E-Governance plays a crucial role in higher education system of Uttarakhand: A prospective overview to this aspect.

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Abstract

This research paper aims at finding out that whether electronic governance(e-governance) has played a crucial role in the enhancement and development of higher education system of Uttarakhand and to what extent the results have been achieved and what further steps to be taken to achieve the goal in this respect. Though Uttarakhand has having completed more than 9 years as a separate state, is now poised to embark on a new era of rapid development and inclusive growth in the higher education system. A good higher education system is required for overall development in Uttarakhand. A remarkable growth in the higher education sector had made the administration of higher education institutions intricate, but has declined in its level somewhat over the past one decade due to remarkable increase in the number of colleges and universities and their privatization. Therefore use of Electronic governance and Information and Communication technologies helps to reduce the intricacy and enhance the overall administration of higher education. E-Governance is understood as a set of activities involving the effective contribution of information and communication technology (ICT) for administration and management in higher education system in Uttarakhand. Education system requires various needs that include computerization and management of processes i.e. registration, admission, student information, classes, time table, transport, attendance, library, salary and expenses, examinations, performance, grades, hostels, security and reports. In this study, an attempt has been made to discuss the concept of E-Governance and use of latest application in higher education sector. Thus, with the help e-governance higher education system of Uttarakhand will definitely boom in flying colors and would lead to a new direction to the make in Uttarakhand.

Key words: - E-Governance,   Management Information System (MIS), Higher education System.

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF HUMANITIES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
By International Scientific Indexing
ISSN (Online) : 2519-5336

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Introduction

E- Governance can transform service providers, provides access to information, and enables the participation of citizens in government activities. It also enhances citizen economic and social opportunities, so that they can make better lives, for themselves and for the next generation. Through the e-Governance, not only the government services but also private services will be made available to the citizens in a convenient, efficient and transparent manner. The three main target groups that can be distinguished in governance concepts are Government, citizens and businesses/interest groups. In e-Governance there are no distinct boundaries. Generally four basic models are available-Government to Customer Government to Employees, Government to Government and Government to Business. Governments are specialized institutions that contribute to governance.

Role of higher education in Society:

Higher education plays a vital role in the society. A society is lame without it. Generally it is understood to cover teaching, research and extension. If critically analyzed higher education lists various roles in the society. It is the source or feeder system in all walks of life and therefore supplies the much-needed human resources in management, planning, design, teaching, and research. Scientific and technological advancement and economic growth of a country are as dependent on the higher education system as they are on the working class. Development of indigenous technology and capabilities in agriculture, food security and other industrial areas are possible because of our world- class higher education infrastructure. Higher education also provides opportunities for lifelong learning, allowing people to upgrade their knowledge and skills from time to time based on the societal needs.

E-Governance in Higher Education Uttarakhand

In higher education of Uttarakhand e-governance plays a vital role in formation of Uttarakhand because students are the core of nation building. The mechanised system of study will lead it to the making of huge infrastructure of higher education of Uttarakhand as well as shaping the lives of the students. It provides ample opportunities to the students to have their random access to the information provided to them either by the government or by the University in which they are studying. Now through e-governance the students are in touch with the whole world.

Necessity of e- Governance in Higher Education:

E-governance is being widely needed in the growth of higher education system. In enhancing the quality of higher education system in Uttarakhand e-governance has to be applied at university and college level so that students as well as teachers would be benefited through it. In order to make these universities and institutes really word class, then there is no alternative to the introduction of e-governance in this sphere at the fastest possible pace. Implementation of e-governance in technical and vocational institutes will enable their effective & real time monitoring by Government/the regulatory bodies S & other stakeholders their own managements, parents of the students & the society, thereby forcing them to maintain quality & become more responsible. E-governance process brings transparency in the system, so e-governance initiatives in the field of higher education will help reduce the corruption up to a large extent.

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INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF HUMANITIES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
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E-Governance in higher education system will enable various stakeholders to control the improved operational efficiency in various key processes like grants, utilization certificates, approval processes, feedback mechanism etc. With deeper visibility and increased operational efficiency higher education system of Uttarakhand, would not only be able to satisfy the needs of students by making them more employable but also combat possible competition from foreign universities.

Through the application of e-governance copying of procedures is eliminated, now there remains consolidated information about each university and college to track their performance. The tools of e-governance may enable the universities or colleges to submit the documents online for approval. All agencies should internally co-ordinate to carry the details from common pool. This would greatly reduce the unnecessary duplication of work in the university.

Benefits of e-Governance in Higher Education:

The benefits of e-governance in higher education are a lot. It has improved efficiency, increased transparency and accountability of educational and administrative activities more convenient and faster access to services, and lower costs for administrative services.

Conclusion:

Thus for making administration of higher educational institutions and Universities, increasing Global communication skill, to achieve the world class standard it is necessary to have a improved collaboration and access to information available in all the parts of the world are possible only by introducing E-governance in Educational Sector. As e-governance has played as well as playing a very crucial and vital role in maintaining standards therefore it has to be applied very smoothly. Thus e-governance needs security for smooth information flow, best practice database and enhanced capacity for information analysis etc. Government should support by enacting favourable legislations and updated amendments for maintaining standards in the educational process and improvements in the related field. It requires completely new infrastructure, procedures, policies and working skills for producing and collecting online information. It has become very important for the government to keep track of their functioning. Educational institutions may have various requirements that include computerization and management of processes such as registration, admission, student information, classes, time table, transport, attendance, library, salary and expenses, examinations, performance, grades, hostels, security and reports. Many of the software providers allow their clients to choose from the available modules to suit their needs to monitoring of these aspects. In this study, an attempt has been made to discuss the concept of E-Governance and use of latest application in higher education sector. Thus, with the help e-governance higher education system of Uttarakhand will definitely boom in flying colors and would be a new direction to the make in Uttarakhand.

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