

Impact of COVID-19 on Education of India

Bidyut Prava Nayak¹ and Anjali Sahu²

Department of Physics

¹Gandhi Institute for Technology, Gangapada, Bhubaneswar-752054, Odisha, India

²Gandhi Engineering College, BBSR, Odisha

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Abstract

Although Republic of India isn't thought of as a most progressive and powerful country within the world, still then it's taken under consideration as a number one country and following the foot print of fast achieve be equal with the opposite high most countries. However many times, it's stepping backward thanks to varied natural calamities and disasters. These days the pandemic covid-19 has once more broken the backbone of Republic of India. Republic of India is once more stepping few steps backward thanks to the imprisonment considering the human resources as a valuable one regardless of many cash. Everything is stopped. Education is additionally affected tons. In this paper we'll discuss the detail issues and aspects of education throughout this pandemic state of affairs.

Keywords: Technology, covid, calamities, human resources.

I. Introduction

Ever since Covid-19 invaded this globe, folks across the globe are in worry. This world health pandemic has touched each human person's life in how or the opposite, forcing isolation, uncertainty, anger, and despair and this plus the economic meltdown is inflicting vast psychological distress. The COVID-19 pandemic could be a threat to human Society, each for risking human life succeeding economic distress, and for its invisible emotional strain. The COVID-19 pandemic has inundated the whole world, and Asian country conjointly has borne the force of identical. The unfold was therefore prodigious that the globe Health Organization (WHO) had to declare it as a pestilence. The malady is therefore harmful that the govt. has taken the necessary steps and actions so as to save lots of the human resources because it is that the greatest property.[1-5] The Indian tradition has continuously underlined the importance of physical in addition as mental state and eudemonia. No matter is also the danger, you

may be ready to face it solely with a healthy body and a robust mind.

II. Impact on Education

The Covid- 19 pandemic has sparked a global realization that our current way of life does not work. It has broken our perception of what is normal and deconstructed society as we know it. One such critical area, where the need for change has become evident, is education. The effects of the corona virus and thereby its preventive measures, has upended the life of students, parents and teachers.

The clear disruption in the 'normal' functioning of education has placed an emphasis on many questions, which were previously asked and subsequently left unanswered. So, what could the current effects of this global pandemic mean for the future of education?

To answer these questions, which pertain to modernization and efficiency, a lot of factors must be considered. Given the period we've spent in lockdown and the observations of our abrupt transition to online learning, we've found the time to think and the direction in which we must apply our efforts.

We've not only been given a chance to rethink the education sector, but also the opportunity to visualize how it can evolve in tandem with our changing world.

The course of learning and the way curriculums are taught may change. Aspects that were once considered fundamental to education may be revised to largely accommodate life skills of the future.

Not just careers, but residents of the future as well will require skills like resilience, adaptability, collaboration, communication, empathy, creativity

and emotional intelligence. Learning in schools will have a new purpose, and it will be a major deviation from the information-focused education of today [1-2].

Aside from the disruption faced due to the novel corona virus, education in our developing world has experienced some major changes. Yet, even in the face of rapid innovation, we have yet to shift the way in which we impart education.

Learning is the acquisition of knowledge, but it doesn't have to solely occur through age-old methods that do not utilize the highest potential of the brain. Instead of being taught, can students be given an experience that influences their learning? Approaches like integrated learning and experiential learning, with greater implementation of technology, will power the future the education in schools.

In the face of a crippling pandemic, technology has emerged as a major lifesaver. Communication is a major key to our interconnected existence and technology is the driving force that maintains our connections.

For education, that means creating content and delivery systems that harness and utilize technology to its fullest. Perhaps, education may become more flexible and accessible, relinquishing its over-reliance on rigid structures that we currently consider necessary. Additionally, the current generations of school students are generation Z and alpha.

They are generations that are defined by their use of technology; it has become an extension of their consciousness and they do not know a world without it. The future of education will find no room to ignore the utilization of technology since it may very well be the best platform to empower learning in an age that is integrating technology as a way of life[3].

These generations could influence the evolution of education, as they themselves are the ones majorly impacted by the pandemic and are in the best position to learn and grow from it.

How will we ask students to go back to a way of life that compromises their physiological, emotional and mental health? Will we still ask students to get up to attend school at a time when their brains aren't suitably active?

Will we teach students about protecting the environment while asking them to sit in buses that move through traffic and leave a large carbon footprint? The world could require a different focus tomorrow than it does today.

Perhaps, education post-Covid- 19 will embrace learnings from science and emphasize a greater focus on issues that endanger our health, society, life and earth[4-6].

Covid-19 may have been the catalysis for a change that has been long pending. What we will witness in the aftermath of this global health crisis may very likely be the adoption of approaches that were sought in it.COVID-19 has affected all levels of the education system, from pre-school to tertiary education. Different countries have introduced various policies, ranging from complete closure in Germany and Italy to targeted closure in the United Kingdom for all but the children of workers in key industries. Additionally, over 100 countries have imposed a nationwide closure of educational facilities. UNESCO estimates that close to 900 million learners have been affected by the closure of educational institutions [7-8] .

Additionally, concerns have been raised regarding the number of scientific conferences that have been cancelled or postponed .These conferences are the key to scientific research in many discipline allowing dissemination of research as well as providing networking opportunities for collaboration and job-seeking. Many conferences have moved online, however these 'virtual conferences' are often not a enable to networking and informal means of scientific communication.

The pandemic has significantly disrupted the higher education sector as well, which is a critical determinant of a country's economic future. A large number of Indian students—second only to China—enroll in universities abroad, especially in countries worst affected by the pandemic, the US, UK, Australia and China. Many such students have now been barred from leaving these countries. If the situation persists, in the long run, a decline in the demand for international higher education is expected.The bigger concern, however, on everybody's mind is the effect of the disease on the employment rate. Recent graduates in India are fearing withdrawal of job offers from corporates because of the current situation. The Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy's estimates on unemployment shot up from 8.4% in mid-March to

23% in early April and the urban unemployment rate to 30.9%.

Needless to say, the pandemic has transformed the centuries-old, chalk-talk teaching model to one driven by technology. This disruption in the delivery of education is pushing policymakers to figure out how to drive engagement at scale while ensuring inclusive e-learning solutions and tackling the digital divide. A multi-pronged strategy is necessary to manage the crisis and build a resilient Indian education system in the long term.

One, immediate measures are essential to ensure continuity of learning in government schools and universities. Open-source digital learning solutions and Learning Management Software should be adopted so teachers can conduct teaching online. The DIKSHA platform, with reach across all states in India, can be further strengthened to ensure accessibility of learning to the students. Two, inclusive learning solutions, especially for the most vulnerable and marginalized, need to be developed. With a rapid increase of mobile internet users in India, which is expected to reach 85% households by 2024, technology is enabling ubiquitous access and personalization of education even in the remotest parts of the country. This can change the schooling system and increase the effectiveness of learning and teaching, giving students and teachers multiple options to choose from. Many aspirational districts have initiated innovative, mobile-based learning models for effective delivery of education, which can be adopted by others. Three, strategies are required to prepare the higher education sector for the evolving demand-supply trends across the globe—particularly those related to the global mobility of students and faculty and improving the quality of and demand for higher studies in India. Further, immediate measures are required to mitigate the effects of the pandemic on job offers, internship programs, and research.

Four, it is also important to reconsider the current delivery and pedagogical methods in school and higher education by seamlessly integrating classroom learning with e-learning modes to build a unified learning system. The major challenge reforms at the national level is the seamless integration of technology in the present Indian education system, which is the most diverse and largest in the world with more than 15 lakh schools and 50,000 higher education institutions.

Further, it is also important to establish quality assurance mechanisms and quality benchmark for online learning developed and offered by India HEIs as well as e-learning platforms (growing rapidly). Many e-learning players offer multiple courses on the same subjects with different levels of certifications, methodology and assessment parameters. So, the quality of courses may differ across different e-learning platforms. Five, Indian traditional knowledge is well known across the globe for its scientific innovations, values, and benefits to develop sustainable technologies and medicines. The courses on Indian traditional knowledge systems in the fields of yoga, Indian medicines, architecture, hydraulics, ethnobotany, metallurgy and agriculture should be integrated with a present-day mainstream university education to serve the larger cause of humanity. In this time of crisis, a well-rounded and effective educational practice is what is needed for the capacity-building of young minds. It will develop skills that will drive their employability, productivity, health, and well-being in the decades to come, and ensure the overall progress of India.

Due to the accelerated adoption of digital technology triggered by the lockdown, educational institutes, business houses, data management methods and online education solutions have been forced to work in tandem. Many educational institutes are considering this as an ideal time to experiment and deploy new technology to make education delivery possible and meaningful. In a move to not let the crisis hamper the curriculum, digital transformation has become a new norm with educational institutes across the country. Many are leveraging it as a chance to be more productive and efficient while developing innovative and improved professional skills through online learning and assessment.

The adoption of technology in education has led to an unprecedented transformation from teacher-centric education towards student-centric education. Virtual classrooms and various online tools are helping to continue and enhance the engagement between the teacher and students as close to the classroom type experience. Going forward, smart classrooms are making everything possible from teachers and parent meetings to staff/management meetings, providing the necessary interactivity.

The online assessment platforms or tech companies are continuously striving to improve their products. Much has been planned and implemented and more improvement is underway.

The tremendous use of technology in teaching amidst crisis will lead to a new era in the education sector wherein the best of faculty will be available from across the globe to students. Quality of faculty, quality of IT infrastructure and familiarisation of the faculty with digital teaching technologies are important parameters foreseen in the future. There is no doubt that the crisis has accelerated the adoption of technologies to deliver education and will help strengthen the country's digital learning infrastructure in the long run.

III. Conclusion

The education sector needs solutions from the access front, pedagogy angle, the teacher-training front and the collaboration angle to effectively tackle the problem of providing education through technology. There is also the need for more tech-savvy educational institutions to "handhold" lesser tech-savvy ones, putting in place a proper plan-of-action for students, teachers and institutions as well as the ensuring teacher-training in the use of technology for education. The institutions should collaborate to improve the quantity and quality of education provided through technology. The government must provide better internet connections to its citizens, while educational institutions must move on from just online classes to 100 percent online delivery and assessment and also complete online delivery of course credits. India should try and use the current opportunity to improve its education base with lower costs.

The discussion provided many higher educational institutions with a way forward if not for some solutions to the problems they would be facing because of the pandemic. Educational institutions should begin to collaborate – as the problems they would be facing would be similar – to try and reach a more fruitful amalgamation of educational sector and technology.

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