

**EDUCATION AND E-LEARNING***** Dr. Manish Bhatnagar**

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ABSTRACT

Key words: E-learning, Quality, Teaching and learning



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Indian education system in its primary, secondary or higher levels is fraught with quality and quantity challenges. There are shortages of quality teachers, enabling environment for students and infrastructure in many areas. These hurdles are not going to go away soon even though there is a wide range in the number of students at all levels and an increasing demand for quality education. The journey of education in India has been dotted with innumerable milestones—the most recent among these is e-learning.

In e-learning environments the opportunity to communicate synchronously with the student is limited and usually it depends on the availability of the student. The temporal flexibility that e-learning allows has to be seen as an important feature as it allows all participants to participate in the learning process regardless of their availability but it also must be well designed and the participants must be aware of the required competences related to ICT mediated communication processes.

The survey and interviews suggest there are numerous factors which both help and hinder quality of engagement in e-learning Professional development. E-learning brings unique advantages, the prominent ability to provide personalized attention to all students. Some aspects of e-learning, professional development and quality assurance are considered in this paper.

“Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school.”

—Albert Einstein

While Einstein’s words may have been intended in good humour, they aptly reflect the fact that effective education is constant and always helping to evolving. In fact, the face of education has experienced a sea change over the decades. Once characterized by the traditional classroom model, education has metamorphosed into learning that is instant, online, self-driven and on the go. The journey of education in India, too, has been dotted with innumerable milestones—the most recent among these is e-learning. Understanding eLearning is simple. E-learning is learning utilizing electronic technologies to access educational curriculum outside of a traditional classroom. In most cases, it refers to a course, program or degree delivered completely online. There are many terms used to describe learning that is delivered online, via the internet, ranging from Distance Education, to computerized electronic learning, online learning, internet learning and many others. We define eLearning as courses that are specifically delivered via the internet to somewhere other than the classroom where the professor is teaching. It is not a course delivered via a DVD or CD-ROM, video tape or over a television channel.

The use of Internet based Information Communication Technologies in teaching and learning strategies can, in most cases, be responsible for:

- promoting lack of leadership
- enabling difficulties in communicating
- fostering disaggregated teaching and learning processes and learning strategies
- increasing drop-out rates

Another aspect of the use of ICT as a mediator or a tool to enhance the learning environment is that it can lead to difficulties in the communication process between both teacher and student. ICT is the effective resource in present era. In e-learning environments the opportunity to communicate synchronously with the student is limited and usually it depends on the availability of the student. And even so, one cannot be sure of the willingness of the student to communicate or the effectiveness of the communication since written communication is rather different from oral communication. The temporal flexibility that e-learning allows has to be seen as an important feature as it allows all participants to participate in the learning process regardless of their availability, but it also must be well designed and the participants must be aware of the required competences related to ICT mediated communication processes.

For an online e-learning environment to be effective it should encourage -

1. contact between students and faculty members,