

IMPACT OF EDUCATION DURING COVID 19 ON VIHTM STUDENTS AT RAJKOT, GUJARAT

Author Name: Neelam Yadav

Affiliation: Lecturer, Vivekanand Institute of Hotel & Tourism Management, Rajkot, Gujarat

E-Mail: neelamyadav1703@gmail.com

Abstract

Background: The coronavirus pandemic ensuing the lockdown has forced schools, colleges across India to temporarily shut down. This move had created e-learning and online education. Schools and colleges were all based on offline education but due to lockdown all moved to online classes for the benefits of education, but some students were unable to attach because they don't have a laptop, good internet connection. In hospitality students, most prefer practical's than lecture classes, but from the shutdown of college, no practical is done. Objective: The main objective of this study is to find out the impact on online education during COVID 19 on VIHTM students at Rajkot, Gujarat. Methodology: Structured questionnaire was prepared on google form and the link was shared on social media with students of VIHTM at Rajkot, Gujarat. Result: Students said in the hospitality institute high quality of learning should be done through offline classes, in online classes; there are so many points which can be clear by face to face interaction. Conclusion: After taking the view of students, it is realized that lockdown as a great impact on students, they can't concentrate on their studies properly. Lectures should be conducted online only and a professor takes only theory lecture there is no practical done in online lectures, there is no proper internet connectivity to connect online classes. Distractions also create in online classes, and they cannot concentrate on their studies.

Keywords : Lockdown, online learning, education, COVID- 19, pandemic.

INTRODUCTION

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is a newly discovered infectious disease caused by a virus named the coronavirus (World Health Organization, 2020). As this disease is highly infectious, it can be easily transmitted from one person to another through respiratory droplets and different routes also like, hand, nose, and mouth. Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience respiratory illness and recover without special treatment. Older people and those who are already suffering from cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer is more likely to serious illness. The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is to be well-informed about the COVID-19 virus, causes, and how it spreads. Protect yourself from infection by washing hands or using sanitizer and not touching your face. State government across the country in the mid of march began shutting down schools and colleges on a temporary base due to the spread of the coronavirus (Choudhary, 2020). This is the time when board examinations, entrance tests, university exams, are all held during this period. This is an unpredictable and unfamiliar situation, and nobody knows when the situation

will be normal. The lockdown during COVID-19 has largely affected the lives of students as they no more get to interact face to face with their teachers. This shift in education from traditional classroom learning to computer-based learning. As the online teaching-learning process has become more prevalent in India due to COVID-19. The lives of every individual are the country that has been largely affected by various organizations becoming shutdown after the instructions of honorable Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi Ji. As all organizations shut down, schools and colleges also shut down during COVID 19. As a time, crisis, it becomes challenging to keep the education continuous and unaffected due to this pandemic. The campus has been shut down, but teachers are busy working from home, preparing study material, organize webinars for their students, so that, there isn't a gap in the teaching-learning processes. Teachers are working hard and are available for students at all times of the day to reduce the burden and depression being caused to the students across this pandemic situation. A teacher's job is not making their students learn. Their job is to overall groom their students letting them know what is right, and what is wrong. Today many colleges in urban, or rural areas are having online classes for college students, but the majority of rural students are not able to learn through an online classroom as they do not have laptops or smartphones. In many households, there is no computer, and in many children not allowed smartphones as well. Therefore, the digital divide at the school level leads to a gap between the haves and have not (Gupta,2020).Online education is not as easy as speaking into the smartphone at one end and connecting a laptop or phone, and listening in on the other. There are other challenges with this form of education that are faced at both ends of the spectrum — students and faculty (Farooqui, 2020). Education is not just about classes. It is about interactions, sharing of ideas, open discussions, debates, and mentoring of every student. There is an excitement present in the real classroom. Online education cannot replace the physical classroom. Online education is a supplement of offline education it will not help the students in their studies.COVID-19 pandemic has made all the educational colleges and schools across the world to adopt teaching online. Courses are conducted online, examinations are conducted online, assignments are submitted online. For countries like India, this is a good opportunity to capability of the Internet connectivity across rural India. Every village and town in India should be had internet connectivity for better interaction between the students, and teachers but not all students had good interaction due for various reasons. India should establish good planning for online education like some advanced countries. Some students are quick to adapt to this system and some take a little longer time to adapt to this system. (Chandshekharam, 2020). All teaching staff will be trained to teach for online lectures. The training, as per the ICT — information communication technology along with digital teaching apps and tools. The digital will not end

with the lockdown and the universities will have to develop an online classroom and video conferencing facility which can be accessed anytime. Digitalization in education allows streaming lectures online or enables professors and students to interact in the virtual environments, but not everyone is ready for this. Even those young people who do not spend much time in the “real life” and rather prefer playing video games or interacting with others on social network platforms confess that they would have preferred being lectured in real classrooms, and in real universities. (Strielkowski et al., 2020) Learning online has a lot of advantages over traditional classroom learning. Online learning involves the use of less paper, and it involves saving time with an easy and quick way of gathering information. It also saves time for traveling. Online learning gives a big advantage to the students as the students can learn anywhere at any time. The online education system is conducted in two ways. The first is through the use of recorded classes, which, when opened out to the public, are referred to as Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs). The second one is via live online classes conducted as webinars, lectures taking on google meet, WebEx, zoom app, etc. Universities require high-speed internet for delivering lectures online, faculty members who are comfortable teaching online. Students also need high-speed internet and computers/mobiles to attend these sessions or watch pre-recorded classes (Farooqui, 2020).

The current lockdown period is an excellent opportunity for E-learning. IITs should lead the role and guide the other 100 universities. The government has come-out with connectivity to rural areas. This could be strengthened in the future with good internet connectivity.(Chandshekharam, 2020). This epidemic is also an opportunity for students to make decisions to solve the problem in constructive ways, and most important to adopt a situation where skills needed to be improved, flexibility must be developed in the education system. In India, online learning is still not an adopted concept, and unable to follow their instructions regular academic routines. (Jadhav, et al. 2020). Against the backdrop of this emergency and considering the safety of students and their educational issues, most of the institutions have taken initiative to facilitate telecommunication, Skype call, Zoom Ap application, and other virtual options to reduce the distance in education. It is training students and teachers to use virtual classrooms and technology to facilitate the exchange of information.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Fordjour, et al. (2020) did a study on the impact of COVID 19 on learning- the perspective of the Ghanian students. In this study, the researcher revealed the challenges faced by the students of the closedown of schools due to COVID 19. Students are unable to study at home and online

education was not effective at all. Also, their parents are not much aware of these technologies, so they also not able to help their students. It came to highlight that the pandemic has had a very bad impact on their learning as many of them are not used to effectively learn by themselves.

Raj, (2020) did a study on the Indian education system in the fight against pandemic COVID- 19. This study shows that due to lockdown many colleges and schools were closed due to COVID 19. Many schools were switched to online classes due to lockdown, but one- fourth students are unable to take online lectures because they don't have a laptop, desktop, or tablet. Currently, Indian is not ready to adopt the online education system in the country. There is more development required in the sector of the internet, electricity, and E-learning in every sector. A study was done by Jadhav, et al. (2020) on COVID-19 Era: Student's role to look at problems in the education system during lockdown issues in Maharashtra, India. Due to lockdown, students can't concentrate on their studies and some students say there is a positive impact. Exams should be conducted online only and college professors should take online lectures during the lockdown period. These issues have increased the cost of education, and these issues have not only affected the education sector but also all sectors. Some students also think that it is an opportunity to innovate on lockdown issues and it's the time to develop their knowledge more and skills by learning from different platforms.

Lall, et al. (2020) did a study on COVID 19: on unmasking the new face of education. In this study, the researcher found that most of the students are favor ins online classes, but also the lack of pf curriculum activities in the mode of online classes. The universities' should design a plan, so that along with studying their regular course, students also get to participate in some fun-loving activities, so they continue to have an interest in the online classes. Also, give trainingtotheir teachers on how to take online lectures as well.

Gupta. (2020) did a study on The impact of the coronavirus SARS- CoV-2 on the education sector in India. Researchers found that online classes are not able to substitute classroom lectures. The interaction of students- teachers are needed in a classroom. Teachers' body language, in classroom lectures, is more important for their successes is also missing in online lectures. The use of technology will lead to discrimination, and also some practical problems. Face to face interaction makes learning easy, and interesting for students and teachers. Online classes are just supplementing of offline classes.

OBJECTIVE

To know the impact of online education during COVID-19 on VIHTM students at Rajkot, Gujarat.

METHODOLOGY

The study was descriptive in nature. The study was done in the Vivekanand Institute of Hotel & Tourism Management (VIHTM) in Rajkot, Gujarat, India. The students of VIHTM were identified as a sample for collecting data. A convenience sampling was done to identify a sample. The study was based on an online survey. The students of all semesters (I, II,III, IV,V, VI, and diploma) were contacted through WhatsApp and a link of a structured questionnaire sent to the students through Google forms. This yielded a sample of seventy respondents.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Online classes are better than offline classes

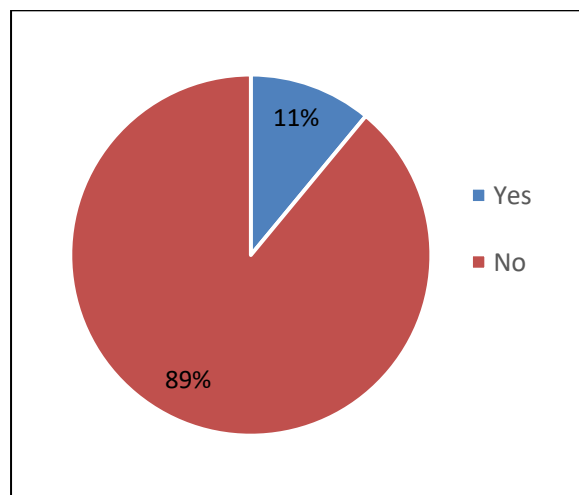


Fig 1: Online classes are better than offline classes

A huge number of students said online classes are not better than offline classes because they don't have good internet connectivity in their area, some students don't have a laptop, also cost is increasing during the online classes, somehow distraction come in their mind of COVID 19, they don't interact with their friends, teachers. Only 11% of students said online classes are better than offline classes because learning something new in online classes, which had never experienced in their life, traveling cost, and time is also safe and utilizes their time to develop their skills, knowledge. Students said that they ask their doubt using social, or personal messages' app without disclosing their identity in online classes.

Face any distraction while online classes

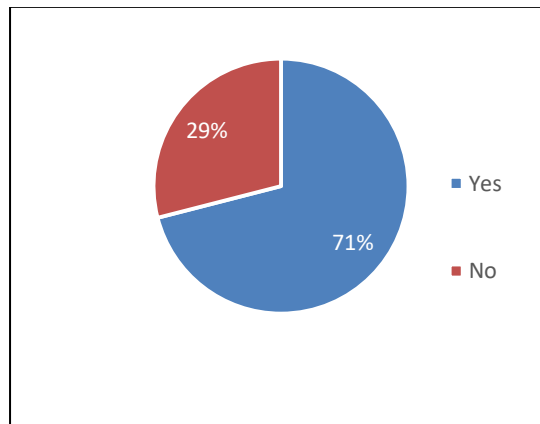


Fig. 2: Face any distraction while online classes

71% of students said that they can't concentrate on their studies. Their minds are full of fear about the coronavirus, all of this has distracted and also the poor internet connectivity distract them from the studies. 29% of students said no distraction they faced during online classes, they had good internet connection in their home and no disturbance occurs during the lectures.

High-quality learning can take place facing to face interaction

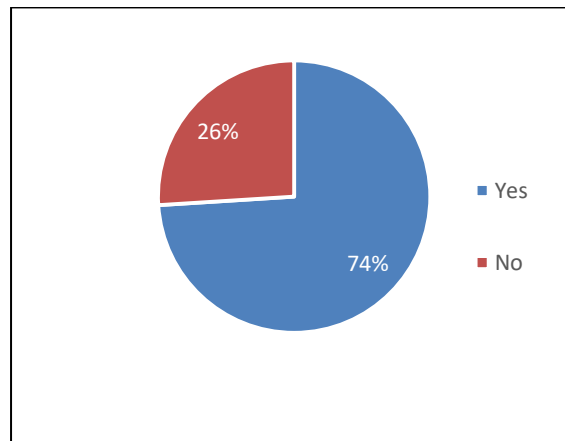


Fig. 3: High-quality learning can take place facing to face interaction

74% of students said yes because as hotelier interaction is the most important according to hospitality is a practical and skill development course that can't be done at home. Theory lecture has been done by online class but how the practical class conducts without interaction. Hospitality students are more concerned about their practical's more than theory lectures. 26% of students said learning can be done from everywhere if you want to learn then learn from any platform, a right decision taken by the institute not to operate the classes during COVID -19 pandemic.

Is this COVID 19 negatively affecting your performance in studies

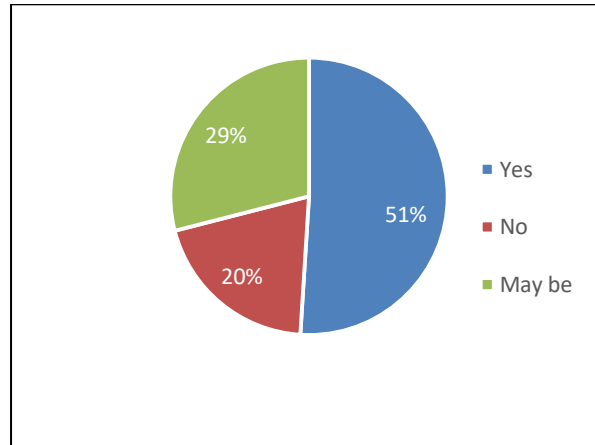


Fig. 4: Is this COVID 19 negatively affecting your performance in studies.

20% of students said there is a positive effect of lockdown. They're learning very different online courses mainly webinars on zoom app, Google meets, WebEx, etc. is using in lockdown easily shared learning materials through different social media through email, google meet, WhatsApp. Also taking other online classes to develop their skills and knowledge, they are learning a lot from these lockdown issues. 51% said COVID-19 negatively affect their studies. Teachers and students both were not ready for this sudden transition from online learning. Teachers taking lectures on Zoom, Google meet, etc. which may not be real online learning without any dedicated online learning platform. They did not take the classes properly, practicals can't be done by online classes, so many things are they missed by this lockdown. 29% of students can't say anything.

The online system of learning is very effective and will help students.

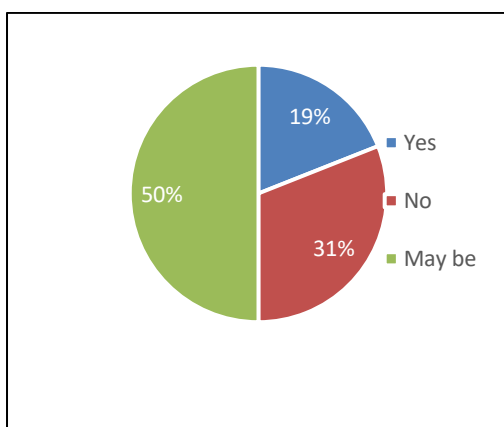


Fig. 5: The online system of learning is very effective and will help students

Only 19% of students said that online learning will help students and take lockdown as an opportunity to change education issues and learn many courses, attend webinars, and improve

their communication also in this lockdown. Easily shared study material through social media. Students can manage their time more efficiently through online learning. But some students said it will not help students, and they also forget what they learn in classes. As students would face many difficulties in resuming college again after a huge gap. Maximum students are confused about that they can't say anything about it.

CONCLUSION

After taking the view of students, it is realized that lockdown as a great impact on students, they can't concentrate on their studies properly during COVID-19 as their minds full of fear. Also, some students don't have a good internet connection as they were unable to take online lectures, the education cost also increases due to online lectures, some students don't have laptops in their house and unable to buy a laptop because they don't have enough money. Teachers and students are not ready for this sudden change from online classes. Students also said that lectures should be conducted online only and a professor takes only theory lecture there is no practical done in online lectures, and it will create a bad impact on their studies, as well as forgot what they learn in during the class and face difficulty in resuming college again after a huge gap. During this COVID -19, the pandemic student suffers a lot especially those who don't have good internet connectivity, no smartphones, or laptops. If the teachers lost their internet connectivity then the whole lecture got canceled.

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