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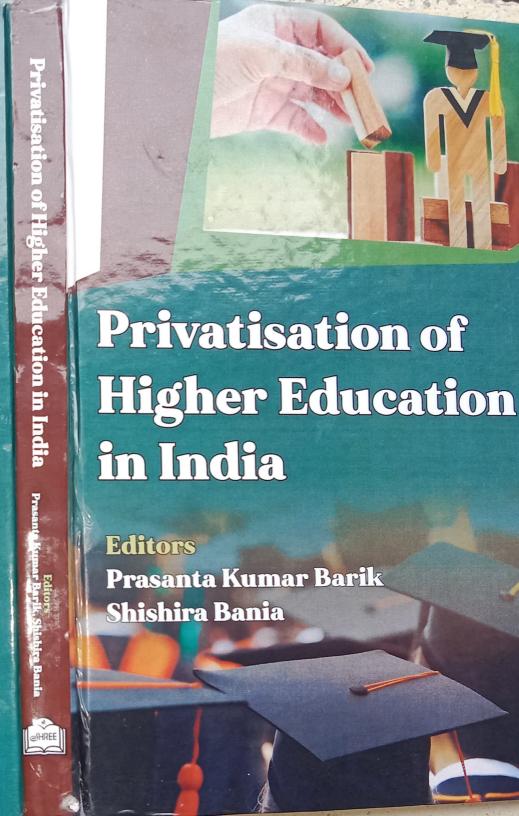
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## Open Educational Resources (OER) – An Effective Tool for Enhancing Learning in Higher Education

Sushant Kumar Nayak\* and Mihir Kumar Beura\*

"When I see, I forget; when I hear, I remember but when I do, I understand."-Confucius)

## INTRODUCTION

There are many advances in scientific knowledge and innovations in educational field that necessitates constant changes in course curricula. The world of knowledge is no longer limited to the text books and four corners of the classroom and library. Online and technology-based modes of study have been identified as a useful addition to classroom-based teaching methods. In the present era knowledge is in our finger tips. The emergence of OER (Open Educational Resources) is becoming a blessing to provide an instant and effective way of learning all across the world to reach the unreached learner through the use of advanced version of ICT. The primary objective of OER is to provide high quality educational material in free of cost for all the learners across the globe without any boundary (Keller and Mossink, 2008). The idea of OER was put forwarded by UNESCO in 2002, by taking a holistic approach to make educational resources free from commercialization and user-friendly purpose so that knowledge and information can be easily accessible to all with the help of ICT (UNESCO, 2002). McAndrew, Santos et al. (2009) believes that in spite of some terminological differences Open Educational Resources are fundamentally digital assets (music, video, images, words, animations) put

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