

## **Computer Aided Instructions in Geography (CAI)**

CAI has been used in geography of both higher education and school education for more than last two decades. However, its potential is only now beginning to be realized with introduction of computer applications in various areas of the discipline. Computers may be used in a wide variety of ways to assist in teaching geography. These include using them as sources of data and information, as analytical tools, as laboratories for investigating the world, and as instructors. A study conducted on computer assisted learning in geography in Singapore (George and Barry, 1994) found many positive impacts of computer assisted learning, for example, on achievement, attitudes and class room environment. To develop students' involvement and enthusiasm for the packages an interactive problem-orientated approach to learning is emphasized. The user-friendly courseware combines elements of text, graphics, images, animations and simulations; and includes formative assessment exercises.

## **Internet**

Internet is an important computer based learning resource. This is highly advanced source of learning geography. E-learning is an instruction delivered on computer by the use of CD-ROM, Internet or Intranet. It is simply learning with the help of computer and internet technology. E-Learning is web based training with inputs of techniques such as animations, visualizations, simulation and games, text, audio, video and lots of creativity. The biggest challenge of e-learning is provision of infrastructure-physical, financial and experienced human resources. Though the government is striving hard to provide these resources to all the schools of the country but it will take some time. The NCERT textbooks based on NCF- 2005 had also listed various websites which can be of great help to the teachers and students in learning effectively. For teaching the chapter on Indian Monsoon, additional information can be obtained from different sources. One of the most dependable and authentic source is Indian Meteorological Department (IMD). One can access the site [www.imd.ernet.in/main\\_new.htm](http://www.imd.ernet.in/main_new.htm) and download daily weather map, satellite images of every date. Besides this the site also provides information on seismological data, seasonal or annual rainfall maps etc.

The site for encyclopaedia Britannica is given below. This also provides additional reading materials that teachers should refer to.

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/121560/climate/53296/TheIndianmonsoon#ab=active~checked%2Citems~checked&title=climate%20%3A%3A%20The%20Indian%20monsoon%20--%20Britannica%20Online%20Encyclopedia>

Other site of interest that can be recommended is the site for Indian Ocean Monsoon <http://www.crseo.ucsb.edu/esrg/IOM2>. This site provides good information on mechanism of monsoon. Teachers should visit these sites and also encourage students to do so.