# 9. Impact and Challenges of COVID-19 on Pursuing Education

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## Abstract:

Education can be defined as the systematic process of receiving or giving instructions at school, college or university which helps in acquisition of knowledge, skills, believes, values and habits. The blunt and caustic impact of COVID-19 has jerked the world. Due to the Pandemic COVID-19 all the functions of human beings which lead to productivity have stopped. In the same way, the Government around the world has temporarily closed all the educational institutions to restrain the spread of COVID-19. We always believe that superior learning is the outcome of studying at the campus where the students get personal attention from faculty, developed cross learning and social skills, growth in learning ability, etc. But COVID-19 Pandemic impacted most of the students in all over the world at all the levels of education. The government has come over with e-learning program to tackle the loss suffering by the students during the Pandemic. Online teaching will never replace the physical learning environment. If we really want holistic development of personality there is need of campus learning platform. Nowadays all the educational institutions are involved in creating 360 degree integrated plan to serve education. In this deaden situation only two options left with educational institutions that is either embrace to digital transformation or end of perish and it would be better of embrace to digital transformation. This study aims to study the impact of COVID-19 on education.

**Keywords:** Pandemic covid-19, cross learning, social skills, holistic development, digital transformation.

## 9.1 Introduction:

Education is a fundamental right of every citizen. In some of the countries education is compulsory and free of cost. In India, education up to the age of 14 free Education is provided to all without any discrimination as a basic right of every citizen. Education is such a mechanism which is very important for holistic development of children. Education is the systematic process of receiving or giving instructions at school or college or university which help in acquisition of knowledge, skills, believe, values, and habits. Basically education serve under the supervision of educators, however, learner may educate themselves.

Even the all-powerful Pointing has no control about the blind texts it is an almost unorthographic life One day however a small line of blind text by the name of Lorem Ipsum decided to leave for the far World of Grammar. The Big Oxmox advised her not to do so,

because there were thousands of bad Commas, wild Question Marks and devious Semikoli, but the Little Blind Text didn't listen. She packed her seven versalia, put her initial into the belt and made herself on the way.

Informal is that education which is acquired outside the formal structured curriculum. This kind of education is not limited to the structured curriculum set up by the recognised authority. It bridges the gap between education with traditional classroom and outside the traditional classroom.

Education is recognised as one of the most important mechanism which may help in-

a. Inheritance of values and culture, customs and tradition from one generation to another generation;
b. Sustainable economic development of the nation;
c. Follow the Democratic and maintenance of peaceful society;
d. Enhancing the morality towards the society.

On 31st December, 2019, the term corona virus came into focus when World Health Organization was informed by China about number of cases of pneumonia with unknown cause in the city called Wuhan, China. Gradually the disease spread to more and more places in province cities in China as well as to the rest of the World. Now the disease is declared as pandemic by World Health Organization. The disease is caused by a virus named as SARS-CoV-2 and the disease is popularly known as COVID-19.

The blunt and caustic impact of COVID-19 has jerked the whole world. Due to COVID-19 most of the economic functions around the world have temporarily closed or under lock down which worse the economic status of whole world. In the same way the governments around the world have temporarily closed down all the educational institutions in order to contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic in the community. Closure of educational institutions has impacting the education all over the world from lower level of education to higher level of education.

## 9.2 Objectives:

The objective of this study is to elaborate and discuss the impact and challenges of COVID-19 on pursuing education in India.

## 9.3 Methodology:

This study is descriptive and analytical in nature.

## 9.4 Discussion:

World Health Organization declared COVID-19 as pandemic which continues to spread throughout the globe. Many countries like India has decided to close schools, colleges, universities and all other educational institutions as a part of maintaining the policy of social distancing to contain the spread the COVID-19 in the community and which can reduce the burden on health department as well.

The closure of Educational institutions has impacted the education of children globally. This situation is not only impacting the students, but also their parents, teachers and educational institutions as well.

In order to keep the track of learning the government of various nations came up with e-learning program during this pandemic situation. During this pandemic situation only two options left with them. Either drop out the course or pick up a job. But by drop out of course they will never get a managerial job in their life. This has become a big challenge for the students, parents and educational institutions. The country like India, it is not possible for all the parents to provide the facility of learning in the e-learning platform due to poverty and lack of financial support. They can't afford a smart device that will help their children in learning via e-platform. A big question is that in this pandemic it is hard to manage one time meals during the day then how they could manage the facility for their children in e-learning. Although government has taken the initiative by providing a platform of e-learning to pursue education but it's quite impossible for the children of poor people.

We always believe in superior learning which is the function of studying at the campus where the students get personal attention from faculty, cross learning, enhance social skills, and growth in learning ability. Home learning affects the productivity of students, social life and learning outcome. Online learning will never be able to complete replace the physical learning environment.

Most of the students looking at how the present situation could be tackle over. From students perspective it is clearly understand that if we really want a holistic development of personality there is no other replacement of campus life learning that will prepare the students for future. But the scenario of this pandemic situation worsened the education system.

The pandemic COVID-19 has impacted not only to the students as well as the educational institutions. It has become a great challenge for educational institutions in functioning their activities. Only two options left with the educational institutions in this pandemic situation are-

a. Either end of perish; or
b. Embrace to digital transformation.

As an educational institutions their responsibility is to create 360° integrated plan to serve education to the children. Hence, they have to adapt the requirements to challenge this pandemic situation.

By the above discussions it is found that the pandemic COVID-19 has a great impact on education globally. It is impacting not only the students as well as their parents, teachers and educational institutions. Although government has taken various steps to maintain the track of learning via e-platform but still it stood like a stone to the poor people who even can't afford one time meal during this pandemic. No doubt some children begins learning via e-platform but never replace a complete physical platform of learning which is very important for holistic development of children. Although most of the educational institutions transforming themselves to digital platforms for functioning their activities but still it's a great challenges for them in country like India.

## 9.5 Suggestion:

Education recognised such a mechanism in our life which can't get skip. The holistic development of a nation is possible only through education. In order to maintain the track of learning in this pandemic situation I would like to suggest the following-

a. Although government has provided the platform of e-learning but poor students are unable to avail this facility. There for government should take some proper initiatives to avoid e-learning discrimination among poor and rich children;
b. The rich people should take care of the poor students around them by providing them facility of e-learning.

## 9.6 Conclusion:

On studying the topic 'Impact of COVID-19 on Education' it can be concluded that education is one of the most eminent mechanism of holistic development of children as well as economic growth of the nation. E-learning can't replace a physical life campus learning which can make the children all round development and growth. Although the pandemic COVID-19 worsened the whole education system around the globe but the government and educational institutions have taken various initiatives to keep the track of learning. No doubt children began to learn via e-learning platform but still it's a big challenge for poor children. It can be observed that e-learning platform leads to discrimination in learning among rich and poor.

## 9.7 References:

1. Covid-19 Pandemic in India. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/COVID-19pandemic_in_India accessed on June 20, 2020.