Emerging Areas for Research and Development in Teacher Education

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Commonwealth of Learning

Research in Teaching and Teacher Education- Trend during the last 40 years in India

- Teacher Behaviour and Classroom observations- Developing observation schedules- identifying and clustering skills
- Developing/validating training models- ‘microteaching’ and training using ‘models of teaching’; value based training models
- TE curriculum development
- Instructional Strategies and training strategies based on systems approach to education and training
- ODL based teacher training

Trend…..

- Use of ICT for teaching and training- video-conferencing using INSAT and EDUSAT
- Innovative Teacher Education programmes based on humanistic and constructivist models

Focus Areas for R & D in TE

- TE Policy and Strategy
  - Issues of supply and quality
  - Misplaced standards and norms for quality
  - Policy on teacher status and training-extensive use of para-teachers
- TE Curriculum
  - Irrelevant content; overload of education content; new emerging content areas; variety of competencies to be developed; theory and practice linkage; effective transaction facilitating reflective practice

Focus Areas for R & D in TE

- Use of Technology
  - Effectiveness of ICT/e-learning for TE; evolving ICT integrated teacher training models; use of appropriate and cost-effective technologies
  - Appropriate technology use for increasing collaborative reflective practice
- New Roles for Teachers
  - What are the new competencies needed by the teachers for the new challenges in schools?- ICT integration, large-heterogeneous classes, etc.- How will teacher education respond to this?

Focus Areas for R & D in TE

- Learning/Training Designs
  - Evolving appropriate learning/training designs for professional development- humanistic and constructivist models; effectiveness of situated learning designs
  - E-learning provides for learner-centred and learner controlled learning- Do we have the right solutions?

‘Pedagogy before Technology’ and ‘Design for Learning’ (Helen Beetham and Rhona Sharpe, Rethinking Pedagogy for a Digital Age, 2007)
Focus Areas for R & D in TE

• Networking for Teacher Development
  – electronic networking; Issues in joint e-content development and sharing; networking for ongoing school support; increasing effectiveness of ongoing school/teacher support

Community Informatics- using technology networks for supporting community processes