HOW TO IMPLEMENT PERSONALIZED LEARNING IN INDIAN CLASSROOM?

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Abstract

This paper is about the concept of personalized learning, synonyms used for personalized learning in the education, various definitions of PL, Need of PL, Strategies for PL, Status of personalized learning in USA and in India after the NEP2020, there is lot of emphasize on the quality of education and use of technology as well its blending in the education. This paper also discusses about the features of PL, benefits of PL and limitations to the PL. The author suggested some techniques to use personalized learning in Indian school. The author also reviewed some papers and books to study the pros and cons of the PL and it argues about the privatization and corporatization of the education, it seems that there is only PL or customize learning which will help the learners, it will be threat to the thinking process of a child, a child will ask each and everything to the AI, and this will block the thought process of a child.

Keywords: Personalized learning, customize education, tailor-made learning

Introduction: - In most settings, all students are expected to learn the content/material at the same time and in the same way. Many find themselves either ahead or behind others, and learning outcomes suffer, particularly for students who need extra time to master the content/material. Flipped courses, competency-based education, and online and hybrid classes are changing the way we think about learning. Flexibility in delivery creates opportunities for learning that adapts to the needs of each student. Combining new learning models with digital courseware, integrated planning and advising for student success, and analytics can create a learning ecosystem that tailors support to individual students. For example, an e-textbook could share data with a learning management system about the number of pages read, time spent on each page, notes made, or the number of times a video is watched. An analytics tool could evaluate those data for patterns associated with engagement, achievement, and course success. The tool could trigger alerts to students and faculty when problems arise. An adaptive learning system could adjust learning content on the fly, based on data from an online quizzing tool that shows each student's mastery of the material. Prior-learning assessment credits skills and knowledge individuals have when they enter a course. In a competency-based program, students move to the next unit as soon as

they demonstrate mastery of the specified learning objectives. Advisors would have access to data and tools that enable them to tailor guidance and degree-planning support to help students maintain progress toward completion. Instructors see which students need extra help and which would benefit from new challenges to keep them engaged. This integration of tools and systems facilitates the kind of personalized learning that can improve learning outcomes, boost student confidence and accountability, and increase rates of retention and, ultimately, degree completion.

There are different types of learning, whenever we talk about the classroom teaching-learning process at that time, the teacher develops one single lesson plan for the class, but all the students in the classroom are not alike, there is individual difference between each of them, their understanding level is different their achievement level is different, they are different from many aspects such as pre-requisites, previous knowledge, interests, abilities, skills, pace of learning, learning styles etc. so to include everyone in the learning process and cater their learning diversity, teacher has to do individualized learning plans as per their needs.

Historical background of personalized learning: - The use of the term "personalized learning" dates back to at least the early 1960s, but there is no widespread agreement on the definition and components of a personal learning environment.

In 2005, Dan Buckley defined two ends of the personalized learning spectrum: "personalization for the learner", in which the teacher tailors the learning, and "personalization by the learner", in which the learner develops skills to tailor his own learning. This spectrum was adopted by the (2006) Microsoft's Practical Guide to Envisioning and Transforming Education.

Definition of Personalized Learning: - The United States National Education Technology Plan 2017 defines personalized learning as follows:

Personalized learning refers to instruction in which the pace of learning and the instructional approach are optimized for the needs of each learner. Learning objectives, instructional approaches, and instructional content (and its sequencing) may all vary based on learner needs. In addition, learning activities are meaningful and relevant to learners, driven by their interests, and often self-initiated.

According to Eduard Pogorskiy: ICT can be a powerful tool for personalized learning as it allows learners access to research and information, and provides a mechanism for communication, debate, and recording learning achievements. However, personalized learning is not exclusive to digital technologies or environments. In the rhetoric around 21st Century Skills, personalized learning is often equated with 'customization' (as found in the business world), with digital personalization used to frame the learning experience as highly efficient. Problematic in this is the discounting of the highly relational and socially constructed space well defined in the research on learning. Narrowing personalized learning to its digital form also raises the concern of the echo chamber effect emerging in (hyper) personalized online experiences.

Persoalized Learning is the learning of an individual student as per his/her time, pace, style of learning, interest and content, especially designed and implemented for him/ her.

In other words personalized learning customizes what, when, and how each student is taught. Rather than using a single approach or plan to teach the entire class, teachers adjust to the capabilities of each student to help them succeed.

Need of personalized learning: -

- The students are learning actively,
- To achieve the appropriate learning goals
- 3. Students develop digital literacy and self-reliance
- 4. Prioritizing interests makes work meaningful
- 5. Students don't fall behind

Status of personalized learning in USA: - 65% of high schools in the United States use personalized learning plans for their students, based on the teacher's unique knowledge of student learning styles and interests. Though each student's individualized learning journey is unique, the final aim is subject proficiency or achieving grade-level benchmarks.

Status of personalized learning in India after NEP 2020: personalized learning is mentioned in the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The NEP 2020 emphasizes the need for a learner-centric approach and advocates for personalized and holistic education. It acknowledges that every student has unique abilities, interests, and aspirations and, therefore, requires personalized attention to fulfill their potential.

The policy envisions the development of a flexible and customizable curriculum that allows students to choose their preferred subjects and learning paths. It also emphasizes the use of technology to enable personalized and adaptive learning experiences for students.

The NEP 2020 recognizes the importance of personalized learning in providing students with a high-quality and relevant education that meets their individual needs and prepares them for the challenges of the 21st century.

In India it's not possible because of the size of the classroom. There are many students in the classroom, so to develop the individualized learning plan or tailor-made learning plan is next to impossible. Let's see after the implementation of NEP 2020.

Synonyms for Personalized Learning: - The personalized learning can be termed as individualized learning or tailor-made learning or, personal learning environment, customize education, and direct instruction all refer to efforts to tailor education to meet the different needs of students.etc.

Features of Personalized Learning: -

- Each student is treated as a special child.
- The teacher makes plan for each student.
- The duration of a lesson vary from student to student
- The strategy planned for each student is different.
- The objectives set for each student is different.

Strategies of Personalized Learning: - The strategies include:

- **Blended learning:** This teaching strategy gives the student more responsibility over their own learning, with the teacher functioning as a general guide and overseer over a more discovery-based learning environment. Students are allowed to choose how and at what pace they move through the content.

- **Adaptive learning:** Adaptive learning technology collects data from student responses to specific questions on a computer. Then the software uses that information to provide immediate feedback or adaptation for the student and notifies the teacher so they can change the lesson plan accordingly.

How to use personalized learning?

1. **Know the student:** The teacher has to know the content, delivery technique and most important the learner. How can a teacher use personalized learning without knowing the

student? So if a teacher knows very well his/her learner and his/her needs then he can treat him/her well. If a teacher takes a care of every student, then every student will get proper guidance and the success of the learning will be 100%

2. Interests, strengths weakness: Every individual is different; like our fingers are not alike there is individual difference, or uniqueness among all the students. There interest, abilities, capabilities, capacities, hobbies, life goals, learning styles, mentality, mental status, physical status, their learning pace, time required to achieve mastery on the material, their needs, their strengths and weakness are different, so the teacher has to cater their diversity respectfully.

3. Learning goals: As per their interests, strengths and weaknesses, the teacher can set different learning goals for each individual, the learning goals or learning outcomes may not be the same because each individual is not the same, so they can attain their learning goals or outcomes as per their needs, capacities, etc. It helps the students to establish their learning goals. [find out]

4. Co-design curriculum project based: Teacher has to design the curriculum with the help of students, and incorporate project based learning. This can help to enquiry based learning and develop the longitudinal portfolios.

5. Own pace: Allow the students to learn the material with their own pace, so the students will not feel rush or stress to learn the material in a given time.

6. Facilitators of learning guide: Personalized learning helps the learner to learn the material on their own, the teacher has to facilitate his/her learning, so be available there for guidance wherever they get stuck and push them to learn.

7. Assessment standard based and self-assessment: There must be standards of assessments, formative assessment tools and self-assessment tools should be used.

How to implement personalized learning in the Indian classrooms?

As we discussed that it is difficult to incorporate personalizes learning in the status of personalized learning in India, it's difficult because of the classroom size, but we can find our certain options to personalized learning, it's alternative personalized learning, (identification of the students' need) means one can make the groups of students and can create a plan for those groups, teacher has to find out the learning styles of the students and then they should be categories as per their styles, then the learning material can be distributed

to them. This is one of the ways, so instead of making 50 to 60 personalized plans teacher can make at least 5 to 6 plans for the 5 to 6 groups, ideally each group may be of 10 students in it. Teacher can take the help of ICT to prepare and execute the plans.

Benefits of personalized learning: -

Personalized learning has several benefits for students, including:

1. Tailored instruction: Personalized learning enables teachers to tailor instruction to meet the specific needs and learning styles of each student. This can help students learn more effectively and efficiently.

2. Improved engagement: When students have a say in their learning, they are more likely to be engaged and motivated. Personalized learning allows students to explore their interests and learn at their own pace, which can increase their engagement with the material.

3. Increased retention: When students are engaged and motivated, they are more likely to retain the information they learn. Personalized learning can help students retain more information because it is presented in a way that is meaningful and relevant to them.

4. Higher achievement: Personalized learning has been shown to lead to higher achievement levels. When students are given individualized attention and support, they are more likely to succeed academically.

5. Improved social-emotional learning: Personalized learning can also support students' social-emotional learning by fostering a sense of autonomy, self-awareness, and self-efficacy.

6. Learner is important: The student is defined as a learner and he/ she creates his/ her own learning path: It is learner centric so each individual learner will be paid more attention.

7. Acknowledging learning style: The students understand how they lean best. There are different learning styles, out of them which one is suitable to the learner, that he/she should know very well, before and during the learning

8. Teachers viewed as collaborator: This collaborative approach to teaching can improve student learning outcomes, enhance teacher effectiveness, and promote a sense of shared responsibility and teamwork within the educational community.

9. Learner's partnership: Learner are given voice and flexibility to make changes, so the learner can take the charge of learning process, so he/ she is having an equal opportunity in the learning, where learning is more important than teaching.

Limitations to personalized learning: -

1. Resource-intensive: Implementing personalized learning requires significant resources, including technology, instructional materials, and staff training. This can be a challenge for schools and districts with limited budgets and resources.

2. Teacher workload: Personalized learning can increase teachers' workload, as they must design and deliver individualized instruction and provide ongoing support to students. This can lead to burnout and high turnover rates.

3. Technology limitations: Personalized learning often relies on technology tools and platforms to deliver instruction and track student progress. However, not all students have equal access to technology or internet connectivity, which can limit their ability to participate in personalized learning programs.

4. Potential for inequity: Personalized learning can also create inequities if not implemented carefully. For example, some students may have access to more advanced technology or resources than others, leading to unequal learning opportunities.

5. Limited social interaction: Personalized learning can be a solitary experience, as students work independently and may have limited opportunities for social interaction and collaboration with peers.

Researches on personalized learning:

Mark, S. (2010) claims students "are surrounded by a personalized and engaging world outside of the school, but they're unplugging not only their technology, but their minds and their passions too often, when they enter into our schools." Pane, J. (2015) found that Student Achievement is enhanced, Design Characteristics of Schools Implementing Personalized Learning, Schools with the Greatest Achievement Gains, Instructional Practices of Personalized Learning. West, D. (2015) stated personalized education is one of the virtues of mobile devices is that they make it possible to customize educational content for individual students. In most nations, teachers deal with classrooms of very diverse students. Pupils come from different backgrounds, have divergent interests, and learn in unique ways. Garrison, M., Means, A. (2016) concluded by drawing out the contradictions inherent to

personalized learning technology and corporatization of schooling. It argues that these contradictions necessitate a broad rethinking of the value and purpose of new educational technology. Regan, P.M., Jesse, J. (2019).Six distinct ethical concerns are identified: information privacy; anonymity; surveillance; autonomy; non-discrimination; and ownership of information. According to Lokey, V. (2019) personalized learning is the mass customization of learning through a unique combination of automated and student-centered pedagogies. According to Azukas, M. (2019) Teachers found that elements of personalized learning could be implemented without technology, but recommended the integration of technology to effectively implement personalized learning across all nine constructs. The online components of the blended design enhanced the teachers' sense of community and helped to facilitate collaborative, interdisciplinary work.

Summary:

Personalized learning is the plan for an individual student and executed in such a manner that the diversified needs of a learner should be taken care of, there are different strategies to plan and implement the personalized learning such as blended learning, and adaptive leaning and in the Indian classrooms teacher can at least cater the needs of diversified learner in small groups so that he can plan for group , implement in the group and assessment will be also in the group after the assessment if someone found to be lagging behind so in that scenario he/ she can help that particular student by means of remedial teaching.

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