

Role of Covid-19 epidemic in disrupting Indian Education System

Key words :

Covid-19, Online Classes, disruption in Education, Social Distancing

COVID-19 epidemic has disrupted the whole world. It developed in China and is now spreading globally. This epidemic is a health crisis affecting the economic development of each nation. This epidemic has disrupted the normal daily life of each nation. The Government of India has declared a lockdown across the country, along with promoting social distance to control the spread of COVID-19. All schools, colleges and Universities have been declared closed due to the epidemic. This is disrupting the entire education system. Policy makers are facing a number of problems in formulating policy related to education system. Teaching is going online from offline. Teaching system, students, teachers and parents are facing many problems due to this change. The present paper describes various factors that hamper the education system due to COVID-19.

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The COVID-19 as a pandemic was declared by the WHO on 11 March 2020. This outbreak pandemic was evolved in Wuhan city of China and has affected many countries. The epidemic has greatly hampered the development of countries where cases of Novel Corona virus have been reported a lot. To reduce congestion, countries are taking various measures like lockdown, absence in workplace, school closure, stoppage of transport facilities etc. COVID-19 epidemic has temporarily shut down educational institutions around the world. More than 90 percent of the world's student population is affected by this nationwide lockdown. India is also suffering from this epidemic COVID-19. Government of India has taken various measures to control the infection such as 'Janta Curfew' announced by the Prime Minister on 22nd March, 2020 later on due to increasing cases of Covid-19, a total lockdown was announced for 21 days. The lockdown was carried forward by the Government of India on 14th April, 2020 till 3rd May, 2020. This decision is affecting the various sectors in the country. The education sector is also affected by the lockdown which is a critical determinant of the economic future of the country. As per the directives of the government, all school, colleges and universities are closed. Whole education system is disrupted by the pandemic COVID-19.

2. Impact of COVID-19 on education system:-

State governments started the closure of schools and colleges across the country in order to control the spread of the novel coronavirus. It was announced in the second week of March as a temporary measure to avoid the crowd. Initially, for a month closure of schools was announced by the government but gradually the time of closure

was extended and it is uncertain when they will reopen. During this period, there are various activities take place which are very crucial such as competitive exams and entrance tests of various universities, board examination and semester examinations in universities as well as admission process in universities and schools. In fact in India the closure of school and university will not only have a short-term impact on the continuity of learning of young learners but it will have a large effect on the economic growth of the country as well as having large effect on the society.

3. Impact of COVID-19 on Schools:- In order to raise the skills, best public policy tool available is going to school. School is a place where children can have fun and raise social awareness and social skills. The main motive of going school or being in school is that it enhances the ability of the child. On the other side missing the school or not attending the school will have negative effect on the skill growth. The closure of the schools has affected the structure of learning and schooling. First of all it affected the teaching and assessment methodologies. Generally online teaching methods are adopted by the few private schools that are handful in taking online classes. Generally in those schools children are taking classes online. On the other side low-income private and government schools have complete closure and not having the access to e-learning solution. It is disrupting the learning of students. In fact Parents are facing various issues because of the change in teaching methodology.

4. Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education:

The shutdown of universities has also affected the student's learning in universities. One immediate measure is essential in order to ensure the

continuity in institutes and universities. In order to conduct the class smoothly, online teaching methodology is adopted. Learning management software and open-source digital learning solutions are adopted by the universities to run online classes. Higher education is considered as a critical determinant of the economic future of the country and higher education of our sector has significantly affected by the pandemic as well. Many students from India's different states enrol in universities abroad. Due to the global closure of the institutes and universities, it is expected that it will reduce the demand for the international higher education.

The main concern regarding this which is coming in the mind of everyone is the effect of the pandemic on the rate of employment. Because of the current situation, graduates who have recently completed their graduation are fearing from the withdrawal of job offers from corporate. Teaching methodology in institutes and universities has also transformed due to the lockdown in India. Defiantly it has been replaced the old chalk-talk model with the new technology. E-learning solutions are making teaching and learning possible in this situation but engagement is a big problem attached with the e-learning. The policy makers are trying to solve the problem of engagement of students and tackling the digital divide. In order to manage the crisis in Indian education section, a multi-pronged strategy is necessary in the long term. An effective education and well rounded practices are needed in India to build the capacity of young minds in this time of crisis. To ensure the overall progress in India, It will drive employability, well-being, health and productivity through the development of skills.

5. Impact of COVID-19 on online classes:- In order to maintain the attendance or not missing out too much, children are forced to continue their

education at home and the major drawback of this condition creating a situation where Students generally have not been sent out from the home to play. Bjorklund and Salvanes (2011) have told that the major inputs into a child's learning is provided by the families as these are treated as a central to education. Parents are facing issues in understanding the new methodology of teaching. Some parents are not very techno friendly. In this way they are not able to guide their ward to take classes online. Connectivity of internet is also a big challenge in front of all teachers, students and parents. There are many disturbances have to face due to the poor connectivity.

6. Assessments:- The teaching for students is not only interrupted by the closure of schools, colleges and universities. Janta Curfew also affected the assessment of the students all around the world. Many exams and assessments have been cancelled or postponed because of the closure of educational institutions. This is a new era of the education for both Teachers and Students. Many colleges and universities of India have shifted their traditional classes system to the online classes as well as the examination system also has been shifted from offline to online.

Defiantly Teachers are using online assessment tools for evaluation. Online assessment tools are not free from the limitations. They have also various draw backs. There are various errors related to the measurement are reported in online assessment tools in comparison to the usual measurement. et al. (2020) showed in their research that educational credentials are used by the employers to assess the applicants such as grade point averages and degree classifications to sort applicants. Thus, the lockdown is also affecting the placement of the new graduates on labour market. Matching efficiency of the new

graduates is reducing due to the increment in the disruptions in the signals of the applicants which is leading higher job separation rates and slower earning growth. According to Fredriksson and Ihlen (2018), this is costly both to the individual and also to society as a whole.

7. Conclusion: Due to covid19 closure of Schools, Colleges, Universities is creating great difficulties for Students and also disrupting the internal assessment and public assessments for qualifications. The traditional method of teaching has been replaced by the online teaching. One side online teaching is providing opportunity to the students for learning another side there are various issues are attached with the new methodology of teaching. Education institutions are searching the ways to solve the issues which arose due to the lockdown and putting their efforts to fill the loss of learning. In order to rebuild the loss in learning at the time when they will be reopened, schools need resources. This is really a big challenge for indian education system. In fact the internal assessment of the students related to the learning should not be skipped. It should be postponed for further instructions. New policies should be formed by the Governments to support students in their entry to the Job and other Business. up their immunity and what are the sources that can provide their immunity (like Golden milk, Amla, Lemon etc) and there is a need to adverts immunity boosters through advertisement on Television, Radio and social media etc.

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