

THEME: Provision for Children and Young People

TITLE :- Examination - On Demand (E-OD) : - An Innovation In Exam System.

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Prologue:-

When i start the day with morning news paper, it's very sad to learn that-“**Exam System drives Kids to Suicide - 6000 died of exam in 2007 in India**” which means 16 youths a day. Unbelievable to me and to the world. The examination system today in India follows an orthodox pattern of evaluating the student annually, putting high burden of course and in the prefixed time frame.

Examinations should not be seen as a trouble but as a tool for enhancing learning. Examination system needs to be flexible, adaptable and transparent in view of paradigm shift in teaching and learning processes.

Open learning/Distance Education is the methodology in which the learner does not go to Educational Institution but the Education comes to his doorstep. Even with the conventional system of learning the evaluation pattern needs to be changed with **Examination - On Demand (E-OD)** - the only answer. The evaluation system is ready to take the exam when the learner is willing to appear for the Exam. To achieve this objective the technological advancement the world over is tapped by the individual/institution as the success of this system very much depends upon the optimum utilization of the technology in the field of education and communication. ICT can be used as a major strategy towards reaching the unreached even.

Examination - On Demand (E-OD)

The novel concept of E-OD is a great step in the direction of flexibility to the open and distance learning. This has made the total system of examination independent of the time frame and has helped NIOS students to take up the examinations as per their wish and preparation.

Under the System of E-OD, a set of question paper having defined number of items is generated randomly by the well versed Software with the help of database developed question bank on the basis of question paper design and the blue print of the subject as and when demanded.

Innovation in curriculum and assessment: -

Each generated Question Paper is different with the same learning outcomes and difficulty level. For this a huge database of items has been developed. The number of items having comparable difficulty level i.e. Type, Category and Module wise are developed for each cells of the blue print. Questions covered in the item bank include learning objectives under knowledge, understanding, and application and skill competencies of a learner.

A Country like India has a high examination phobia and E-OD will reduce the stress of failing and losing a valuable year. Willingness depends on the Student and not on the institution. To remove the stress of appearing in examination(s), whether for all subjects or in one subject at a fixed time and schedule. By allowing students more chances to attempt the examination, remove the threat of failure in examination and gives them hope. It also removes frustration, loss of self esteem, peer group ridicule, depression etc. Knowledge of results is almost immediate and success, even in one subject, is a strong motivating factor.

This paper will examine how the implementation of E-OD addresses the needs of the underprivileged and through it has improved the conditions for the youth and young children to proceed to Higher education when they are ready. It will give evidence of how the different needs of students are taken into consideration and therefore how it respects the individuality and sovereignty of each learner.

This model is an example of how malpractices are reduced, as it is a system where the tools for evaluation are unique to an individual Student. It ensures that the learning needs of all young people are met through equitable access to appropriate evaluation programmes to measure the success of their learning.

It is hoped that this model will inspire other developing countries to follow suit.