Need of Inclusive Media Education in Modern Times and Concept of Flip Classroom

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ABSTRACT

Swami Vivekananda (1897) says, “no politics can be successful until the masses of India are well educated, well fed and well protected.” Swami ji believed that if India has to be prosperous, it has to educate these innumerable men and women. Today the country is celebrating the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence and we have not been able to provide education to every person. According to the National Family Health Survey report, in 2022, India’s male literacy rate reached 84.70% and the female literacy rate reached 70.30%. To make education accessible to the masses, the concept of inclusive education has to be imbibed. For that, there is a need to adopt new technologies along with traditional education. One such technique is the flip class. It can also be an important tool for inclusive media education in modern times. This research paper discusses the concept of flip classroom, its importance in inclusive media education, and its need in the present context.

INTRODUCTION

Innovative experiments have been done in the education system for centuries to make teaching better and student-friendly. Different scholars have defined education in their own way. If we look at the etymology of this word, we will find that the word “education” is derived from the Latin words “educare”, “educere” and “educantum”. Educare refers to “to bring up” or “to nourish”, whereas the word “educere” means to “to bring forth” or “to drag out”. Similarly, the word ‘Vidya’ is also used to get an education. The word Vidya is derived from the root ‘Vid’ and it means to know. In this way ‘Vidya’ means knowledge. According to Ishopanishad, the meaning of “Vidya” is that knowledge after the attainment of which nothing else remains to be known. Thus Vidya means ‘self-knowledge’. Learning is a comprehensive process in Indian philosophy. It has come a long way from the Gurukul method to the modern classroom. Because of the rich teaching method here, India has been known as Vishwaguru. However, through the atrocities committed here by foreign invaders, an attempt was made to destroy the institutions related to education and education here, which caused a lot of decline in this system. Modern India is again on the way to take a new flight in this direction. Many efforts are being made to make the nation a world leader again and to revive the famous knowledge tradition here. The new education policy to develop information technology and innovative techniques and various innovative experiments in teaching are new ways to strengthen the education system here. Flip classroom is also a one such effort. This research paper attempts to understand the concept of flip classroom, its importance, and various dimensions for media education. Recently, the Chairman of the University Grants Commission, Prof. M. Jagdish Kumar, also called it very important for the education system. That’s why it is very important for all the people associated with the
education world to understand it. The flipped classroom concept was first introduced by both high school chemistry teachers Jonathan Bergman and Aaron Sams (2012).

Despite the unprecedented development in the field of science and medicine in the 21st century, since 2020, the new virus of the Corona family, Covid 19, has created a new crisis in front of humans. Since the first death from Covid in Wuhan, China on 9 January 2020, the death toll by April 2023 has reached 68 lakhs. At the same time, about 68 crore people have been infected by this epidemic. Covid has raised the challenge of existence in front of all the sectors. Education was also not untouched by this. Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced Janata curfew to curb the coronavirus in India on 22 March 2020. During this, the exit of anyone from the house was banned. This curfew was for 14 hours. After this, from 8 pm on 24 March, 2020, it was announced to lockdown the country from 25 March. Due to the continuous lockdown and the necessity of social distancing, a need was felt to reform the traditional education system. As an alternative, the initial experiments of online classes started, which later gradually became mandatory for every school to higher educational institutions. This is where the phase of practically adopting the concept of flip classrooms begins in the country.

In traditional classrooms, teachers teach in class through notes made based on their studies, in this method most students usually do not prepare before coming to class. They do not even have information about what will be taught in the class. Teachers usually give lectures on their own prepared topics; similarly, students do not have enough time to ask questions. On the other hand, flip classroom teachers record lessons and post them online, after which students come to class after watching these videos beforehand, in this way students are largely prepared for the lesson. After that various activities are conducted on the topic prepared by the students. In this, students have enough time for clarification of various questions. Whatever study material is given by the teacher, it is taught to try in practical class. Not only this, teachers also share additional information related to that subject with the students in flip class technique. This inculcates in them a comprehensive understanding of various aspects related to the subject.

Helpful in Inclusive Media Education

Various educationists have acknowledged the utility of flip class in inclusive education. University Grants Commission Chairman Prof. M. Jagdish Kumar (2022) greatly appreciated it. In a conversation with the newspaper ‘Hindustan’, he said that the student would first engage in some exercise in the flip class, and then the teacher would explain. Psychology is the basis of this method. According to him, when we try to understand a subject in advance, we get stuck at some places repeatedly, but what we have understood becomes safe in the brain forever. The points on which problems arise, on getting their solution, that too becomes safe in our brain like spontaneous information without delay.

Many universities of the country have conducted experimental classes based on the concept of flip class after it emerged as an alternative during the Corona period. The good thing is that very positive results have been seen. In the Shiksha Samagam held in Kashi in July 2022, a special session was conducted on the utility of ‘flip classroom’. It was attended by all university representatives where the flip classroom process has been used. In the discussion held during this, he described this method as very useful for the students’ all-around development and inclusive education. Inclusion has been the real objective of the latest experiments in the field of education due to the pandemic. The United Nations has also described the concept of inclusive development as essential for development. In this context, when the crisis of being deprived of education or being left behind deepened in front of the students due to Corona, new methods were invented for their inclusion. In this also, information and technology suggested the best solutions and online education method emerged as an alternative and in that flip class was also a good experiment. Now educational institutions have opened, yet some important educational systems invented during that period are actually continuing. Flip class is also one of them.

Modern Education and Flip Classroom

Modern education system emphasizes on innovative experiments to teach students. Efforts to make education creative and accessible to students continue unabated in the world's best educational institutions. Its efforts are also visible in India. This is also the main objective of the National Education Policy 2020. By continuing to learn in the same way, students also start feeling bored. Experiments like flip classrooms can do the job of enthusing them in such a situation. They can also increase their participation in the learning process through flip class. The adoption of the flip classroom process in the modern education system can have many implications. Flip classroom proves to be very helpful in problems like the teacher-student ratio not being proper, falling results, lack of adequate interaction between teacher and student in the classroom. This method allows students to watch and listen to video lectures at their convenience without any time restriction. Also, they can see them as many times as they want. Students who are better in learning than their peers can also save their time through this as they can use it according to their own pace of learning. Whatever students study, they can keep trying to practice it the next day. Further preparatory learning is very helpful in enhancing skills. This experiment, which started in Western schools a few years ago, is now widely appreciated.
worldwide. After Corona, a lot of increase is being seen in its use. Indian educational institutions are also adopting it, which can definitely help the students. I.S.B. Hyderabad and S.P. Jain Institute of Management and Research have adopted it very well. Technical education institutes are also working towards using this method.

Benefits of Flipped Classroom

- This method can prove to be very beneficial from the point of view of both the student and the teacher. Through this, teachers are able to take out much more time for the students. They can satisfy their curiosities far more.
- Students can get more chances to revise the lecture. Students can better share their ideas with their classmates and develop their abilities through group learning.
- It can also work to make the students responsible as the student has relatively more control over the learning process. Audio-visual material makes it more receptive, as students understand things better when they learn by watching and listening.
- Through this, the possibility of loss in case of absence due to any reason is also reduced, because later the material stored on the Internet can be learned from.
- In this way, the advantages of this method are many, but this is only when it is used with responsibility, otherwise there can be disadvantages like-
- Sometimes students can be complacent thinking that they have the material and can use it whenever they want. On the other hand, if they depend only on audio-visual material and do not participate in the activities of the class, then also they can be harmed.
- Students who are unable to motivate themselves and have low self-learning abilities may face difficulties in this.

Despite these minor drawbacks, it is an important method of learning and flip classroom completely transforms the traditional education system into a creative concept that helps teachers to teach better and students to learn much better. According to the founders of the method, Jonathan Bergman and Aaron Sams (2012), flipping is tailored to the needs of today’s students, better helping busy students, while the method is more helpful to struggling students, helping students of all abilities can excel. It allows students to pause and listen to their teacher at their own pace, while also increasing student interaction with the teacher. They believe this method allows teachers to get to know their students better, thus increasing student-to-student interaction. This system has the potential to transform classroom management. At the same time, the way of talking to the parents changes. It is helpful to teach kids as well as their parents. This makes the class much more transparent.

It is clear from his view that this technique can also be effectively used for inclusive media education. Parents of the students have different opinions about this method. In a conversation with The Hindu newspaper (2021), where some parents call it useful for the students, some complain that it has increased unnecessary burden on them. They say that schools put their burden on parents and children through this, while they have to give more time to children. Because they have to help explain to the children, they must also help in various projects and presentations.

Conclusion

In the present era, when the emphasis is on making the education system more student-friendly and the internet and technology use in education is increasing continuously, flip class is a better option, which is also very important for inclusive media education. Through this, education can be easily made available even to those who were somehow deprived of the traditional method until now. Now, when policy making is being done keeping in mind the concept of inclusive development in every field, efforts should be made to reach media education to every class and group in new ways. We can move towards an enlightened India by promoting experiments like flip classroom. This can prove to be a helpful step in the process of making the nation a world leader again. The provisions of the National Education Policy 2020 and the interest of institutions indicate that the policy makers have also understood its importance very well and should use it to promote education in the country and take it to new heights.

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