

Advances in Technology and its Effects on Education

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Education is as old as the human race. It is never ending process of inner growth and development. It is very important for the progress of individual and society. It is through education that man develops his thinking and reasoning, problem solving and creativity, intelligence and aptitude, positive sentiments and skills, good values and attitudes. Education is a process of growth in which the individual is helped to develop one's talents, power, interest and ambitions. This growth is integrated & harmonious. In the present century with simultaneous upgradation in other fields, man is not only incomplete but also handicapped without education. General education includes the streams of study of different subsections of education, like Languages, Physical and Natural Sciences, Arts, Social Sciences, etc. True education, as Gandhiji Says, "is that which draws out and stimulates the spiritual, intellectual and physical faculties of the children." The educationists, psychologists and researchers have to think how best education can be given to enable the coming generation to meet the challenges of the future. The teachers are perplexed, why certain students excel in the examinations while others remain as they are when their teaching is same for all in the class rooms. Teachers cannot have control over all factors viz. intelligence, socio-economic status, etc in the class room situation but variables like motivation, study habits, methods of teaching, etc can be manipulated to improve the students' academic achievement.

Teaching is one of the most important aspects of education. Without effective teaching, effective education is impossible. Teaching is the act of imparting instructions to the learners. It is a process in which learner, teacher, curriculum and other variables are organized in a systematic and psychological way to attain some pre-determined goals. It is an interactive process carried out for the attainment of some specific purposes and objectives. Ryburn considers, "Teaching is a relationship which keeps the child to develop all his powers." It is a unique, professional, rational and human activity in which one creatively and imaginatively uses himself and his knowledge to promote the learning and welfare of others. Now-a-days teaching methods have changed a lot. So many new techniques have been introduced. Teaching is made more effective and interesting by using advanced technologies like T.V., Computers, Projectors etc. ICT supported teaching is one such unique and latest way to teach children.

ICT supported teaching is a solution designed to help teachers in meeting with new challenges and developing students' abilities and performance. It helps the teachers to access multimedia content and information that can be used for teaching students more effectively. It helps the students in understanding the concepts in more depth. A well designed module allows a student to visualize the concept much better in way than static images. While ICT techniques have many potential educational uses, the most challenging, is sometimes the most threatening, is their use as a medium for delivering instruction. The question is, to what extent can ICT techniques become the primary teaching source, and to what degree does the medium support the cognitive processes necessary and sufficient for learning? An analysis of the previous related studies reveal that ICT supported teaching produces greater gains in achievement relative to other forms of instruction. Today's ICT techniques possess many noteworthy technical qualities. These techniques possess the ability to deliver information with a program contingent upon a learners' response. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is about the new ways in which we can communicate, enquire, make decisions and solve problems. ICT supported teaching is concerned with the use of technology to mediate in the flow of information in the teaching-learning process. It is the use of science and technology for the purpose of collecting, processing and transmitting the information. The main strength of ICT as a teaching- learning medium is its ability to provide information very quickly and accurately. This results in enhancing the academic achievement of the students.

The advances in technology have had a tremendous effect on the educational system. The way that this generation is taught is a long ways away from how the generation before this one was taught. The technological advancements have almost completely changed the approach of how we educate our youth. The old-fashioned practices of the preceding

generation have become obsolete, and replaced with the current generation's technological advancements. The use of calculators, computers, the internet, and all of the teaching aids that are now available for teachers have vastly improved the quality of education in this generation. The educational standards change almost every year to keep up with the advancements made technologically, and the result of all of the changes is an educational system that pushes the students to put forth the effort that is expected of them because of how much information they have available to them each and every day.

Academic achievement means the amount of knowledge gained by the student in different subjects of study or it refers to the knowledge attained or skills developed in school subjects, which are assessed by the educational authorities with the help of achievement tests, which may be standardized or non-standardized. Mostly these tools are teacher made. Academic achievements play an important role in learning and development. Marks obtained are recognized as most important variable, a criteria for the classification and placement of students in different classes and occupations. In other words, it has become the centre of life. Sound achievements in academic side will be matched with the pillars on which the entire future structure of personality stands. Hence, academic achievement of an adolescent depends upon the methods of teaching as it is the main component part of teaching-learning process.