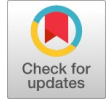


# Understanding the Importance of Adult and Community Education



Radhika Kapur

**Abstract:** In India, in mainly communities, belonging to deprived, marginalized and economically weaker sections, the individuals are normally unable to pursue educational goals. The experience various reasons, which enable them to discontinue their education. Some of the reasons are, scarcity of financial resources, learning disabilities, health problems and illnesses, inability to transfer from one place to another, and so forth. These are experienced in a major or minor form. Hence, all types of problems, major and minor give rise to impediments within the course of achievement of different types of educational goals. The individuals, belonging to all communities and socio-economic backgrounds have recognized the meaning and significance of education. They have formed the viewpoint that education is the instrument, which not only imparts information in terms of academic subjects and lesson plans, but also in terms of ways that are necessary to emerge into moral and ethical human beings. Hence, in urban and in rural communities, there are adult education centres. These are focused on imparting information among adults, who have dropped out before their educational skills are honed. Therefore, it is understood on a comprehensive basis that adult education is facilitating in augmenting knowledge, competencies and abilities among individuals. The main concepts that are taken into account in this research paper are, understanding the meaning and significance of adult and community education, measures to be put into practice in leading to up-gradation of adult and community education and advantages of adult and community education.

**Keywords:** Abilities, Academic Activities, Adult and Community Education, Information, Job Duties, Skills, Up-gradation, Well-being

## I. INTRODUCTION

The adults are regarded as the individuals, who are 18 and above the age of 18 years. The individuals need to ensure, they acquire good-quality education. The adult education is the education that is acquired by individuals, when they are between the ages of 15 and 35 years. Hence, individuals need to ensure, they are putting in efforts to their best abilities in achievement of desired goals and objectives. The education is the instrument, which not only imparts information in terms of academic subjects and lesson plans, but also in terms of ways that are necessary in emerging into moral and ethical human beings and productive citizens of the country.

Hence, adult and community education is the education that is acquired by individuals in adult schools, training centres and higher educational institutions (Chapter 3, 2009). The individuals need to ensure, they lead to an increase in motivation and concentration levels towards putting into operation different types of job duties and responsibilities. Furthermore, one needs to reinforce a constructive approach and form positive viewpoints in terms of various factors and individuals within the course of learning. Therefore, adult and community education is regarded as vital in promoting well-being and goodwill of individuals and communities. The individuals, particularly belonging to deprived, marginalized and economically weaker sections of the society undergo number of causes which compel them to drop out prematurely from schools. On the other hand, they do not acquire the opportunities to get enrolled in educational institutions to acquire education. The different causes are, health problems and illnesses, family issues, financial problems and so forth. Hence, later on when a person has reached 20 years of age or above, he or she acquires the opportunities to get enrolled in educational institutions. Hence, in this manner, he or she acquires the meaning and significance of adult education (Aradhya, & Kashyap, 2006). One of the important benefits of adult education is, one will augment skills, abilities and aptitude, which is necessary in order to bring about improvements in their overall quality of lives. Therefore, it is understood on a comprehensive basis that adult education is useful in training of adults, who have not acquired the opportunities to attain education during their childhood stage.

## A. Understanding the Meaning and Significance of Adult and Community Education

In India, more than 70 percent of the population resides in rural communities. In these communities, agriculture and farming practices are regarded as the primary occupations of the individuals. The individuals are required to make sure, they augment their knowledge, skills and abilities. These are necessary in order to bring about improvements in one's overall quality of lives. The individuals need to put emphasis on acquiring adult education. The acquisition of this education will render an important contribution in bringing about improvements in overall personality traits. Furthermore, within classroom settings, adult students are provided with the opportunities to share their experiences. The educators and students work in collaboration and integration with each other, when students are augmenting their learning by sharing their experiences. The educators and students need to put into operation effective communication processes. These are the key in augmenting information in terms of various subjects and concepts; exchanging different types of ideas and viewpoints; obtaining answers to all types of questions and clarifying their doubts.

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Hence, it is well-understood, sharing of experiences has been encouraging and approving on a comprehensive basis. In other words, students are able to augment their learning and understanding in a well-ordered and satisfactory manner. Therefore, one is able to acquire an understanding of the meaning and significance of adult and community education, when, communication and interactive abilities are honed. Acquisition of adult education enables the individuals to reflect, report, decide, study, plan, co-ordinate, control, direct and acquire information. These are the tactics that help the individuals to acquire factual and efficient knowledge. Furthermore, they augment information that is necessary in emerging into moral and ethical human beings and productive citizens of the country. In addition, learners generate information in terms of defining the tactics and adjust them to reality; focus on new options; make provision of explanations and provide solutions to any deformations and misrepresentations. Furthermore, the educators put into operation the teaching-learning methods, materials and instructional strategies in a manner, which would be facilitating in augmenting different types of skills and abilities among learners. The term, adult education denotes the entire body of organized educational processes, whatever may be the content level and the method. Higher educational institutions, i.e. colleges and universities are the areas, where the subject of adult education is focused on. Furthermore, in training centres as well, this subject has acquired prominence. The adults are able to incur the feeling of contentment that they are acquiring the opportunities to augment their skills and abilities. Therefore, individuals are able to acquire an efficient understanding of the meaning and significance of adult and community education, when they are putting emphasis on augmenting various types of skills and abilities. Throughout the lives of the individuals, they need to inculcate the traits of morality, ethics, diligence and conscientiousness. These are the traits, which are facilitating in differentiating between various types of appropriate and inappropriate factors; depicting the traits of helpfulness and co-operation; possessing an approachable nature and an amiable attitude; putting in efforts to one's best abilities; possessing the abilities to work under stress; reinforcing a constructive approach and carrying out all types of tasks and activities in a well-ordered and satisfactory manner. Furthermore, individuals are able to cope with various types of dilemmas and challenging situations in an adequate manner. These are prevented from giving rise to impediments within the course of achievement of professional goals. In addition, the acknowledgement and implementation of these traits will be facilitating to the individuals in doing well in one's job duties and responsibilities. Furthermore, they will be able to meet the expectations of their educators. In addition, within personal and professional lives, these are the traits, which are facilitating in putting into operation various tasks and activities in a successful manner. One of the important aspects is, individuals will acquire appreciation and reverence from other individuals within as well as outside the homes. Therefore, an understanding of the meaning and significance of adult and community education is acquired, when they are inculcating the traits of morality, ethics, diligence and conscientiousness.

### B. Measures to be Put into Practice in Leading to up-Gradation of Adult and Community Education

The subject of adult and community education is important in augmenting educational qualifications, skills and abilities among adults. The adults, who have not acquired the opportunities to get enrolled in educational institutions or have dropped out prematurely before their educational skills are honed are getting enrolled in colleges, universities and training centres. The individuals are required to make sure, they are leading to up-gradation of motivation and concentration levels towards learning (All India Survey on Higher Education, 2016). The research studies have indicated that senior citizens, who are above 60 years of age get enrolled in adult education training centres in order to augment their educational qualifications, skills and abilities. In rural communities as well, there have been establishment of training centres in order to augment educational qualifications, skills and abilities among adults. In order to lead to progression of individuals, communities and nation as a whole, there is a need to formulate measures to be put into practice in leading to up-gradation of adult and community education. The measures are required to be put into operation in a well-ordered and satisfactory manner. In other words, positivity needs to be reinforced in all types of measures. These are stated as follows:

### C. Leading to Up-gradation of Teaching-Learning Methods

The educators need to put emphasis on leading to up-gradation of teaching-learning methods. These are the key in imparting information among students in terms of academic subjects and lesson plans. The different types of teaching-learning methods are, reading from various types of reading materials and providing explanations; making students read and providing explanations; explaining the concepts on dark-coloured and light-coloured boards; dictating notes; encouraging question and answer sessions among students; encouraging students to share their experiences; encouraging the participation of students in various types of assessment strategies; encouraging Power Point presentations; making use of various types of technologies; promoting teamwork among students and encouraging the participation of students in various types of academic activities. The educators and students need to work in co-ordination with each other in leading to up-gradation of different types of teaching-learning methods. These need to be put into operation in a well-ordered manner. Furthermore, these are facilitating in doing well in one's job duties, achieving educational goals and leading to up-gradation of overall system of education (Changing Teaching Practices, 2004). Hence, throughout the implementation of job duties and pursuance of educational programs, these need to be honed. Therefore, leading to up-gradation of teaching-learning methods is one of the indispensable measures to be put into practice in leading to up-gradation of adult and community education.

#### D. Promoting Enhancement of Teaching-Learning Materials

Promoting enhancement of teaching-learning materials is regarded to be of utmost significance in achieving educational goals and leading to up-gradation of overall system of education.

The different types of these materials are, utilization of books, articles, reports, projects, newspapers, magazines, tools, devices, machinery, apparatus, equipment and various types of technologies. The educators and students need to work in co-ordination with each other in leading to up-gradation of different types of teaching-learning materials. The educators are making use of these in imparting information among students. On the other hand, students are also making use of these in augmenting their educational qualifications, skills and abilities. Furthermore, they will be able to do well in their assessment strategies. The individuals are required to put emphasis on leading to up-gradation of overall system of education, hence, they need to ensure various types of teaching-learning materials are adequately available. The management of financial resources is regarded to be of utmost significance in making provision of different types of teaching-learning materials. Furthermore, maintenance is regarded as one of the vital aspects that all members need to pay attention towards. Therefore, promoting enhancement of teaching-learning materials is one of the significant measures to be put into practice in leading to up-gradation of adult and community education.

## II. UTILIZING PIONEERING METHODS AND MATERIALS

With advancements taking place and with the advent of modernization and globalization, one needs to augment information in terms of different types of pioneering methods and materials. The different types of these methods and materials are, utilization of charts, graphs, maps, pictures, images, models, designs, structures, tools, devices, machinery, apparatus, equipment and various types of technologies. The educators and students need to work in co-ordination with each other in leading to up-gradation of different types of teaching-learning materials. The educators are making use of these in imparting information among students and students are also making use of these in augmenting their educational qualifications, skills and abilities. Furthermore, they will be able to do well in their assessment strategies. The individuals need to ensure, they acquire an efficient understanding of the concepts. Furthermore, one needs to get engaged in regular practice. This is facilitating in augmenting knowledge and understanding in terms of various areas. Hence, one needs to ensure, they are focusing on leading to their up-gradation on regular basis. Furthermore, one needs to hone confidence levels and overcome the feelings of apprehensiveness and vulnerability. In addition, it is necessary to obtain answers to all types of questions and clarify their doubts. Therefore, utilizing pioneering methods and materials is an expedient measure to be put into practice in leading to up-gradation of adult and community education.

#### A. Inculcating the Traits of Morality and Ethics

Educators and students need to inculcate the traits of morality and ethics. These are the traits, which are facilitating in differentiating between various types of appropriate and inappropriate factors; depicting the traits of helpfulness and co-operation; possessing an approachable nature and an amiable attitude; putting in efforts to one's best abilities; possessing the abilities to work under stress; reinforcing a constructive approach and carrying out all types of tasks and activities in an efficient and agreeable manner. Furthermore, individuals are able to overcome all types of setbacks in an adequate manner. These are prevented from giving rise to impediments within the course of achievement of professional goals. In addition, the acknowledgement and implementation of these traits will be facilitating to the individuals in doing well in one's job duties and responsibilities. Furthermore, they will be able to meet the expectations of their educators. In addition, within personal and professional lives, these are the traits, which are facilitating in putting into operation various tasks and activities in a successful manner. One of the important aspects is, individuals will acquire appreciation and reverence from other individuals within as well as outside the homes. Therefore, inculcating the traits of morality and ethics is an eminent measure to be put into practice in leading to up-gradation of adult and community education.

#### B. Implementing the Traits of Diligence, Resourcefulness and Conscientiousness

Educators and students need to inculcate the traits of diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness in carrying out their job duties in a well-organized and satisfactory manner. These are the traits, which are facilitating in differentiating between various types of appropriate and inappropriate factors; depicting the traits of helpfulness and co-operation; possessing an approachable nature and an amiable attitude; putting in efforts to one's best abilities; possessing the abilities to work under stress; reinforcing a constructive approach; making use of various types of modern, scientific and innovative methods and materials and carrying out all types of tasks and activities in a satisfactory and agreeable manner. Furthermore, individuals are able to overcome all types of setbacks in an adequate manner. These are prevented from giving rise to impediments within the course of achievement of professional goals. In addition, the acknowledgement and implementation of these traits will be facilitating to the individuals in doing well in one's job duties and responsibilities. Furthermore, they will be able to meet the expectations of their educators. In addition, within personal and professional lives, these are the traits, which are facilitating in putting into operation various tasks and activities in a successful manner. One of the important aspects is, individuals will be able to carry out all their job duties and responsibilities in a successful manner. Therefore, implementing the traits of diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness is a noteworthy measure to be put into practice in leading to up-gradation of adult and community education.



### C. Focusing on Augmenting Skills and Abilities

Acquisition of adult education enables the individuals to reflect, report, decide, study, plan, co-ordinate, control, direct and acquire information. These are the tactics that help the individuals to acquire factual and efficient knowledge. Furthermore, they augment information that is necessary in emerging into moral and ethical human beings and productive citizens of the country. In addition, learners generate information in terms of defining the tactics and adjust them to reality; focus on new options; make provision of explanations and provide solutions to any deformations and misrepresentations. Furthermore, the educators put into operation the teaching-learning methods, materials and instructional strategies in a manner, which would be facilitating in augmenting different types of skills and abilities among learners. The term, adult education denotes the entire body of organized educational processes, whatever may be the content level and the method. Higher educational institutions, i.e. colleges and universities are the areas, where the subject of adult education is focused on. Furthermore, in training centres as well, this subject has gained prominence. The adults are able to incur the feeling of satisfaction that they are acquiring the opportunities to augment their skills and abilities. Therefore, focusing on augmenting skills and abilities is a notable measure to be put into practice in leading to up-gradation of adult and community education.

### D. Organizing Seminars and Workshops

The individuals in leadership positions need to put emphasis on organizing seminars and workshops. The individuals need to put emphasis on implementing all the factors, which would be facilitating in making seminars and workshops successful. When educators form the viewpoint that students need to be imparted information in terms of particular methods and techniques, they organize seminars and workshops. These are organized for one day, two days, one week, two weeks or even a month. In these, other individuals in leadership positions are also invited from other organizations. They make presentations and give speeches. In this manner, they are rendering an important contribution in imparting information among other individuals. The students and other members of the educational institutions are also provided with the opportunities to give presentations. In this manner, they are rendering an important contribution in leading to up-gradation of presentation and public-speaking skills. Furthermore, they are contributing in leading to up-gradation of confidence levels. In addition, they will overcome the feelings of apprehensiveness and vulnerability. As a consequence, there will be up-gradation of motivation and concentration levels towards acquisition of education. Therefore, organizing seminars and workshops is a favourable measure to be put into practice in leading to up-gradation of adult and community education.

### E. Implementing Assessment Strategies

After the educators have imparted information in terms of academic subjects and lesson plans, they encourage the participation of learners in various types of assessment strategies. The different types of assessment strategies are, class assignments, homework assignments, tests, exams, competitions, quizzes, presentations and other types of

academic activities. The educators are able to generate information whether they are putting into operation their teaching-learning methods, materials and instructional strategies in a well-ordered manner or there is a need to bring about improvements. Furthermore, students are participating in these in order to achieve their educational goals. In addition, they are able to please their educators. The participation in assessment strategies is on an individual basis or in groups of two or three. The educators and students need to work in collaboration and integration with each other in order to lead to up-gradation of different types of assessment strategies. The individuals need to ensure, they augment their information in terms of traits of morality, ethics, diligence and conscientiousness. Furthermore, these are regarded as important traits in order to carry out their tasks and activities in a well-ordered manner. Therefore, implementing assessment strategies is an advantageous measure to be put into practice in leading to up-gradation of adult and community education.

### III. ENCOURAGING VARIOUS ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

The students, belonging to all grade levels need to be encouraged to participate in different types of academic activities, i.e. role plays, debates, group discussions, presentations, public-speaking and so forth. The participation in different types of activities can be done on an individual basis or in groups comprising of two or more students. The main objective of all types of academic activities is to make sure that individuals are rendering an important contribution in enhancing their academic learning. In other words, they are able to acquire an efficient understanding of academic subjects and lesson plans. The educators also encourage the participation of students in different types of academic activities, so they lead to up-gradation of motivation and concentration levels towards learning. Furthermore, their mind-sets get stimulated and they are able to render an important contribution in augmenting their learning and understanding in terms of various subjects and concepts. The implementation of effective communication processes need to be facilitating to the individuals in augmenting their knowledge and understanding in terms of various areas. Furthermore, development of mutual understanding is regarded to be of utmost significance in making all types of academic activities successful. Therefore, encouraging various academic activities is a useful measure to be put into practice in leading to up-gradation of adult and community education.

#### A. Leading to Up-gradation of System of Education

Leading to up-gradation of system of education is regarded as one of the major goals of all the members of the educational institutions. The individuals in leadership positions, educators, staff members, office workers, cleaning custodians and students need to put emphasis on leading to up-gradation of overall system of education.

In order to achieve this goal, they need to augment their information in terms of various factors, i.e. implementing effective communication processes; inculcating the traits of morality and ethics; implementing the traits of diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness; being well-informed in terms of job duties and responsibilities; being well-equipped in terms of methodologies and procedures; utilizing different types of modern, scientific and innovative methods and materials; reinforcing the traits of efficiency, honesty and truthfulness; forming cordial and amiable terms and relationships with other members; not possessing any negative feelings in terms of any factors; managing financial, human, technical, material and information resources and making provision of infrastructure, amenities and facilities.

The acknowledgement and implementation of all these factors would be facilitating in leading to up-gradation of the overall system of education. Hence, throughout the implementation of tasks and activities, one needs to put emphasis on up-gradation of all the factors, which would be facilitating in leading to enhancement of overall system of education. Therefore, leading to up-gradation of system of education is a suitable measure to be put into practice in leading to up-gradation of adult and community education.

#### B. Advantages of Adult and Community Education

The individuals, belonging to all communities and socio-economic backgrounds pursue adult and community education. They have different types of goals and objectives to achieve in their lives, hence, when they are wholeheartedly committed towards bringing about improvements in their overall quality of lives, they need to pursue adult and community education (Ary, Jacobs, Sorensen, & Razaveih, 2010). In this field, the individuals generate information in terms all the essential ways that are necessary in emerging into moral and ethical human beings and productive citizens of the country. This is regarded as one of the vital reasons that this field has acquired prominence. The adult and community education has been advantageous on a comprehensive basis. The different types of advantages are, augmenting competencies and abilities; augmenting information regarding ways to promote good health; leading to up-gradation of motivation and concentration levels; leading to up-gradation of overall personality traits and bringing about improvements in one's overall quality of lives. These are stated as follows:

### IV. AUGMENTING COMPETENCIES AND ABILITIES

The individuals, belonging to all age groups need to put emphasis on leading to up-gradation of competencies and abilities. These are, convincing, persuasion, planning, organizing, leading, controlling, co-ordinating, emotional intelligence, systems thinking, possessing the abilities to work under stress, putting in efforts to one's best abilities, coping with various types of dilemmas and challenging situations in an efficient manner and possessing the abilities to work under stress. Hence, one needs to ensure different types of competencies and abilities needs to be put into operation in a moral and ethical manner. Furthermore, one needs to aim towards promoting well-being and goodwill of family and community members. Hence, through acquiring

adult and community education, one will be able to contribute efficiently in bringing about improvements in one's overall quality of lives. The main reason being, different types of competencies and abilities can be put in an efficient manner. Furthermore, one needs to augment confidence levels and overcome the feelings of apprehensiveness and vulnerability. Therefore, augmenting competencies and abilities is regarded as one of the indispensable advantages of adult and community education.

#### A. Augmenting Information Regarding Ways to Promote Good Health

Promoting good health and well-being is regarded to be of utmost significance. It needs to be promoted from physical as well as psychological perspectives. Hence, through acquisition of adult education, individuals are able to generate information in terms of ways of promoting good health and well-being. The different types of ways are, focusing on diet and nutrition; getting engaged in exercises and physical activities; practicing the techniques of yoga and meditation; obtaining medical check-ups on regular basis, particularly in cases of health problems and illnesses; being well-informed in terms of job duties and responsibilities; being well-equipped in terms of methodologies and procedures; utilizing different types of pioneering methods and materials; forming an effective social circle, comprising of family and community members; alleviating introversion and seclusion; inculcating the traits of morality, ethics, diligence and conscientiousness; creating an amiable and pleasant environment within homes and promoting cleanliness. As a consequence of acknowledging and implementing all these factors, one will contribute in promoting good health, physically and psychologically. Therefore, augmenting information regarding ways to promote good health is one of the significant advantages of adult and community education.

#### B. Leading to Up-gradation of Motivation and Concentration Levels

It is apparently understood that within personal and professional lives, there are number of job duties and responsibilities that are carried out by the individuals. In order to carry these out in a successful manner, it is necessary in leading to up-gradation of motivation and concentration levels. As a consequence, their mind-sets will be stimulated and they will lead to up-gradation of motivation and concentration levels. Furthermore, individuals will augment their information in terms of different types of subjects and concepts. In this manner, one will generate information in terms of pioneering methods and materials to generate desired outcomes. One of the major benefits is, individuals will continue to conduct research through utilizing various sources. As a consequence, they will contribute efficiently in augmenting their competencies, skills and abilities. In this manner, they will contribute in doing well in their job duties and generating desired outcomes. Therefore, leading to up-gradation of motivation and concentration levels is an expedient advantage of adult and community education.

### C. Leading to Up-gradation of overall Personality Traits

Leading to up-gradation of overall personality traits is regarded as one of the major goals of individuals, belonging to all occupations and communities. In order to achieve this goal, the various factors that need to be taken into account are, focusing on diet and nutrition; getting engaged in exercises and physical activities; practicing the techniques of yoga and meditation; obtaining medical check-ups on regular basis, particularly in cases of health problems and illnesses; maintaining personal hygiene; having a pleasant personal appearance; forming an effective social circle, comprising of family and community members; alleviating introversion and seclusion; inculcating the traits of morality, ethics, diligence and conscientiousness; depicting the traits of helpfulness and co-operation and possessing an approachable nature and an amiable attitude. Through adult education, one is able to render an important contribution in augmenting information in terms of all these factors. The educators convey to the learners that in order to be successful in their lives, they need to implement these factors. Therefore, leading to up-gradation of overall personality traits is an eminent advantage of adult and community education.

### D. Bringing about Improvements in One's Overall Quality of Lives

Bringing about improvements in one's overall quality of lives is regarded as one of the major goals of individuals, belonging to all occupations and communities. In order to achieve this goal, the various factors that need to be taken into account are, implementing effective communication processes; promoting good health and well-being, physically and psychologically; being well-informed in terms of job duties and responsibilities; being well-informed in terms of methodologies and procedures; utilizing different types of pioneering methods and materials; forming an effective social circle, comprising of family and community members; alleviating introversion and seclusion; inculcating the traits of morality, ethics, diligence and conscientiousness; creating an amiable and pleasant environment within homes; managing financial, technical, material and information resources in an efficacious manner and making provision of infrastructure, amenities and facilities. Through adult education, one is able to render an important contribution in augmenting information in terms of all these factors. The learners need to ensure, they understand all these factors and implement in their lives. Therefore, bringing about improvements in one's overall quality of lives is an essential advantage of adult and community education.

## V. CONCLUSION

Adult and community education is the education that is acquired by individuals in adult schools, training centres and higher educational institutions. Measures to be put into practice in leading to up-gradation of adult and community education are, leading to up-gradation of teaching-learning methods, promoting enhancement of teaching-learning materials, utilizing pioneering methods and materials, inculcating the traits of morality and ethics, implementing the traits of diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness, focusing on augmenting skills and abilities, organizing seminars and workshops, implementing assessment

strategies, encouraging various academic activities and leading to up-gradation of system of education. Advantages of adult and community education are, augmenting competencies and abilities; augmenting information regarding ways to promote good health; leading to up-gradation of motivation and concentration levels; leading to up-gradation of overall personality traits and bringing about improvements in one's overall quality of lives. Finally, it can be stated, adult and community education is meaningful in augmenting educational qualifications and skills among adults.

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I must verify the accuracy of the following information as the article's author.

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