

STUDY OF INNOVATIVE METHODS FOR REFLECTIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING PROCESS IN STUDENTS

QAISUR RAHMAN AND TANWIR YUNUS

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, VINOBA BHAVE UNIVERSITY, HAZARIBAG-825301 JHARKHAND, INDIA

ABSTRACT

The superiority of any educational process mainly depends upon the excellence of teaching process and teacher. Though teaching is considered as a science and a skill, basically it is a transcendent art. It is the teacher who intuitively designs the emergent plastic mind of the child entrusted to him. Thus teaching is not a motorized process. Rather, it is a sophisticated rigorous and a very challenging one. With good leadership and correct teaching methodologies the teacher's efficacy can be enhanced. Challenges in Indian educational system have no permanent answers because of the variable nature and continuous demands of human society. The teachers in the modern era specifically 21st century will have to transact with a world different from past in respect of pedagogical and technological advancement. So the teacher education programme can make teachers fit for all situations that they will perform better in their profession. Teachers will have to make final selections from many alternatives in the course of teaching. Therefore, it is vital for teachers to constantly reassess their alternatives. This can be done by presenting innovative ideas and practices in teacher education programme. Since teachers are of fundamental importance in enlightening the quality of education hence the advancement of innovative practices in teacher education is of extreme importance. This method is designed to stimulate discussion on new ideas and innovative practices and learning process in students. The paper will emphasize on novel ideas and innovative practices like co-operative learning, brain storming learning and reflective teaching in students. The education is the process of facilitating learning or the acquisition of knowledge skills values beliefs and habits. The purpose of the education is not only to make the students learning but also to make them creative knowledgeable think of their own and to meet the workforce. The success of a student depends on the teacher and the innovative methods which they incorporate in teaching. The purpose of this research is to suggest the innovative teaching and learning methods that can be used in imparting the knowledge to the students.

Key words: Innovative Methods, Learning Process, Reflective Teaching,

INTRODUCTION

The growth of a nation depends upon the quality of education system which in turn depends on teachers and for this purpose teaching is being considered as the honorable of all professions.

The teacher therefore occupies a crucial place in the educational system as well as in the society. But teaching is not a motorized process. It is a sophisticated demanding and a very stimulating one. Though teaching is being considered as a science and skill basically it is a transcendent art as it is the teacher who intuitively designs the emergent mind of the child. Like an artist the teacher is also responsible for influencing or reshaping the behavior of the young ones in a socially desired way. Thus, the teacher needs to be in contact with the children's so that he could shape the mind in creative way. All through the history of the people says that teachers have played diverse roles and they will continue doing it. But today's world is world of change and advancements which is passing through swift changes and abundant progressions. In such a situation even education system cannot repel change. As a result it is the requirement of present scenario as new demands and new dreams allocate more perplexing role and responsibility to the teacher. Now a day's innovative technological development has commendably revolutionized our society. An unanticipated result of this revolution has been the development of a generation of children dependent on multi-dimensional interactive media sources in the generation whose understanding and beliefs of the world differ greatly from that of the generations preceding them. If these children are to be given education it becomes essential to succeed in our technologically concentrated future which is global in nature and then a new system of education is required that is built on children's instinctive learning abilities and technological skill must replace our existing methods. Since challenges in education system have no permanent answers so teachers themselves will have to make the final selections from many alternatives. Therefore it is vital for teachers to persistently reconsider their choices. This can be done by presenting innovative ideas and practices in teacher education programme. Education plays an important role in today's world. Over the decades there had been rapid increase in the higher education system. Our education system is geared towards teaching and testing knowledge at every level as opposed to teaching skills. Teaching and learning are dynamic complements of knowledge sharing at a time of increasingly rapid technological advancements. Creativity and innovation is the essence of teaching and learning including in the social sciences discipline. Gone are the days of a teacher delivering a lecture while standing behind a rostrum in a huge lecture hall in one-way communication mode where his words are words of God and students sit quietly embracing his words, busy taking down notes those days have long been over and they have been replaced with more innovative and creative ways of disseminating sharing and facilitating knowledge development in students. Our students are tired of the old school approach to learning language they want something practical relevant and useful for their professional life. With computer being their need and practice and living in the era where they are allowed to question on things and they are empowered to be partly responsible for their learning creativity and innovation have been incorporated in teaching and learning assessment and supervision.

It is high time both for the students as well as teachers for a change which can be met if they accept the challenge. Faculty members are constantly looking for new and effective ways to engage their students in the learning process. More than ever before students in higher education will apply what they learn in university to professional careers that may exist. To become global

leaders and valuable citizens of today and tomorrow our students must learn to be independent critical thinkers to be socially and ethically responsible and to have a broad understanding of the world. Different innovative teaching methods are now in use across the globe.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

1. To determine the innovative methods of reflective teaching in students.
2. To explore the innovative methods of learning process in students.
3. To study the innovative methods for reflective teaching and learning process in students.

RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS

The study shall seek to test the following hypotheses:

1. The meaning of innovative practices of students is visible.
2. The influence of learning process is visible.
3. The role of innovative methods for reflective teaching and learning process in students is visible.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The scope of the present study strikes the study of innovative methods for reflective teaching and learning process in students.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was carried out in Hazaribag area as it provide rich reservoir of informants. The researcher frequently visits and thus making accessing of informants and information easy. The sample for the study consisted of various schools. The data was collected from 35 respondents from different households in the villages including male and female ones. The respondents were parents who had one or more than school going children. They belonged to the age group between 7-15 years. Qualitative research design was adopted. This is because the design permitted the researcher direct experience within the research field in order to deepen his understanding of the nature of what he was studying Creswell and Morales (2007). Data collection commenced by establishing questionnaires to informants representing the target population. The researcher combined both questionnaire and interview methods to obtain and gather information from respondents. This approach was beneficial for the best outcome. Specifically this approach was used with respondents who were able to read and write in English to fill questionnaires in order to assist them.

DATA ANALYSIS

Its effects were analyzed in different dimension for example interest of the student's participation discussion brain storming peer instruction interactive demonstration creativity and concept attainment. The qualitative and quantitative analysis was used in data analysis. The exploratory research methodology is used here to analyze the data. Data was collected from multiple sources such as journals, books to understand the teaching learning process in students respectively.

IMPORTANCE OF INNOVATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Education is a very powerful instrument for social change and transformation and innovative teaching practice is the only way to enhance the quality of our education. The use of innovative methods in educational institutions has the potential not only to improve education but also to develop creativity empower people strengthen governance and galvanize the effort to achieve the human development goal for the country. A degree is life training and the best time to get a chunk of that under our belt is in those transition years as we are first forming ideas about what we want to do with our life inside and outside of our career. Even the Ministry of HRD has insisted that all the educational institutions to use the technology in classroom. As per MHRD report highest number of students has been enrolled at Undergraduate level across India. The country's future rests on the shoulders of its youth and children quite specifically on how they are taught and engaged to think and act. If the 21st century is truly the age of change and creativity then nothing less than a paradigm shift in the education system will do. While technology increasingly will play a major role in disrupting legacy education models it will equally place highest emphasis on human beings' capacity to create and innovate in the face of rapid change and complexity. An innovative effort of an institution helps in its academic excellence. The innovator will constantly think of better ways of doing things as an innovative educator will constantly formulate new ways and approaches to teaching and learning to maximize the output of learning. Whereas strong believer in the supremacy of technology namely the computer in enhancing teaching and learning especially to the Y-generation who grows with the technology in their background the computer can be an effective tool an agent for learning.

MEANING AND CONCEPT OF INNOVATION

There is an extensive disparity among countries with regard to the terms innovation transformation or expansion in the teaching learning process. For example the use of marker pens may be regarded as being an educational innovation in some developing or under developed regions of the world whereas in other advanced countries innovations may be regarded as to the development and use of refined technologies and methods and practices. In India electronic technology has intensely entered into every area of our society. Today's generation is growing up with remote controls and they spend more time on computers internet playing games online reading books. This is a compassionate environment in which they can generate their own ideas both individually and collaboratively must be provided. Etymologically the word Innovation is derived from the Latin word innovare which means to change something into

something new. It is an advancement of new ideas and practices in education and training. There has been seen a remarkable shift in the methods of education services over the years. The research and innovations play an imperative role in refining the quality of teachers training for all levels of teaching. They call to introduce new ideas and practices in classroom transaction and other curricular and co-curricular activities. The teacher's effectiveness can be enriched with good leadership and modern teaching methodologies. No teacher education programme can make teachers fit for all situations that they will encounter in their profession. Teachers will have to make the final choices from many options available. The purpose of teacher education is to make teachers who have professional competencies to lead the nation forward through their multifarious roles.

INNOVATIVE TEACHING METHODS OF CO-OPERATION

When teacher and students have to work under so many limitations then the practice of that team teaching or co-operative or collaborative teaching is a good option. Team teaching or co-operative learning process is a team work where members support and rely upon each other to complete an agreed upon their goal. Co-operative learning is a popular teaching strategy in which small teams each with students of different levels of ability use a widerange of learning activities to increase their understanding of a subject. Each member of a team is responsible not only for learning what is taught but also for helping teammate to learn and thus creating an atmosphere of accomplishment. The students work on the assignment until all group members successfully understand and complete it.

SOFT SKILLS OF TEACHER EDUCATION

The growth of human capital is an important asset since it energies the development of a nation. Quality human capital originates from quality education process through carefully designed and well-planned education system. Soft skills are personal attributes that improve an individual's collaborations job performance and career prospects and hard skills which tend to be specific to a certain type of task or activity. The soft skills refer to personality traits social gracefulness and fluency in language personal habits friendliness and optimism that mark people to varying degrees. Soft skills are mostly related to teacher education programme. Thus the curriculum of teacher education could add to the holistic development of human capital that can nurture economic social and personal development. Instilling the soft skill in the curriculum of teacher education is the need of the profession for it to be successful. Any teaching method without destroying the objective could be considered as innovative methods of teaching. The researchers believe that the core objective of teaching is an innovative practice could be a pathway created to further the interest of the student and the institution. The analysis revealed some of the suggestions that the teaching community can practice in the classrooms. Teaching with technology engages students with different kinds of stimuli which involve in activity based learning. Technology makes material more interesting. It makes students and teachers more media literate and mostly suggested one is multimedia teachers can also consider positive

learning approach as it explains the application part of particular concept first so students would get interest in what the actual concept is demanding. This approach helps in creating long lasting memory or correlation of a concept collaborative teaching sometimes called co-operative teaching or team teaching also considered as an innovative teaching as it involves educators working in tandem to lead instruct and mentor groups of students. There are many devices with the help of which one can teach effectively. They are very effective in developing their linguistic competence. If this method is used properly language learning becomes more interesting and easy ones.

Teachers can also use case study method for innovative teaching because case method is a powerful student centered teaching strategy that can impart students with critical thinking communication and interpersonal skills. Teaching with sense of humor is also considered as an innovative method which makes students listen actively. Laughter is a natural universal phenomenon with beneficial effects both physical and psychological. Teachers can use interactive boards and smart classes for teaching as it help students experience a deeper level of engagement and understanding by making course content interactive and visual. Problem based learning (PBL) is a teaching method in which complex inrealworld problems are used as the vehicle to promote student learning of concepts and principles as opposed to direct presentation of facts and concepts. In addition to course content PBL can promote the development of critical thinking skills problem solving abilities and communication skills. Slide presentation is also emerged as a prominent teaching tool. Slide presentation is an effective way to share ideas deliver content and obtain student feedback on the Internet. Slide presentation can be used for describing a step by step process explaining a particular concept or presenting a power point presentation with narration and multimedia elements. Use of mnemonic words is also an innovative teaching method. Here the teacher is not supposed to talk on a particular concept for a quite longer period of time. But to make it clear to the students can just go on saying mnemonics or its associated meaning in words.

INNOVATIVE LEARNING METHODS

If learners are actively engaged with a task which they accept is for learning they are not simply follow a prescription or set of rules but contribute their own thinking to the task. The flipped classroom is a learning environment that provides students with a variety of means to study basic knowledge content as part of homework and preparation for class meetings. The flipped classroom also contains homework assignments as asynchronous classroom preparation. Students may access the course materials as often as needed and they can return to reflect upon the materials while building more difficult concepts later in their course. Mind mapping is a learning technique which uses a non-linear approach to learning that forces the learner to think and explore concepts using visual spatial relationships flowing from a central theme to peripheral branches which can be inter related. Experiential learning is any learning that supports students in applying their knowledge and conceptual understanding to real world problems or authentic situations where the instructor directs and facilitates learning. MOOC is a new learning method

in higher education and it promotes active learning where the learner watches videos and engages in interactive exercises.

DISCUSSION

Education has continued to evolve diversify and extend its reach and coverage since the dawn of the human history. Every country develops its system of education to express and promote its unique socio-cultural identity and also to meet the challenges of the times NPE (1986). True reading empowers ones intellect that gives strength to his abilities that provide bases of reality to the flight of his imagination and softens his inner world with different shades of emotion. When the meaning full learning gets associated with the internal feelings only then it can vibrate the internal chords of the mind and appropriate reading depends greatly on the mental state of the children. In this view the best method to make children learn correctly is to use their sense of hearing first and then subject them to an environment of excellent reading. Good learning makes an impact on their mind and as this deepens day by day with passage of time, they would start expressing this in their own reading. The learning must be fun adult can derive this fun by reading books on various subjects but a young child finds joy in reading word books and the joy remains for both of them. In order to capture a more comprehensive investigation of technology-based school innovations we would like to stress the opportunity to jointly consider different education systems levels since just their combined analysis may lead to better analyze the innovative potentialities of the ICTs diffusion and distinguishing the influences of new technologies from other possible influences associated with context and individual variables. Thus the levels to consider should include the social political and educational context including the educational policies promoting for the adoption and the diffusion of the ICTs in schools trough effective initiatives in teachers for competence in using technology. The training background in using technology methods of teaching and class management which aims in using technology its devices and tools as well types of technology in school focusing on technological infrastructure organization of the learning environments, which is available for space and rooms.

EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY

It was found that the utilization of learningability with technological support was effective in influencing the students' performance. The study of this nature can aim topopularize the use of similar pedagogical practices at developing active learning of the students in addition to improve in achievement of the context. The study revealed that active learning ability with technological support can improve the students' performance hence it can be made integral part of the curriculum in secondary level and teacher should encourage to employ there methods in class. The study stresses the need to take deliberate efforts for promoting and participation of the students. Hence the teacher must be oriented about the various means of fostering the thinking skills of students and apply them according to their context and purpose. The study revealed that students have enjoyed the classroom experiences and the strategies enabled them to be

responsible in the process of learning. Therefore such process can be made use of successfully in the class room to promote healthy learning environment and pleasurable learning experiences to the children. The authorities should provide sufficient support system including the availability of infra-structure resource material flexibility in class management. Expert and researcher in the field of education should work for developing pedagogical practices suitable to classroom and propagate them productively among the children.

CONCLUSION

To conclude more researches are needed to deepen how the structure of school systems as well as the different education systems levels could promote or inhibit different types of innovation in order to identify further improvements factors in educational policies optimizing especially in the light of the actual financial crisis and the use of funds to improve the technology based school innovation. Indeed careful attention has to be paid to the translation process from the starting of innovation to its implementation since change in education is easy to propose hard to implement and extraordinarily difficult to sustain. In today's era of information and communication technology it is imperative to develop teacher for growth of society as well as for self-education system should not be looked at provider of education only rather it should be treated as a means of achieving social elevation but also as a motive of progressions in a period of knowledge and research dominance. Innovation is the track to progress for any nation and the future of the nation is built in classrooms. It is not essential that each innovation is organized and created it could be basic unstructured informal method which is accepted by the teacher for the sake of significant learning of the students. Hence attention should be given to such innovative methods and new ideologies and should be incorporated in teacher development programmes. Thus it can be concluded that any teaching method without destroying the objective could be considered as innovative methods of teaching. The researchers also recommend that the teaching and learning would be highly effective and innovative if the teacher starts to use the recent multimedia technologies like usage of computers and slide presentations and by following students centered method of teaching learning like mind maps case study problem based learning and collaborative teaching will be effective in near future.

REFERENCES

- Amabile, T. M. (1983). The social psychology of creativity and componential conceptualization. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 45(2): 357-377.
- Barab, S. (2006). Design based Research a methodological tool kit for the learning scientist In: R.K. Sawyer (Ed.), *Hand book of learning sciences*, Cambridge University Press, New York, pp. 153-170.
- Bereiter, C. and Scardamalia, M. (2008). *Toward research based innovation in innovating to learn learning to innovate*, OECD, Paris, pp. 67-88.

Brown, A. L. (1994). The advancement of learning, *Educational Researcher*, 23 (8) : 4-12.

Darling-Hammond, L., and Baratz Snowden, J. (2007). A good teacher in every classroom preparing the highly qualified teachers our children deserve. *Educational Horizons*, 85(2) : 111-132.

Herrington, J. and Oliver, R. (2000). Instructional design of frameworks for authentic learning environment. *Educational Technology Research and Development*, 48(3): 23-48.

InderpreetKaur, C. (2015). Innovative and best practices in teaching, *Learning and Evaluation*, 4 (10):155-159.

Karpagam S. and Anantha-sayanam, R.(2012). Soft skills in teacher education programme. *Edutracks*. Pp, 11.

Khairnar, C., M. (2015). Advance pedagogy for innovative methods of teaching and learning, *International Journal of Information and Education Technology*, Vol. 5, No. 11.

Naga Subramani, P. C.(2011). Effective teaching and learning:Laxmi Book Publication, Solapur.

Padmanabhan, J. and Manjula, R. P.(2007). Approach and problems solving ability in science. *Journal of Community Guidance and Research*, 28(1):56-70.

Perkins, D. and Saris, N. (2001). A Jigsaw classroom technique for undergraduates statistics courses. *Teaching of Psychology*, 28(2): 111-113.

Rank, J., Pace, V. L., and Frese, M. (2004). Three avenues for future research on creativity innovation, and initiative. *Applied Psychology*, 53(4): 518-528.

Ravi Ranga, R. and Digumarti Bhaskara, R. (2004). Methods of teacher training: Discovery Publishing House, New Delhi.