

E-Learning: Boon to Education System during COVID-19 Lockdown

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Abstract: *The corona virus pandemic has forced a lockdown of millions of people around the world, where schools have shut down since March 16, has been one of the major epicenters of COVID-19 cases. As a result, teacher and students have restored to distance learning with online classes. This paper tries to cover the need for education technology in current crisis, moreover, online learning ensures the continuity of education as an emergency situation causes the closure of composes and learning centers. Thus, the online lessons are helping education institutions around India beat the COVID-19 lockdown to push ahead with the academic calendar.*

Keywords: E-learning, Technology, COVID-19, Education

1. Introduction

COVID-19 has forced universities across India and the world indeed, to suspend physical classroom and shift online classes. As soon as the COVID-19 crisis broke out India, the larger university like Delhi University (DU), Jawaharlal Nehru University (J.N.U.) announced the suspension of classes. The online education is conducted in two ways. The first is through the use of recorded classes, the second one is via live online classes conducted as webinars, or zoom session. There are many platforms created to enable online education in India. They are supported by the ministry of (HRD) Human Resource Development the National council of Education Research and Training (NCERT).

Thus, the COVID-19 crisis raises significance concern for the entire education community policy makers, educators, parents and of course learners. Huge numbers of learners are from deprived areas or homes, out of reach of technology and internet is likely to create new gaps between learners. Student's loss the contact with peers and teachers, not having a place to go to every morning to learn, and sometimes to receive the only meals of the day, create serious physical and mental threats to the health of the most vulnerable children. Finally, COVID-19 could also lead to even greater inequalities between the Global North and Global South. If we go by estimate presented by various international bodies, we can see a catastrophic impact on Jobs, Business and government across the world.

1.1 Objectives

- 1) To show the importance of E-Learning during Lockdown.
- 2) To analyze whether Lockdown to be continue for some time, how would higher education be affected.
- 3) To highlight the role of learning app.
- 4) To know how digitalization become more important in this crisis.
- 5) To check validation or relevance of digital tools in education.

1.2 Research Methodology

The method used to analyses this paper is both primary as well as secondary. Primary data has been taken from the general talks and the statement given by person in television and social networking sites. The source of secondary data is journal, newspaper. The paper is written in descriptive manner.

2. Review of Literature

There are number of puranic work on "E-Learning: Boon to Education System during COVID-19 Lockdown" some of the important books and articles are under as under:

- 1) Mayank Rajput¹: This book discussing how COVID-19 Pandemic is impacting students, educational institute, and parents. The dynamic of online and offline education and also focusing on student's perspective. Teaching online is better than regular session, as you can focus on your Family, no traffic, no traveling and mental peace.
- 2) Larry Bell²: This book will help the educators' structure and focus their priorities or think creatively about key issues such as, how do we resume the education of our students, and how do we make them Feel safe and encourage them to return to school and Focus on their studies? The state and districts will come up with policies to address issue of social distancing and safety regulations.
- 3) Kshatriya Akash Singh³: This book discusses about the Janta curfew and the problems faced by the people. It contains not only a summary of scientific efforts but also perspectives from different countries. The author talks about online processes which has mostly used during this pandemic or also talk about new laws, which has made during COVID-19. He also discuss about the challenges which has been faced by several companies as for each country has different rules and regulations regarding their methods.

¹ Mayank Rajput; *Impact of Covid-19 on education: 20 effects on schooling in India.*

² Larry Bell, *Back together again! An educator frame work for re-opening schools during covid-19.*

³ Kshatriya Akash Singh, *Janta curfew to lockdown: India's struggle to survive.*

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- 4) Kostas pan⁴: This book outlines some simple and easy ways to deal with the uncertainty of a pandemic and embark on the journey of online teaching and also highlight the basics of online teaching, which include class room management platform, web conferencing, assessment and various web tools that will make learning more effective.

Why online learning become important

Technology development and the internet have changed people's lives on different scales including for instance teaching and learning. The web has become one of the channels of learning that opens the door for people around the world to access education for free, or for fewer costs. Online learning is a savior in these testing times and by choosing to learn from the most qualified teachers at the cheapest prices' students can make the most of time that they have in their hand. Online learning has covered a lot of ground in recent time.

Advantage of online learning

- 1) Easily accessible
- 2) Budget friendly
- 3) Convenient to fit into the day
- 4) Available 24*7
- 5) Can be personalized according to individual needs
- 6) No commuting required
- 7) Flexible
- 8) More individual attentive
- 9) Social distancing can be exercised.

How is the education sector responding COVID-19?

For many young learners, digital causes and online collaboration platform have become the only way they can only continue to learn. The corona pandemic has made a global impact in the past weeks and continues to hit most of the sectors, with education being one of the most affected once. The situation has forced the schools to shutdown and the students to stay at home. The government of India, for the first time, is allowing Indian universities to offer an online degree which previously was limited to foreign universities, now to encourage and widen the access to higher education, this restriction has been lifted from 20% to offer 100% course online by providing online platform of learning.

- SWAYAM (Study webs of active learning for young aspiring minds)
- E – pathasala
- Diksha
- NROER (National Repository of open Education Resources)
- NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling) and other IT initiatives e- Yantra (Robotic education), FOSSEE (open Sources software for education), Virtual labs and spoken learning programmes. Many of these platforms are run by the National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT), An autonomous organization of the ministry of HRD.

⁴ Kostas Pan, *teaching in the year of corona: A practical guide to teaching online while being quarantined.*

Is Learning online as effective

Online lessons are helping education institutions around India beat the COVID-19 Lockdown to push ahead with the academic calendar. But the trend has raised many concerns among educational experts, including those at UNESCO and UNICEF on 15 April, the united nation children's fund (UNICEF), which is engaged in humanitarian aid for young ones around the world, said "millions of children are at increased risk of harm as their lives more increasingly online during lockdown in the COVID-19 pandemic." The internet exposure puts children at the risk of "online sexual exploitation and grooming, as predators look to exploit the COVID-19 pandemic." Under the shadow of COVID-19, the lives of millions of children have temporarily shrunk to just their homes and their screens. According to UNESCO "Half of the total number of learner- some 826 million (82.6 cores) student – kept out of classroom by the COVID-19 pandemic, do not have access to a household computer and 43 percent have no internet at home, so the government must take initiative in this direction and take a positive step.

Challenges faced by the teacher

A lot of preparatory work must be done by the teachers before they give a study plan or conduct online sessions. Teachers are unable to see students work visually to get an idea of where they are struggling. Some of students are hesitating to reply giving excuse about technical faults with the system. In India problems like lack of technology of digital training and band width are posing challenge of many families and teachers. If we talk about primary school teachers, they said that the college students are easier to manage in digital classes rather than primary school children. The importance of classroom learning is undeniable and this pandemic proves that we are not ready to handle online classroom.

Tricks and Tools to asses Students

To asses student understanding and progress, the teacher conducts oral Q/A session during the online classes, which are helpful to get some clarity on their prior knowledge and to what extent the student has completed the work. After every topic, an online test is conducted. After that marking scheme is sent and students can evaluate the score.

COVID-19 Pandemic and the Future of Education?

During COVID-19 Pandemic, students, parents and educators are all wondering what this mean for education in the future. Experts are calling for a new normal where online classes replace schools and teachers. Edtech companies have announced free live classes, sensing an opportunity to ostensibly impose their hegemony on learning.

With COVID-19, Schools are rapidly changing the basic way they do their work. Some have become old fashioned correspondence schools, with the vast majority of interaction happening by written mail. Other have tried to recreate the school setting online using digital tools like zoom. Other are in between, directing students to online tutoring and practice programs, and posting videos. The current crises COVID-19 forcing Parents, teachers, students to adapt to online Learning tools. Secondly people get comfortable with some of these adaptations. COVID-19 has changed the day today life. It has created the revolution in Indian higher education,

due to the situation, most of the higher education is Bangalore has widely adopted the technology and student's involvement is more than the regular class engagement. Educator, faculty and students are doing their part to support each other, and the technology has a key role in educating the future generations.

3. Conclusion

In the end we can say that in the last 3-4 months people are suffered this outbreak pandemic. COVID-19 has shaken the whole world and put a deep impact on the public life. The janta curfew was a positive step for further awareness. The country is facing major crisis in every sector and this time one of the worst hit sector is the education sector. No doubt digital learning portals help the students but these learning portals are not accessible for all. So, this time our education sector took responsibility of not only making the people aware of preventive and precautionary measure to safeguard them and check the further spread of this virus.

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