

# SHIKSHA SAMVAD

International Open Access Peer-Reviewed & Refereed  
Journal of Multidisciplinary Research

ISSN: XXXX-XXXX (Online)

Volume-1, Issue-1, July-SEP- 2023

www.shikshasamvad.com



## SWAYAM: The Original Online Learning Platform

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### Abstract:

Knowledge is the new economy and data is the new oil for this new society. The introduction of digitization is an essential feature of this knowledge economy, because only through the use of technology can knowledge be acquired and transmitted quickly, accessible to the masses and can also save. The bottom line is that digital is the key to success in this digital world. With this in mind, GOI has launched its original online learning platform which is abbreviated as SWAYAM (Study Sites on Active Learning for Ambitious Young Minds). It is produced by MHRD (Ministry of Personnel and Development) and AICTE (All India Council for Technical Education) with the assistance of Microsoft. This initiative is being implemented to achieve the goals of the new education policy, namely accessibility, equity and quality. The core philosophy of the SWAYAM platform is to bridge the existing digital/digital gender divide in the country and increase the gross enrolment rate (GER). The platform is expected to provide access to those who have not yet been affected by the digital revolution in the country and who have not yet participated in the knowledge society to benefit from it. The platform is designed to launch MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) to train teachers and students alike for the challenges of the new digital world.

**Keywords:** knowledge economy, digitization, SWAYAM, MHRD, GER, MOOCs, digital revolution.

## **Introduction:**

The past decade has been marked by massive changes in the teaching and learning paradigm of the education system in general and the higher education system in particular. The impact of the COVID pandemic has accelerated this transition to digital inclusion. Credit goes to the Digital India Campaign (launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2015), which initiated the process of digitization in all areas of government policy as well as in systems education. But despite this initiative, a large segment of the Indian population remains untouched by the rising digital revolution due to the inherent heterogeneity on many levels. It can also be argued that the digital revolution is only widening the existing digital divide (the gap between the haves and the have-nots). Because those who have access to electronic tools have benefited from this digital revolution and are becoming more digitally aware and empowered and vice versa. Another aspect of this divide is that the digital divide is deepening and turning into a gender-based digital divide. Because it is often seen that the female gender has less access to these digital tools than their male counterparts. It was also taken into account that today's generation of students are known as digital natives (a term used by Prensky in 2001). Digital natives are individuals born and raised in the digital age who are driven by the internet. Likewise, digital immigrants are people who grew up in a world where the Internet did not exist. In his paper, Prensky stated that the learning styles of past and present generations are divided according to their respective levels of technological proficiency. Therefore, this is the call of the hour in which the current educational formation is based.

It needs to be integrated into digital technology because digital natives feel comfortable with it.

## **SWAYAM:**

The SWAYAM platform is capable of hosting 2,000 courses and 80,000 hours of lessons. They cover a wide range of courses, including school, university, postgraduate, technical, legal and other professional courses. Learning has become lifelong learning these days. You must stay updated to survive in the age of information and knowledge. SWAYAM offers learners a variety of courses that

are relevant and up-to-date. They can choose from hundreds of courses and it will be delivered by the best teachers in India and elsewhere. SWAYAM offers learners a unique educational opportunity to broaden their horizons by getting acquainted with the best educational materials at home and abroad. It was developed under the auspices of NME-ICT (Citizens Education Mission through Information and Communication Technology). The Government of Iraq has adopted the concept of Massive Online Courses (MOOCs) to supplement the country's formal education system from secondary school to higher education, which is called adoption. A search for active learning networks of young emerging minds (SWAYAM). It organizes different courses based on curriculum, continuing education, and skills, which means accredited courses as well as non-accredited courses. Courses offered by SWAYAM are provided free of charge to learners. This means that anyone can sign up and go through all the reading material at their own pace. But if the learners want to obtain the SWAYAM certificate, they must register themselves for the supervised and paid final exam and appear in person at the designated centers on the appointed days. Eligible certificates will be announced on the course page and many emails and learners will not receive a certificate unless this criterion is met. Universities/Colleges that agree to transfer credits for these courses may use the degrees/certificates obtained in these courses for the same purpose. UGC has now made it mandatory for UG and PG students to cover a certain number of credits through SWAYAM courses. It is also essential for the professional development of teachers.

Country Coordinators: To ensure the production and dissemination of high-quality content, nine Country Coordinators have been appointed by the Ministry of Human Resources and Human Development. they:

**1. AICTE** (All India Council for Technical Education) for the Annual Education Revitalization Program for Engineering Teachers/University/Institutions.

**2. NPTEL** (National Program for Advanced Technology Learning) is responsible Technical courses

**3. UGC** (University Grants Commission) is responsible for establishing courses for the position Alumni and their (non-technical) courses.

**4. CEC** (Consortium for Educational Communications) is responsible for higher education

**5. The National Council for Research and Training (NCERT)** has launched an initiative to prepare courses for general education.

**6. NIOS** (National Institute of Open Schools) will be responsible for school education

(outside the regular school)

**7. IGNOU** (Indira Gandhi National Open University) is credited with preparing MOOCs for foreign students

**8. IIMB** (Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore) is responsible for preparing the course

Management Research.

**9. Achieved NITTTR** (National Institute for Technical Teacher Training and Research)

Responsible for making courses current and consistent with teacher training programmes

These National Coordinators are responsible for everything in their area of expertise, such as course content design, video production, and course upgrades and maintenance. These national coordinators have local chapters across the country. Act as an intermediary between the user and the country coordinator. Because we cannot contact the national coordinators directly, but we can communicate through these local branches. These local chapters are called SWAYAM NPTEL Local Chapters (MHRD, GOI).

**SWAYAM NEED TO START:** There has been a significant paradigm shift in higher education in recent years, from the development of cognitive, emotional, and psychological skills within the confines of the classroom to outside, the four walls of the classroom. MOOCs have done this thanks to their 3 A philosophy, Anywhere, Anywhere, Anytime approach. MOOC stands for Massive Open Online Courses. This is also where the global education scenario sees the expansion of



Open Educational Resources (OER) in the form of MOOCs. COURSEERA is one such platform that started in 2012. It is a US-based MOOC provider founded by computer science professors from Stanford University. Currently, COURSEERA is the largest platform to serve MOOCs created by the best universities and institutions in the world, and interestingly, Indians have the largest percentage of participants in these massive online courses. Our policy makers believe that such an indigenous platform should also be deployed with the help of national actors. In this connection, SWAYAM is launched. SWAYAM is the original online platform for launching MOOCs to fundamentally change educational outcomes by expanding access and cost-effective access to quality education for all. The basic philosophy behind it is that the best educational resources should be made available to the furthest people in this country at an affordable cost. Improve the general enrollment rate (GER) from the current 24% to 50% by 2035 (NEP 2020, GER target). SWAYAM promises to be a feasible solution with the potential to revolutionize the education system in India. It is almost impossible to provide a quality education to every student in a face-to-face setting. Therefore, such a digital platform is needed for public access to education. It is economical and fashionable today. Teo

### **THE SWAYAM JOURNEY:**

NPTEL (National Program for Advanced Technology Learning), is a MHRD project initiated by 7 IITs (IIT Bombay, Delhi, Guwahati, Kanpur, Khadagpur, Madras and Roorkee) and IISc, Bangalore started in 2003. The training is to provide ease to the learners who desire in taking IIT courses. The SWAYAM journey also started in 2003 with the birth of NPTEL. Sometimes there is confusion that SWAYAM and NPTEL are the same thing, but NPTEL is only the national coordinator of SWAYAM for MOOC preparation for engineering courses. It is the first of its kind in the country that syncs with global platforms of its kind to offer online video and web courses in the fields of Engineering, Science and Humanities. The launch of the National ICT Education Mission (NMEICT) in February 2009 expanded the scope of service to all branches of the higher education sector. The functionality of digital technology (asynchronously connected) allows good teachers to teach directly to large numbers of students who are not in their classrooms or to students all over the world. The

introduction of ICT in education has changed the whole landscape of teaching and learning dynamics in the classroom. This has resulted in an interactive learning experience where students in remote parts of the country can benefit from lectures by top teachers from the best institutions anywhere. Digital modes are cheaper, easier to access, interactive, and give students the flexibility to learn at their own pace. Digital solutions that respond to individual differences among students. It is the call of the hour that the College Fraternity must work together to ensure widespread adoption of digital media for teaching. SWAYAM provides such a platform to create authentic courses tailored to the needs of Indian students through national coordinators to serve students of all levels at an affordable rate. The SWAYAM platform also benefits teachers. They can also enroll in any course they want to be up-to-date and broad. Ultimately, this will lead to higher levels of achievement among students and faculty.

**4 QUAD COURSES:** The courses held at SWAYAM followed the most famous quadruple approach. This means that these courses must have 4 core components, first these courses must have videos on the topics covered, the second component required is downloadable reading material to after review, the third component must be a self-assessment exercise (in the form of quizzes) or MCQs) for students and the final staple of MOOC videos that can be uploaded to the SWAYAM platform should be an online discussion forum so that students have a sense of peer discussion and exchange with each other. Peer-to-peer learning is often lacking in online education. Learning forum. In addition, courses uploaded to SWAYAM are of two types: accredited and non-accredited courses. The main difference between these courses is that accredited courses are part of the curriculum for UG and PG programs in Indian universities. Whereas, non-accredited courses are not part of the curriculum but general awareness courses, continuing education, etc.

**MOOCs:** MOOCs stand for Massive Open Online Courses. Whole means a large number

Learners can participate. Conquest means that it has no fixed and rigid boundaries. Anyone can enroll in any course, There is no such precondition. Online media need internet facilities to use or access it till then. We mean, of

course, any credit or non-credit course for professional and continuing education. The term MOOC was coined to refer to a course developed by Stephen Downs and George Siemens called "Knowledge Communication and Communication" in 2008. MOOCs offer huge possibilities for learners of all ages. One can learn with the best teachers in the world from anywhere in the world at their own pace. Interactivity is also present in MOOCs, which is a serious shortcoming of standard web-based courses. COURSEERA is the first global platform to offer MOOCs. Interestingly, the largest number of tournament registrations came from India. There are different types of mega online courses based on specific characteristics, two of which are important and can be discussed here:

**Battery MOOCs:** These courses emphasize a philosophy of connectivity. It is a social platform for Share and develop knowledge collaboratively in a community of people

**x MOOCs:** Also known as Massively Open Online Courses. These trends are based on content provided by universities and other educational institutions in the form of e-learning content. The basic difference between c MOOC and x MOOC is that c MOOC is created by learners in a collaborative manner and is therefore under a Creative Commons license, whereas x MOOC is created by professors and the objectives are set by the course designer. . . in c MOOCs.

The MOOC development and distribution process will involve the following four steps, which are described in more detail below:

1. Course coordinator contact information
2. Research online proposals for the development and submission of MOOCs
- Firsty.
3. Course content/products
4. Announce

### **Advantages:**

Undoubtedly, SWAYAM has proven to be a panacea for many educational ills. They can be classified as follows:

- Savings for students because they can study and obtain study materials for free

than most teachers in any subject.

- These are courses tailored to the needs of Indian students
- Through high-quality MOOCs, students can benefit from and interact with the best teachers in the world.
- There is no maximum limit for taking a class. How many students can enrol and study, this is one of the biggest advantages of the SWAYAM platform for a developing country like ours.
- The Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) can only be increased by relying on SWAYAM MOOCs.

### **Conclusion:**

There are also disadvantages, such as the inability to use such platforms without minimal resources, but these bugs should be removed gradually. Overall, we can say that SWAYAM is one of the most promising steps in Digital India's campaign. We need to compare our platform against the global platform by several metrics such as accessibility, ease of understanding, availability of downloadable content, user time and profitability as well as drop-out rates. Then we can also evaluate its impact on global parameters. But it is still a very cool initiative and it could prove to be a very promising solution for higher education fraternity with 3A offerings, anytime, anywhere and by anyone.

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# SHIKSHA SAMVAD



An Online Quarterly Multi-Disciplinary  
Peer-Reviewed / Refereed Research Journal

ISSN: XXXX-XXXX(Applied)

Volume-01, Issue-01, September- 2023

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Certificate Number-Sept-2023/02

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**“SWAYAM: The Original Online Learning  
Platform”**

Published in ‘Shiksha Samvad’ Peer-Reviewed / Refereed Research Journal and  
E-ISSN: XXXX-XXXX, Volume-01, Issue-01, Month September, Year- 2023.

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