

Learning Grids & New Technologies – Where Does India Stand?



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Abstract

Key Terms

Learning Objectives, e-Learning, knowledge, collaborative learning, ICT, learning grid, grid computing, collaborative learning

The realization of Honorable President of India, Dr. Abdul Kalam's three visions for India – FREEDOM, DEVELOPMENT, STANDING UP TO THE WORLD necessitate much higher levels of literacy and academic skills at all levels and all areas of human activity. The sheer size of the nation and lack of adequate expert resources for academic and academic administration purposes requires the deployment of advanced concepts of IT&C areas. The relevance of recently popularized "Learning Grid" model for fulfilling the broad ranging requirements of e-Learning scenario, with special reference to the grid computing concepts is presented.

It is generally observed that Indian scenario does not readily support grid computing environment at the moment from facility and expertise point of view and a radical change in the IT&C service culture is deemed necessary. The very suitability of grid computing technology from the status of its maturity, standardization, focused applications areas such as distributed number-crunching requirements is discussed. Finally, the aspects of suitability of the technology in terms of available tools, standards, models, e-Learning projects on hand at India and pilot runs elsewhere in the world, particularly for collaborative learning and knowledge retrieval, distribution and management is presented.