

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON ONLINE & OFFLINE LEARNING SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

In this knowledge driven economy, India is moving from strength to strength towards making the capabilities of its citizens better. The most important role is to create good students with sound technical knowledge who can be future educators, entrepreneurs or government employees. The advancement of blended learning started much earlier, but now it has gained importance in all aspects of the education. Technology is the main weapon which integrates teaching methods in electronic form which is the need of the hour. The COVID-19 pandemic made the entire country go into different stages of lockdown and shutdown. This paper aims at understanding the scenario of educational system, different problems faced during the lockdown, analyzing the factors affecting different blended learning, and various tools to provide suggestions for smooth flow of information and without much hassles.

Keywords: *Blended learning, Lockdown, Shutdown*

Introduction

The emergence of deadly and infectious disease corona virus which is also known as COVID-19 has deeply affected the economy. It has also affected the education system across the globe. The COVID-19 pandemic compelled many schools and colleges to shutdown and online education. All schools, colleges around the world discontinued their physical mode of teaching. It was very difficult to get back to normal situation. Social distancing, masks, hand washing techniques and other norms of COVID-19 were to be followed for physical mode of education. This situation demanded discipline and commitment. It was difficult especially in case of school children. Thus there was no, alternative to online education.

Learning pedagogy, lifelong learning, accessibility, affordability, and flexibility of policy are important aspects of online pedagogy. Online mode of learning is quickly accessible and can reach many rural and remote areas. Flexibility is another facet of online learning. Face-to-face lectures with technology give rise to blended-learning, and may increase the learning potential of the students. At any time, students can learn and develop new skills in the process leading to lifelong learning. It is the cheapest mode of teaching and learning in terms of lower cost of transportation, accommodation and the overall cost of the institutional infrastructure. The government also

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recognizes the essence of online learning in this dynamic world.

Review of literature

Nuno (2018) have focused on the essence of computer aided teaching which is an effective tool in the teaching of reading and writing in the classroom.

Lal and jundi (2018) have focused on the trend towards e-learning and impacts on gender, specialization, work experience and others.

Khalafulah's (2003) study tells us about effectiveness of e-learning and others in the development of skills which is needed to produce educational models.

Kinsara (2017) study and aimed at providing adequate sources regarding impact of a computer based education strategy on the direct ad deferred achievement of students on a teaching techniques courses. As compared to mechanical methods.

Klimova (2017) analyzed the blended learning approach and its learning materials in different courses of time.

Paitek (2020) made adequate analysis of online mode of education with offline mode of education system in terms of efficiency, motivation , achievement etc.

Objectives of the study

As per the research gap identified from the literature review the following objectives has been set for the study.

- To study the factors that facilitate the online mode of teaching learning system
- To understand the impact of COVID-19 on the overall education system.

Significance

The impact on corona on the learning system has badly affected and many universities are adopting virtual mode of teaching, sometimes infrastructural facilities like internet becomes a problem. Face to face classes are mostly needed to understand the essence of teaching in real terms. But during this difficult situation it is impossible to do so. Investment in online mode of teaching and learning by the government and private bodies in this sector is a must.

Benefits of Online Learning

a. Promote Metacognitive Awareness

Online learners have freedom and autonomy in doing their work in terms of planning, monitoring and assessing the performance and its evaluation. It helps the students to do at leisure times and see the video and audio as many times as possible.

b. Maintains a Social Presence

Remaining at home with positive mindset, and balanced level of participation and communication is the need of the hour. It may be done through frequent discussion about student's problems, available opportunities to create good atmosphere for the online community.

c. Promotes Collaboration

Collaborative eLearning processes help students to achieve different levels of knowledge through creation of goals, exploration, and meaningful decision making. It also reduces the feeling of isolation when students are at a distance from the physical institution. It may be through case studies, assignments and group discussions

d. Promotes Active Learning

Students must express their feelings, which is very less in online platform. A maximum time is utilized among faculty members regarding teaching and learning; task should be provided to them and evaluated also.

e. Incorporates Multiple Media

Study Material in online form will help students to get the notes and study materials for the classes during this pandemic period. Students should be encouraged to see the content and read the transcript.

Factors Affecting Advancement of Blended Learning Activity

In online courses more than 80% of the course contents are delivered and in case of blended learning near about 30 % to 80% of the course content are delivered online with face-to-face interaction. They refine the educational roles and give variety of opportunities for learning

a. Learner-Cantered Learning and Teaching

An effective online instructor helps in providing control of the learning process. It takes students' background, attitudes, needs, and interests for a result-based outcome.

b. Collaborative & Interactive Learning

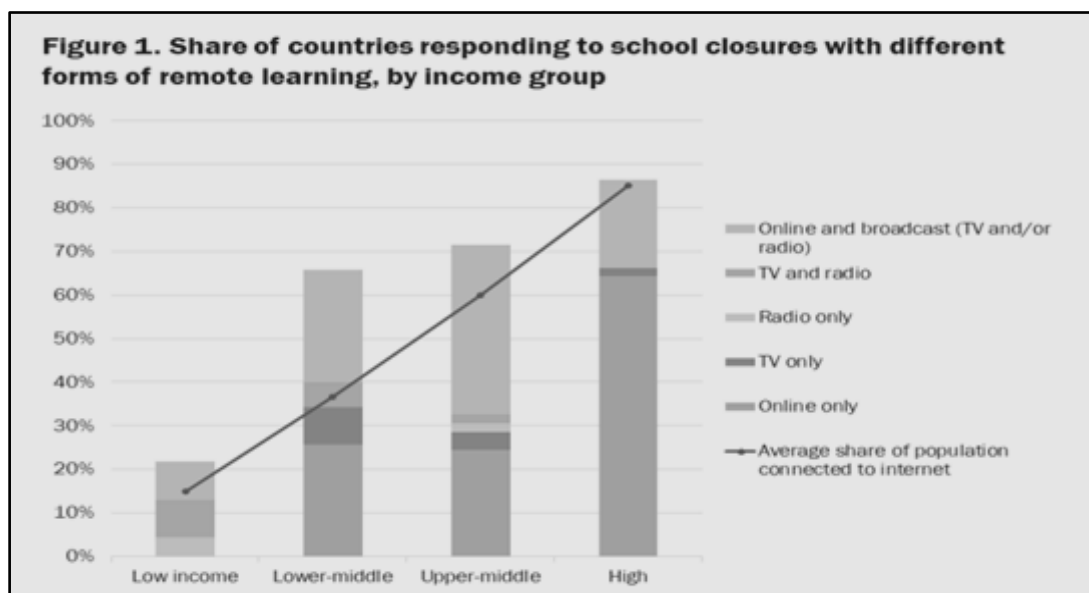
Students should be provided accurate information at the right time and they should be given the opportunity to give thoughtful response. There are a variety of ways for students to collaborate online, including synchronous and asynchronous, discussions and small group assignments.

c. Increased Flexibility

Online learning offers more flexibility because students can control when and where they learn. By self-monitoring their time and pacing, students are able to spend more time on unfamiliar or difficult content

d. Immediate Feedback

Online learners generally have greater access to instructors via email and are able to have questions answered by their peers in a timely fashion on discussion boards. In addition, online tests and quizzes can be constructed with automatic grading capability that provides timely feedback.



Source: Centre for global development and world bank

The above figure clearly indicates that except lower income groups all other groups have access to the internet. But the most important thing is that in all the income groups, there are certain percentage of people who look for the online broadcasting in TVs and Radios for educational support.

Conclusion

E-learning is making the technology to change and also redefining how to transmit knowledge, skills, and value to younger generations of faculty and students. Learners will have access to millions of knowledge modules available online. Online education has brought a positive change in the life of students and working officials. It is the time to grab opportunity rather than complaining about the pandemic. Online education has also helped the faculty in the institutions to ask students to study some part of syllabus, online which does not require much of classroom instructions. So, the online study helps the faculty to save time in which they can interact with the students more. The quality of education has improved by online courses and even it has become easier for students to refer the content during their leisure time. In the era of digitalization, the scope of online teaching-learning has increased even more and will be beneficial for students, professionals and also institutions.

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