

Online Teaching during Pandemic Covid-19 in India

Paper Submission: 00/00/2020, Date of Acceptance: 00/00/2020, Date of Publication: 00/00/2020

Abstract

Due to pandemic covid-19 education system of the country has collapsed beside economic and other activities downstream. Stress is given on online teaching, examination, but in rural area most of the students have no smart phone or internet facilities. Further online teaching is not a substitute of class room teaching specially laboratory based subjects. Academic session has gone six months back and after that both online and offline teaching will go side by side. It will be helpful if the Govt, provides smart phones with minimum net balance, because most of the family members earnings have decreased and expenditure on medical, consumption etc. have increased during lockdown period.

Keywords: Lockdown, Smart Phone, UGC, e-books, CBCS, Online.

Introduction

In India COVID-19 started its journey of death to human civilization since 3rd week of March, 2020. It rapidly spread in mega cities of India and slowly spread in small towns and villages. It spread from one person to another within short distance by snitching, touching and water droplet. The Government of India as well as State Governments has declared completely lockdown in the country. Lockdown leads to collapsed of all economic, academic and other normal activities of the country. Government has declared stay home, use masks, sanitizers and if feel unwell by snitching, high fever, breathing problems then immediately take prescription of doctors. For basic requirement of food collect it by keeping social distance within prescribed time keeping social distance, using masks and sanitizers etc.

Aim of the Study

The primary aim of this article is to convey the society how the Covid has handicapped the direct teaching-learning system and have adverse impact on the students' IQ. Students became mental patient, which also adversely affect their physical health.

Research Methodology

This is a descriptive study. All the data are published data and collected from secondary sources. Methods used are averaging and percentage.

Discussion

After a long period (more than 6 months) complete lockdown of educational institution due to spread of COVID-19 the UGC has provided some guidelines for higher education. In 2020-2021, session will begin from first November, 2020 as per UGC guideline, but state government wants to start from December, 2020 in different Govt. or Govt. sponsored colleges and Universities. Consequently syllabus completion time will be short, unless some portion is reduced. Teaching will be held online or offline or mix of both. Vice Chancellor of Jadavpur University has told that due to this pandemic situation the teaching or the examination, which is carried on by online in earlier students or teachers were not habituated. In class room teaching there is scope of exchange of views between teachers and students, but in online teaching it will be one way i.e. teachers will teach and students will listen. Success of exchange of knowledge arises when both teachers and students exchange their views. In present situation due to spread of pandemic Covid-19 without digital device teaching is not possible.

In this system both teachers and students will try to be habituated as early as possible to protect the loss of education and students should try to access e-books and journals to develop their knowledge.

Professor Sankhyan Chowdhury of Statistics dept., Calcutta University has opined that online teaching can never be alternative of class



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room teaching, particularly in science subjects like Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Micro-Biology etc. where laboratory knowledge of own hands are essential. Teachers also do not know how that gap should be fulfilled. He expects in coming future any alternative way will come, otherwise when the students will physically come back to laboratory they will spend much time to recover these gaps of knowledge. In present situation students will increase their self study period, access different portal of education. Internet is very much essential for this online teaching, but in village level only 20%-30% students have this smart phone and internet facilities. Sometimes in remote places network problem is a major issue for online education. Professor Sumit Chakraborty of English dept. in Presidency University has opined that students of the first semester has got sufficient time to accustom with CBCS syllabus subjects and they can study their choice subject in home as much as possible; in other semester students will also got time to recover their weak areas in different subjects of previous semesters. Professor Jadab Krishna Das of Commerce Dept. in Calcutta University has opined that students must give a number of times trial of the online examination system before sitting in final University examination. He has opined that whether online exam is good or bad that is a separate issue, but in this circumstance when examinee are compelled to give exam in this system, a number of trial will make habituated to him or her with system. But all of them expected within short period we will come back to previous situation, but online education will persist beside offline; so students will not waste their valuable time at present.

Criticism of Online Teaching

Students' healths are adversely affected both physical and mental such as headache, deafness, pain at different muscles on neck, eyes, hands, backbone etc.

In absence of school teaching they are not getting to meet with teachers, friends etc. and become arrogant, mentally isolated, frustrated in mind etc. Some bad practices they become habituated like continuous watching of serials, movie in TV, chatting with friends in mobile.

In online examination they are copying from books or taking guidance of some private experienced teachers. They have lost their self confidence of doing better result if the off line examination system are introduced by the Government.

In some poor families they are creating pressure to their guardians to purchase smart phones with internet facilities. In this lockdown period family members earnings have decreased, but expenditure of the family like medical, consumption, mobile recharge etc. have increased. Sometimes family members do not have technical knowledge on smart phone operation, networking problems or in examination time how scan copy of answer script to be sent to the proper authority.

In practical papers of science stream like Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Nutrition, Geography, Computer how the online teaching is possible without laboratory. If the students are given marks on percentage basis of theoretical paper, then these students will suffer in future for higher studies.

Sometimes academic institutions boards are thinking of reduction of syllabus for examination due to this crisis situation (like lack of offline classes), but that will helps the students to get good marks in immediate examination but in future students will suffer in higher studies.

Conclusion

Government has advised to do official work of the educational institutions like admission, registration, fees payment etc. through online in different portals, but most of the staffs have not enough computer knowledge or infrastructural facilities, so they should be trained and sufficient infrastructure should be provided. Some educational institutions are teaching online, but it will be better if the Govt. provides subsidised smart phones with minimum balance net facilities to the students to make effective of online teaching-learning. At the end of 2020, the West Bengal state government has credited Rs. 10000 to the account of each students of class twelve to purchase either smart phone or any other device to facilitate online teaching-learning. In new education policy of 2020, there has been stress on online teaching, so computer knowledge is very much essential for every person.

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