



RESEARCH ARTICLE

STUDENT'S READINESS TO STUDY DURING LOCKDOWN DUE TO COVID-19

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Abstract

Student's life is full of excitement, adventure, learning, playing and what not! School is integral part of their life. No student can think of life without school. They play, learn and make friends. Teachers become ideal for them in schools. But the COVID-19 pandemic has turned the situation upside down. Students along with their family members and the whole society are lockdown due to corona virus. It is the human tendency that learning never stops. Learning is the root of development. Any damage to the education system can affect the nation's development. Thus, indigenous people thought of continuing education without getting affect by this present situation of pandemic due to corona virus. In this context, the idea of online teaching prevailed and many of the educational institutions in India started conducting online classes with the help of various apps available. The purpose of this paper is to understand student's readiness to study from home. This study investigates the convenience of students in online learning and problems that they face. The researcher has done an analysis on future of educational transmission as online classes are the future of new education system.

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Introduction:-

It is well known fact that Corona Virus is contagious. In last few months it has spread dramatically across the boundaries of country without any visa or passport. This infiltrator has brought trouble for human race. More and more studies are going on to find cause and solution for cure from this virus. The world has reached in a situation of pandemic. This type of pandemic has been seen once in last hundred years. More than 200 Nation states are adversely affected by this contagious virus. Coronavirus was first identified in Wuhan, China and is now a global pandemic.

The most affected strata of society are the education sector. Students and academicians are suffering, because schools and colleges are closed. The government has issued advisories to all the citizens to practice social distancing and stay at home. Students are home stuck; they can neither play outside nor study in normal routine way. Thus, they have to look for alternative. They have to stay home and do some indoor activities. There are numerous ways where students can utilize this time productively and gain something out of it. The point is that they can't sit idle. The educational transmission should go on. For this readiness of teachers and students are desired. Teachers are taking it up as their duty and teaching in every possible way and making the best possible use of ICT tools. Online teaching is in trend and is also the need of hour. Online market is flooded with many online tutorials, apps video chats etc. 'Online classes' simply means that students and teachers will connect online through various video

conferencing tools like Microsoft Teams, Google Classrooms, Skype etc. It is the most possible use of ICT in education.

Understanding the concept of Lockdown:

Cambridge dictionary defines lockdown as a situation in which people are not allowed to enter or leave a building or area freely because of an emergency. This is more like a curfew, where government applies certain rules and regulations to be followed. It is a situation when people stay at their houses and follow government instructions. If they will not follow the guidelines, then government has the right to punish them as well. Many European and Asian countries have imposed lockdown to reduce the spread of novel coronavirus. This type of nationwide lockdown has never been imposed in India. Lockdown in India is imposed with keeping in mind the basic needs of people. Food, vegetables, milk, grocery, medicine and other important things are being supplied by government. Police is continuously keeping watch on people and not let anyone suffer. It also becomes people's responsibility to follow instructions in lockdown. They should not go out of their house; should maintain social distancing; wear masks and keep washing hands frequently.

Corona Virus and its impact on Human Being:

People are now into really a different world where they have to be resilient. They are in virtual world and getting panic because of spread of deadly virus. They don't know that when will they be able to go out and live normal life. They are afraid of coming close to each other in public places. This is all due to novel corona virus. What is this corona virus? Let's try to answer this question. Coronavirus is derived from Latin word 'corona' which means 'crown'. June Almeida and David Tyrrell coined the word and first observed and studied human coronaviruses. It has a fringe of large, bulbous surface projections. As per Wikipedia, "Coronaviruses are a group of related viruses that cause diseases in mammals and birds." It affects respiratory system causing even death of a person. So, common symptoms like, common cold, coughing and sneezing during this pandemic is not so common and can be lethal if not treated appropriately.

Various research shows that coronavirus is lethal and is spread through water droplets sneezed out of mouth, nose or any other secretion. People need to be very alert and maintain distance with each other. Human life is at pause now. They are not able to go out of home and work. The whole economy of nation has become stagnant. It will take years to recover from this Economic crisis. Students are not able to go to school. The lower section of society; the daily working and earning laborers are adversely affected. They are not able to earn their living, many of them could not go back to their home and have no place to stay. People are not able to attend important gathering like marriages and cremations. Though government is doing a lot, but still much more is needed.

Student's readiness to study during lockdown due to COVID-19:

We are in the age of internet. Students are adaptable to the changing situation. They have showed their readiness during lockdown to study from home and attending the classes online. Infact it is a new experience for them to learn. Indian education system is such, that students and teachers have the habit of learning and teaching in traditional classroom setup. It is very difficult to imagine transmission of knowledge taking place outside the regular classroom setup without physical presence of schools, students and teachers. Teachers can schedule their classes online on various video conferencing apps like Microsoft teams, Skype, Zoom etc. and connect to students. It has been observed by various teachers that, students who were not attentive in physical class are now taking full interest in studying online. One more important observation has been find out that now students are using their mobile phone and computers not only for playing or watching videos for fun and connecting on social media, but they are actually attending classes and making best use of these devices. If we take parents view it has been seen that they are also happy with their wards studying pattern. They are happy as now their children are making best use of mobile phones, computer and internet. In India, these online classes have saved students from getting detached from studies. Not only studies but they are also taking part in many co-curricular activities and enhancing their creative skills.

Impact of online classes on students:

It is a fact that students are gaining knowledge in virtual setup. Demand of online classes is increasing. Many of the private and government colleges and other educational institutes are offering online courses. Due to this online teaching, students are making smart use of their time and knowledge. This is also helping them in creating new horizons for them in the field of education.

Students are not only influenced positively but also negatively to great extent by the use of mobile phone. It is a point to ponder upon that students face adverse effects of using mobile and computer continuously for hours, thus they are left with very less time to do physical activities and enjoy the real world. Most of our students are studying through mobile phones. It creates anxiety in them. In past few years mobile phone has become the life line of young generation. They spend most of the time on what's app and other fun activities. It helped them to relax. But if students keep on studying online, it creates stress on their eyes and mind. It was also observed that students carry phone to schools and during classes they use mobile phones and distract themselves and others. According to a study done by Soyemi, J. (2015), students have negative impact to great extent by the use of mobile phone. They are busy doing chatting, listening music and watching videos in class. It affects their attention in class and has adverse impact on their studies. The study also showed that the use of mobile phone in class is uncontrollable among students and it leads to poor academic performance among students. Another study shows that excess use of mobile phones and computers hampers their physical health. Students continuously see the screen of computer or mobile; this affects their eyesight. Speedy, singular, repeated manipulation and enduring forced position are easy to conduce to disease of musculoskeletal system. Main hurting positions are waist, neck, shoulder, elbow, and wrist (Nazarlou, M.M.) (2013). In any ways, if students will be online for longer duration of time, then it will definitely have adverse effect on them. Teachers definitely get some breathing space in between classes, but students have to sit continuously for 6 to 7 hours. It is administrations responsibility to see that students should get some space between two classes. Students should take care of their sitting position during classes. These simple things can save them from serious issues in life later on.

Conclusion:-

Teaching and learning is continuous process. This has proved during lockdown. Students, teachers, parents and the whole education community have supported this online mode of teaching-learning process. Along with this we have to keep in mind the physical health of students. Contact hours in online mode of teaching-learning should be less; parents should take care of their wards when they are online. They should eat healthy food and drink water regular interval of time. They should do simple eye and hand movement and backbone movement exercises to keep themselves active. Transmission of education should go on, but not on the cost of health of students, because 'Health is Wealth'.

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