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## A STUDY ON COVID 19 IN INDIA AND ITS POTENTIAL CHALLENGES ON EDUCATION SYSTEM

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### ABSTRACT

*The Novel Coronavirus pandemic spread across the globe. It has largely impacted the education system, which is very important in determining the country future. Due to the lockdown imposed by government of India made people to stay indoor and due to this people were exposed for psychological stress. At the beginning of February 2020, only schools in China and other few countries are affected. However, by mid-March 2020, nearly 75 countries have announced school closures. To flatten the curve schools and colleges were closed temporarily for indefinite period. This move created the gap in academics. GOI took the required action in reducing this gap by supporting e – learning and online education. Indian learning system is more acquainted with face to face or physical teaching learning process. Most of educators and learners are not equipped with use of technology in education and there is also lack of practice and motivation towards use of technology in education which creates more challenges during pandemics. These challenges have also created opportunities for the educational institutes to strengthen their technological knowledge and infrastructure to tackle the Covid-19. This paper focus on the Concept of COVID 19, Impact of COVID 19 on Indian Education System, E-learning, Potential Challenges of COVID 19 on Education. The research is descriptive in nature for the purpose study Primary data collected through questionnaire method and secondary data is used.*

**Keywords:** COVID 19, Pandemic, Education, E- Learning, Challenges, Online Teaching,

### INTRODUCTION

Many nations across the world have recess the academic institutions to flatten the curve and the spread of the Covid-19. With wide spread lockdown situation around the world, more than 72% of the learners fraternity missed learning Opportunities (UNESCO) In this time of pandemic the Online Learning (E-Learning) mode is more popular than traditional classroom teaching . E- learning provides flexible mode to learning to adult learners in terms convenient learning to get their desired higher degree of qualification. With more pliability and student centric approach. It paves the way to reach the unreached learners by providing opportunity to learn in their locations and times. It enables learners to extend the period of their education to a lifelong learning process. Multiple agencies predict the effect of the pandemic across all the aspects of the economy such as Moody's foresee the growth rate to downfall by 2.5 percent during this year. On this front Indian government Issued several guidelines which includes restricting movement of people and social distancing. University Grants Commission (UGC) and other apex education bodies issued the guidelines to be followed by higher education institutions in India which resulted in closure of 1000 universities and 40,000 colleges to suspend temporarily which made to students to undertake online classes in the homes. This move of apex bodies have a diverse impact on students and faculties over 3.75 crore students enrolled in and – 14 lakh teaching fraternity. It is also expected that there is greater disruption in the field of higher education due to the prolonged and uncertain lockdowns on the areas like enrollment of students, on pecuniary resource, delay or drop in the research activities by scholars, termination of employees. This academic year nearly 1.44 crore learning fraternity are appearing to their final exams and nearly 50 lakh of these students have the plans to join the higher education. This year, close to 1.44 crore students are appearing for their school leaving exams and close to 50 lakh of these students will be looking to enroll in a higher education institution in this academic session.

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

**Michael P. A. Murphy (2020):** In their study titled “Consequences of the securitization of higher education for post pandemic pedagogy” this study is focused on the securitization theory of Copenhagen school with 25 respondents of emergency e-Learning at American universities, in their study they conclude that securitization theory plays a important role not only for observing (and understanding) the phenomenon of emergency e-Learning, but also for advocating the desecuritization of schooling post pandemic.

**Dr Priyanka Singh Niranjana (2020) :** In their study researcher explains, The corona virus which has been declared as global pandemic by WHO have impacted all the segments of the population. It is very inspiring to see the teaching fraternity taking up the online teaching with greater interest. The students who are digitally skillful are showing greater interest in learning the course online. They also opine that global pandemic have a beneficial impact on the education system.

**Dr. Pravat Kumar Jena (2020):** In his study explains that Open and Distance Learning is a very decent platform to keep students involved and safe by preserving social distancing during the lockdown period for Covid-19. Distance learning provides an platform in conducting various learning activities like sharing of learning materials, interaction with learner as the like, with real time experience. Though the outbreak of Covid-19 has shaped many challenges for education including Open and Distance Learning system, many educational institutions have accepted the challenges and trying their best to provide seamless support services to the learners exploring better opportunities.

### Objectives of the Study

1. To Understand the Impact of COVID 19 in India;
2. To cognize the potential challenges on Education system in India after COVID – 19.

### Significance of the Study

The outbreak of novel corona virus created a huge challenge on national education system have ever faced. Though E- learning existing before the outbreak, it is gaining more importance during the lockdown times and it is expected to bring the paradigm shift in the education system on trajectories of pandemic. This research studies helps to know what the impacted areas are and guides the policymakers on focus areas, challenges and preparations that systems could make which as to be faced in future scenarios.

### SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The study is limited only to analyze the impact of COVID – 19 in India and its potential challenges on Education System. The data is collected from Professionals and Teachers in Karnataka.

### Hypothesis of the study

H01: Attitude of Respondents regarding Traditional Method of Teaching and E-Learning are same.

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

To collect the data for the study descriptive methodology has been used. The attitude of respondents are collected regarding the E- Learning during COVID-19 and Potential Challenges on Education System after COVID- 19. The information presented in current study are collected from various authentic websites as it is risky to go out for data collection due to pandemic Covid-19.

### Sources of data collection

The study is conducted based on primary data and secondary data. Primary data collected with the help of well-structured questionnaire through convenience method of sampling as it is risky to go out for data collection due to pandemic Covid-19. Secondary data is collected from various sources such as published books, Articles published in different journals & newspapers, periodicals, conference paper and Websites, etc.

### Sample Framework of the study

A sample size of 320 was selected using the convenience sampling procedure out of which 250 copies were retrieved in usable form. This represents a response rate of 78%.The sample includes Professionals and Teachers.

### Statistical tools used for data analysis

The evidence collected was scrutinized and presented in a logical way to give a relevant interpretation. For the analysis various appropriate statistical tools are used like mean, standard deviation and percentage method.

### LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

- 1) First major limitations are related to sampling where in about 5-10% of sampling error due to the sample biasness and time biasness which reduce the validity of the results.
- 2) The study is restricted to E- Learning data collected from Professionals and Teachers only.
- 3) The study is confined only to analyze the impact of COVID- 19 in India and its potential challenges on Education System.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Demographic profile of the respondents

**Table no 1.1** Classification of different type of respondents

Sl.no	Particulars	Male	Female	Total	Percentage

1	Professionals	28	11	39	16
2	Teachers	153	58	211	84
	Total	181	69	250	100

Source: Primary data

Inference: table 1.1 represents the classification of respondents out of 250 respondents 16% are Professionals and 84% are Teachers and out of total respondents 181 are males, 69 respondents are females.

Table no 1.2

Table showing which mode of education do you think more useful after COVID-19?

Particular	Frequency	Percent	Mean	SD
Traditional Method of Learning	53	21	1.79	.410
E- Learning	197	79		
Total	250	100		

Inference: The 21% of respondents feels that Traditional method of Learning during and after COVID -19 is the good mode of education. The 79% of respondents opinioned E- Learning is the best mode of education which will cover more learners around the globe. The many countries like Denmark, South Korea, America and other European countries are adopted E-Learning in schools and colleges, which is the need of the country to adopt E- Learning in Colleges and Universities to update present technology in Education.

Table 1.3: Attitude of the respondents regarding Potential challenges of Education system after Covid-19.

Particulars		SA	A	N	DA	SDA	Mean	S.D
E-Learning is more flexible than Traditional Learning	N	85	66	44	32	23	2.37	1.314
	%	34.0	26.4	17.6	12.8	9.2		
E-Learning will have more impact on education, after COVID-19	N	91	85	11	28	35	2.32	1.421
	%	36.3	33.9	4.4	11.2	13.9		
E- Learning will act as a game changer on education system after COVID-19	N	103	71	14	37	25	2.24	1.382
	%	41.2	28.4	5.6	14.8	10.0		
E-Learning will cover the wide range	N	58	121	16	29	26	2.38	1.249
	%	23.2	48.4	6.4	11.6	10.4		
Infrastructure is the big challenge for the Institutions or government	N	127	25	16	37	45	2.39	1.625
	%	50.8	10	6.4	14.8	18		
E-Learning is the need of the hour during and after COVID-19	N	90	70	30	34	26	2.34	1.360
	%	36	28	12	13.6	10.4		
Through E-Learning reaching wider spread of students is a big challenge	N	30	64	49	59	48	3.12	1.316
	%	12	25.6	19.6	23.6	19.2		
Optimum utilization of E-Learning, Training and awareness is a challenge for users	N	85	89	31	22	23	2.24	1.263
	%	34	35.6	12.4	8.8	9.2		
Infrastructure for Adopting E-Learning in Government Institutions and Colleges is a big challenge	N	45	75	33	60	37	2.88	1.358
	%	18	30	13.2	24	14.8		
Switching Traditional Method of Teaching to E –Learning will Consumes time and energy.	N	49	58	30	73	40	2.99	1.398
	%	19.6	23.2	12	29.2	16		

Source: Primary Data

**Inference:** 34% of the respondents strongly agree and 26% of the respondents are agree with that E-Learning is more flexible than Traditional Learning, 36% of the respondents strongly agree and 33% of the respondents are agree E-Learning will have more impact on education, after COVID-19, 41% of the respondents strongly agree and 28% of the respondents are agree that E-Learning will act as a game changer on education system after COVID-19, 23% of the respondents are strongly agree and 48% are agree E-Learning will cover the wide range, 50% of the respondents are strongly agree and 10% are agree Infrastructure is the big challenge for the Institutions or government, 36% of the respondents are strongly agree and 28% are agree E-Learning is the need of the hour during and after COVID-19, 12% of the respondents are strongly agree and 25% are agree Through E-Learning reaching wider spread of students is a big challenge, 34% of the respondents are strongly agree and 35% are agree Optimum utilization of E-Learning, Training and awareness is a challenge for users, 18% of the respondents are strongly agree and 30% are agree Infrastructure for Adopting E-Learning in Government Institutions and Colleges is a big challenge, 19% of the respondents are strongly agree and 23% are agree Switching Traditional Method of Teaching to E-Learning will Consumes time and energy.

**Table no 1.4** Table showing which is the best way of Teaching?

Particular	Frequency	Percent	Mean	SD
Face to Face class room teaching	25	10	1.90	.301
Online Classes	225	90		
Total	250	100		

**Inference:** The data shows Even before COVID-19, there was already high growth and implementation in education technology, with global ed tech investments reaching US\$18.66 billion in 2019 and the overall market for online education projected to reach \$350 Billion by 2025. Whether it is language apps, virtual tutoring, video conferencing tools, or online learning software, there has been a significant surge in usage since COVID-19. The 10% respondents opinioned face to face class room teaching have impact Education just like Gurukula system in India. whereas 90% respondents are opinioned that online classes will more impact on education.

### Testing of Hypothesis

H01: Attitude of Respondents regarding Traditional Method of Teaching and E-Learning are same.

**Conclusion:** The Respondents regarding Traditional Method of Teaching and E-Learning are necessitated the researcher to capture the data accordingly. As per the data analysis 21% of respondents opinioned Traditional Method of Teaching is best where as 79% are felt E-Learning is best method and the 10% of respondents felt Face to Face Class room is best and 90% of respondents felt online class is best at the time and after COVID-19 also, therefore null hypothesis is rejected. To conclude that Attitude of Respondents regarding Traditional Method of Teaching and E-Learning are not same.

### FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

- From the survey found that in Indian education system is more in the form of Traditional method of Teaching and counselling of classes are existed in most of the parts of the country.
- It was found that when there is a option for learning virtually some of the respondents are unable to use it due to lack of virtual knowledge and skill of using the device. Which protects them from exploitation.
- The 21% of respondents feels that Traditional method of Learning during and after COVID -19 is the good mode of education. The 79% of respondents opinioned E-Learning is the best mode of education which will cover more learners around the globe.
- The survey found that the many countries like Denmark, South Korea, America and other European countries are adopted E-Learning in schools and colleges, which is the need of the country to adopt E-Learning in their Colleges and Universities to update present technology in Education.
- From the study it was identified that during online classes the most suffered learners are from poor financial background, who could not afford for gadgets and high internet connectivity.

### SUGGESTIONS OF THE STUDY

- Educational institutions and government should come up with the policy to protect the interest of the underprivileged learners to get the access of high speed internet connectivity and technical gadgets in order to encourage the online learning. As a result the learners engage themselves in learning activity.
- The providing of Infrastructure is the big challenge to the country like India where many universities and colleges having highest young student population in the world. It is suggested to the Government to

collaborate and have Memorandum of Understanding with online platform providers like Zoom, Google meet, Skype, Facebook live, YouTube live and other company providers to encourage them to give subsidies or free of cost in the name of Corporate Social Responsibility schemes to improve E-Learning in India.

- E- Learning is a need of the hour many universities in the world are already providing online teaching to their students. It is suggested to Teaching Fraternity and professionals to get trained, self-motivate and adopt to teach through online.
- Security is the major concern while using the various platforms for the purpose of virtual learning. Authorities should raise awareness about the safety measures in regards with learning tools is the need of the hour. and also give insight on antivirus programs if not personal data may be hampered.,
- The many countries like Denmark, South Korea, America and other European countries are adopted E-Learning in schools and colleges. It is suggested to the government to include E- Learning methods in New Education policy because it is the need of the hour
- Due to lack of training many of the learners don't come forward to learn virtually. Hence training policies should be focused on providing insight about the virtual learning.

### CONCLUSION

E- Learning turned into alternative platform to continue the learning activity by maintaining social distancing during the lockdown period of the pandemic. With the availability of various online learning platform it was possible to educators to give more real time interactive experience, synchronous video conferencing. though the outbreak of Covid-19 has created many challenges for education, many educational institutions have accepted the challenges and trying their best to provide seamless support services to the learners exploring better opportunities. Every challenge is an opportunity. Though Covid-19 has created many challenges, it has induced the educational institutions to explore better opportunities of learning using different technologies. Government has been tackling all challenges created by Covid-19 and providing effective support services through online mode for the benefit of stakeholders.. if the government institutions /NGO's could take up the initiative to provide network facilities and gadgets for low income group who could not offer to purchase can encourage the learners to actively take up the learning activity and utilize the educational opportunities for skill, Knowledge and Nation building activities.

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