Executive Summary

The topic 'Creating A Learning Society By Adapting The System To Match E-learner's Profiles' was selected with the following objectives:

1. To Explore The Current Scenario Of E-learning
2. To Compare The Profiles Of Effective And Ineffective E-learners
3. Design Ways To Adapt The E-learning System To Match E-learners Profiles

The study begins with exploring the current scenario of e-learning both in India and outside India. Universities and institutions that offer online courses were interviewed and studied in order to gain an understanding of e-learning as it stands. The current scenario of e-learning shows that it is more evolved in universities and institutions outside India. The scale of e-learning adoption and development is still low in India in comparison with the needs. There also exists a need to address the low retention rates of students through personalisation of online courses.

The next part of the study presents a comparative study of the profiles of effective and ineffective e-learners. This was done to identify the variables of an individual's profile that makes him/her an effective or ineffective e-learner. Analysis of the e-learner's background information and personality profiles revealed an association between the personality of the e-learner and their ability to be effective in an e-course. Effective e-learners were found to have the personality preferences of Introversion, Thinking and Judging. Ineffective E-learners were found to have the personality preferences of Extraversion, Feeling and Perceiving, which affect their completion rates in e-courses.
Suggestions from e-learning experts and instructional designers have been used to design ways of adapting the e-learning system to match the e-learners profiles through the adoption of advances in technology and effective mentoring to increase retention.

E-mentoring guidelines have been developed and presented along with a diagnostic tool for e-mentors in the accompanying CD. An e-learner information module is also included for prospective e-learners. This can be used by e-learning institutions as part of their website to explain to learners what e-learning is about and give them a glimpse of what to expect along with helping them learn about their personalities and how to become effective e-learners.

Experts opinions have also been used to suggest ways of creating a learning society by adapting the entire education system.

The findings from this research will be especially useful to anyone interested and/ or involved in e-learning especially educators, instructional designers, curriculum developers, learning technologists, graphics designers, counsellors, mentors, publishers, advertising and marketing executives and, of course, e-learners.