

Impact of Covid 19 on Educational Sector in India

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Abstract

The educational sectors are most affected in the pandemic period. Particularly the educational sector is affected all over the world. The Indian education system was affected in the pandemic period they are using online classes for students as well as teachers. The student faced many problems in learning the online classes regarding economic status, family income, and network, health conditions. The student mostly depends on their parents to buy the mobile to join the online class. The parents are almost middle class or below poverty. The pandemic creates a work-less situation for maximum leave of parents in our country. But the parents give more importance to their children's education. The parents spend money to buy a mobile phone and other agreement of their join the online class. The majority of student does not like the online classes. All of the students always like the classroom atmosphere to learn. The online class method makes a gap between students and teachers. The pandemic creates a critical situation for the School students many of them anxiety and fear about their final examination scores. The examination scores are important for 10th and 12th students and their parents also. It's basic of student's higher education and life.

Key words: Covid-19, Educational sector, Economic conditions, Health issues.

I.INTRODUCTION

The Covid-19 impact was everywhere, which resulted in the closure of Schools and other educational institutions. Initially, most governments have decided to temporarily close the schools to reduce the impact of Covid-19. Later it was reopened for a few grades, which increased the number of infection rates and then closed again. Though schools are closed, students are attending their classes through various education initiatives like online classrooms, radio programs. Though it is a good thing happening on the other side, there are lots of students who didn't own

the resources to attend the online classes suffer a lot. Many students are struggling to obtain the gadgets required for online classes. Teachers who are all experts in Blackboard, Chalk, books, and classroom teaching are really new to this digital teaching, but they are adopting the new methods and handling it like a pro to aid the students in the current position. Educated parents are supporting their children throughout the pandemic, but they require understanding that there are some illiterate parents and their feeling of helplessness to help their children in their education. There are students in India who came to school just because they can get food. The great midday meal scheme has helped many children who couldn't bring their food from the home to get their nutrition because of the closure of the schools; many students were suffering from not having enough food for their survival. There is always a delay or cancellation of exams, which leads to confusion for many students and there is no room for curriculum. There are both positive and negative matters happening around us amid the Covid-19. Technology paves the way for education, thus helping the students and teachers to connect virtually through online classrooms, webinars, digital exams, and so on. But the sad truth is that it is not available to many students all over the nation. Everything is happening for the well-being of the students so that they can stay safe at home without getting affected by the life-threatening virus. We are not ready for this, but it came, so we have to go through this together, but we have to update the infrastructure and should think of ways to undertake the situation and provide education to every child amid the pandemic if they are face something precisely likes this in the future to aid the forthcoming generation. Stay home. Stay safe.

Higher Education

Swayam is the national online education platform hosting 1900 courses covering both school (classes 9 to 12) and higher education (undergraduate, postgraduate programs) in all subjects including engineering, humanities and social sciences, law and management courses. The unique feature is that it is integrated with conventional education. Credit transfers are possible for SWAYAM courses

Swayam Prabha has 32 DTH TV channels transmitting educational content on a 24 x 7 basis. These channels are available for viewing all across the country using DD Free Dish Set Top Box and Antenna. The channel schedule and other details are available in the portal. The channels cover both school education (classes 9 to 12) and higher education (undergraduate, postgraduate, engineering out of school children, vocational courses and teacher training) in arts, science, commerce, performing arts, social sciences and humanities subjects, engineering, technology, law, medicine, agriculture.

e-PG Pathshala is for postgraduate students. Postgraduate students can access this platform for eBooks', online courses and study materials during this lockdown period. The importance of this platform is that students can access these facilities without having internet for the whole day.

Methodology

The sources of data collected through secondary sources of historical and current writings have been used to develop a framework of the study and to arrive at an unbiased conclusion. The data was collected to identify and analyze the impact of Covid 19 on education in India.

Positive impact of COVID-19 on education:

Though the outbreak of COVID-19 has created many negative impacts on education, educational institutions of India have accepted the challenges and trying their best to provide seamless support services to the students during the pandemic. Indian education system got the opportunity for transformation from traditional system to a new era. The following points may be considered as the positive impacts. Move towards Blended Learning: COVID-19 has accelerated adoption of digital technologies to deliver education. Educational institutions moved towards blended mode of learning. It encouraged all teachers and students to become more technology savvy. New ways of delivery and assessments of learning opened immense opportunities for a major transformation in the area of curriculum development and pedagogy. It also gives access to large pools of learners at a time.

Rise in use of Learning Management Systems

Use of learning management systems by educational institutions became a great demand. It opened a great opportunity for the companies those have been developing and strengthening learning management systems for use educational institutions (Misra, 2020).

Enhance the use of soft copy of learning material

In lockdown situation students were not able to collect the hard copies of study materials and hence most of the students used of soft copies materials for reference. Improvement in collaborative work- There is a new opportunity where collaborative teaching and learning can take on new forms. Collaborations can also happen among faculty / teachers across the world to benefit from each other (Misra, 2020).

Rise in online meetings

The pandemic has created a massive rise in teleconferencing, virtual meetings, and webinars and e-conferencing opportunities. Enhanced Digital Literacy: The pandemic situation induced people to learn and use digital technology and resulted in increasing the digital literacy.

Demand for Open and Distance Learning (ODL):

During the pandemic situation most of the students preferred ODL mode as it encourages self-learning providing opportunities to learn from diverse resources and customized learning as per their needs.

Negative impact of COVID-19 on education

Education sector has suffered a lot due to the outbreak of COVID-19. It has created many negative impacts on education and some of them are as pointed below:

Educational activity hampered

Classes have been suspended and exams at different levels postponed. Different boards have already postponed the annual examinations and entrance tests. Admission process got delayed. Due to continuity in lockdown, student suffered a loss of nearly 3 months of the full academic year of 2020-21 which is going to further deteriorate the situation of continuity in education and the as students would face much difficulty in resuming schooling again after a huge gap.

Impact on employment

Most of the recruitment got postponed due to COVID-19 Placements for students may also be affected with companies delaying the on board of students. Unemployment rate is expected to be increased due to this pandemic. In India, there is no recruitment in Govt. sector and fresh graduates fear withdrawal of their job offers from private sectors because of the current situation. The Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy's estimates on unemployment shot up from 8.4% in mid-March to 23% in early April and the urban unemployment rate to 30.9%.

Life of private school teacher's sufferings

Teachers are a special blessing from God to us. They are the ones who build a good nation and make the world a better place. A teacher teaches us the importance of a pen over that of a sword. They are much esteemed in society as they elevate the living standards of people. They are like the building blocks of society that educate people and make them better human beings. A teacher does not merely stick to the role of a teacher. They adapt to various roles as and when the need arises. Teachers in private schools are facing exploitation similar in nature to the exploitation suffered by manual labourers in our textile mills and brick kilns, and yet very few people realize the extent and scale of this exploitation. During the ongoing pandemic i.e. covid 19 first time the parents and students realized the utmost importance of a teacher. Once the covid 19 hit the road all the school teachers tighten their belts and impart online education to their students through various online study applications. Private school teachers are playing an important and titanic role during this ongoing pandemic in terms of online education. They don't leave any stone unturned to provide online education to the students. From time to time private schools' principles are providing orders to their teachers and

teachers are following their orders from heart and spirit. The orders are like online examination, checking of papers, preparing of assignments for students, calling parents regarding fee etc. The school principals never consider the life of their teachers. Do you know why during the imposition of section 144 private school teachers receives the call in the morning from their heads to reach school and do the different tasks? These principals never think that there is an imposition of a section of 144 and how these teachers will come to school. Private school teachers can't utter a word because they know that if they will say anything to their heads they will be kicked out or disengaged from school.

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Unprepared teachers/students for online education

Not all teachers/students are good at it or at least not all of them were ready for this sudden transition from face to face learning to online learning. The teachers are conducting the lecture on video platforms such as zoom, Google meet etc.

Suggestions

India should accept full technology for the development of education. The Indian Government enacts sound laws for private schools so that there will be no exploitation of the teachers. Internet is a fundamental right of citizens. It should be open to all without any discrimination. India must invest more and more in education. The schools start class work of internet for students for the during any crisis they can use it well for education. The teachers should take training in accessing the internet and electronic devices.

II.CONCLUSION

COVID-19 has impacted immensely the education sector of India. Though it has created many challenges, various opportunities are also evolved. The Indian Govt. and different stakeholders of education have explored the possibility of Open and Distance learning by adopting different digital technologies to cope up with the present crisis of COVID-19. India is not fully equipped to make education reach all corners of the nation via digital platforms. The students who aren't privileged like the others will suffer due to the present choice of digital platforms. The priority should be to utilize digital technology to create an advantageous position for millions of young students in India. It is need of the hour for the educational institutions to strengthen their knowledge and Information Technology infrastructure to be ready for facing COVID-19 like situations. Even if the COVID-19 crisis stretches longer, there is an urgent need to take efforts on maximum utilization of online platforms. India should develop creative strategies to ensure that all children must have sustainable access to learning during pandemic COVID19. As online practice is benefitting the students immensely, it should be continued after the lockdown. Further detailed statistical study may be undertaken to explore the impact of COVID-19 on education system of India.

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