ABSTRACT

A lot of people have heard of terms such as distance education or distance learning, yet with the introduction of e-learning, distance education took on a whole new meaning. With e-learning, the possibilities for getting knowledge and information out to the learner at her/his own pace opened a whole new world for knowledge transfer. The life of knowledge and human skills today is shorter than ever, mounting the pressure to remain up to date with ones education and training throughout a career. In the age of globalization and technological revolution, four-year degrees are just the start of a forty-year continuing education. Life-long learning is quickly becoming an imperative in today’s world. Electronic learning (or e-Learning or eLearning) is a type of Technology supported education/learning (TSL) where the medium of instruction is computer technology. Although e-learning has potential in India, adoption has been slow and will need a major marketing and awareness effort. In India, globalization has generated a good vibration and life for education. E-learning technologies have great potential to spread learning however, the benefits of these technologies have to reach the rural masses of India, otherwise they will be one of the causes of the Digital Divide. This paper concentrates on the education scenario, eLearning content preparation and presentation tools, application of eLearning to spread education to the remote areas, pros and cons of eLearning and future of eLearning. This article also talks about the latest trends in e-learning. A few suggestions have been made to use e learning for informal and vocational training, which is highly effective for a developing country like India where a majority of population is living in rural/ remote areas and has received almost negligible formal education.

KEYWORDS: E- Learning, TSL, IBT, WBT, EPSS, CBL, CBT, TEL