

Significance of Information Technology in India's growing Educational Sector

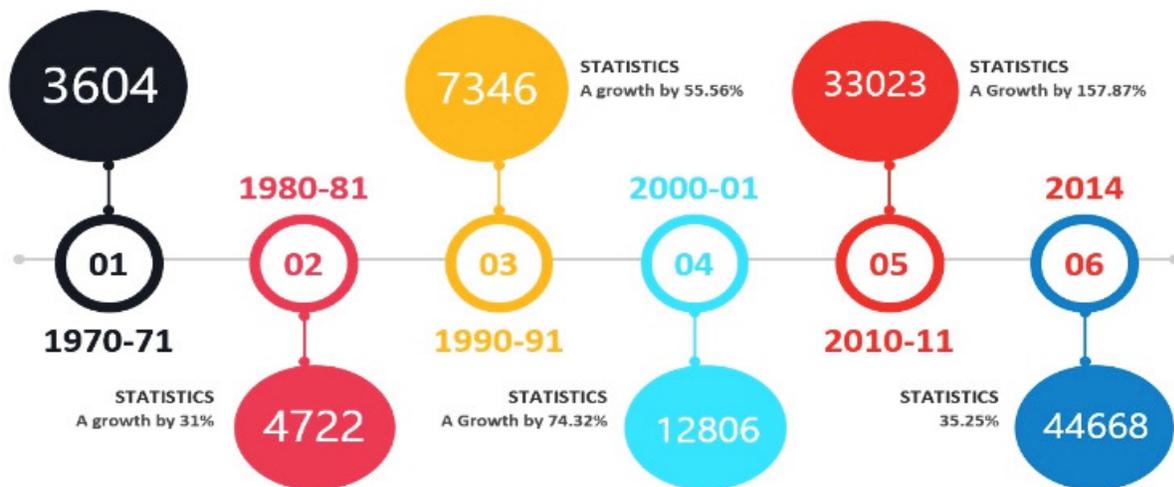
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Introduction

Information Technology is an emerging industry not only in Corporate Sector but also in Educational. It is fact and live example that IT has transformed the world into a Global village. The communication between individuals and corporates have become much easier and simpler due to the fast growing technology and ample of means of communication. Internet is of the best means of communication from it. It has filled the gap between individuals, businesses, governments and even transportation. Technology has un-doubtfully helped the Indian Educational sector in many ways and the Government has taken positive steps to ensure that the institutions gets full benefit of it. Education sector is growing since the last 6 decades and the number of higher educational institutes are also increasing due to demand of seats in various streams of Under-graduate and Post-graduate course. Let us see the trend-wise chart of the growth of institutes and Universities in last 6 decades.

Growth of Higher Educational Institutions (Colleges) in India

TREND YEAR-WISE

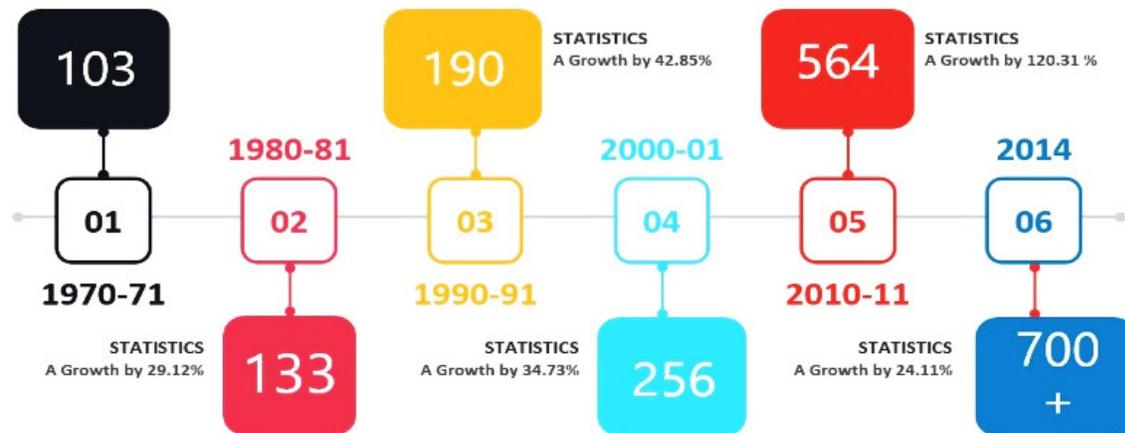


Stats by Ernst & Young & Dr. Education 2014

It is very clear and precise by the above chart that both Institutes and Universities in India has significantly increased since the last 6 decades. It is very important for the governing bodies to ensure that the increase in institutes doesn't just be in quantity but also in quality. Improvisation of quality is possible due to good infrastructure with technology driven tools, skilled manpower, better facilities and necessary amenities. The Educational & Training sector in India is standing at \$600 Billion i.e. Rs.6000 Crore. Private Educational segment alone is expected to cross \$45 billion (Rs. 450 crore) in 2015. Looking at this figure one can understand how important it is for an educational institute to respond to its customer which is ultimately the students in this competitive sector.

Growth of Universities in India Recognized by UGC

TREND YEAR-WISE (Including Private Universities)



Stats by Ernst & Young & Dr. Education 2014

The Indian Government has offered various schemes and offers for recognised educational institutes with tie-ups with third parties including MNCs. Like the HR ministry has started the subsidized Internet scheme in the year 2010 by partnering with BSNL for recognised where institutes can avail 10MBPS Internet connectivity at a mere Rs. 25,000 per annum and the remaining cost will be borne by the Government as it is subsidized. A single institute can avail upto 40MBPS of connectivity under the NMEICT scheme by the government.

The IIT Mumbai & Kharagpur has started an Online Virtual Classroom facility for Graduates and Post graduates of different streams like Engineering and Management. One can download the software by registering it and avail the live sessions everyday free of cost which are hosted by different educational institutes of India everyday. They can also see recorded lectures from renown professors and lecturers at www.nptel.ac.in. It has hundreds of videos recorded in various streams of education. The AICTE approved institutes can avail free licenses of Autodesk from a catalogue of 30 products as well as Microsoft Operating systems. This facility is also available for college students who are studying in these recognized institutions. More information can be availed from <http://www.aicte-india.org/bfreedownloads.php>. Apart from this, the AICTE has enforced its approved institutions to get subscriptions for recognized magazines and journals which are a boon for students for current trends and knowledge in their field of education. Students may contact their Library for this facility in such institutes that comes under the AICTE guidelines.

The Department of Technical Education has worked hard to get the admission system online for the approved colleges. This had made the admission system very transparent and on merit basis. It has become very easy for students to take admission on the institute of their choice subject to merit basis. Students are first required to register and verify his details through an ARC Center allotted by DTE. His login credentials are then provided after the scrutinized process. More information can be availed from www.dte.org.in.

Many Universities in India has opted for softwares that are authorized for using for admission process and portal facility. Like in Maharashtra, MKCL has been awarded contract by state

universities. One of the example is the Dr. B.A.M University portal whose website is <http://bamua.digitaluniversity.ac>. The MKCL application is used for admission within the college and the student is given a unique registration number in form of PRN. This helps the student, college aswell as universities to identify his details and avoid any duplication in work. The results are updated by the University and the College authorized to promote the student to another year/semester once it receives the information from the University. The student gets all the information from its separate Login at the portal and can get all the information from his MKCL account which is in form of e-suvidha. The student also gets an SMS alert incase there is any information or update that is needed to be communicated to him. He should have a personal mobile number to avail the SMS alert facility. Many universities has already started the paperless Online Exam System in which the eligible student will appear through his college on the scheduled time-table.

Since, the government, universities and the governing bodies of the Institutes are trying their best to facilitate the students and institutes, it is important for the Management of the Institute to have a defined policies of their organization and provide hi-tech facilities for its staff and students in form of proper IT infrastructure and by implementation of Educational ERP application. This will help the institute to manage Data Accuracy, Increase in productivity, increase in efficiency, reduce duplication of work, reduction in manpower, adherence to standards and a proper flow of hierarchy for day to day work process.

In short, the implementation of technology in institute will help automization of Administrative tasks such as Management of staff & students, Inward-outward process, Online leave application for staff, HR Management. The Academic module may help in Admission process, Time-Table Management, Exam Management, Result Management, Alumni and Placement Management etc. The Library module can help the institute in properly managing the inflow and outflow by means of imprinting barcoded stickers or RFID, stock management of books in the software, KIOSK for book searching for the student etc. The Finance module can help in Payroll Management, Accounting, Fee Management, Expenses, Future Estimation etc. Store Module helps in properly labelling the assets. Issuing of material dept-wise, helps in inter departmental transfers. Stock management and a one click check of all the materials and its availability. The very important module in an Institute is the IT management. This is essential so as to ensure there is a proper standard of Procedures (SOP) implemented for Firewalls, Gateways, Anti-Virus updates, Bandwidth Management, Networking, Backups of important data, Disaster Management, Wifi management, CCTV Surveillance monitoring and keeping all the reports and logs for the institute about all the usage of IT.

It may be concluded that in today's fast growing economy and quick decision making, IT plays a very important role not only in corporate sector but also in Educational sector. There is a need for Educational institutes to adapt the latest technology by means of procuring hardware and software that are essential for their day to day work. This will be beneficial for the Employer, Employees aswell as the students and overall growth of the organization.

Reference:

1. www.wikipedia.com
2. www.google.com