we need to go for some other innovative methods or practices other than traditional methods. Application of innovative practices are important in each and every aspects of teaching-learning including curriculum and other related domains. In present time shifting from traditional approach to hybrid or mixed approach is needed. Innovative teaching is not only helpful in just gaining education in the effective way but also helpful in the holistic development of the student.

Main Highlights of National Education Policy 2020 on Innovative Practices:

National Education Policy 2020 also gives emphasis on innovative practices in teacher education. The policy focuses on the development and support of technological tools in education for better participation as well as for better learning outcomes. The policy also gives stress on Multidisciplinary perspectives and integrated teacher education programs which itself reflect an essential way for innovative teaching learning. NEP 2020 mentioned about cutting-edge pedagogy in teaching. The policy focusing on Life skills such as communication, cooperation, teamwork, and resilience. It encourages logical decision-making, innovative, and holistic education. The Policy talks about promoting school and local public libraries in all local and Indian languages where enjoyable and inspirational books for students at all level will be developed. The policy also gives emphasis on internship and skill development. So, by above mentioned highlights it is clear that National Education Policy 2020 is promoting innovative practices in teaching learning. After implementation of this policy positive changes may come in our education system.

II. Innovative Practices:

Etymologically, the word “Innovation”, is derived from the Latin word “Innovate” which means something new or the practice of developing and introducing new things or the introduction of something new. It is the ability of thinking beyond and create something new which is different from already existing knowledge or information. For promoting invention, new ideas with different ways of teaching and learning practices are required in teacher education and training. If the teacher will use innovative practices in their teaching, it will be helpful to make interactive and interesting classroom transaction and other curricular and co-curricular activities in teacher education. As we know that teaching, learning and evaluation are important aspects of any educational process so in this context some innovative practices are as follows-



Innovative Practices in Teaching:

- i. **Teaching through Smart Boards-** Teacher can use smart boards according to the subject matter to make teaching more innovative. It is smart technology which have touch control screen with a projector and scanner.
- ii. **Teaching with Flipped Classroom-** In flipping classroom the role of teacher is to make teaching more interesting with the help of video, online lecture, podcast, e-book, website.
- iii. **Teaching with demonstration-** This method of teaching is one of the important teaching methods where teacher shows step by step process of something to make the abstract ideas concrete related to the topic. It creates interest in learning, and students can learn easily.

- iv. **Ask Open-Ended Question-** Teacher can ask open-ended questions as a method of teaching, which will give opportunities to learners to express their knowledge and understanding on the topic.
- v. **Collaborative Teaching/Team teaching-** this approaches brings teachers together as learner, with a shared goal of improving learner outcomes. The focus is on problem solving together collectively.

Innovative Practices in Learning: -

- i. **Participatory Learning-** Participatory learning is one of the best innovative learning practices where learner can learn through taking part in any task or learning activity directly.
- ii. **Blended Learning-** Blended Learning creates interest among students. This is also known as mixed or hybrid learning where learner learn through both modes, face-to-face mode as well as through online mode. Mixing of these two modes make learning process more innovative and productive.
- iii. **Learning by Doing-** Learning by doing is the best way to learn something. This type of learning gives experiences and learner learn easily without burden.
- iv. **Role Playing-** In the role-Playing learning, learner learn through self. Here the learner participates and plays the role and engage themselves in the relate learning context.

Innovative Practices in Evaluation: -

- i. **Rubric-** It is one of the innovative ways of evaluation which is composed of a set of guidance for evaluation of performance of a student.
- ii. **Formative Assessment-** In this process of assessment students get the feedback in continuous manner which further enhance their learning. There are many innovative practices related to formative assessments like presentation, question-answer, essay writing, surprise test, etc.
- iii. **Summative assessment-** This method of assessment is also an innovative practice and we can make this more innovative by adding different type of questions like very short, short, long questions along with some objective questions.
- iv. **Online Assessment-** Online assessment is also very necessary in this digital era due to online mode of classes and as a result of advancement of technology. There are many platforms or applications which can be used for online assessment. Some innovative tools for online formative assessment given in figure (ii).



Fig. (ii) showing innovative tools for online formative assessment

1. **Kahoot:** Kahoot is a global learning platform company that wants to empower everyone, including children, students, and employees, to unlock their full learning potential. It makes easy for any individual or corporation to create, share, and play learning games that drive compelling engagement. It is available in free and paid both versions. It is used for real-time formative evaluation, questionnaires, and discussions in the classrooms.
2. **Mentimeter:** This application is useful for live polls, quizzes, word clouds, Question-Answer and more to get real-time input online. It makes remote & hybrid work easy.
3. **Poll Everywhere:** It is an application which is helpful in online meeting and classes, host interactive meeting anywhere alone with this, it is also useful for Capturing feedback instantly during virtual meetings, classes, events and many more facilities are available on the application.
4. **Quizizz:** It is a gamification software which provide real time formative assessments, Gamified quizzes, polls, and lessons and many more. It can be Share via messaging tools, email, or through LMS. Participants can join from any device.
5. **Wooclap:** This tool allows the students to learn by playing a role in their learning. It helps in analysing the result related to the event through question answer and send the progress report to students individually.
6. **Quizlet:** This software is very useful for education through games. Quizlet breaks down the topics and subject and present them in the new way which further helps the learner to understand and learn the topic and subject in easy and smooth way. It provides flashcards and various games and tests.
7. **Socrative:** This software helps in enhancing blended learning skills. It is useful for increasing the Speed of learning and for providing interactive engagement of the students in the classroom. It is an efficient way for monitoring and evaluating the learner and their learning process.

8. **Pear deck:** It helps teachers to create the effective learning environment for every student on daily basis and also leads active learning of the students through formative assessment. It effortlessly builds engaging instructional content.
9. **Go Conquer:** It is very simple tool related to learning. It includes planning, brainstorming and note-taking for testing and scoring of the students' performance. Here we find everything in a single platform.

Some other Innovative Teaching-Learning Practices are as follows:

1. Collaborative and Cooperative learning
2. Reflective Learning
3. Uses of ICT equipment
4. Techno-Pedagogy
5. Workshop and Seminar
6. Simulation
7. Gamification
8. Crossover learning
9. Adoptive teaching
10. Stealth Assessment

1. **Collaborative and Cooperative learning:** Collaborative and Cooperative learning is a kind of group or team learning. Through these innovative learning practices students learn in a group. So, this practices are related with sharing of ideas and process of socialization.
2. **Reflective Learning:** This practice helps in reflecting the previous knowledge in an innovative way where the learner can get chance to reflect their knowledge in the new situation.
3. **Uses of ICT equipment:** Many ICT equipments are available there for enhancing the teaching-learning process. Through smartboards teacher can show many educational clips, videos, images, power point presentations and so on to students, which gives support to teaching as well as students can learn new concepts in easy and interesting way. These equipments are also helpful in connecting the world through email, social media, blogs, etc.
4. **Techno-Pedagogy:** It refers to teaching practices which involves both pedagogical aspects (teaching and learning methods, motivation, the development of students' skills), and technological aspects (using computers, the Internet, interactive whiteboards, etc.). with relation to the content or subject matter.
5. **Workshop and Seminar:** The workshop provide the hand on experience to both teachers and learners where they acquire some sort of practical knowledge. Seminar also plays very important role in understanding of different topics. It enhances the presentation skills of students and also increase their commend on the topic. This type of innovative practices are also required in teacher education institutions.

6. **Simulation-** It is a technology to evaluate the performance of the learner. It promotes critical thinking.
7. **Gamification** – It is the process of imparting education through games. It enhances learning through play way method. There are many applications available which help to develop problem solving approach and critical thinking. Some example of gamification applications are Byju's, Class craft, Kahoot and so on.
8. **Crossover learning-** Learning in informal setting, such as museums and after school clubs, can link educational content with issues that matters to learners in their lives. So it helps the learners in recording, linking, recalling and sharing their diverse learning events.
9. **Adaptive teaching-** It recommend the best places to start new content and when to review old content. They also provide various tools for monitoring one's progress.
10. **Stealth Learning-** It is a kind of learning when an instructor uses clever, disguised ways to introduce learning objectives through non-traditional tools, such as games, to encourage students to have fun and learn. Students think they are merely playing, but they are simultaneously learning.

III. Importance of Innovative Practices in Teaching:

We can clearly understand the importance of innovative practices through its role in different spheres like providing help to develop decision making capacity, judgement power and also helpful in bringing empowerment among individuals by following means.

- a) **Increase Motivation Level** - Innovative practices in teaching increases motivation level of Students by developing self-confidence and curiosity among them.
- b) **Promote Self-Learning-** Innovative practices promote interest and will power of the students which leads them towards self-learning.
- c) **Develop Problem solving approach-** Innovative teaching is helpful in developing problem solving approach within the students and make them able to face different problems and find out their solutions.
- d) **Increase reflective thinking-** Innovative practices increases reflective thinking in learners as well as in teachers and help them in reasoning and decision making.
- e) **Interactive Classroom-** Innovative teaching practices make the classroom more interactive. If the classroom will be interactive, students will learn more in better way.

IV. Challenges related to Innovative Teaching-Learning Practices

- **Lack of resources:** Unavailability of resources is a big barrier for innovative practices. There are many schools and teacher education institutions which are not fully equipped with technology and there are lack of other resources also.
- **Lack of training:** Proper training is an essential requirement for teachers regarding usage of innovative practices. But training part is lacking or not updated in most of the educational institutions. So, for effective utilization of innovative approaches time to time workshops, seminars or other trainings related to this are required.
- **Lack of awareness:** Some time we don't understand the importance of innovative practice of teaching. So, in this respect awareness is also required for innovative teaching to engage learners and help them to enhance their learning and skills.
- **Lack of motivation:** Motivation is also an important factor. We all know that without motivation we can't teach or learn, hence motivation should be intensive or extensive.
- **Lack of cooperation:** Cooperation must be there for better learning. If there will be lack of cooperation than there will negative impact on quality teaching-learning.
- **Lack of conducive environment:** The conducive environment is an essential factor for innovative practice of teaching learning. Lack of library, lack of proper sitting arrangement in the classroom, unavailability of technological tools, etc. disturbs the environment so systematic arrangements are required to create a better learning environment.

V. Conclusion:

No doubt innovative practices play very major role in teaching learning process. They are very effective and able to bring qualitative changes in educational process of any institution. In case of Teacher Education Institutions, these innovative practices are an essential requirement for quality education because they prepare prospective teachers through which education will be disseminated in the society. But on the other side we see that still there are some obstacles during the usage of innovative practices, so by reducing them or overcoming them we can think about the concept of holistic development.

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