LEGAL EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY

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INTRODUCTION

Digitalization or the Digital Era has turned our lives to be more productive with new ideas and creativity. An individual must have a digital mind set to succeed in their life and to compete with the new and upcoming digital world. Digitalization has already been adopted in many teaching institutions including the legal profession. Digital World has brought many different programs for a better individual working in the course of law. This change will bring a massive amount of well-trained and comprehensive professionals with augmented skill and competitive nature.

Law has been a part of the traditional world but now it is the time to step up and meet the needs of the people. This digital era is not only concerned with computers but also self–development, more learning opportunities, developing accountability in oneself.

E-learning in law would help students, teachers, and professionals to be more organized and increase productivity. Since the casebooks and legal textbooks are difficult to transport and to review, e-material would be helpful for an individual to go through the text on their electronic devices. There are many web-based platforms available for students related to their course and also to increase their general knowledge.

E-learning would help- students to increase their communication skills and knowledge of technology. Therefore, Law can be taught practically with people skills and cultural awareness and knowledge.

The law has been taught in a very effective way in Denmark, Germany, and the Netherlands as their education has been digitalized and has mass productivity. We can therefore take the maximum advantage of the digital era and also influence the new generation from electronic technology to digital technology.

SUBJECT MATTER OF STUDY

The term digitalisation does not only mean the adoption of the computer-based services and or working with electronic gadgets. In broader terms Digitalisation can be defined as the conversion

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from tradition way of living to purely in digital format. [1]World can now be declared as digital era since all the fields have already adapted to the new normal that is technology.

Technology plays a very important role in an individual's life. Technology can be found everywhere around you. From using monitors to laptops and also the computer-based diagnosis has completely transformed the world to be better and faster mode of result.

Digital platform becomes a salient feature in human development mentally and physically. A man has changed to be more productive, listing new ideas and transpiring creativity in them. This has led to the massive production of well trained and comprehensive professionals.

E-Learning in now an important feature in the education system. It has helped students, teachers and professionals in learning since all the textbooks are now available on the Internet and can be easily stored on gadgets and also be transported easily. This digital form of papers, learning materials, articles, reports etc helps in imparting legal knowledge.

Digitalisation has many advantages in the legal profession. Law has always been a part of traditional word including the education curriculum that has been carried on from past years. It's now time for people to step-up and leads the way of digital planning and initiating new ideas and focusing more on self- development, learning opportunities and instilling augmented skill.

Technology acts like a fundamental building block in the formation and development of legal enthusiast and practitioners. The law is being practiced in detail with specific curriculum and exhaustive syllabus that help the law students in Denmark, Germany and Netherlands to be the best countries to learn law as a profession.

LITERETURE REVIEW

1.   IMPACT ON LEGAL EDUCATION DUE TO E-LEARNING

Online education has completely modified the way the legal ideas are being delivered. The use of E-learning has enabled students to create a digital mindset. Students and Professors must adopt the new ways and explore the world of digital education and learning as it leads in discovering new ideas and topics in particular theme.

Traditional way of teaching law with huge textbooks and many printed cases and learning materials cannot be easily carried by students as well as teachers during their lectures. Moreover,

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[1] Prof. Harsha Parekh, Digitization: An Overview of Issues, INFLIBNET's (March-2001), Available at: http://ir.inflibnet.ac.in/handle/1944/79

it is time-consuming to go through all the materials on the specific topic and to create conclusions. The inferences of the cases need more time and energy in order to research correctly, so going through the right text with right materials is very important for a law student.

Digital world has helped the lawyers and the law students by providing them with semi-platform with all the digital materials needed and also in the distribution of general knowledge of law, statutes, cases, constitution, acts etc. All the world-wide hearing is now available on the digital platforms.

Digital education is now being expanded globally and is being perceived as important among students for planning of their future and educational offerings. Long term strategies and righteous goals must be made for a better future.

The learner now has easy access to worldwide resources. It helps in the overall development in their personality and career. This platform helps them to engage with new people and sharing of minds with same interests through webinars and legal talks. The laws that are implemented internationally can be accessed in just a click which helps an individual to create a detailed view of their subject.

Digital media are now user-friendly as it is being taught in many schools and universities. With the help of technology students can research and collect their own data and produce articles and books, these steps help students to be more enthusiastic in their course and increase the interest in the course provided. Since it is faster and freer to circulate, students can now change themselves to a better law expert. [2]

2. EDUCATION POLICY IN INDIA VIS-A VIS GLOBAL LEGAL EDUCATION

From Vedas to current Acts and legal textbooks, the law has completely changed in many ways. In India, law is being regulated by Bar Council of India. Law is taught by different types of colleges and universities including the government and private.

There are two methods to practice law in India. One is the traditional way in which you can take three-year degree in any subject with three year of graduation degree in law; secondly, five-year course has been initiated in many colleges with integrated law program. There are many National Law Universities build and other private law colleges to deliver efficient legal education to the generations. The curriculum is planned and prescribed by the Bar Council of India. India focuses

[2] Elaine Allen and Jeff Seaman, Staying the Course – Online Education in the United States ,2008, ERIC (Nov-2008), Available at: https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED529698.pdf

more on practical learning by visiting district court, High Courts and law Firms for students to expand their knowledge and to build interest in their program. A number of Moot Competitions are provided to the students to practice the legal profession; these competitions are made mandatory for the students to experience laws and customs. India has expanded its subjects by including other fields to the law profession such as science, management and liberal subjects. This helps in the grooming of lawyers and practitioners.[3]

The lawyers are trained in such a way that they practice laws in their own country and are more focused in Indian laws. The education must be planned in such a way that we can stand globally and compete with the world.

India must initiate international perspective and modify the syllabus with needs of the people all over the world. There are many opportunities provided to students by the universities and schools but it must be made important in order to make the public aware of the need of it. All the webinars and conferences must be made mandatory in the course with certain number of points. Students must change themselves to the new trend of learning with digital media with innovative and resourceful mind set. One must keep on exploring the digital world as it provides understanding of technology, data-oriented thinking and commercial awareness.

The education in India focuses more on marks rather than individual development. Reading of law books are important but it must be taught in such a way that students need not use any kind of websites to produce assignments and reports. The plagiarism laws must be made strict as it initiates in opening the minds of law students as they can share their own perspective of cases. The law schools must be designed properly with well-written rules and regulations so that students can prepare themselves for the future. The law must be taught in such a way that students can deliver their own ideas while reading materials. Individuals in law school are more focused on overfilling their minds with books which reduces the effectiveness of education.

International Universities provide two types of programs that is the bachelor of Law which is a three-year program with six semesters and secondly Master of Law which is two-year program with four semesters.

The Bachelor of law has main subjects like public law, Private law and EU law. Each of the semester's end with an exam. Last semester includes a Bachelor Project which is made

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[3] Kumar, Ravindra, A Study of Legal Framework and Policies with Regard to educational Development of Children in India (2016), Available at: http://hdl.handle.net/10603/258851

mandatory for the students. After the completion of Bachelor of law students can opt for master degree of two years and the course included two main subjects that is procedural law and Tax law. During the end semester the students are asked to prepare Final Master Thesis.

International education system has been designed in such a way, that the students map their own objective. The faculty is a mix of international visitors plus their own institution faculty in order to provide the students with more offers and knowledge of the world outside. The curriculum is outlined with international programs for students and young practitioners; there are international exchange programs and programs on business law and IP law for students in their summer holidays. They focus more on instilling socializing skills and provide them with extra -curricular activities. There are number of guest professors visiting them throughout their semesters to engage with the students and faculties. There professors make a one-to-one interaction with the students to help them to talk freely about their course and legal perspective.

They map their legal problems in order to come up with the conclusions and strategies. The students are provided with legal researches which help them to stay updated about the law structure. It has been mandatory to analyse the document themselves.

The case and the education materials are delivered to them digitally since it is easier to transfer and to organize. The digital media helps the students in their drafting and researching skills.[4]

3. EMERGING TRENDS IN LEGAL SERVICE DELIVERY SYSTEM LIKE LEGAL TECH AND LAW TECH

The technology will overpower the world by completely remodelling the world. It has also been predicted that soon Artificial intelligence will take over the legal service as well by lower cost services and E-consultation to the citizens. All the guidance for the upcoming cases will digitalised to lower the amount of paper work and for the effective distribution of legal awareness. Certain law enforcement platform will also be initiated so that the citizens can seek justice as early as possible.

Jurist, Attorney or the Prosecutors will soon adapt to the online platform to yield legal justice. Certain websites can be initiated for the citizens to file the cases related to criminal, civil and cyber activities. Since the cases and details will be provided online individual can increase their awareness on law related news. The details of the criminals can be stored digitally with their

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[4] Rasit UYSAL, A Brief Look to the Legal Education in Denmark, Ankara Bar Review (2012), Available at: http://www.ankarabarosu.org.tr/Siteler/AnkaraBarReview/pdf/abr-2012-1.pdf#page=119

fingerprints and can be traced on maps. This world of digital can be used to reduce the number of crimes happening all over the world by creating certain measures. All the information regarding the laws and cases can be placed and organized at one place.

Law field must collaborate with the AI and digital engineers to increase the knowledge about certain fields. AI can help with the identification of the criminals with the records of their retinas and fingerprints stored in them. Certain software can be created only for law professionals to store and to map their cases digitally thus increasing their ability to think.

THE DRAWBACKS OR PROBLEMS

Even though digital media is now a new trend but there are some drawbacks to it and therefore one must know to tackle the challenges as well.

1. THE CONTENT MUST BE AUTHENTIC

The information posted online must be authentic and must be from genuine sources. The material available online must be reviewed thoroughly to avoid further distribution of false information among citizens.

2. INVESTMENT ON GADGETS

Since the gadgets are priced with wide range, according to the performance, people find it difficult to meet their needs and wants due to the individual's economic status.

3. DEVELOPMENT COST

As the technology develops, the maintenance cost also increases. The medias must be updated to perform with great efficiency. Nowadays security is a great concern among people therefore certain companies updates their performances and ensures the safety of the user with new products or new software.

4. REDUCES SOCIAL INTERACTION

The communication skill is a must for students; therefore, they must balance their digital skill and practical skills. Communication is needed to make further decision in life and plays an important role in the career building. A student must know how to deliver his ideas in world. Social interaction leads to sharing of minds with different ideas and plans which cannot be obtained through the internet.

5. HEALTH ISSUES

Students due to lack of physical exercises face a lot of health problems. This issue has been increasing in an alarming rate among the citizens. Some of the problems that people face are posture related injuries due to heavy amount of work in computers, bad posture leads to back and neck pains which becomes serve and causes headaches. Injuries of the hand or arm is because of the repeated tension of the muscles while typing. Regular eyestrains have been a common trouble. [5]

6. DISTRACTION

Since the information is free to access, there are many materials available for different topics which would attract the users and thus compel them to read the unwanted information during their tasks. Distraction is common among students which leads to less productivity during their mission.

7. INCREASES PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is now habitual among the young generation as the information can easily be obtained and the work can be completed on time. The reputation of the student also gets affected. Plagiarism is like a game, once played an individual will wish to repeat it again which leads to the stopping of critical mind. A mind is made up of full ideas, the only thing a human- being must do is to explore, identify and innovate the new scheme.

CONCLUSION

Digitalisation is now a reality; every individual must try and examine these new features. This new world not only helps students and teachers but all the individuals globally. There are boons and banes, but it is the task of the man to balance both the outcomes and prepare a better solution for it. This world will completely transform to a computer-based world with technologies available in all the fields and streets.

Human- beings must enjoy the new discoveries and bring their own suggestions and feedbacks so that it is implemented in the coming plans. The students must motivate themselves for new innovation to conquer the world of digital. Only we can make a better future trough well laid plans and maps for justice.

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[5] Better Health Channels, Available at: https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/computer-related-injuries

SUGGESTIONS

The legal education can be made more interesting by innovating new ideas to develop law enthusiast. The classrooms can be designed in such a way that it gives an overall look of the court such the students can familiarize with the environment. The day-to-day communication and interaction with students can be made more interesting by talking with them in legal language in order to remember the phrases that they might experience in future. Regular moot courts must be mandatory for students so that no child is left behind the proper education and guidance. Visits to District Courts, High Courts and law firms must be introduced to the students. The professors can explain the cases to the Under- graduate students through pictorial story to make them understand the case better, initiating conversation through topics and one-on-one interaction is very important for students to make them feel better to communicate. Debates in class and other cultural activities must be implemented to boost the confidence among students.

While discussing cases the class can be divided into two halves thus representing the plaintiff and defendant. The students can share their own opinions and draft their own arguments; this will help them to identify the loopholes. These processes help students to be motivated and create a competitive mind set.

The cases or the class materials must be available to the students before the class lectures so that the students can read the information themselves and come up with their own opinion. During the lectures, students could relate the information that they had read and can have another interpretation of the text by their professors.

Health being a great concern, physical exercises can be listed with the curriculum. The time-tables must be planned according to the students mind as it is difficult for a human mind to focus for a long time therefore breaks must be given and during breaks students can socialize and interact with the faculty regarding their interests.

Seminars and webinars are an important aspect in legal learning. The students get more information about the courses and also the issues faced globally, the students can draft their own research paper regarding the topic so that they can focus more while the guest lecturers speak.

Professors must guide students about digital ethics and cyber security. Certain websites can be introduced by students to reduce cyber bullying. Students can be taught more about Artificial

Intelligence and software development programs; law school can collaborate with the software developers to plan new strategies for future.

This game plan among students will be a new interest. Student will engage more into the programs that fascinate them. These little steps ensure the development in students mentally and physically.