



## Teacher Education Programme Through Distance Mode A Technological Approach

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### ABSTRACT

*Distance education is very broad concept and has wider scope and possibilities. For any distance education programme to be successful, the use of both aspects of educational technology, i.e. technology of education and technology in education in an integrated manner is absolutely necessary. The extensive use of technology can enabled the teachers to identify and use of technologies in their professions and make themselves effective for the learners. There is no doubt by using new technology, a teacher can become more competent to support the learning. So, the role of teacher become a challenge in balancing the past and future and the demand of the hour is to communicate effectively and scientifically. In this situation technological approach will prove assistance in improving learning and developing efficiency, competency in our teachers.*

**Keywords : Distance mode, Technological approach, TEP, Educational Vision**

### Introduction

Distance education is very broad concept and has wider scope and possibilities. Educational technology is not only the scientific application of technological process of education, but it is also refer to an applied or practical study, which is aimed at to attain maximizing educational effects by controlling relevant facts and educational purposes, educational contents, educational methods, teaching materials, educational environment, conduct of the students, behaviour of teachers and inter-relations among students and teacher.

Technological approach in its current form is a relatively new subject; it has a brief history in schools as a component of general education (de Vries, 1993; Layton, 1993). The new technological approach in teacher education is moving from narrow vocational preparedness and from gender specificity.

Technological approach includes a movement from (John Williams, P (2004))

- Teacher as information given to teacher as facilitator of learning
- Teacher controlled learning to teacher learner partnership
- Teacher centred learning to student centred learning
- Time, age and group constraints to individualized learning
- Materials based organization to needs based activity
- Product centered to process centered
- Elective area of study to a core subject

### Educational Technology in Teacher Education

Teaching is said to be a nation building activity and the teacher is the architect of the future. The teachers acts as the pivot for the transmission of intellectuals, traditions from

generation to generation and help to keep the lamp as civilization burning so teachers teaching forms the basis for qualitative education for the nation.

Today the circumstances are changed teaching demands new pedagogy, new interactions and new visions in the field of learning. A competent teacher can fulfill this demand with the help of his / her outstanding outlook. Today's education is incomplete, it if not involves new information and communication in his/her teaching system.

For any distance education programme to be successful, the use of both aspects of educational technology, i.e. technology of education and technology in education in an integrated manner is absolutely necessary. The last 25 years have seen some remarkable innovations in the delivery of education. The technology available today and those about to emerge have to potential to increase the competency of a teacher to transform the nature of education and his / her effectiveness in the teaching learning process.

The developing pattern of technology education in many countries challenge some of the traditional characteristics of schools. The technology education emphasized the context of the technological activity, learning is achieved through the interaction of theory and practice, and it is inter-disciplinary.

### TEP Through Distance Mode

Teacher education programme through distance mode serves to achieve the objectives of teacher education by adopting theoretical and practical areas. The instructional methodology for teacher education through distance mode comprise print material in the form of SIM, audio-video programmes, assignments, face-to-face academic counseling services, project work, extensive contact programmes, teleconferencing, school based activities including community work and practice teaching. (Saravanakumar & Subbiah (2011)).

The upgrade cause consists of three types of units:

- Education studies : Studies in the theory of education, educational psychology and teaching studies are practice.
- Curriculum studies : Studies of relevant curriculum resources and related teaching
- Content studies : Appropriate specialization content.

The balance of these units varies depending on the local context and needs.

New and innovative technologies have created opportunities in the area of distance education; technologies used for distance learning span a wide range of cost and complexity it is important to consider the advantages and disadvantages of each type of technology, cost availability for both the instructor and learner, target audience, available equipments, goals and objectives of the presentation and it's effectiveness. The original communicative stance of teachers and students is substituted by technologically mediated interaction between two of them.

#### Advantages of Use of IT in Distance Education

Use of information and communication technology especially in support of distance education activities, adds enormous value to the training. It enables and empower trainee and participating teachers to share experience, curriculum, learning materials, lesson notes, feedback and collaborative programmes. It encourages paced learning through tools such as assignment, tutorials, broadcast programmes, computers, conferences, etc.

A guiding principle of the course is that students must learn how to learn. With technology changing as rapidly as it is currently, there is a limited life span in the skills students are now taught. Students must be taught how to independently develop new skills and how to find out about new materials, equipment and systems. Then when the need later arises for personal professional development, teachers and well equipped for the task.

#### Advantage of distance learning technologies are

- Greater access to learning resources for students, teachers and adults;

- More opportunities for collaborative learning among mentors, colleagues and instructors around the world; and
- Alternative higher education opportunities.

#### New Educational Vision

The proliferation of information and communication technology during the past three decades and its demonstrated application for successful teaching and learning at a distance has led to a paradigm shift in the didactics of teaching and learning at the higher education level. In this age of rapid change and uncertainty, there is one thing of which we can be certain teachers will need to adopt to change if they are to survive and keep pace with methods and technologies. Arguably the area of most rapid change is that of information and communication technologies (ICT).

Using technology by the teacher can as a vehicle for a new educational vision among the teachers. The extensive use of technology can enabled the teachers to identify and use technologies in their professions and make themselves effective for the students. So there is no doubt by using new ICT a teacher can become more competent to support the learning. So it involves challenging teachers thinking about how to become more effective and competent and also needs technical support appropriate hardware, software, continual skill development, new policies, new assessment producers and networking of contents.

#### Conclusion

From the discussions made in this paper, it is clear that making effective teacher training programme, we cannot walk single step without having the help of educational technology. In our country students participating in teacher education programmes through distance mode are more in number. So, the role of teacher became a challenge in balancing the past and future and the demand of the hour is to communicate effectively and scientifically. In this situation ICT will prove assistance in improving learning and developing efficiency, competency in our teachers.

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