

# Mobilets

## *Mobile Enabled Learning*

### Background

Over the past decade mobile learning (m-learning) has grown from research interest of individuals to a gamut of applications, and products useful for the educational development of learners in all the sectors of education at workplaces, cities and even in the rural areas around the world where computer technology could not penetrate.

New and innovative information and communication tools have created a revolution in the delivery mechanism of the educational system in particular the distance education system globally. A survey was conducted by the innovator to understand the learners' preferences and choices for using mobile as a learning tool. On the basis of the survey conducted '**Mobilets – Mobile Enabled Learnlets**' were developed keeping in view the latest pedagogic and technologic developments in mobile learning.

### Need of the Innovation

In order to understand the preferences and readiness of IGNOU learners for mobile learning to explore mobile learning as an innovative area for providing learner centric, anytime, anywhere on the move learner support and learning activities, including the possibility of collaborating through mobile and hand-held devices, a survey was conducted amongst the learners of distance education. The study conducted among 100 learners of IGNOU revealed that 68 % of the learners showed keen interest in using cell phones for learning, 80% of the learners preferred learning of difficult concepts (hard topics) through mobile phone with animations, graphics, activity and summary. This motivated the innovator to develop a prototype of the mobile app which could facilitate teaching learning anytime, and anywhere, even when the learners are travelling.

### Description of the Innovation

Mobilet consists of tailor-made useful and important concepts and theories related to a topic explained in a simple way using rich media resources like animations, sounds, images, videos, etc. which makes learning on mobile devices interesting. It also includes scenario based Mobi-learning. This component of the mobilet, gives a situation to the learner outlined in the form of a scenario which the learner go through on their mobile devices. Every mobilet also includes quizzes to evaluate the learners.



**Figure 1 : Main Screen of MTP-IMNCI App that Hosts Mobilets**

## Innovative Features

Mobilets deliver knowledge or information about a topic in a nut-shell through mobile devices such as smart phones, tablet PCs, iPads, iPhones, etc. The time mobilets were in the process of development people in general believed that mobiles are not meant to be for learning purposes. Mobilets were developed keeping in view convenience of the learner to access a particular learning topic. Some of the features of mobilets are given below :

- Mobilets provide an enhanced learning environment in which learners can interact with the counsellors, programme coordinators, course material in an augmented environment.
- Mobilets as a tool are small, light, and portable.
- Mobilets provide a personal virtual world at their tips which make them feel comfortable while they study.
- Mobilets are interactive and engaging.
- Learners get engaged in learning activities in various locations. Since learners normally have their smart phones with them most of the time, they can easily access mobilets anytime anywhere even while they are in a meeting or travelling.
- Mobilets provide facilities to learners to access information related to their subject with a click of a button.
- Each mobilet is of a short duration, typically around five to seven minutes. Each mobilet focuses on just one topic or concept.
- Mobilets are developed for health professionals who are involved in management of neonatal and childhood illnesses hence through mobilets they get specific information according to their requirements which they apply the same immediately to the context.

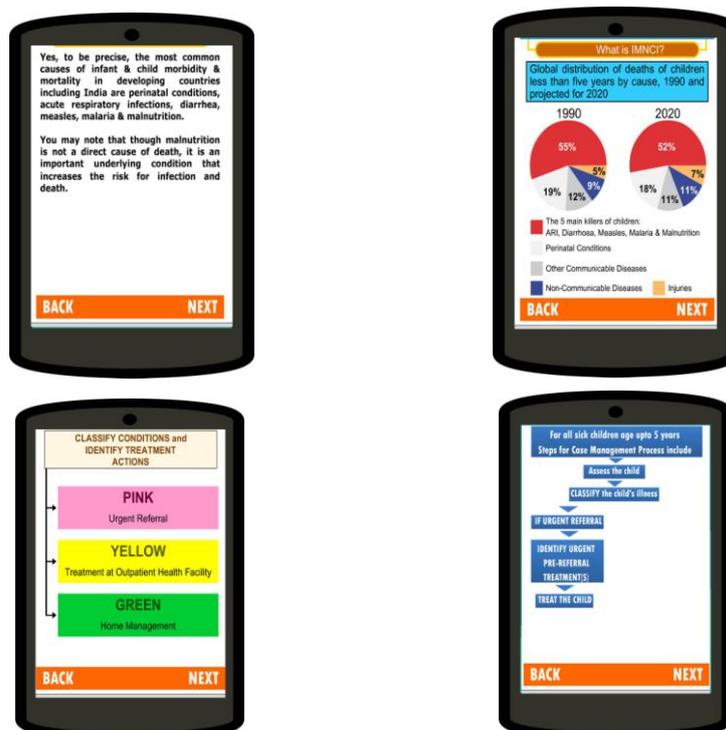
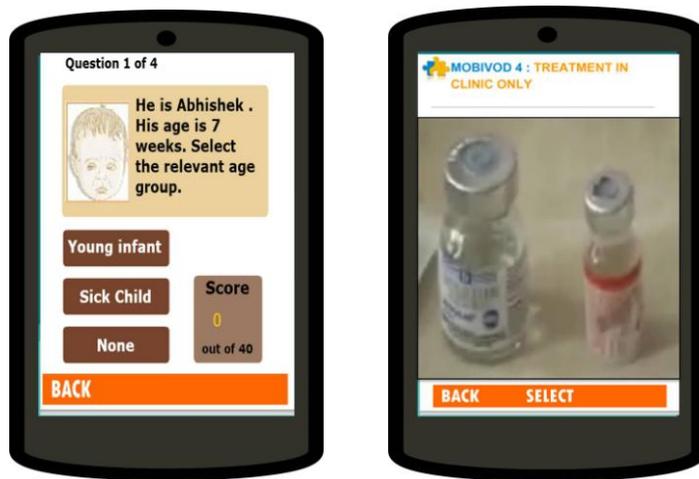


Figure 2 : Screenshots of Text, Animation and Topic Components of a Mobilet



**Figure 3 : Screenshots of Quiz and Video in a Mobilet**

## **Applications and Uses of Innovation**

Mobilets can be used as a blended learning tool. The concept, methodology and pedagogy, of the mobilets can be applied to various professional training and skill oriented programmes.

## **Achievements**

Prototype of interactive multimedia enabled course material in the form of mobilets for mobile devices was successfully developed. The successful development of the prototype further motivated and enabled the faculty to develop the entire Integrated Management of Neonatal Childhood Illnesses which could be accessed on smart phones and tab.

## **Way Forward**

With the advent of HTML5 and free open source software mobilets on difficult concepts can be created for various courses/programmes for the learners.

## **Coordinator and Innovator**

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**Period :** 2010-2011