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QUALITY METAMORPHOSIS THROUGH ICT IN TEACHER EDUCATION

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Introduction

This year we are celebrating 125th birth anniversary of the great mathematician, Srinivasan Ramanujan, and we declared 2012 as National Mathematical year to emphasize the importance of maintaining our traditional strength in history. The quality and standard of an educational system largely depend on the quality, characteristic and commitment of the teacher to their profession and information. The 21st century is the century of Information and Communication Technology, computer technologies expands up to the limit of space, Internet is the wonder thus all the information available in the world can be easily accessed. Information and Communication Technology has changed the world fast and all the aspect of human life. In order to raise the educational standard of our country, the strengthening of teacher education is a must. Teacher education refers to the policies and procedures design to equip teachers with knowledge, attitude, behavior, subject expertise, humor and skills, they require to perform their tasks effectively in the school, classroom and in the society.

Governing Goals of Teacher Education:

It is little more than half a century ever since the government initiated a planned development of higher education in the country particularly with the establishment of university grants commission in 1953. Thus early 1950's are important reference points from which we could look back at our progress of higher education. It is necessary to recognize that the present approach towards teacher education is governed by the NCTE (1973) and "National policy on Education" of 1986 and Program of Action of 1992 and later on. Teacher education inculcate the necessary pedagogical skills and competencies among the teachers and make them professionally competent to satisfy the needs of the societies and the nation. In this view NCTE recommended National Curriculum Framework-2010 for teachers.

"With the onset and proliferation of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), there is a growing demand that it be included in school Education. It has become more of a fashion statement to have computers or multimedia in schools, the result being that in spite of its potential to make learning liberating; its implementation is often not more than cosmetic. It is also often touted as a panacea for shortage of teachers. These are detrimental to the learning of the child. Teacher education needs to orient and sensitize the teacher to distinguish between critically useful, developmentally appropriate and the detrimental use of ICT. In a way, ICT can be imaginatively drawn upon for professional development and academic support of the pre-service and in-service teachers."

Currently the issue of teacher education is being discussed at various levels and an approach to the 12th five year plan is being formulated for ICT based higher education and national reconstruction, thus the teacher education must play a role to achieve this goal. In this context we wish to reflect on the progress of higher education especially teacher education through

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