

Need

- Education is a life long process therefore anytime anywhere access to it is the need
- Information explosion is an ever increasing phenomena therefore there is need to get access to this information
- Education should meet the needs of variety of learners and therefore IT is important in meeting this need
- It is a requirement of the society that the individuals should possess technological literacy
- We need to increase access and bring down the cost of education to meet the challenges of illiteracy and poverty-IT is the answer

Importance

- access to variety of learning resources
- immediacy to information
- anytime learning
- anywhere learning
- collaborative learning
- multimedia approach to education
- authentic and up to date information
- access to online libraries
- teaching of different subjects made interesting
- educational data storage
- distance education
- access to the source of information
- multiple communication channels-e-mail,chat,forum,blogs,etc.
- access to open courseware
- better accesses to children with disabilities
- reduces time on many routine tasks

Intro :

The pace of change brought about by new technologies has had a significant effect on the way people live, work, and play worldwide. New and emerging technologies challenge the traditional process of teaching and learning, and the way education is managed. Information technology, while an important area of study in its own right, is having a major impact across all curriculum areas. Easy worldwide communication provides instant access to a vast array of data, challenging assimilation and assessment skills. Rapid communication, plus increased access to IT in the home, at work, and in educational establishments, could mean that learning becomes a truly lifelong activity—an activity in which the pace of technological change forces constant evaluation of the learning process itself.

In recent years, the speedy, effective and global communication of knowledge has created a new foundation for co-operation and teamwork, both nationally and internationally

Both education and learning are life time processes, they have no limit on when to start and stop. In our daily lives we learn new things and this helps us in changing the way we live.

Information technologies help in promoting opportunities of knowledge sharing throughout the world. These can help the teachers and students having up-to-date information and knowledge.

Main:

Through eLearning, students can now study whenever they want. There are no fixed timetables so people from different time zones can now do the same courses in the same academic institute. Students can also take their examinations whenever they want with time provided to them.

Combined learning is also improved. Information technology in education has made it possible for learners to have study groups. Students can now create combined ideas, solve problems and learn more through group studies and academic forums online.

- **Plenty of Educational Resources:** Information technology makes it easy to access academic information at any time. Both students and teachers use Information technology to acquire and exchange educational material. For example; teachers can easily provide visual and audio classes to their students using computers and broadband internet. This breaks the boundaries of accessing information, because the student will simply attend a lecture while not in a physical classroom. Also teachers can assign tasks to students via electronic email or campus educational forums.
- **Instant Access to Educational Information:** Information technology speeds the transfer and distribution of information. Students can easily access academic data using computers and new technologies like mobile phone application. IT experts have coded educational applications which can be used by students to access information very fast. These mobile phone applications are replacing some old methods like borrowing of books in libraries, now days students can use Library mobile phone applications to download books instead of e-books, so they have these books at any time which saves them time and helps them read at any time anywhere.
- **Full Time learning:** Unlike in the past when learning was limited to a physical classroom, students and teachers could only access academic information while at school. Today , all that has changed, a student will access information at any given time of the day. It does not matter where they are or the time of the day is. Information technology

has facilitated online education, so you will find a student in Africa will study the same course as a student in USA or India. And when it comes to getting jobs, all these students will have the chance to compete for the same job.

- **Group Learning:** Information technology has helped students learn in groups and it has also helped teachers teach students in groups. In past, we used to have group discussions at school which required each member to contribute, however the shy students could stay away from these groups because of the fear of expressing them selves. Now with information technology, schools have created academic forums, where students can discuss about a specific topic with no fear of expression. They can also engage in video and text chatting. Another benefit of these online group discussions is that not all group members will be from the same class or school as it was in the past. Students from various schools around the world can be in the same academic group and share academic information. Lets look at a student in Africa joining a group discussion of students in Harvard University, the information exchanged will be beneficial to this student.
- **Use of Audio – Visual:** Information technology has changed the way we learn and interpret information. The use of audio-visual education helps students learn faster and easily. As opposed to text and blackboard notes, students get bored in this form of education. It is a human weakness, people do not want to read text for so long, they get bored, so the introduction of audio-visual technology in education, makes students enjoy what they're learning. Visual illustration using images on projectors helps a student understand the concept, because some of these images are interesting and they look familiar to a student. Our brains tend to remember visual illustrations easily more than text. This explains why you can easily remember someone's face but fail to remember their names.
- **Long Distance learning:** Information technology enables students across the globe to study from anywhere through online education. This has been possible due to the wide spread of cheap broadband internet in both developed and non-developed countries. Unlike in the past, when some courses used to be provided in developed countries, so for a student to study those courses they had to go through the hassle of moving from their home country which was to expensive. Now days, a student can have access to these courses online. Many universities have opened their educational curriculum to the world. So at a small fee, a student can be part of that university. These students do the same exams and are marked by the same teachers.

Teacher

By using ICT the teacher can arrange things so that the student, can, through active searching, find and go through relevant subject matter before coming to their classes or tutoring. In this way, technology

can help time being better spent when teacher and student are together. It can also lead to having to travel less, by having video-conferencing meetings instead of ordinary meetings, and it can also be easier to adapt and tailor further education courses and studies which are in demand from the public and private sector.

With the change in learning styles, the role of the teacher is changing too; as well as being a presenter of lesson material; they also assume the role of facilitator/coach in an increasingly collaborative learning environment.

The world is brought closer, and the world's economy is quickly becoming a single interdependent system. Information can be shared quickly and easily from all over the globe, and barriers of linguistic and geographic boundaries can be torn down as people share ideas and information with each other.

Communication has become an easier, cheaper, and faster system with the help of information technology.

CONCLUSION

Information technologies are the result of knowledge explosion. These include hardware & software technologies and facilitate teaching learning process. Using Information Technologies learners are now able to participate in learning communities throughout the world. They are independent and free in choice of their programmes of study and access to the resources. They may learn collaboratively, share information, exchange their learning experiences and work through cooperative activities in virtual learning communities. Information technologies facilitate teaching learning process in more productive fashion. Similarly, the role of teacher is also different in new settings than in the conventional system. Teacher facilitates and guides the learners in their study playing the role of a coach or mentor. Now teacher is not at the center of the instruction and sole source of information as in conventional classrooms. He/she decides contents/experiences and/or activities, locates the resources and guides learners how to have access and utilize the information for required outcomes. In nutshell, information technologies are restructuring teaching learning process to meet the International standards.

Teachers reported students had an increase in motivation when using technology. Because of their willingness to work with technology as opposed to a normal classroom setting of boring lecture, helps motivate students to learn

Information rich society promotes new practices and paradigms for education where the teacher has to play new role of mentoring, coaching and helping students in their studies rather to play the conventional role of spoon feeding in the classrooms. Students can learn independently having a wide choice of programme selection and access to information. Students can be involved in skill oriented activities in group learning environments for accumulated knowledge. They can interact and share learning experiences with their teachers and fellow learners in knowledge construction and

dissemination process. They can receive and use information of all kinds in more constructive and productive profession rather depending upon the teacher.