

USE OF OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES: A THEORETICAL OUTLOOK

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Abstract :

In the 21st century, due to the high explosion of information and use of the internet, Open Educational Resources have become an important part of the user community, so OER is urgently needed for the implementation of NEP 2020 in India. Through these information user students, researchers, scholar's even professors solve their problems with just one click from their PCs. It includes introduction of open educational resources, types of open educational resources, availability of open educational resources, etc. due to the OER., The National Education Policy-2020 calls for development of enjoyable and inspiring books in Indian languages, and availability of e-books, E-Journals, and other online e-resources in schools, colleges/public libraries, strengthening of libraries.

Keywords : Open Educational Resources, OER, Education, Digital Learning, Constructivism,

Introduction :

India is a global technology leader in cutting-edge areas such as information and communication. The concept of Open Educational Resources (OER) emerged as part of a broader movement towards open access and knowledge-sharing in education. This paper examines the theoretical perspectives underpinning OER and its role in reshaping education. While the Digital India campaign is helping the entire country transform into a digitally empowered society, while education plays an important role in this transformation, the educational process and the use of modern technology play an important role. How to use new technology for teaching and learning is also very important in the new education policy. It is certain that the new technology will impact education in many ways. Some of those educational resources are very important to meet the need for information using new technologies including Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Block Chain, Smart Board, Computing Devices, Computer Software, Hardware. Beyond The National Education Policy will embrace the use of educational resources to improve many aspects of education. Open access resources (OER) are an important part of the user community by which students, researchers, scholars, and even faculties get solutions to their problems with just a click from their PCs. The term OER was introduced in 2002. But it did not gain momentum and acceptance due to a lack of user awareness. Therefore, knowledge of open educational resources along with new education policy is essential. For that, it is very necessary to increase the awareness to use above.

Open Educational Resources :

Open Educational Resource are immensely required for the implementation of NEP 2020 in India. This concept was first defined in the Conference on Economic Co-operation and Development 2007 in UNESCO and refers to digitized materials freely offered to teachers, students and self-educators to fulfill their learning objectives. In the wake of the recent COVID pandemic, online education has included the promotion of education in the lead. The digital front to determine future goals of MHRD e-learning.

Open access to scholarly information is a burning issue in web-based education and research nowadays. Actually, 'Open access' (OA) is a step ahead of "Free Access" which removes just the price barriers by providing free access to end users. Open Access removes the permission barrier as well. Basically, under Open Access, the end-user not only has free access to the content but also has the right to further distribute the content.

Theoretical Foundations of OER: -OER aligns with several educational theories that emphasize collaboration, accessibility, and learner autonomy.

1. **Constructivist Theory** Constructivism, proposed by Piaget and further developed by Vygotsky, emphasizes learning as an active process where individuals construct knowledge through experience. OER supports constructivist learning by providing diverse materials that learners can explore and interact with at their own pace.
2. **Collectivism Theory** Developed by Siemens and Downes, collectivism asserts that knowledge is distributed across networks and is acquired through connections with various resources. OER facilitates connectionism learning by providing digital platforms where learners engage with content, peers, and educators worldwide.
3. **Cognitive Load Theory:**

OER allows learners to control their cognitive load by selecting appropriate resources that match their learning style and needs. The availability of multimedia content such as videos, e-books, and interactive simulations aids in optimizing learning efficiency.

Different Type of Open Access Resources :

- **Direct Link :**

Direct links allow the user to access public folders which are hosted on users account via a unique web link. For getting link of a particular e resource, the user needs to request for the link, after verification, the user is provided the link.

- **Repository-based or "Green" open access :**

Green Open Access refers to the practice of authors self-archiving their research publications (such as journal articles, conference papers, or book chapters) in an open-access repository, making them freely available to readers, usually after a specified embargo period set by the publisher. The final published version of author (or Version of Record) is permanently and freely available online for anyone, anywhere to read.

- **Journal-based or "Gold" Open Access :**

"Gold" Open Access is an online information publishing model in which numerous research articles are made available on the internet in scholarly journals without any

subscription fee after publication. Gold Open Access publication costs are paid by the authors or their institutions (APC), and the final published version is available on the publisher's website. Therefore, users can read, download, and share the information online without the author's/publisher's permission. The Gold Open Access model encourages the dissemination and promotion of research to a greater extent than a subscription-based model. A comprehensive list of open access journals is as follows.

Directory of Open Access Books :

- Diamond Open access
- Hybrid open access
- Bronze open access
- Black open access
- Platinum open access
- Yellow Open Access
- Blue Open Access
- White Open Access

1. Advantages of Open Access Resources :

- Easy access of institutional repositories
- Making the search easy
- Helps in long term benefits
- Strengthens the research literature
- Open access is the best option
- Acts as boost to the developing countries
- Encouragement by legislative initiators
- Popularity by open approach
- Increase the visibility of research and citation
- Boost international communications, support collaboration channels and bolsters the institution's international profile.
- Authors get recognition

2. Barriers to Limited Use of OAR :

- Lack of financial resources to produce quality research
- Lack of knowledge in the use of computer and the internet
- Lack of information sources
- Lack of involvement in research
- Lack of encouragement from parent and professional bodies
- Lack of proper infrastructure facilities
- Lack of congenial environment
- Lack of expertise in every organization
- Low awareness and availability of OERs
- Mistrust in OER quality
- Technological limitations around adaptation and sharing
- Copyright policies

Conclusion :

Open Educational Resources is considered as a revolutionary innovation movement in the field of education. The potential of an open educational resource is best utilized in a simple way. By using open educational resources, you will definitely meet the global standard of education of NEP-20. Thus, OER can bring about a significant transformation in the country's higher education system. OER can complement today's education system by creating technically qualified and skilled workers through online education and training. The use of OER is transforming education, making learning resources more accessible, affordable, and adaptable. The theoretical perspectives discussed in this paper provide a deeper understanding of how OER enhance learning experiences. While challenges persist, ongoing technological advancements and policy support can further drive the integration of OER in educational systems worldwide.

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