COVID-19: Impacting on Higher Education

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Abstract

Digital Technology was unavailable for a common man just two decades ago in a country like India. Still, now after the outbreak of CORONA VIRUS in November 2019, it is helping millions of people of India and worldwide keeps them on working any time anywhere and assisting the Governments in developing health and public establishment to fight with Corona Virus. Digital technology worldwide supports the entire education system very useful in this Pandemic time. Online Education, an effect of Digital humankind, have bring a group on learning stand at each and every one stages of Education; start in preschools equipped higher-stage organizations, colleges, and Universities. In this paper, the authors have discussed the current situation that has given us an impulse to go faster to accept technology and experimentation with online learning and evaluate its victory for higher Education.

Keywords: Covid-19, Digital Technology, E-learning, Lockdown, and Higher Education.

Introduction

Due to this Covid-19 pandemic, the whole world understands the importance of Digital Media, Digital learning, and teaching. Suddenly, the world as a whole comes under lockdown, and the education field rapidly transformed from face-to-face to online teaching. Since the Digital learning speeding up persists, it moreover pitches brightness on the Digital split in India. Still, students from remote districts and those belonging to poor communities require the communications and the indicates to collect online learning advantages.

India is departing to observer a 50% increase in students over the next 15 years. While it has numerous universities and colleges, only a little have the amenities to match this pitch of students in the future. Online Education could be a reasonable solution to accommodate this problem. For the first time, India's government allows Indian universities to offer online degrees that previously were limited to a few foreign universities. This restriction has been lifted from 20% to offer 100% courses online to encourage access to higher education. The sudden, forced immersion of learners into virtual learning during this period of Covid-19 has proved that the education industry disrupted very severely. Education will be Digital in the expected future, and amid the correct communications and policies in place, we would live better arranged to hold it. Online learning, better dispersion of telecom network and systematic away 5G
services will give a considerable impulsion to this region. The enormous telecom network diffusion and systematic away 5G services will require massive motion to this sector.

There are several ways with other gadgets. The mobile phone was a beautiful device that helped students and teachers in their teaching-learning process during the lockdown period wonderfully. In India, students used Mobile phones in large numbers compared to other Gadgets.

**Education technologies for online teaching and e-learning**

Earlier than, education machineries aficionados have been forecasting that machinery will befall the most significant mediator of teaching-learning procedures. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, millions of students driven out from their universities and professors are incarcerated to their homes worldwide. Higher education locates discumulatived; Faculty and students grapple with the unexpected fresh rule of totally tech-arbitrated teaching and learning.

The move to remote learning permitted by several online teaching stacks such as Google Classroom, Whiteboard, Zoom, WhatsApp and Microsoft Teams, YouTube etc, all of which play an essential role in this transformation. With the development of I.C.T. in Education, online video-based micro-courses, e-books, simulations, models, graphics, animations, quizzes, games, and e-notes are making learning more accessible, engaging, and contextualized. Schools have always considered educational apps or digital learning as a supplementary tool and may have had difficulty mainstreaming it, mostly due to not fully understanding its efficacy. Many countries are continuing to handle this disturbance by positioning different learning modes through a mix of technologies. In almost all countries, teachers and school administrators are encouraged to continue the communication with learners by delivering virtual live lessons or Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) and in India, SWAYAM, ARPIT, etc, and online course method ones.

**Effecting on higher education**

Over the past 20 years, this intersects with online learning fits and begins in unusual crosswise colleges, universities, skill development companies, and corporate learning centers. Most guidelines stage changes continued lackadaisical efforts stopping from old mindsets. On finest, old procedures were repeated with several present technology contrivances for a little courses as a 'conduct test' or part of their existing classroom courses as 'blended learning'.

About 60 million students worldwide are limited to home during the crucial months of February to June 2020. They till now and which generally observe a enchantment / seen a blackout of curricular and assessment activities. Higher Education /Institutions and students alike are under pressure not to lose academic time and re-invent their teaching-learning in the only possible way to go entirely online. For the
institutions and educational leaders, administrators, and students are getting more apparent in the long run.

The majority of higher education universities and institutions are preparing to move online, and there is a possibility of habits changing to facilitate Education, or are we just being confident. It is just that ‘Digital’ brought in an enormous gesture of competence and helpfulness within these higher education industries.

In Digital higher Education, there has not been such a signal so far; it is essential to understand this. The next circumference looks at is research also dominated by huge, well-funded systems or organizations. How online learning will change research features will be an exciting crystal ball gazing exercise to do.

**Impacting on higher education**

Though the property is productive for behavior to adjust, the new Digital background has its unanswered problems, and hence it is where it is. The long term and prolong able achievement of this tectonic shift will depend on the following major elements of online learning:

- Online learning is not a library of video lectures and e-books that exchanges class-notes into PDFs. Creating high quality digitized learning content must be contextualized and ‘byte-sized’ to make learning exciting and charming. Doing this takes a unusual ability set which little associations in the world can flourish. Universities need to collaborate with such organizations for their digital pivots to be successful.

- Subject matter covered in the classroom is to be delivered online, but with technology as the intermediary. Blind replication of the same is a bad idea; it requires a great deal of understanding & application of learning science and digital pedagogy. Every teaching faculty need enabling with this knowledge, or collaboration with experts is the way forward.

- Classrooms have typically diverse learner groups. In classical pedagogy, the best teachers and subject matter experts derive a content-context cluster as a means of the class's collective ability and prior knowledge. Then the teaching-learning transaction is crafted according to that constructed mean. Institutions need to spend as much time on the context for the diverse learner profiles as on the content and weave it into the program design.

- New technologies, including the emerging sciences of artificial intelligence and deep learning models, can help us create customized learning plans and methods. Higher education institutions must embrace these quickly to overcome the ills of current digital higher Education.

- Online learning is not about one pedagogical model but an aggregation of various models. Moreover, it is a specialized learning science that combines learning psychology, behavioral
analytics, content delivery, and assessments to gauge and measure individual learners' journey and progress. Working with specialists and 'hand-stitching' a delivery mechanism is a key.

- Put learning science, and not technology, at the forefront. Today, many models seek to use technology and tools as a panacea and equate online 'delivery' with online 'learning.' The former is teacher-centric, and the latter is learner-centric. 'Learning' is about gradually inducing changes in learner's actions and behavior. In incremental steps, the learning process generates a change in the learner's thinking and mental models through deep understanding and conceptual strengthening. After each learning episode, the learner will apply the acquired knowledge in practical situations in life, profession, or workplace. Each teaching faculty needs to be massively re-trained and oriented for online teaching-learning mode. While they could be content experts or great classroom teachers, they need to place equal importance on 'learning sciences in digital media.'

- Obviously, even in the post-COVID-19 era, offline or predictable education models will not befall outmoded. They will stay alive. Conversely, intermingled learning (a combination of classroom and online modes) will be the rule. Institutions, Universities, and College teachers will combine the two prudently according to the context and the content.

Conclusions

Recently appreciated require for ascertaining adult online education models can successfully meet by building these ruler sacrifices. Faculty to let go of their existing classroom practices to online medium without applying digital learning science. Institutions, Universities, and colleges become willing to collaborate with digital learning specialists to train their teachers and re-design higher Education for the newest online education world. Online has become the defaulting mode of Education during this long lockdown period in the wake of Covid-19. What does this mean for the institutions, Universities, colleges and academic leaders, administrators, and students in the final run is receiving understandable.

References


