Distance Education System E – Learning.

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Education plays an important role in development of society. There are two broad categories of education; Social interactive education & Distance education. Social interactive method of education is the traditional method of learning where instructor teaches learners face to face. Open and distance learning is usually contrasted with “Conventional” or face to face education which may be described as the form of education which takes place in a classroom or an auditorium. Distance education is a method teaching where the instructor & learners are separated by time or physical distance. The main objective of distance education is the availability of education – anyone, anyway, any where & any time without Social, Physical & Geographical restrictions. Open & distance education provides flexible learning opportunities to individuals & group of learners.

Historical Background

Distance learning in India started in the 1960s. In the 1980s there were 34 universities offering correspondence education through departments designed for that purpose. The first single mode open university was established in Andhra Pradesh 1982, followed by the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU). Some states like Bihar, Rajasthan and Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, west Bengal & Uttar Pradesh also established Open Universities during 1980s & 1990s. The aim behind establishment of these universities was to ensure availability of education to the each person of society. The initiatives encourage people towards distance education & the year 1995 witnessed the enrollment of 200000 students in Open & Distance learning accounting for 3% of total higher education enrollment. The most of the open & distance universities in India follow the UK model of open university as like formal educational method.
Distance Education System E-Learning.

Electronic learning or E-learning is a type of education where the medium of instruction is modern technology. There is no personal interaction required to communicate people. Earlier, audiotape, video tape, and compact disc were used to deliver course material and lectures but later the technological development changed its face. E-learning is used interchangeably in a wide variety of contexts. E-learning is used to define a specific mode to attend a course or program of study where the students rarely, if ever, attend face to face for on campus access to educational facilities, because they study in line.

E-learning is naturally suited to distance learning & flexible learning. Distance education in the form of E-learning is the only way to stay current. E-learning can also be used in conjunction with face to face teaching in which case the term blended learning is commonly used. E-learning pioneer Bernad Luskin argues that the “E” must be understood to have broad meaning if E-learning is to be effective. Luskin says that the “E” should be interpreted to mean exciting, energetic, enthusiastic, emotional, extended, excellent, and educational in addition to “Electronic” that is a traditional national interpretation. This broader interpretation allows for contemporary applications and brings learning & media psychology into the equation.

Benefits of E-learning Assisted Distance Education

E-learning assisted distance education enables people to have:

1. Strong academic skills
2. Better Thinking
3. Reasoning
4. Teamwork skills
5. Proficiency in using technology
6. Meeting challenges
7. Enhance Learning
Components of E-learning

1. The Virtual Classroom

Virtual Classroom modules (VCM) are well prepared high quality lectures from the master trainees, with multimedia colour presentations. VCM combines distance education instructional pedagogy with latest interactive multimedia internet technology.

2. The Discussion Forum

A discussion forum is an interactive website visitors discuss topics by reading articles that have been posted replying to articles & posting new ones.

3. Online Counseling

“Online Counselor” is a well qualified & experienced person who interacts with the students, only through use of discussion forum, for clearing their doubts/ difficulties.

Conclusion

India is an emerging economy and it required skilled people for the development the education is one of biggest challenge which is India facing. There are not adequate collages, Institutions & Universities to provide education to all. The distance education without social, physical and geographical restrictions. The implementation of E learning can reduce the problems related to distance education. Some initiatives have been taken but they are not enough to bridge the problem. It needs a serious effort from planners & government author to implement such programs. If they use e learning effectively. It can reach education to a large constituency that would otherwise not have access to it.