

“INFLUENCE OF COVID 19 ON OUR EDUCATION IN INDIA”

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Abstract:

Institutions in India whether universities, colleges, higher secondaries or even schools are mostly dominated by traditional system of teaching i.e. face to face or talk and chalk methods. Although many of our institutions have started the mixed or blended form of teaching and learning but a lot of them have still stuck to their old methods. As change is the law of nature and inevitable part of our life, the outbreak of deadly Corona Virus throughout the world shook us like an earthquake and all the life was put on halt. In our country India all the learners were not allowed to move educational institutions due to the spread of COVID 19. The outbreak of this virus has worked as a catalyst for our educational institutions to grow and prosper with modern platforms of technology that have not been used earlier. As the Corona Virus was declared as pandemic by WHO, the whole educational sector throughout the world changed overnight from traditional system of teaching to online one. Many of our educational institutions that were earlier very much reluctant to change their traditional system of teaching had now no option other than the online classes. The present paper will focus on the importance of online teaching and its SWOC analysis. This Paper will also put some glimpses on emergency of Edtech Start-ups during the period of pandemic and suggestions for institutions how to deal with the challenges associated with online teaching learning environment. This research paper will also provide an analysis on the origin of Corona Virus, its bearing on education, role of internet and will discuss the important scenarios arrived due to outbreak of COVID 19.

Keywords: Origin of covid 19, impact on education positively and negatively

Methodology:

The source of data collection for this paper is secondary. Present writing has been designed to develop a framework of the study so as to reach to an unbiased end. The data is mainly collected to get an insight and analysis how COVID 19 has impacted the educational institutions in India.

Research Questions to be answered:

1. Origin of COVID 19?
2. How India combated with Corona Virus?
3. Role and importance of internet?
4. Can e learning replace teachers?
5. Effect of COVID on Indian education?

Objectives:

The main objective of the study is to assess and examine the following:

1. To find the origin, rise and spread of Corona Virus.
2. To find the effect of this deadly virus on education in India.
3. To find how much it has impacted on poor students school life.
4. To find can e learning replace teachers.

Introduction:

The pandemic COVID-19 has shown us how digital networking and other service platforms have delivered to our homes and all the services that run on those. Networking is very important for our economic and daily life activities. With the life threats due to the crisis on the emergence of Novel Corona Virus in 2019 (nCoV or SARS-CoV-2) these online services got much more importance. The virus has its origin in bats first and then transmitted to humans and the first of its cases were reported from Wuhan, Hubei province, China in the year December, 2019. Throughout the world around 96,000 thousand cases of COVID -19

in year 2019 and around 61.9 lakh deaths occurred up to 05 April 2022. The incubation period of the virus ranges from 2- 14 days and mainly transmitted through inhalation or droplets or being contacted with an infectious person. Due to mutation now new variants like Omicron, XE are emerging and the symptoms being breathlessness, fatigue, coughing, fever, soreness in throat etc. While collecting data from different sources like Arogya Setu App and other State Health Departments the confirmed cases of COVID in india has crossed almost 4.3 crore upto 05 April, 2022 and 5.22 lakh deaths till date and still goes on increasing. We are physically maintaining distance and social distancing but mentally and emotionally are still bonded. Due to pandemic we may have been restricted to many outdoor activities but still life is going on due to our priority of survival and different social media platforms like hotstar, Facebook, Telegram, Twitter etc which are not letting us to miss out anything and will be remembered in future as how such platforms helped us during this pandemic.

COVID 19 and its impact on our Education:

The Corona Virus spread throughout the world and had very adverse effects on our overall life. Almost every one has felt it's consequences and every advanced country has witnessed it and the health system of every country has failed to control it fully. In this crucial juncture it is only education that can play a pivotal role. The analysis of Franklin about the investments in education for safeguarding a country is an eye opener for all policy makers, administrators and even for a common man.

Education being a basic right of every individual in our country India, but COVID 19 changed all its scenarios and even in Jammu and Kashmir. As Corona created its havoc and fear of death everywhere, lock down was the only option for the people at the helm of affairs. At the same time all the countries have geared up to invest huge amount on education to boost and uplift their education. In india the situation of education was a different one and now a days has its new look. This big headache can only be solved by establishment of modern systems equipped with latest scientific technologies and well trained teachers. This will change the outlook of our education if used judiciously and taking keen attention on internet connectivity its speed and 4G services. Now a days teachers even in Jammu and Kashmir are using Zoom, Wise App, YouTube, Webex but it too needs faster internet speed and to run such applications on 2G speed in far-flung areas of Kashmir is an eye opener and it's buffering creates frustrating atmosphere in both teachers and students. The world is moving on but there is a class of people in our societies even today who can't afford smartphones and creates an act of segregation. It is education which can liberate us towards enlightenment and emancipation and will break the social dogmas which have bifurcated our societies. The more impediments come in the process of development the more inventive a country needs to overcome the difficulties. The whole world was intricately interwoven in such a situation that momentum for next generations and for present one was need of an hour during COVID times. Whenever any challenge comes to a nation, a response to that challenge was and is integral part of our life. COVID came with many challenges and many countries took good measures to curb it and India too played a good role but still more needs to be done. It is only possible by investing a huge amount on Education sector so that people possess knowledge and have available facilities to control and have awareness regarding such pandemics. Allah Almighty says if i wrap any nation in any disease the same disease is associated with its remedy. But that remedy can only be discovered by the people who possess such knowledge and facilities. A glimpse of our country's response during COVID is:

Response towards COVID by India:

1. For classes 1- 12 Diksha Portal, created by CBSE and NCERT for students and teachers contains video lessons, assessments and worksheets. Portal can be viewed through QR codes and Google Play Store and being available offline too. The portal can be viewed on below given link: <https://diksha.gov.in> or <https://seshaqun.gov.in/shaqun>
2. E- Pathshala one of the apps developed by NCERT in different languages for classes 1- 12, houses huge number of books, vedios, and other teaching learning materials and being available on the below link: <http://epathshala.gov.in>.
3. National Repository of Open Educational Resources (NROER) portal for 1st to 12th classes in multiple languages is a source of resource for both teachers and students, containing modules with interactive part, vedios. It contains almost 14527 files and a lot of documents, images, vedios for improving overall education. It can be searched on: <http://nroer.gov.in/welcome>
4. SWAYAM Portal for higher education hoisting classes from 9th onwards in all subjects from all streams. There is credit transfer possibilities in it and is integrated with normal education. It can be viewed at <https://swayam.gov.in/>
5. Swayam Prabha and e- PG Pathshala which can be viewed throughout the clock at: <https://swayamprabha.gov.in/https://epgp.inflibnet.ac.in/>

Positive implications of Covid 19:

After facing the challenges of Covid ,there was every possibility to accept the challenge and made appropriate responses.Our educational institutions in India got an opportunity to transform from traditional system of teaching learning to a modern and digital era. A few positive implications are:

1. Online mode or blended teaching learning was adopted by using modern digital and electronic technologies which changed the overall scenarios of education. New methods of teaching, evaluation and assessment got evolved that transformed the curriculum and pedagogy.
2. Better management of human resource development and to get effective results , Learning Management System (LMS) emerged which is a complementary to normal teaching where students get e- learning materials and encourages them to perform better.
3. Students got soft copies of the material at ease in different forms and that too from different sources.
4. The pandemic created new forms of interaction like teleconferencing, Webex, zoom, wise app, Google classroom, virtual meetings and other e- conferences.
5. There was a great improvement in amalgamated and collaborative teaching learning atmosphere among faculties across the globe.
6. Digital literacy, Open and Distance Learning (ODL) and other online platforms got a soothing atmosphere due to the pandemic.
7. Quite improvisation in the modes of information sharing apps and applications like Facebook, Twitter, Telegram, Watts app and other social media platforms.
8. The learners got an opportunity to interact with people around the world at home and the time was managed by learners at their own individual differences.

Negative impact of Covid 19:

Almost everything that comes to our life has both sides ,positive as well as negative as is the case with COVID 19 . Some of its negative implications are :

1. The employment got shot up due to the pandemic as people struggled more for their food rather than education and people got scared to be fired from their jobs .
2. The transition from offline to online mode of teaching was not a soothing one for most of the teachers to conduct their lectures as they were not aware about most of the platforms like Zoom, Webex, Google meet etc.
3. Fear of loosing jobs and opportunities to work at global level as people were not permitted by others to travel abroad and which hampered them to get suitable employment in different markets of the world.
4. Online learning became a cumbersome process for illiterate parents as they could not guide their wards well and the closure of school for poor people also made them worried, as mid day meals were stopped.
5. The access towards the global higher education sector got disturbed as people studying abroad were made to leave the countries and if the situation will remain the same then the demand of international higher education will get hampered.
6. The payment of dues got delayed as people were not able to pay the fees of their wards.
7. The need of safe learning spaces, digital devices, internet connectivity, and children with special needs etc are also the challenges to stakeholders to impart education during COVID

Can e- learning replace teachers:

The influence of teachers can't be erased but his methodology can be improved and teaching can be made an effective one. The online teaching and digital world has made his teaching more accountable . Online learning has increased the role of teachers and made it challengeable. Today's teacher can't impart education by traditional methods, now he has to be vibrant and equipped with digital world. Teacher can't be replaced by e- learning but a blended mode of teaching is need of an hour.

Suggestions:

1. More GDP to be spent on education.
2. Internet facilities to be made available in all institutions without any discrimination.
3. Blended mode of teaching to be used.
4. Teachers to be given ample opportunity to work on improving their digital teaching.
5. Online course to be introduced.

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