CHAPTER - 1
Introduction

1.0 Introduction

The root of word "Education" is derived from Latin words Educare, Educere and Educatum. The word educare means to nourish, to bring up. The word educere means to lead froth, to draw out. The Latin "educatum", which itself is composed of two terms, "E" and "Duco". "E" implies a movement from inward to outward and "Duco" means developing or progressing.

Education is a tool that can change the way of thinking and acting towards a goal that has meaningful value in life with individually, society and state. It is a conscious and planned effort that creates an atmosphere of learning and learning process so that students actively develop their potential to have spiritual strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble character and the skills needed by themselves, society, nation and state. With the help of education, the pattern of thinking is instilled, instilling values, developing self- potential and forming personality, so that it can be transformed from generation to generation for the sake of human civilization in the life of society, nation and state. Education is a lifelong process which brings behavioral changes throughout life. The maximum result of;any education is to bring changes in individuals and to the society. Therefore education is considered as the essential tool for the development of an individual. It includes various factors like culture, socio-economic status, geographical conditions, religious, political, social and spiritual situations. If an individual gains experience through all these factors are said to be educated. So, education occurs through experience or interaction with the environment which ultimately results in the modification of human behavior. Education plays a vital role in changing the behavior of an individual according to the need of the present situation. Hence it plays an important role in changing the society. The new emerging trends in the society decide what a child should learn, how to learn and who will bring these changes. These challenges can

be faced by the education and educational institution to transfer changes because they reflect the need of the society.

Education plays the most important role in the civilization of human life so far. All innovations in the life of human beings from all walks of life begin with education. Without education, the perceived civilization will never happen, life will continue on the law of the jungle. There are a number of methods of education continue to change from time to time following the demands of the times and patterns of human life, to the life of modern society today such as basic needs which are almost the same as the primary needs of humans such as eating and drinking.

Education leads to the enlightenment of the human mind. Human beings are at the peak of civilization today, transforming from the Stone Age caveman to the technologically advanced being today living in a global village. A human being is like a rough uncut diamond which needs the polishing, filling and finishing of education to lead a holistic life. Thus, education means the multi- faceted growth of an individual.

Education in pre-historic times was when adults trained the young ones in requisite skills for the society. In pre-literate times, this was achieved orally (through storytelling and drawings) and imitation. As civilizations began to develop, cultures influenced learning and formal education was developed. For thousands of years, children educated themselves with self-directed play, willfulness and exploration.

In India during the Vedic period (1500 BC – 600BC) education was based on Vedas, Hindu scriptures and texts in a Gurukul system (residential schools of learning). The Gurus or teachers also included knowledge of Literature, Warfare, Statecraft, Medicine, Astrology, Philosophy and History along with Religion in their training. The first millennium and the preceding centuries

saw several flourishing higher education universities at Nalanda (for learning all branches of knowledge), Takshashila at Ujjain (for specialising in Astronomy and Astrology) and Vikramshila (for specializing in Economics, Politics and Law - Arthashastra).

The western approach to education was conducive to the development of good qualities and morality. The Indian approach went beyond the moral sphere and includes the spiritual aspect of the development by education. By the 18th century, Indigenous education was widespread in India with a school for every temple, mosque and / or village teaching reading, writing, arithmetic, ethics, astronomy, law and religion which was attended by children of all classes of the society. Indian thinkers have placed special emphasis that only education can give a sterling character to an individual and become useful for the world. Mahatma Gandhi has said, that education means an all round development of the best in child in body, mind and spirit. Literacy is not the end of education, not even the beginning, but the means whereby men and women can be educated. Sri Aurobindo said that the chief aim of education should be to help the growing soul to draw out that in itself which is the best and make it perfect for a noble use. The education should begin at birth and continue throughout life. The advent of the present western style education in Indian society was started by the British Raj with recommendations from Lord Macaulay which led to the decline of going back to one's roots. The new education gave the inspiration to revive the values of traditional literature, by giving them a new meaning in the new context, along with emphasis on Western thinkers and literatures. The foundation of this was laid by leaders like Lokmanya Bal GangadharTilak, Gopal Krishna Gokhale, Mahatma Gandhi, Sri Aurobindo and Swami Vivekananda.

Until the internet education relied totally on reviewed, edited or recommended sources on printing or written materials only. The main purpose of classroom teaching was to disseminate information. The only method of teaching or communication was face-to-face and the means of entertainment was movies, television or radio. Since the internet, education no longer depends on the traditional methods but has changed in the information age. The best mode of teaching in the classroom is to enhance the teaching with the help of interactive ICT tools. The three basic requirements or needs for this are based on electronic dependency – Technologically based equipment, Resources and Online Communication via the web.

Man is a social animal – There is a need to understand, comprehend, to share each other's feelings and thus maintain sanity. In olden times, humans used to give vent to their feelings and communicate on the walls of the caves. Men have been striving hard for the betterment of the pre-existing systems. Man is accustomed to change and the moment this ceases, his existence is in danger. Thus, this leads men to develop efficient means of communication which is the essence of his being and it is an unwritten rule that for the betterment of mankind communication must improve. Beginning with signaling, talking (to talk, listen, feel, understand), electricity, radio waves and satellites to receive and send messages, is the basis of Telecommunication. These devices have made the world a better place to live in, reducing tasks which took hours to be completed in minutes and seconds. Mankind has reached the zenith of the present civilization reducing the world to a global village.

Technology means "science of craft". It is derived from Greek word 'techne' meaning "Craftsmanship or art, skill, tricks of hand"; and 'logia' meaning "writings and communications of divine origin" which means is a collection of techniques, skills, methods and processes used in the production of goods

or services or in the accomplishment of objectives, such as scientific investigation. With the recent advances, technology in education is important for educators, teachers and students despite being confronted with internal and external problems. In spite of psychological resistance and economic difficulty faced technology is seeping into all spheres of life due to the problem solving inventions available.

Technology can be the knowledge of techniques, processes, etc. or it can be embedded in machines, computers, devices and factories which can be operated by individuals automatically without detailed knowledge of the workings of such things. The human species' use of technology began with the conversion of natural resources into simple tools. The prehistoric discovery of how to control fire and the later Neolithic Revolution increased the available sources of food and the invention of the wheel helped humans to travel in and control their environment too. Developments in historic times, including the printing press, the telephone, and the Internet have lessened physical barriers to communication and allowed humans to interact freely on a global scale. The steady progress of military technology has brought weapons of ever-increasing destructive power, from clubs to the modern nuclear weapons.

W. Kenneth Richmond (1970) has summarized the three characteristics of Educational Technology as:

(i) Designing appropriate learning situations with the application of modern skills and techniques.

(ii) Realizing the objectives of teaching or training and facilitating learning with the use of media and latest technological methods.

(iii) Bringing in the best means of instruction with control over the environment.

Thus, Educational Technology (ET) thus plays a very significant role in the development of teaching, learning and training which functions as a bridge between the science of learning and the art of teaching and serves the national priorities in education. ET has multiple relationships between the learner and facilitator (teacher) as well as amongst learners. ET is the use of both educational theory and physical hardware including learning theory, computer based learning, online learning and the latest m-learning (using mobile technology).

Information and communication technology (ICT) is an extended term for information technology (IT) which stresses the role of unified communications and the integration of telecommunications (telephone lines and wireless signals), computers as well as necessary software, its storage and the audio-visual systems, which enable all users to access, store, transmit, and manipulate information. Information and communications technology (ICT) has no universal definition, as "the concepts, methods and applications involved in information and communication technology (ICT) are constantly evolving on an almost daily basis". The broadness of information and communication technology (ICT) covers any product that will store, retrieve, manipulate, transmit or receive information electronically in a digital form e.g. personal computers, digital television, email and even the modern day robots. Thus, the most relevant results of information and communication technology (ICT) are the introduction of an advanced communication network or the internet via the World Wide Web. The last few decades have witnessed a tremendous & phenomenal growth in the field of information & Communication Technology (ICT) in education also which has influenced life of people especially students in some way or the other. The technology is visibly present in our use of computers, smart phones, information search, robotics and intelligent agents, but, has an even greater impact as an enabling

technology for a large number of application areas, such as medicine and healthcare, energy production and distribution, finance, public management and transport logistics to name a few. This progress has enabled humans to get prompt access to any required information. In the field of education, information and communication technology (ICT) can be used to enhance quality and value of education especially through integration. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) can contribute to universal access to education, equity in education, the delivery of quality learning and teaching, teachers' professional development and more efficient education management, governance and administration. Even libraries have become from the traditional access of archives for information collection to access points of information analysis and repacking of information.

The importance of ICT in education was also highlighted in the National Curriculum Framework (NCF2005). It was also shown importance in the government's flagship programmes for secondary education – SarvaShikshaAbhiyan (SSA as per RTE 2009). RashtriyaMadhyamikShikshaAbhiyan (RMSA 2016) has included information and communication technology (ICT) in schools, inclusive education for disabled at secondary stage, girls' hostels and vocational education for enhancing access to improve the quality of education. Recommendations by Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE 2005) formulated the National Policy of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) by the Universal Secondary Education; this was revised in March 2012. Thus ICT for computer literacy was compulsorily launched in all secondary schools across all states and union territories.

The result of wide spread of technology in our modern days, educationalists are forced to integrate technological equipments and programs through educational strategies and methods, for the main purpose of facilitating the

learning experience. The traditional brick and mortar classroom is no longer the only place for him or her to understand concepts and resolve doubts. Internet has become a "booster" for every student. Video lectures and discussion forums have now become a part of the mainstream educational practices and this has led to expanding the prospects of "group study". Students from across the world can now communicate with each other and resolve their queries by mutual discussion. This diversifies the knowledge base of all involved.

Of course, the importance of one on one interaction in the traditional classroom set up can never be undermined, but the online platform has undeniably created a niche for itself in the education sector. The supplement that online education provides is becoming more and more primary with time and is slowly becoming indispensible.

But most importantly, online education as become an important tool to provide education to people across the world. With online education the distinction between the instruction and information that an ivy league student and a student studying in the developing or undeveloped countries becomes lesser. All people now have an equal chance at receiving good education with good references.

The best part about the online mode of education is that it helps set a common standard of education for all, and the number of people that are educated are incremented exponentially using nearly the same resources. Also the reach of online education is much vast than that of the traditional forms of education systems. The use of online learning is cost effective also. It is considered as more flexible method of learning because students can access information from a wide source.

Recent developments have prompted schools and universities around the world to shift towards online education, and evolutions in information and communication technology (ICT) have contributed to the emergence of new and innovative education methods for students (Albăstroiu, Felea and Vasiliu, 2014; Kauppi, et al., 2020). E-learning or online learning provides easier access to learning, promotes flexibility so that students can overcome space and time limitations and offers new potential for the teaching process to be focused on the learners' needs and possibilities, emphasizing different learning styles (Bonk and Graham, 2006; Onete, et al., 2014; Huang, et al., 2020). However, it was estimated that in 2018 only about 15% of the market share belonged to online education (Burquel and Busch, 2020).

In this context, the 2020 COVID-19 crisis has significantly accelerated the move toward the online environment, on an "untested and unprecedented scale" (Burgess and Sievertsen, 2020). To date, measures of social distancing and school closing impacted the educational system around the world, and tremendous effort was put in over a very short period of time (Bao, 2020; Lim, 2020; QS, 2020).

The novel coronavirus outbreak emerged in Wuhan, Hubei province, China, in December 2019 (Kang et al., 2020). The virus then started to spread all over the world. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of new coronavirus disease in January 2020; COVID-19, a public health emergency of international concern. In March 2020, the WHO declared COVID-19 as pandemic. This time of crisis generated stress among the general population from youngstersto old age people. Anticipating worsening of the situation, Government of India recommended suspension of classroom teaching in all the educational institutions. This was a challenging time for the educational industry to cope with the present scenario. Hence, online classes for were started throughout India with a lot of trial and error.

Educational Institutions have taken steps to continue the academic process by using digital sources. The sudden change in the delivery of academic activities poses difficulties for the teachers and students to adapt. An interactive environment refers to an effective communication environment in the process of knowledge acquisition. An increase in interaction can improve students' learning enthusiasm and concentration. In a traditional classroom, there are various teaching interaction modes, such as reversed classroom, random questions, and group reports. However, in an online class, there is less scope for teaching interaction, and the teacher's input teaching is the main teaching mode.

This rapid evolution at such a large scale has influenced the students of all age groups (Hasan and Bao 2020). It is expected that the continued spread of the disease, travel restrictions and the closure of educational institutions across the country would have a significant effect on the education, social life, and mental health of students (Odriozola-gonz´alez et al. 2020). The students from the less privileged backgrounds have experienced larger negative impacts due to the Covid-19 outbreak (Aucejo et al. 2020). Reduction in family income, limited access to digital resources, and the high cost of internet connectivity have disrupted the academic life of the students. But at the same time we do not have any other potential alternatives of conventional learning rather than online learning.

In the present scenario of COVID-19, the area of education, similar to other fields of life, has seriously been affected. The conventional way of learning at schools, colleges, and universities has been clogged altogether both in developed and underdeveloped countries. In order to cope with this dilemma, the countries started looking at some alternative to continue educating their students at home. The only way out was the online learning which was considered as the turning point in the educational system all around the

world. Online learning has been partially practised in the developed and least practised in the underdeveloped countries, but the current pandemic situation has completely transformed the conventional system of education into a virtual system of education. Online learning is a form of distance learning which provides an online platform to teach the students utilizing modern online tools such as smartphone, tablet, computer, or laptop with the access of fast internet connection (Wan, 2020).

1.1 Need of the Study

The recent rise in epidemics and pandemics necessitates that we have to adapt ourselves with online learning whenever and wherever traditional and in-person modes of education are not possible.

The National Education Policy 2020 also suggests the importance and advantages of using technology in teaching learning processes while acknowledging its potential risks and dangers too.

The main rationale of the study is to find out the status of online learning are in providing quality education for all.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The present study will be undertaken with a purpose that the findings would help to find out the status of online teaching learning process is so that this process can be implemented in future classroom teaching learning process.

The proposed problem for the present study stated herein is

"Status of online learning on Secondary school students of West Tripura District."

1.3 Definition of Operational Terms to Be Used In This Study

Status means the situation at a particular time during a process. Here 'status of online learning' represents the present condition of online learning.

Learning The word Learning is defined as the process of acquiring knowledge, expertise and understanding about a phenomenon, operations, concepts, analogies etc.

Online learning also referred to as E learning or electronic learning, is the acquisition of knowledge which takes place through the help of electronic technologies and media. In simple language, online learning is defined as "learning that is enabled electronically". Typically, e-learning is conducted on the Internet for student teacher interaction and distribution of class materials.

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The study will be taken up with following objectives

1. To study the status of online learning process on secondary school students of West Tripura district.

2. To identify level of satisfaction of the students attending classes in online.

3. To compare between government schools private schools in the context of online learning facilities.