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Impact of Covid-19 and Digital Education on Teaching-Learning Process

Sakshi¹ and Chetan Sharma^{2*}

¹Chitkara University Institute of Engineering and Technology, Chitkara University, Punjab, India ²Chitkara University, Himachal Pradesh, India ***Corresponding Author:** Chetan Sharma, Chitkara University, Himachal Pradesh, India. Received: July 30, 2020 Published: August 19, 2020 © All rights are reserved by Sakshi and Chetan Sharma.

Abstract

COVID-19 has become a pandemic nowadays around the globe. This epidemic started in China in December 2019 and spread to the other countries of the world rapidly.

Keywords: Covid-19; Digital Education; Teaching-Learning Process

COVID-19 has become a pandemic nowadays around the globe. This epidemic started in China in December 2019 and spread to the other countries of the world rapidly. The effect of this deadly disease is causing a massive number of deaths per day around the globe. Countries are helpless in controlling the virus communication in people for which they decided to shut down all their services. The shutdown of services impacts all sectors throughout the globe [1]. The education sector is the most valuable sector for any country in their growth as this is used to raise the skills of people. Schools, colleges, and universities considered to be fun times for students, social awareness, learning skills, ethics, moral values, and many more. Current corona pandemic leads to shutdown all institutes, which affects the student as well as staff life. In December 2019, coronavirus started its journey, and at the end of February, it starts knocking the door of every country, which create an alarming situation around the globe [2]. Till February, only china is the country that closes its schools and applied social distancing in their country to stop spreading the virus. Still, in March 2020, approximately 120 countries are affected by the virus, and they closed the education sector to prevent students from the virus. According to the report, as on 27 July 2020 total of 1,058,824,335 affected learners that are 60.5% of complete enrolled learners in 106 country-wide closures [3]. According to a study [4], the following people are more likely to be affected by this virus:

- Infants or children age less than ten years.
- Old People aged 65 years or older
- Pregnant Women
- Persons having a habit of smoking and drinking
- Asthma patients
- A person is suffering from a disease related to the respiratory system.



Figure 1: School closed [5].

Students are the future of any nation, and the closing of the education sector is a logical solution to enforcing social distancing among society to save every person from a virus. According to different academicians or parents, when the pandemic is over, students will return with lower achievements, and it will lower down the gap between high and low achievers [6]. So, after the closure of the education sector around the globe, they start the online learning process so that learning will be in a continuous operation to solve the problem. In the last six months, online teaching becomes part of the education sector. The online teaching process creates a lot of anxiety and stressful situation for students and their parents. Initially, no country is prepared for this situation and faces problems like access to technology, Internet connectivity, smartphone users, awareness, and many more. The current era is already promoting digitalization around the globe for the growth of people, and COVID-19 raised red light to all the sectors, including the education sector, and made it compulsory to change their strategy to digital platforms. It is the time for all students and academicians need to be versatile, flexible, and reinvent themselves according to the requirement of the current situation. The digital platforms are helping the education sector to speed up their teaching-learning process. Students are learning and getting assessed through online platforms like zoom, Webex, Microsoft team, Jiomeet, Google classroom, and many more.



Every county adopts online teaching, but low-income countries are still not in the position to adopt this strategy. The low-income education sector is not able to adapt to the online teaching method, so they have completely shut down, which affects the study of the students. The fact that this pandemic called COVID -19 has not only changed the health ratio globally, but its widespread has brought along many other effects [8]. The list of the aligning effects includes, financial breakdown, global crisis, enhanced poverty rate, inflation, and the list goes on. The most alarming impact that could not be ignored is the indirect influence on the learner, teaching, and student community. This digitalization, due to consecutive lockdown, has changed the face of today's education system by bringing the tasks from notebooks to laptops. This sudden shift in the teachinglearning process was evident due to the current scenario. Still, the after-effects of this model on the educators and students are becoming a matter of grave concern. The highlights of the impact of COVID-19 lockdowns are:

- Affected and hindered the regular growth of the students.
- Lengthy online classes hold less efficiency than live classroom lectures, resulting in the declining performance of the students.
- Digital mediums are not affordable by all sections of society and countries.
- Less student monitoring is involved, leading to proxy lectures and indisciplined students' attitudes.
- Hours of continuous online classes affect the health of students, exceptionally, the primary school and the high school students.
- The virtual medium is not as effective as classroom education.

Conclusion

Though the direct effects of COVID-19 are purely visible, it's myriad indirect effects caused due to this online mode of education cant be neglected. There is a crucial need to understand the fact digitalization of knowledge is only beneficial to an extend. A complete shift from the physical classroom to the virtual one will bring along, so many hurdles for both the student and educator. Apart from the boredom of lengthy online sessions, the typical decline of quality of assessment criteria is observed. The online assessment criteria promoted owing to the current scenario is affecting the quality of education imparted. The less disciplined attitude of students is making the mob rush for just exam grades, and this online medium has reduced their seriousness as students can give exam casually sitting anywhere in their house or so. There is a need for

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an ideal solution and digitalized back up preplanned and documented for a situation like this. Apart from the boredom and lack of interest in the online classroom, the student feels so isolated while learning from home, and the 100% output of the teaching is still a significant milestone to be achieved.

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