



Modern trends in Educational Research: A study on the paradigm shift in the content published in ‘Enhanced Research Publications’ and ‘Journal of Indian Education’

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Abstract

This study focuses on analysing the shift in research content in the field of educational research published by Enhanced Research Publications and Journal of Indian Education in the last decade. The current study is qualitative and descriptive and is based upon review of literature available in the selected domains. The method employed for collecting data was document analysis of those available on the website of ‘Enhanced Research Publications’ and NCERT Website. The researchers analysed selected samples and identified a shift in the selection of topics among researchers. This study is to provide a trustworthy insight into the paradigm shift in the content of educational research happening in India.

Keywords- Modern trends, Educational, Publications, Teacher.

INTRODUCTION

No other field in the history of the human race has seen as many transformations and shift in approaches as that of Education; Over the years academicians have been instrumental in engineering progressive changes in the quality of human lives by implementing their accumulated knowledge in the process of achieving goals. With the development of technology, a lot of changes have been happening in the field of education. The paradigm shift brought about in the teaching – learning process by the onset of digitalisation of education has paved the way for ushering in research topics previously unheard of such those relating to virtual reality, augmented reality, gamification of education, and smart classrooms. This has enabled individual students and teachers to think beyond the four walls of the class room. In order to adapt a change in the system or to develop and implement new policies in the field of Education, a lot of research publications and projects have to be reviewed and analysed. These structured and systematic analysis are the pathways to topical changes and new trends in research (Gulmez & Yavuz, 2016). According to Halinger the effective review of literature helps to the advancement of knowledge (Hallinger, 2013)

Furthermore, analysis of the systematic and insightful researches by accomplished educators and educationalists throw light into the vast wealth of knowledge that will pave the way for not only further researches but also implementation of the research findings. This will definitely restructure education as it exists at any particular point in time and will form the basis for educational reforms.

The current study analyses research articles published in ‘ International Journal of Enhanced Research in Educational Development (IJERED), and the Journal of Indian Education. It could be a matter of interest to the reader that IJERED is indexed in Thomson Reuters Web of Science researches, Endnotes, Directory of Science, Google Scholar, Europeana Libraries, Index Copernicus and many other national & International libraries. IJERED is among the top UGC recognised journals. The readers are to keep in mind that the journal of Indian education is a peer reviewed one that is published by NCERT.

Review of literature

The samples collected have been carefully studied and placed under the following heads:

- Teacher Education
- Use of technology
- Teaching and learning approaches
- Role of Women Education
- Educational Policies

A brief review of the literature given below is intended to provide a bird’s eye view of the content of research papers in the selected decade in the field of Education.

Content area: Teacher education

‘Need for Priam Variate Reforms in Teacher Education’ by Dr. Ramandeep made an attempt to provide an understanding of teacher education in the present scenario. The study suggested the need for developing new frameworks for education. It revolved around different attributes of teaching as a profession such as theory, training, authority, community sanction, ethical codes, research and specialization.

The study titled ‘Attitude of female trainees Towards Vocational Tailoring Training’ by Dr.Pushpa Kumari, Assistant Professor, Department of Home Science, at Banaras Hindu University (2021) stressed upon a shift from supply driven to demand-driven methods in vocational training. This paper makes an attempt to investigate the demand-driven approach of vocational education at micro level. The cynosure of the research was the individual learner within the context of a particular community. The study also makes an attempt to emphasise on the need and Importance of empowering women to play a crucial part in the socioeconomic development of a country. By asserting the role of women in the country’s growth, the nation affirms and values their entrepreneurial skills.

Towards the end of the first decade of the 21st century and in the beginning of the second decade there were quite a few studies that focused upon ‘teacher behaviour and professionalism. “The Pursuit of Preparing a professional and humane teacher what lies behind the national curriculum framework for teacher education” (2009) by Bhupendra Singh and Patanjali Mishra is an example. Their research article focuses on the aims and objectives of the National Curriculum Framework for teacher Education (NCFTE), and how it encourages bringing in professionalism and human nature among teachers.

Another notable research article published towards the later part of the previous decade was “ Teaching Competencies of Newly Recruited Faculty of Agriculture Universities An Analysis” by D Thammi Raju et al. They studied 204 newly recruited faculties of 19 different agricultural universities for a period of time and concluded that newly recruited faculties do require constant support in capacity building.

Another research article published by Journal of Indian Education that throw light in to the topics selected by researchers in the beginning of the previous decade is “A Study on Professional Commitment of Governement School Teachers of East District of Sikkim” by Arup Bhowmik and Prasad Sharma. Their study investigated the level of professional commitment with regard to gender, locality and professional qualifications. The only significant difference this study found was based on the academic qualifications of teachers.

Content area: Use of Internet and Technology

A study titled ‘innovation of assistive technologies in Special Education: A review by Anna Felicia, Sabariah Sharif, W.K. Wong, and Muralindran Marriappan argues that assistive technologies enhance the learning

process employing a constructive teaching pedagogy. The writers also express slight scepticism regarding the proactive embrace and use of technology for this purpose by the teaching fraternity. If employed properly, assistive technologies would prove to be the most innovative way to engage learners. Although this research paper is a critical discussion and review of assistive technologies in education, it more or less concludes that assistive technologies in education, especially in special education, is irreplaceable. A very thorough investigation of the prevalence and scope of e-learning could be seen in a comprehensive research paper titled, 'Tools and Techniques for E-Learning: A comparative study of Global and Indian Scenario' by Dr. Sambhaji G Patil of MET's Institute of Engineering. This study endeavours to understand the reason for e-learning to be flourishing at a faster rate in the western world as compared to India. One of the reasons for this could be the prevalence of e-learning in the arena of distance learning and not for regular schooling. The paper also reviews the tools and techniques used for e-learning in both the global and Indian scenario. The researcher has surveyed different aspects of e-learning such as hardware, software, stakeholders, acceptance, achievement etc. find a mention in the study.

Journal of Indian Education published a research article 'Digital Literacy – A comparative Study of schools' by Zeba Ilyas which aimed at examining the integration of digital resources into teaching learning by school teachers. This study had also made an attempt to compare the knowledge and the use of digital resources by facilitators of both the government and private schools.

Content area: Approaches in Teaching and Learning

A research paper titled 'A Future Classroom: Not Epitomizing Only Four Walls' by Dr. Sushil Kumar Singh of Lovely Professional University, Punjab makes an attempt to provide a bird's eye view of the future classroom from a global view point. The researcher tries to see a classroom as any learning environment. The argument that in future classrooms will be gigantic (figuratively) is believable considering the current scenario. Although this study explicitly does not refer to the use of technology, it clearly connotes that the future classrooms cannot be contained in any particular shape. It will only be possible to conceptualise a future classroom as a total teaching-learning situation. (2012) Dr. Anita's paper on "flipped classrooms: Effects on student performance across disciplines and education levels" (Dr. Anita, Feb 2021) investigates how the flipped classroom design has revolutionized teaching in all parts of the world. This paper looks into researches from all across the world, and concludes that even complex concepts could be understood by learners when using this technique.

'Pedagogical Strategies in Inclusive Education' by Dr. Raj Bala, Assistant Professor of D.A.V. College of Education, Haryana (2020) offers an understanding of inclusive education as all learners with or without disabilities being able to learn together in regular schools. The paper identifies so many obstacles that prevent quality inclusive education. It suggests that by implementing different pedagogical strategies, schools could make inclusive education much more effective.

Many studies have happened in the field of approaches to teaching and learning in the past decade. 'A study of blended learning approach and Humanistic pedagogy of Visva-Bharathi University and Shantiniketan and its universal relevance to modern society' by Amita Kumari, and Nishi Kumari of Vinobhave University addresses important issues concerning a successful learning environment and tries to look deeper into blended learning as it is practiced today. Another aspect of this study is a probe into the possibilities of bringing humanism to be a part of an educational goal (January, 2022). Another prominent study in this category that the current researchers identified is "Relationship between Attitude towards Education and Self Concept (A study among secondary school tribal students in Wayanad district; Kerala and in India) by Padmanabhan E.N (Research Scholar, Karpagam University) and Dr. Amruth G Kumar (School of Education, Pondicherry University) makes an attempt to study the relationship between Attitude towards education and self-concept.

When it comes to approaches in teaching and learning, there were quite a few studies in this area. ‘Effect of 5E Model of teaching on higher order Thinking skills in Science at upper primary level’ intended to identify the impact of this model on teaching higher order thinking skills. The researchers, Ramakanta Mohalik and Subhashree Behera used the pre-test post test single group approach for this study. ‘Knowing and Experiencing the Practice of teaching journey towards becoming a critically reflective teacher by Nitika Bose was another study that we considered for our purpose. Nikita’s research tries to explore the student teacher experiences while pursuing their undergraduate programme in the field of Education.

Content area : Gender Equality

One of the prominent areas of research in the past decade was gender equality. So many quality research papers have been published in this area. ‘ Impact of Gender Inequality in Education on Economic Development: A Review of Evidences’ by Roselin Basumatary of Kokranhar Government College, Kokrajhar (2021) belongs to this category. This research paper makes an attempt to define gender inequality in it’s entirety, but leaves out any gender other than male and female. The study brings out non-negotiable negative impacts of gender inequality in the field of education on economic development at global, national, and regional level. It urges the society to take immediate steps to curb gender inequality. A second study in this field that we analysed for the purpose of this research is ‘ Coverage of women in print media and gender education: A study of Hindi newspapers’ by Aparna Pawar of Maharshi Dayanand University, Haryana (2015). This paper argues that there exists a clear gender bias when it comes to giving the adequate coverage by Print media. Women are almost invisible in the economic and professional interventions.

Another notable research article the researchers came across deals with the ‘ Role of women’s organisations in women’s Education in India, 1917-1947’ This study conducted by Priyanka Mathew was published in 2020 and explored how far the Indian Women’s Organisations empowered women. Similarly there were studies that focused on gender issues by other researchers, too. Jayanta Kumar Behera focused on the actual conditions of the tribal girls’ education in Madhya Pradesh.

Content Area: Education Policies

“The Rights of the Girl Education in Indian Legal System” by Mrs. Anamika (Working in Education Department of Chandigarh Administration) focuses on Education policies existing in our nation. The Indian constitution has provisions to ensure that the state provides education to all its citizens. The Indian constitution in its original enactment defined education as state subject. Children are the most vulnerable section of society. They are physically, mentally and socially immature and depend on others for survival. The vulnerability and dependency has been a matter of universal concern. Their development is threatened by several dangers including disease, exploitation, abuse, ignorance, material want and social and political intrigue. In order to protect children from such experienced, the constitution of India has been playing a vital role. It seeks to protect children everywhere against exploitation, neglect and abuse. Fundamental rights and Directive principals of state policies are related with children, they states that every one entitled to all the rights and freedom set forth therein without discrimination of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, birth or other status.

Recognition of Human Right to Water under Indian legal regime: A myth or reality?

Suggestive Analysis of National Education Policy (2020) as a Scope and Challenge for Sanskrit Universities Dr. Suman. This article analyses the relevance and potentiality of implementing National Education Policy-2020 in various Indian Sanskrit Universities. Thus this article highlights various ways of generating internal resources of fund and brings into light the necessity of implementing NEP-2020 in all Sanskrit Universities in India.

About a dozen studies were published on New Education Policy2020. Neha Shukla and Sonal Pahwa made an attempt to analyse the current skill gap in the skill ecosystem. Sandeep Kumar’s study ‘Pedagogy and Human Rights Perspective What Teachers have to say’ focuses on teachers’ understanding of human rights.

Aim

The purpose of this study is to analyse the current trends in educational Research by analysing the articles published in IJERED and Journal of Indian Education.

Research Questions

1. What is the distribution of articles in IJERED according to the topics studied?
2. What is the distribution of articles in Journal of Indian Education according to the topics studied?
3. What is the distribution of articles in IJERED according to the number of Authors?
4. What is the distribution of articles in Journal of Indian Education according to the number of Authors?

Method

This is a qualitative literature review study. For this study, the articles published in IJERED and Journal of Indian Education from 2013 to 2021 were analysed. The data extracted using content analysis method. The reliability and validity of the study was ensured by constant comparison method and cross check by the researchers.

Sample

All the issues from IJERED from 2013 to January 2022 and the articles from Indian Journal of Education from 2013 to February 2021 were analysed and selected 100 samples for this study by using purposive sampling technique.

Data Analysis

To analyse the data collected, content data is used and for each category frequency and percentage is calculated.

Procedure

Firstly, the data collection tool was developed and then selected the journals. Then all the issues of IJERED and Journal of Indian Education were downloaded and analysed. Selected 100 samples which is related to only education. The coded data were cross checked by the researchers. And then frequencies and percentages for each category of the data was calculated and documented.

Findings

The first finding is related with the distribution of articles according to the topic studied and the result is shown in Table 1.

Theme	Subject	Frequency	Percentage
<i>Teacher Education</i>	<i>No Theme</i>	2	24
	<i>Reform in Education</i>	10	
	<i>Competency of Teacher Educators</i>	12	
<i>Teaching and Learning</i>	<i>Feedback and Motivation</i>	9	24
	<i>Attitude towards Learning</i>	7	
	<i>Need for new pedagogies</i>	8	
<i>Technology</i>	<i>E learning</i>	14	30
	<i>Use of ICT</i>	16	
<i>Gender Equality</i>	<i>Women Empowerment</i>	9	17
	<i>Girls Education</i>	8	
<i>Educational Policies</i>	<i>Need to reform educational Policy</i>	5	5
	Total	100	100

Table: 1

It is evident from the data in the table 1, in the recent past more and more researchers turn towards the impact of technology in education. The study identified 30% of all researches in the area of technology. It is also noted that ‘teacher education’ and ‘teaching learning process’ has been given adequate attention by researchers. Educational policies have also gained some attention owing to the recent introduction of the new educational policy by the government.

The second finding of the study is related to the question 2. The distribution of studies according to the number of authors is given in Table 2.

<i>Number of Authors</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1	55	55
2	23	23
3	13	13
3+	9	9
Total	100	100

Table: 2

It is evident from the data in the table 2, most of the articles have only one author. Out of 100 articles, the total number of one authored article is 55(55%) and 23% of the articles are authored by two authors . The total number of three or more authored article is 22(22%).

Conclusion

It has been observed by the researchers that there is a paradigm shift in the topics selected by researchers for the purpose of educational research. Modern researchers rightly focus on the impact of technology in education. The adaptability and flexibility offered by technology is revolutionising education.

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