



## Role of ICT in Quality Improvement of Higher Education and Research

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Article Information	Abstract
<p><i>Article history:</i>            Received: 20.02.2014            Revised: 18.03.2014            Accepted: 25.03.2014</p> <p><i>Keywords:</i>            ICT definition, online &amp; distance learning, higher education.</p>	<p>An information and communication technology (ICT) has become common place entities in all aspects of life and is one of the basic building blocks of modern society. Many countries now regard understanding ICT and mastering the basic skills and concepts of ICT as part of the core of research and education, alongside reading, writing and numeracy. There is a widespread belief that ICTs have an important role to play in changing and modernizing educational systems and ways of learning. Within education, ICT has begun to have a presence but the impact has not been as extensive as in other fields. Education is very socially oriented activity and quality education has traditionally been associated with strong teachers having high degrees of personal contact with learners. The use of ICT in education lends itself to more student-centered learning settings and often this creates some tensions for some teachers and students. But with the world moving rapidly into digital media and information, the role of ICT in education is becoming more and more important and this importance will continue to grow for centuries. This paper highlights the various impacts of ICT on quality improvement of education &amp; research in various universities and institutions. This paper also highlights the issues which are yet to be undertaken in order make education as technical equipment so that it can reach to everyone in the world.</p>

### What is ICT means?

ICT stands for Information & Communication Technologies. There is no universally defined definition of ICT. According to United Nations Development ICT is defined as "information-handling tools- a varied set of goods, applications and services that are used to produce, store, process, distribute and exchange information."

Earlier Radio, Television & telephones were used as ICT tools but in today era these old ICT tools are integrated with new tools as laptops, desktops,

internet, satellite and wireless technology forming "a network world" consisting of a massive infrastructure of interconnected telephone services, standardized computing hardware, the internet, radio and television, which reaches into every corner of the universe.

ICT tools can be broadly classified into two categories – an analogue media (consisting of simple audio visual aids such as the transparency and slides, tape and cassette recorders and radio; video cassettes and television; and film.) & a digital media (Internet, satellite and wireless technology).



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