# Technology, Education and Emerging Economies

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### The Two faces of India: Cases from the field

- These two video clips present the two diverse faces of India\_ classrooms equipped with state of art equipment and the other face, which show how teacher interns plan to teach in classrooms that are packed to the brim with perhaps only miniscule windows for any kind of intervention.
- How to overcome this diversity is a problem faced by our government and teacher educators (major stakeholders in Education and its transaction)
- Their focus should be on how to enhance the teaching learning process, explore the role technology can play in this while blending it intricately and seamlessly in educational practices

# Government Initiatives- Balancing Educational Equality with Excellence

- National Curriculum Framework 2005 has stressed the pivotal role ICT plays in educational practices- Therefore a major paradigm shift is essential in education
- Right to Education Act 2010 is tabled \_ A unique legislation
- The quality of education remains debatable and the great chasm between have and have nots increases as a result of the above

### Teacher Training Programs\_ The Solution to the Problem I

- The other stakeholders in the teaching learning process are teachers, learners, parents, teacher educators
- When the teaching learning process is imbedded in disparate contexts what is the role of the teacher, and the teacher educator?
- A continuously evolving society requires teachers who are catalyst of change\_ this mandate affects their role. Teacher educators need to play an active role in developing interns who are ready for this responsibility

# Teacher training Programs \_ solution to the problem II

- Teacher Education programs need to be revisited
- Teaching strategies need to be redrafted for learning that is perceived as an interactive process
- Teacher Education needs to develop in the teacher interns capacity for\_small and large group discussions, using textbooks as a facilitative instrument, creative use of blackboard, use of computers to create material with students, develop projects
- Its essential that teacher education programs become hubs of change
- Currently our teacher education programs have modules that prepare the interns through transacting course work in three stages as shown in one of the video clips \_ planning, on the field, post field discussions.

#### Is Technology the need of the hour?

- Technology has great potential to enhance learning but not at the expense of sound pedagogy
- Its true potential can be achieved if, in the words of Stephen Spender (An Elementary School Classroom In a Slum):

Unless, governor, teacher, inspector, visitor,..../ Break O break till they break the town,/ And show the children to green fields, and make their world....

 A clarion call is made by the poet that there is an urgent need for radical change in educational practices and that can be brought about only by its major stakeholders

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