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THE IMPACT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ON INDIAN ECONOMY THROUGH ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

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Abstract

English is a second language (L2) in India which have had a colonial past. It has been, perhaps, evolving faster than in the country of its origin because of the dynamics of inter-relationship with the local languages.

The information and communication technology (ICT) is used in English Language Teaching. It is important to create independent and collaborative learning environment. Through this students can learn English with much ease. There is no gainsaying that the growth and spread of English and information technology in India and the corresponding economic prosperity of the country are corelated. This paper aims to highlight the relationship between information technology and proficiency in the use of English language as well as the growth of economy in India. Through the five stages we can understand how the increase in English proficiency and the IT sector in India propelled economic growth in India. With heightened competence of the society in these two fields, Indian economy has started growing. Literacy and economic development are co-related.

Keywords: globalization, proficiency, tech savvy, pandemic



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Introduction:

English is one of the important languages which have played a major role in the process of globalization and knowledge explosion. As a result of knowledge explosion in higher education, particularly technical education, the use of English as a means of communication has become a vital requirement. The teaching of English as a language and as a means of efficient expression and communication was generally considered infra-dig in higher education. English is a second language (L2) in India which have had a colonial past. It has been, perhaps, evolving faster than in the country of its origin because of the dynamics of interrelationship with the local languages.

Change is the law of nature. With the advent of globalization, science and technology have played an important role in human life. Technological advancement and innovation in educational field make a great impact on academic development as well as administration. The

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traditional methods are of no use. They are less motivating to the larger number of students. Now the information and communication technology (ICT) is used in English Language Teaching. It is important to create independent and collaborative learning environment. Through this students can learn English with much ease. There is no gainsaying that the growth and spread of English and information technology in India and the corresponding economic prosperity of the country are co-related. This paper aims to highlight the relationship between information technology and proficiency in the use of English language as well as the growth of economy in India. The English language proficiency can be further consolidated through the use of information technology as an innovative method of teaching English. Our teachers play a major role in this process. Our policy makers and material producers in the field of English language teaching have tried to link English with upward social mobility. For the fast economic growth, the government should plan a policy to make changes in the syllabus of English language. Changing the fate of future generations is in the hands of teachers who face the learners everyday in the classrooms. The young teachers of English should become tech savvy and become leaders as material producers, master trainers and designers of teaching strategies across disciplines.

High level proficiency of Indians in using the English language and their dexterity with technology have played a great role in the economic development of the nation. Due to globalization, Indians are much better placed internationally, in terms of competence to use English vis-a-vis most other Asians, especially the Japanese, the Chinese and the Koreans. (Graddol) That is why Indians have been receiving many international projects in the field of translation form and into English. They are not only receiving literary works but also of technical and scientific research works. BPO industry in India is an great example in this regard. In terms of quality and quantity, publications are high in English. Indians have proved their calibre internationally through recruiting in multinational companies. Many Indians are the CEO of international export and import, software and technology field. English is deeply rooted in the nation's psyche. Multilingualism is a way of life in India. Due to multilingual diversity Indians learn at least two or three languages. English is one of these languages which has been learning throughout India. (Madhukar)

Technology, undoubtedly, is a major driver of economies around the world. It is having an increasingly larger impact on the socio-cultural sphere. It has been playing a crucial role since the ancient times. When early humans found new weapons for hunting and then they used them for agriculture. But today technology is different from what it was. It is rapidly growing, Copyright © 2021, Scholarly Research Journal for Interdisciplinary Studies

developing, changing and currently progressing. Internet is the key of success. Social media is tremendously deeply rooted in socio-economic pyramid. In today's pandemic era when all India is closed due to lockdown still we are in contact with each other through mobile and internet connectivity. Video conferencing have helped to overcome the constraints of time and distance. We can get grocery and what not at our doorstep. Therefore appropriate use of technology is getting utmost importance and it can prove more economical than the traditional modes of communication.

It is seen that the global economy has moved from the manufacturing sector to the service sector. In the service sector, the highest growth in the recent decade is of information services. It includes financial services, broadcast services and education. These services and products like computers, books, television, software application, android mobiles have been progression rapidly. Many developed and developing countries are relied on these services. Therefore many economist call it an global information economy. (Patil)

There are four major stages of the growth to the economy of the country i.e. subsistence economy, commercial economy, emerging economy and information or knowledge economy. Each stage is marked by certain behavioural traits reflected in the social life of the nation. We can see the co-relation between development in terms of the proficiency in the English language; information technology and stages of economy. We find that the higher the proficiency in the former two, the higher the stage of economy. Let's see the illustrations of the relationship between growth, spread and depth of English and information technology in the Indian society and corresponding economic prosperity in the country through the stages.

Stage I (1950 - 1960)

In this stage we see the anti-English feelings among the masses until late 1960's. Most of the Indians studied English for survival purposes, as a basic requirement for higher post. At that time ICT was almost non exist. Even basic amenities like electricity, telephone connectivity was not exist in most places.

Economic condition was poor. Planning commission was formed. Unemployment and poverty prevail in the country.

Stage II (1960 - 1970)

In this stage English is continuously resisted but the need for English was felt by a few. IT services industry was born. Computers were huge and difficult to afford. Transportation was improved. STD calls were easier while ISD was beyond reach for the masses.

Commercial economy was started. People in cities and villages entered in workforce and paid Copyright © 2021, Scholarly Research Journal for Interdisciplinary Studies

taxes. Unemployment was continued to prevail.

Stage III (1970 - 1980)

In this stage English was recognised as a necessity for upward social mobility. UGC introduced functional English courses. There was a need for English medium courses. Many students enrolled to higher education. Many institutions offered ICT courses and computer education. ISD calls were easier. STD calls were part of life. Indian IT acumen made an entry into the global market. Funds began to flow into the market.

Indian economy was in emerging state. Basic education, infrastructure, health services developed. Indian industry exported their manufactured goods. Many information based services started.

Stage IV (1980 - 2000)

Many new English schools, colleges and the inversities were opened offering IT courses. Students were going to abroad for international churses and thereby they were getting jobs. Mobile phones were introduced, microsoft mace the window software for computers. Computer education was most demanded.

In 1991 India started new open economic policy. Many international companies started to invest in India. Many educated students got the jobs. Software technology parks of India was formed. VSAT communication allowed work done in India to be transmitted abroad directly. Stage V(2000-2020)

In this crucial stage we see that expenses on education rose. Many foreign universities came to India. Large number of students enrolled in them. More jobs were available due to proficiency in English. Employment opportunities were available due to opening of call centers, BPO and international placements. Information technology sector flourished. Many Indian IT companies are exporting as online consultancies and commerce business. We see the growth in e-banking, e-governance and online education. Technology and internet play a key role in this stage. We can get everything through smart mobile phones. The young generation became tech -savvy. (Wikipedia)

We see a great impact on Indian economy due to the new government economic policy. Foreign investment brought new technology and connectivity to global production and distribution system. Micro economic planning, self help groups, Atmanirbhar Bharat, Start up India and all other efforts move up the value chain leading to more indigenous economic growth. The dream of India, a developed nation by 2020, becomes true due to science and technology based economy. This stage is characterized by wide spread territory education, extensive public Copyright © 2021, Scholarly Research Journal for Interdisciplinary Studies

funding of scientific studies, extensive private sector led research and development and a sophisticated information based society.

Conclusion:

Through these five stages we can understand how the increase in English proficiency and the IT sector in India propelled economic growth in India. With heightened competence of the society in these two fields, Indian economy has started growing. Literacy and economic development are co-related. As education improves, economy develops. We find a positive relationship between education and economy. Most rich and famous Indians are found to be fluent in the use of English. All those with IT skills are in demand. ICT is a unique opportunity for access to remote experts and resources. It provides media rich simulated environment for learning. It supports teachers work in the classroom, reinforce learning and increase efficiency of the educational system.

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DR. PANKAJ D. MORE

Of Late Dattatraya Pusadkar Arts College, Nandgaon Peth has participated in the National E-Conference on

"NEW TRENDS IN ICT, FILM, LITERATURE AND CULTURE"

organized by Department of English and IQAC,

of our college on 12th February 2021.

He/She has also published/presented his/her Research Paper
entitled: THE ADAPTATION OF SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYS IN INDIAN CINEMA.

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