

Editorial

The world celebrated 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on 2nd October, 2019. The occasion was used to reflect on Gandhi ji's relevance in the modern world. While a lot can be learnt from the life and works of Mahatma Gandhi, it is in the realm of technology that Mahatma Gandhi appears to us in all his contradictions and dichotomy. By all imaginations Mahatma appears to be far aloof from technology. His frugal lifestyle can be substantiated by minimal artifacts or devices around him in all the pictures or images. The way he led his life appears to be anti-modernist. However, when one gets to understand his views on technology, we get to see a different Gandhi ji. In 1929, he organized an All India Competition for the best machine to spin clothes. The prize money was kept as Rs. one lakh. The terms and conditions of that machine contest were most interesting and revealing. Gandhi ji wanted a machine to be light-weight enough to be carried to the field by anyone in the family and low cost so that, any farmer could buy it. The advertisement further asked innovators to make machine which was durable with usual maintenance of 20 years and efficient enough to spin certain minimum yarns for fabric. The advertisement also said that at the end of any dispute, words of Gandhi ji will be the final. Although many applied, none was found to be suitable to innovate such a machine. This contest revealed Gandhi ji's view on technology and how technology should be used in our society. He wanted technology to be feasible and really contributing to the Indian Economy. He wanted technological solutions to be efficient, durable, light-weight, low cost and sustainable. Gandhiji was equally concerned about the use of technology for employment generation.

While the world grapples with the issues related to technology and innovations, Gandhi ji foresaw its implications. So, in the realm of technology, Gandhi ji appears to be not an anti-modernist but, a pro-modernist and he is not a bridge between traditional and modernity as some claims to be but, he comes to us as someone who transcends time and space. Today, when we face many challenges related to technology, Gandhi ji's views seem to be the most practical & relevant for the people of our country. No wonder, when we decide to use technology in education, we must learn from what Mahatma said about it; which is any technological solution that we offer in the field of education must be for the great majority of people, should be valid for women as well and should help in enhancing the learning of the children.

This issue of the Indian Journal of Educational Technology comprises of ten articles where, six are research articles, one review article, one general article, one communication and one book review. Though all these articles come under the broader umbrella of educational technology but, they vary in their focussed theme ranging from, use of ICT, the attitude of users towards its use to the impact of using ICT.

It is a pleasure to take out the third issue of the journal within the timeframe.

We are thankful to the reviewers and members of the Editorial Board for giving their precious time in deciding appropriate manuscripts for the Journal. The contributions to the journal under various article types have taken a quantum leap from the previous issue. For this, the whole fraternity of academicians; authors, reviewers and readers, all are to be acknowledged. We hope the journal is able to make itself a vibrant platform of discussions related to the theme of educational technology.

(ABHAY KUMAR)
Editor