

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON INDIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM**Mr. Govind Pundalik Pawar***Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, M. J. College, Jalgaon.***Abstract:**

Education is the building block of any nation. Education builds skills, ideology, personality, thoughts, habits, knowledge and mind of the Students. Any nation cannot afford the discontinuation of education system. The Education sectors of India as well as Nation are badly affected from this pandemic COVID-19. The COVID-19 pandemic has created the largest disruption of education systems in human history, nearby 32 crore learners stopped to move schools, colleges and all educational activities in India. Affecting nearly 1.6 billion learners in more than 200 countries. Closures of schools, colleges, institutions and other learning spaces have impacted more than 94% of the world's student population. According to UNESCO, 63 million teachers were affected in 165 countries. A total of 1.3 billion learners around the world were not able to attend schools, colleges or universities, and approximately 320 million learners are affected only in India alone. It has changed the traditional education system to the educational technologies model in which teaching, learning and assessments are conducted online. Both the positive and negative impacts of COVID-19 on Indian Education system are observed.

Key words: Covid-19 (Virus), UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), WTO (World Trade Organization), MHRD (Ministry of Human Resource Development), HE (Higher Education), ODL (Open and Distance Learning), LMS (learning management systems).

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Introduction:

Education is important key to development of any nation. Education develop mind of a person. A developed mind can only innovate and come up with new ideas and thoughts for a nation's development. So education is very powerful key. Any nation cannot afford the discontinuation of it education system. The Education sectors of India are badly affected from this COVID-19. On March 11, 2020 WHO declared Covid-19 as a pandemic. Globally as of January 28, 2022 Covid-19 has affected 364,191,494 confirmed cases, including 5,631,457 deaths worldwide. In India, the first affected case of Covid-19 was detected on 30 January 2020 in the state of Kerala and the affected had a travel history from Wuhan, China. In India, the first death was reported on March 12, 2020 and the nation observed Janta Curfew for a day on March 22, 2020. India again observed 14 hours Janta Curfew on March 24 to combat the Coronavirus pandemic and assess the country's ability to fight the

virus. Then, the 1st phase of lockdown was announced by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on March 25, 2020 for 21 days. Monitoring the effects of the virus, Indian Government has been extending the lockdown period in different phases and the lockdown 5.0 was declared on April 30 which is effective from 1st June to 30th June 2020. In all the phases of lockdown starting from lockdown1.0 to lockdown 5.0, the educational institutions throughout the nation have never got any relaxation to start their educational activities. The COVID-19 pandemic has created the largest disruption of education systems in human history.

According to a survey report of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India, conducted on higher education it was observed that there are 993 universities, 39931 Colleges and 10725 stand-alone institutions listed on their portal, which contribute to education. According to the UNESCO report, over 290 million students across 29 countries are affected. Approximate 32 crore students including school and colleges are affecting, declared by the UNESCO. According to the UNESCO report, Covid-19 has affected nearly 68% of total world's student population as per the data taken during 1st week of June 2020. Outbreak of Covid-19 has impacted about 1.2 billion students and youths across the globe by school and university closures. Owing to the present scenario teaching is switching to the online platform. Sometimes some hurdles also come in online studying. Like internet connection failure, disturbances at home environment, so many students are not able to do the study on the online platform. Not only private schools are adopting e-learning platforms but even government schools also have to adopt e-learning platforms. Some online platforms are WebEx, Meet, Teach mint, Zoom, Skype and Google classroom. By adopting these technology tools, our education will move from a teacher-centric approach to a student-centric approach in the future. These online tools will help teachers and students to enhance their skills and develop their knowledge. Now we can say that this crisis is not only teaching us how to fight this pandemic but also teaching us, how to make our future. The government of India has launched various e-portal and apps to help the students like SWAYAM, DIKSHA PORTAL, E-PATHSHALA, SMILE, STEM-based portals and many more.

Research Methodology:

This paper is based on the secondary data, and data has been taken from various reports of national and international agencies on Covid-19 pandemic. As it is not possible to go outside for data collection due to lockdown, information is collected from different authentic websites, journals, newspapers and e-contents relating to impact of Covid-19 on Indian education system. This collected data is analyzed in a systematic manner.

Objectives of the study:

In this present Study focused on the following objectives:

- 1) To exploring the Impact of COVID-19 on the Indian Education System.
- 2) To enlist some negative impacts of COVID-19 on the Indian Education System.
- 3) To highlight various positive impact of COVID-19 on the Indian Education System.
- 4) To put some effective suggestions for continuing education during this COVID-19 pandemic situation.

Impact of COVID-19 on Indian Education System:

The COVID-19 pandemic has created the largest disruption on Indian education systems. COVID-19 has several way to impacted on the Indian education systems. In this study evaluates the some positive and negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Indian Education System. The following points considered as the positive impacts and negative impacts as below:

A) Positive impact of COVID-19 on Indian education System:

Indian education system got the opportunity for transformation from traditional system to a new modern digital system. The following points may be considered as the positive impacts as below:

1) Move towards Digital Teaching and Learning:

Education system has accelerated adoption of digital technologies to deliver education. Educational institutions moved towards digital teaching and learning. It encouraged all teachers and students to become more technology savvy. New ways of learning, delivery and assessments of learning opened immense opportunities for all teachers and students.

2) Encouraged self-study and self-learning:

During this COVID-19 pandemic situation most of the students preferred as it encourages self-study and self-learning providing opportunities to learn from diverse resources and customized learning as per their needs.

3) Growth in Digital Literacy:

In this COVID-19 pandemic situation induced people to learn and use digital technology and resulted in increasing the digital literacy. Parents, teachers and students to become more technology savvy.

4) Growth and Improved in use of electronic media and Social media for sharing information:

During this COVID-19 pandemic situation most of the students preferred Learning materials are shared among the students easily and the related queries are resolved through electronic media, e-mail, SMS, phone calls and using different social Medias like Telegram, YouTube, Twitter, WhatsApp, Facebook and Instagram.

5) Demand for Open and Distance Learning:

During this COVID-19 pandemic situation most of the students preferred ODL mode as it encourages self-learning providing opportunities to learn from diverse resources and customized learning as per their needs.

6) Rise in online meetings and E-Conferencing:

During this COVID-19 pandemic has created a massive rise in teleconferencing, virtual meetings, and webinars and e-conferencing opportunities to everyone.

7) Enhance the use of Learning Management Systems:

Enhanced Use of LMS by educational institutions became a great demand. It opened a great opportunity for the companies those have been developing and strengthening LMS for use educational institutions.

8) Rise in use of soft copy of learning material:

During this COVID-19 pandemic in lockdown situation students were not able to collect the books, hard copies of study materials. Hence most of the students used of soft copies materials for reference like PDF File, Word File and PPT.

9) Plane time management effectively and efficiently:

During this COVID-19 pandemic situation Students are able to manage their time more efficiently in online education. In this lockdown situation students are able to save his some time and utilize his time very effectively and efficiently.

10) Getting Worldwide exposure:

During this lockdown situation Educators and learners are getting opportunities to interact with peers from around the world. Learners adapted to an international community. World comes close use to internet, online education and social media.

B) Negative impact of COVID-19 on Indian education System:

Education sector has suffered from this COVID-19 situation. COVID-19 Pandemic and lockdown situation has created many negative impacts on Indian education system and some of them are as pointed below:

1) Unprepared for online Education:

During this lockdown situation Teachers and students are unprepared for online education. They were not ready for this sudden transition from face to face learning (traditional method) to online learning (modern digital method).

2) Hampered on Educational activity:

In this lockdown situation Schools and colleges are closed and classes have been suspended. Different boards and UGC have already postponed the annual examinations and entrance tests across India. Now facing all schools and colleges Delay in admission process, examination schedule and academics.

3) Increased Unemployment:

In India, there is no recruitment in Govt. sector in this pandemic situation. Most of the recruitment got postponed due to COVID-19. Placements for students may also be affected with companies delaying. Unemployment rate is expected to be increased due to this pandemic. Unemployment shot up from 8.4% in mid-March to 23% in early April (Educationasia.in).

4) Misuse of electronic and social media:

In this lockdown situation Schools and colleges are online. During this situation most of the students misuse of electronic and social media like calls, SMS, Telegram, YouTube, Twitter, WhatsApp, messenger, Facebook and Instagram.

5) Increased responsibility and Roll of parents:

In this lockdown situation some educated parents are able to guide to children but some uneducated parents are not able to guide and teach to children. This is big problem in this situation because education

needed to teach children in the house.

6) Unaffordable and limitation to Access digital devices:

In this lockdown situation has hit the poor students very hard in India as most of them are unable to explore online learning according to various reports. As many students have limited no internet access and many students may not be able to afford computer, laptop or supporting mobile phones in their homes, online teaching-learning may create a digital divide among students.

7) Reduced global employment opportunity:

During this COVID-19 pandemic situation many students who have already got jobs through campus interviews may not be able to join their jobs due to lockdown. The Indians who have been doing their jobs abroad may lose their jobs. Recent graduates in India are of also fearing for withdrawal of job offers from corporate sectors because of movement restriction in the current pandemic situation.

8) Loss of Nutrition of students:

During this lockdown situation has negative impact on Mid-day meal scheme. Basically this programme is designed to provide better the nutritional food to school-age children. In this lockdown closure of schools has serious implications on the daily nutrition of students as the mid-day meal schemes have temporarily been shut.

9) Delayed fees of Schools and Colleges:

During this lockdown situation most of the parents will be facing the unemployment situation so they may not be able to pay the fee for that particular time periods which may affect the private institutes.

10) Reduced global education:

During this lockdown situation large number of Indian students who are enrolled in varies colleges and Universities in abroad are affected. Students are not able to continue his higher education in foreign country because this movement restriction in the current pandemic situation.

Suggestions:

- 1) Govt. should offer some job schemes and policies and internship programs.
- 2) Govt. should implement some policies for various individuals from diverse backgrounds including remote regions, marginalized and minority groups for digital education.
- 3) India should develop creative strategies to ensure that all children must have sustainable access to learning during lockdown.
- 4) Govt. should provide strong internet connectivity and digital infrastructure in remote area and rural area.

Conclusion:

The education sector has been fighting to survive the crises with a different approach and digitizing the challenges to wash away the threat of the pandemic. This paper highlights some measures taken by Govt. of India to provide seamless education in the country. Both the positive and negative impacts of COVID-19 on

education are discussed and some fruitful suggestions are also pointed to carry out educational activities during the pandemic COVID-19 situation.

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