ICT IN EDUCATION- STUDENTS' PERSPECTIVE: A CASE OF GEOGRAPHY STUDENTS

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Abstract: Nowadays, ICT has become an inseparable part of education, whether it is a regular education, distance education, online, e-learning etc. Use of ICT has given a new altitude to education. Keeping this in view, present research paper tries to explore students' perspective, their thinking about use of ICT in class room. The analysis shows that students are in favour of use of ICT. ICT in the form of video, ppt (i. e. visual) has ever lasting impact. It makes than for easy and clear understanding of the topic or syllabus. They can repetitively go through the material as no specific time is there. Overall the study shows that ICT must be used in education by which one can get more time for engaging students in active learning.

Key words- ICT use, Active learning, ICT in education.

I. INTRODUCTION

Education is the process of facilitating learning or the acquisition of knowledge, skills, values, beliefs and habits. Educational methods include teaching, training, storytelling, discussion and directed research (1). One of the major developments in education is the application or use of ICT in T-L process to achieve the precise outcome. In T-L process one has to lean on various pedagogy.

Nowadays Information and Communication Technology (ICT) **is** becoming an integral part and parcel of Teaching Learning Process (TL process). As almost all the things are available on internet, teachers have to convert traditional classroom teaching into active learning platform, so that with interaction and discussion, students will be able to understand the topic. ICT simply means to communicate information or knowledge through any medium and in any form. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in education is the mode of education that use information and communications technology to support, enhance, and optimise the delivery of information (2).

Education in a simple way is a system of giving and receiving information and knowledge with reasoning. Education it-self is a process of experiments. There is no as such a perfect way or method to teach or to learn. Films like *Hichki,* or *Tare Zameen Par* shows that sometimes, as per the situation or circumstances we have to modify or change the methods of teaching. ICT is also a one of the components which is introduced in Teaching Learning Process (TL process) as inventions in technology took place. Education sector has also adopted the ICT in TL process to make it more effective and reachable to everyone. With use of ICT, online courses, e-learning, distance education came to forefront. With the use of ICT one can use active strategies in classroom.

From one of the recent example, we can see how ICT can be used for T-L process and its significance in education. With the lockdown in country for almost a month due to Covid-19 (Novel Corona virus), some of the

topics are taught with ICT. Sending links of video, ppt, e-text etc to students, so that they can learn at their respective homes or places. Thus with the use of ICT T-L process goes on.

II Objectives

No one can replace traditional methods of teaching but with integration of ICT, it can be made more effective. Keeping in view about the use of ICT in T-L process, the present research paper's major objective is to explore the students' perspective regarding use of ICT in education.

III Data and Sources of Data

3.1 Methodology

For the present study, respondents are the students of Bachelor of Arts of second and third year having Geography subject. For the purpose to fulfill above mentioned objectives students were asked to share their experiences in three sub categories about use of ICT in teaching-

1 In your opinion should ICT be used in T-L Process ?
2 Significance/Benefits of ICT in T-L Process.
3 Your experience of ICT used in T-L Process.

Total 16 respondents (students) shared their experiences, their ideas and thinking about use of ICT in T-L Process.

IV Conceptual frame work

The conceptual frame work (Figure 1.1) in short tells us how ICT can be used or can be involved in T-L Process. T-L Process has three major components or elements- Teachers, Students and Syllabus or content to be taught. Nowadays contents are easily and conveniently available with various mediums, viz internet, books, whatsapp etc. Therefore in my opinion- let the students go through these materials before coming to the class and can have active learning in class, so that participation of each student will be there, peer tutorial will also be there. Most important with participation understanding of topic or content will be there for life long. With the help of ICT, classrooms can be flipped i.e. proving information or knowledge outside the class and active learning inside the class. Use of ICT and flipping a classroom will be beneficial for both teachers as well as students. No geographical barrier is there, any time and many times they can go through the material, peer learning and active learning etc will be there in classroom and most important availability of teacher will be there for any difficulty.

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The experience shared shows that all the respondents are in favour of use of ICT in higher education. ICT enables students to clearly understand a topic in an easy way with repeated viewing of document file viz video, ppt, e-text etc. One can use the ICT to flip the class room teaching, it is beneficial for all the components involved in T-L Process. Students have also shared the positive impact of use of ICT in higher education. Application of active learning strategies helps students to have clear cut idea about a topic as an active participation and peer learning will be there. They can pause, rewind and repetitively play the videos or other ICT documents. For example video or map of Rainfall distribution and types of forest can be done in class with Cause and Effect methodology.

Following are the some of the experiences shared by respondents which totally give us an idea about what kind or type of teaching students want.

Respondent 1 :-

Information and Communication through technology in my opinion should be used in T-L Process. Many a times explanation using blackboard or books becomes monotonous. There are certain phenomenons in geography which requires a student to visually imagine or see them. For example learning the process of photosynthesis through book and learning it through diagram, model or video has different impact on human memory. It is thus essential to explain certain topics using 3 D models or with videos or diagrams.

I still remember one of our teachers explained us formation of landforms using clay. The method was so apt that I guarantee none of us would ever forget formation of landforms. Many times texts, written material erects confusion in one's mind and it becomes difficult to understand. In such times referring a diagram, flow chart or any relevant method clears the confusion.

It's often said that human beings' pictorial memory is excellent. So communicating information through different techniques rather than using booking language always helps.

Respondent 2 :-

Yes, ICT should be used in T. L. Process as it helps to understand quickly. Practically studies can be done and it catches fast. Seeing videos, images we get more interested towards studies, we start enjoying and it gets easier to grasp. In today's world technology is the most important thing for every person. Without smart phones, laptops not a single work can be done. Day to day it is getting necessary for everyone as it gives us more knowledge through applications installed in it like Google, YouTube, social media etc. so ICT should be used in T. L. process. Self learning can be promoted with ICT. It increases interest n studies. As a student of Geography, my experience was good. Teacher increases interest in studies through ICT and other activities like mass, drawing and many more. Shows video to get the topic quickly understood. Use props to explain like maps, diagrams etc.

Respondent 3 :-

I think ICT should be used in the class for teaching as well as learning. This is because information related to geography among other subjects is freely available online and it is being constantly updated. Therefore using ICT is much better than reusing old material that may become obsolete over time.

ICT gives access to much more information than books, because data is constantly uploaded and made much more relevant. A lot of students use laptops and mobiles nowadays to surf the internet for learning more about their subjects of interest. Therefore, I think more exposure to technology is a must. Using spreadsheets, presentations and documents, more information can be transferred than notes and oral lectures. Almost our entire syllabus is available on IAS preparation websites, so it proves very helpful to strengthen our geography notes with the detailed explanation available online.

Respondent 4 :-

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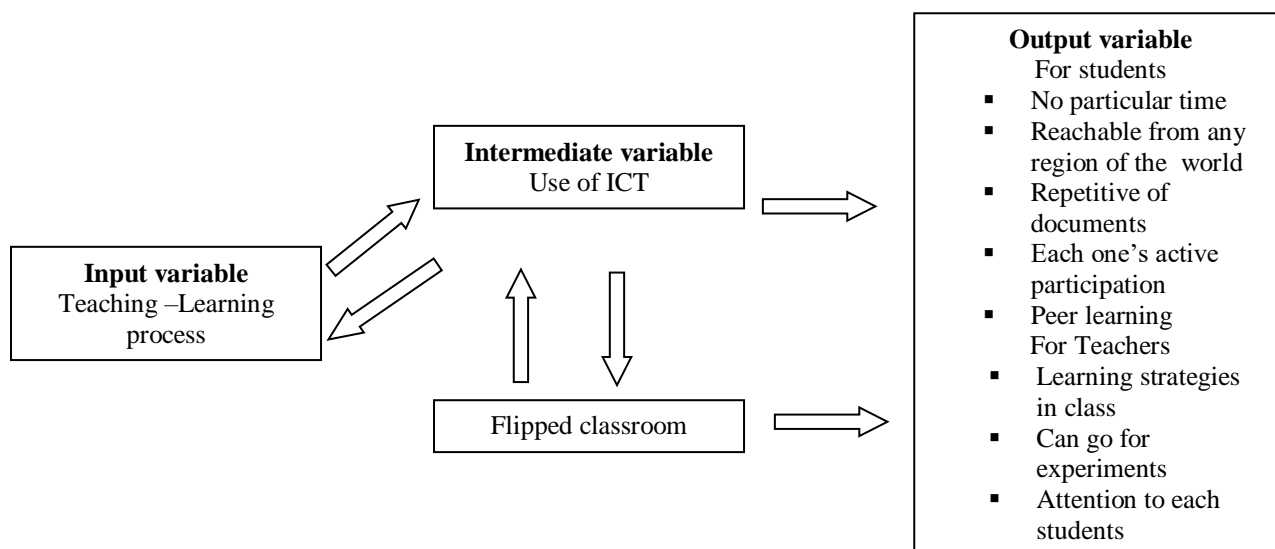
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VI CONCLUSIONS

Experiences shared by respondents shows that use of ICT in TL process is beneficial for the students. Respondents are in favour of ICT in higher education. Visual impact is much more beneficial for understanding of any topic or theme. Here a teacher has to play a role of facilitator.

The conclusion of the present research is that one should flip the traditional classroom. Use of ICT is favoured by all the respondents. Visual impact or imprints are for lifelong which is not possible with lecture method. It is beneficial not only for TL process but also for quick or speedy conveying message or information.

Figure 1.1 Conceptual framework – Major elements

VII ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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