

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON EDUCATION SYSTEM

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Abstract

The pandemic of COVID-19 has disrupted the whole world. It was evolved in china and now spreading globally. The COVID-19 is a pandemic health crisis which is affecting the economic growth of the country. This pandemic COVID-19 has resulted in disruptions in the normal daily life. Countries are taking various measures to control the spread of COVID-19. In order to promote the social distancing, government of India has declared lockdown in whole country. Due to the pandemic, all school, colleges and universities are declared to be closed. This is disrupting the whole education system. Policy makers are facing many problems in making the policy related to the education system. Teaching is taking place from offline to online. Due to this transformation in teaching methodology, students, teachers and parents are facing many problems. The present paper addresses the various consequences of the COVID-19 in education system.

Paper Identification



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1. Introduction

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 pandemic has significantly disrupted the growth of countries where the cases of novel coronavirus are

reported. In order to reduce the crowd, countries are taking various measures such as lockdown, workplace non attendance, school closure, suspension of transport facilities etc. For controlling the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, educational institutions have been temporarily closed by most of the countries around the world. Over 90 per cent student population of the world are affected by this closure nationwide. India is also suffering from the pandemic. In order to control the infection of COVID-19, Indian government has taken various measures such as on 22 March 2020, first Janta Curfew was announced by the Prime minister of India. Later on 21 days lockdown was announced by the prime minister of India to control the cases of COVID-19. On 14 April 2020, further the lockdown was extended by the Indian government till 3 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. The purpose of this paper is to state the effects of lockdown on schools, universities, teachers and parents.

2. Impact of COVID-19 on Education System

In order to control the spread of the novel coronavirus, state governments started the closure of schools and colleges across the country. It was somewhere 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, nursery school admissions as well as admission process in universities. In order to stop the outbreak of COVID-19, no immediate solution is found out. 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. Spending a relatively short period of time in school increases skills and ability. 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. Firstly, it affected the teaching and assessment methodologies. Online teaching methods are adopted by the few private schools that are handful in taking online classes. 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. 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. In order to ensure the continuity in institutes and universities, one immediate measure is essential. 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 a critical determinant of the economic future of the country and higher education sector has significantly affected by the pandemic as well. Many students from India enroll 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 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. 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. Impacts COVID-19 on Online Classes on Parents

In order to maintain the attendance or not missing out too much, children are forced to continue their education at home and generally have not been sent out from the home to play. Salvanes

(2011) described that 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. Thus, 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. 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. Lockdown 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. For both students and teachers, this is a new era of the education. Many colleges and universities have shifted their traditional classes system to the online classes as well as the examination system also has been shifted from offline to online. They are using online assessment tools for evaluation. Online assessment tools are not free from the limitations. There are various errors related to the measurement are reported in online assessment tools in comparison to the usual measurement. Piopiunik 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.

Conclusion

The closure of schools, colleges and universities is interrupting the learning of 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. There are many

questions in front of the schools such as how to target the children and how to utilize these resources etc. need to be solved.

The internal assessment of the students related to the learning should not be skipped. It should be postponed. In order to avoid the longer unemployment period for new graduates, new policies should be formed to support them in their entry to the labour market.

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