



Knowledge, Knowledge Society and National Knowledge Network

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ABSTRACT *This paper presents the meaning of knowledge, about knowledge society, knowledge pentagon and National knowledge network. Knowledge society is where the creation, dissemination and storage of knowledge take place. Knowledge generated in any organization should be used for the development of society in different field like agriculture, industries, law, education, research and so on for the upliftment of the social life and economic condition. NKN plays a major role in the knowledge society by connecting institutions, organizations, research centers, data centers, etc with the global scientific community at multiple gigabits per second speed.*

Introduction

"The only way to raise overall standards is to engage the energies and imaginations of every student in the system." - Sir Ken Robinson

Human being is different and unique among the other species on the earth because of his thinking power and also because he lives in society. Human actions and activities are influenced and affected by his own knowledge which he acquire by experiences.

We are now living in a society in which all the spheres of life and society are influenced by the knowledge. We can call this society as knowledge society. With the use of knowledge of the resources in different fields such as education, research, law, medical, industries, government policies and plans and so on: one can develop new theories and solve different problems in different fields either separately or in collaboration for the benefit of society and human being.

Knowledge

"Knowledge and human power are synonymous." - Bacon, Francis

Knowledge plays an important role in all parts and sphere of human life and activities. It directs human action as it is a stage of mind which keeps on changing after acquiring the continues information with regards to any subject, problem or situation.

According to Merriam -Webster "knowledge means the fact or condition of knowing something with familiarity gained through experience or association".

Knowledge is structured, coherent and universal; it is a stock largely resulting from the flow of information. Knowledge is the information evaluated and organized in the human mind so that it can be used purposefully. Information that has been comprehended and evaluated in the light of experience and incorporated into the knower's intellectual understanding of subject.

Knowledge Society

"You can't manage knowledge — nobody can. What you can do is to manage the environment in which knowledge can be created, discovered, captured, shared, distilled, validated, transferred, adopted, adapted and applied". -Chris Collison and Geoff Parcell

The creation, transmission and storage of knowledge are hu-

man activity carried out by countless individuals, groups and institutions either separately or in collaboration.

Research and innovation is now a day's moving towards multidisciplinary and collaborative paradigm and require substantial ICT power. Digitization of information and application of ICT is helpful in developing knowledge society.

The term "knowledge society" is used by "Peter Druker" for the first time in 1969. Knowledge society is the society in which the knowledge of their citizens is needed to drive the innovation, entrepreneurship and socio-economic development.

Development of society and its people depends on four knowledge process (Jacobs and Asokan, 2002)

- Knowledge generation and acquisition through scientific discovery, R&D and transfer of technology.
- Knowledge adaption through innovation to particular fields, need and operating environments.
- Knowledge dissemination through formal and informal channels from knowledge developers and adapters to those responsible for applying the knowledge in society.
- Knowledge application through skilled action in fields, factories, classrooms, hospitals and every other field of activity to achieve practical results.

Development of any society depends to a large extent to its ability to make available the latest, updated and useful knowledge to the large population of the country.

National Knowledge Network

Globally, research and innovations are increasingly multidisciplinary, collaborative, and require competent ICT power. The key to successful research today demands live consultations, data and resource sharing. Therefore for better utilization of the potential of research centers and institutions engaged in generation and dissemination of knowledge in different areas, it is important to connect them through a high speed broadband network.

NKN is designed as a Smart Ultra High Bandwidth network that seamlessly interconnects the leading Scientific and Technological institutions - which are pursuing world-class research and development. It is intended to connect all the knowledge and research institutions in the country using high bandwidth/low latency network. By facilitating the flow of information and knowledge the network address the critical issues of access and create a new paradigm collaboration to

enrich the research efforts in the country. NKN has already connected 1001 institutions and aims to connect over 1500 Institutions / Organizations / Laboratories under various categories throughout the country.



Access to Knowledge

"If you have knowledge, let others light their candles at it." Margaret Fuller Access is one of the most fundamental issues in a knowledge society. Knowledge generated is useless and waste until and unless it is acquired, absorbed and communicated by the majority of population.

Knowledge Concepts

"Let us think of education as the means of developing our greatest abilities, because in each of us there is a private hope and dream which, fulfilled, can be translated into benefit for everyone and greater strength of the nation".- John F. Kennedy

Advances in knowledge and its applications are products of human activities; therefore it is of greatest significance that the skills and intellectual capacities of youth population should be nurtured in order to form a strong base of human capital that can transform India into a strong knowledge economy.

Knowledge Creation

"Creativity involves breaking out of established patterns in order to look at things in a different way". -Edward de Bono

It is important to be self-sufficient by promoting national research, especially in Science & Technology. S&T has the ability to accelerate the processes of other parallel knowledge and leading to economic growth.

Knowledge Application

"Knowing is not enough, we must apply
Willing is not enough, we must do." - Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

To derive maximum benefits from our intellectual assets, we must apply knowledge in fields like agriculture, industry, health, education etc. where productivity can be enhanced and socio-economic development can be achieved.

Knowledge Services

"An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest."
- Benjamin Franklin

Investment in knowledge services produces large-scale benefits for the common man. Technology has the potential to make government services and functioning more accountable, transparent and efficient. E-governance can change the way in which the citizens of India perceive and interact with the government.

Services provided by NKN

- Generic Services: Internet, Intranet, e-Mail, Messaging Gateways, Web Hosting, Video Portals, SMS Gateway, Video Streaming etc.
- Community Services: Shared Storage, Collaboration Service, Content Delivery Service, etc.

Its application

- Country wide virtual classroom facilitates quality education and research at national level interconnecting premier institutions and students removing geographical boundaries. The network enables co-sharing of information such as classroom lectures, presentations and handouts. As on 31st October, 2012, around 885 institutions (This includes 266 links to Institutions under NMEICT, MHRD which have been migrated to NKN) of higher learning and advanced research have been connected to the network and 61 virtual classrooms have been set up; e.g. Ramanujan virtual classroom by Indian Institute of Science Education and research, Kolkata, IITs etc.
- Collaborative research get boost through this network. E.g The GARUDA network creating tremendous impact on collaborative research between educational institutions and Research & Development (R&D) organizations across the country. TEIN 3 (Trans-Eurasia Information Network) is the research and Education network for Asia-Pacific etc.
- Virtual library: access to the contents and services of libraries and other information resources with an electronic network which provides access to the resources. The Virtual Library enables sharing of databases, e journals, e books and research papers across different institutions.

E- Governance:

"Make all Government services accessible to the common man in his locality, through common service delivery outlets, and ensure efficiency, transparency, and reliability of such services at affordable costs to realize the basic needs of the common man"

NKN provides superhighway for integration of government data centers and networks (SWANS) at the national as well as state levels

Conclusion

The present economical growth rate can be substantially increase if everyone engaged in creation and dissemination of knowledge understood the technological revolution and its exploitation to its fullest extent. Knowledge is the raw material needed to input for the socio-economic development. Knowledge generated is useful and meaningful only when it is used for the benefit of the society otherwise waste.

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