ONLINE LEARNING, TEACHING & COVID-19: HOW WILL THE PANDEMIC AFFECT TEACHERS

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Abstract

Modern technologies have made traditional teaching method evolve from its inactive way in this pandemic situation due to the outbreak of infectious COVID-19 all over the world. At the same time, if digital learning method seeks it's own identity or effectiveness by eliminating the teacher-learner bond, the way of learning seems absurd. The reality is that traditional teaching method wants the fullest flourishing of its aspects not only at the time of pandemic situation when the main target is to keep ourselves safe at home but for a long run also through the advent of educational technologies. Replacing teachers or traditional ways of learning is not the right way. To keep ourselves safe at home as well as not to refrain from developing our personal skills and knowledge, the main objective of the study is therefore to point out the challenges regarding virtual classroom and observing its diversity. Research methodology consequently depends on the detailed examination of review of the literature and secondary resources by collecting data using virtual modality. Therefore, the paper tries to give reasons and find out possible ways to access online education using self- contained modules and utilizing technology as the backbone of education system. Now, lack of training and experiences and lack of awareness among both teachers and learners have compelled the whole teaching- learning process to walk forward with frequent halts in the post COVID-19 environment. In order to take these issues and drawbacks in account and to establish a digital learning system, sincerity and flexibility among both the teachers and students will be required. An infographic, proposed revolution of teaching- learning method can be designed in a dynamic way with the help of ad-

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vanced technology and multimedia tools modernizing the human race. Thus this present study highlights that pedagogical solution to the key problem of increasing complexities of teaching-learning process is made possible due to the facilitations offered by ICT.

INTRODUCTION

In a world where Work from Home becomes the norm during the time of COVID-19 pandemic, economic system as well as educational system have grabbed the attention of the nation. Now if the discussion is about teaching-learning process and its revolutionary steps, the running academic session is seen to lose its smoothness to maintain the regular schedule.

In this dynamic system of education, the teaching process plays a vital role in the preparation of youth arranging the proposed environment where the throne of a teacher would never be like an ivory tower, rather the relationship between teacher and student evolves round a healthier bond where the process of teaching and learning complements each other. Here lies the maximum possible extent to evaluate this teaching-learning strategy in the time of Covid-19 so that the adolescents can cope up with the changes of contemporary society.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

- **Harasim, Calvert** (1993), designed their work to develop virtual- U, an environment customized to support collaborative learning.

- **Oliver R. Herrington J.** depicted online development of learning objects which can provide many digital resources for teachers to evaluate online teaching structure.

- **Davies & Graff** (2005), examined the usage of e-learning applications of the students. They observed the development and also the gaps in online programmes.

- **Frank, Reich & Humphreys** (2003), addressing the needs of learners designed the e-mail using the frequencies of 6, 11, 12 years old students within the distance learning process. They observed student's computer skills, and also the relationship between teacher and learner.

- **Fisher, Thompson & Silverberg**, worked on a model of online courses reflecting the effects of co-operative method.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To find out how to cope with COVID-19 pandemic situation as well as modern digital world in a great extent.

- To find out how to improve teaching method, teacher's acquaintance with advanced technologies and multimedia tools in order to execute digital or virtual classes with the extra facilities like e-examination and e- counselling.

- To delineate student's primary tasks in order to cope with the digital classroom.

- To assess the value of authority's cooperation in order to inspire education system to adapt digital education technology.

METHODOLOGY

As per government declaration it is not allowed to go outside in this pandemic situation. In order to collect data based information regarding this current discussion, various reports are being thoroughly examined from secondary sources such as journals, blogs, articles, e-library, published research paper, national and international agencies and many authentic websites related to the study of the impact of covid-19 on online teaching learning process in India.

TEACHING-LEARNING STRATEGY THROUGH ONLINE

In order to cope with a struggling environment, teaching methods urge a more multifaceted schooling system. From home we have to try our best to maintain this teacher-learner friendly education system just to create an artificial classroom ambience with the help of online communication. Interpretation of various terms, concepts, principles deserves a three layer strategy on the part of the educators e.g. conceiving, planning and implementation.

The most integral part of teaching-learning strategy aims at a comprehensive study of virtual, moral, and social needs of the learners to bring about their all round development. Now what it fails to achieve in the pandemic situation is the correlation between teacher and learner. Electrical device like computer, mobile works as a media, looking closely at the learner's minute brain activities in a classroom like ambience, sharing what they saw, learned and experienced and helping a teacher conceive the whole environment and plan his lessons.

In short, the interactions and observations of a teacher is the heart of teaching-learning process. The learning process according to the Behaviorist School of Educationists can be divided into three domains- cognitive, affective and psychomotor. By these three domains, the teacher can possibly observe and modulate the behavioral pattern of a student. The thing one should remember is that when the learner is able to realize the discussed matter and then to become aware of it and later to gain knowledge by experiencing and memorizing, the aim or target of a teacher is fulfilled. So a teacher should follow three effective methods, namely, teacher-centric method, learner-centric method and group-centric method. These can only be utilized by online practices rather than empirical works or learning theories or original researches.

USAGE OF SELF-CONTAINED MODULES UTILIZING TECHNOLOGY

It's high time to consider about the online educational system and it's the opportunity to utilize technologies in education. Along with the technological implementations of 21th century, education system urges a more digital refinement. With the development of technology, teacher's role needs a change from offline classes to digital classes during the outbreak of COVID-19 and therefore the new learning-teaching process urges a more flexible and active participation of teachers in digital platforms. Opportunities for communication and collaboration have been seen to expand by digital innovations in our teaching methodology.

- ***Pedagogical solution using technology :***

In order to welcome a thought-based learning process in this pandemic-struck world, education needs a transformation from traditional education system to advanced learning process. Succeeded by enormous digital innovations, online platforms in the field of learning should occupy the main ground of education system. Incorporation of technologies, the curriculum as well as the pedagogy will keep its focus on the ability of a learner to synthesize his knowledge. The most revolutionary step in these digital era that one can take is the implementation of examination system. Our conventional examination model seems limited. So, besides the changes taken into the teaching process, education system should include an examination process where an open-resource examination should be conducted. Open book examination by allowing the learners to access internet during examination demands development of trained faculty and a considerable requirement of the digital pedagogical model. Hence, generating questions becomes the main focus in this context as question papers would have to be more thought- provoking and complex.

- ***Importance of multimedia tools in teaching learning process:***

In order to enhance online learning effectiveness in this pandemic situation multimedia plays a crucial role for teachers. By making this tool accessible anywhere and anytime learning can grow to its full-fledged facilitation. Depending on cognitive objectives of the topics related to classroom discussion, interactive media shows its potential in increasing learners' curiosity to know more. Use of white board, project works and computers to show images, animated graphics, audio clips of historical or geographical importance and also to make pupil know about the physiology, multimedia leaves its imprints on developing skills and knowledge to a great extent.

- ***Differentiation between asynchronous and synchronous learning technology:***

Whereas asynchronous e-learning does not involve at the same time and the subject which is being discussed is created previously and is restored for future use, synchronous learning happens in classroom time and teacher and learner can get the opportunity to interact and to discuss. Now, blending these two types of learning under the name of flipped classroom, same time online classes can be organized to fulfil all the needs of a student.

- ***E-Learning and M-learning:***

A lecture delivered through any kind of electronic device such as computer or through a TV channel is part of e-learning. M-learning works itself as a subset of e-learning. M-Learning therefore involves all portable devices like a cell phone, laptop etc. When the target is the accessibility of information, m-learning strengthens

the learning process. In classroom, the m-learning service would be more fruitful where the computer works as a medium, and therefore the knowledge gathered to access the information from it, will be easy enough to access with the help of communication or discussion between teacher and learner. On the other hand, when the teacher is seen absent, m-learning modules help the learner enrich his skills by his own effort in his study room.

- **_Some kind of online e-learning applications:_**

Within the designing of teaching-learning strategy, some e-learning applications like Webex, Skype, Google Meet, Google Suite, Google Classroom, Moodle, Microsoft Team, Seasaw, Zoom have shown their immense influence on education system as the interaction between teacher and learner, and the classroom like ambience can be restored through audio-video connectivity. The preparation of youth by arranging this kind of environment, evolves round a fruitful organisation where in the teaching-learning process the concept of teacher and learner compliments each other.

There are many tools which are created on the basis of students' needs to create a proper administration of virtual classroom and influencing students and teachers to do collaborative work. Few educational applications and their usage techniques are depicted as following:

a)

A system like Socrative allows teachers to design their own exercises and intellectual games related to the topic by which students can participate freely by surfing internet. The system also allows the teachers to see the results of the students' activities and thus examining them in accordance with acceptability of each of the students and therefore helping the teachers modify the lessons in order to make them more customized.

b)

Another renowned, more enriching, personalized digital educational tool like Edmodo gives the teachers the best op-portunity to create educational materials. With the help of this tool, teachers can create online groups of students and therefore can communicate with them in order to improve their performance.

c)

When the speeches with a lot of information are already delivered, the best effective way to portray them in front of the students is by means of multimedia presentation. Dynamic slides, online quizzes, videos can be provided by the educational tool, Projeqt. Teachers can provide their presentation during a class session with the help of various electronic devices like computers, tabs, mobiles etc.

d)

To expand knowledge and good ideas, collaborative work of teachers, students, and moderators through the digital platform, TED-ED can also provide educational lessons.

e)

Lastly, a platform namely Storybird deserves its recognition as it promotes good skills of writing and reading among students through storytelling. Moreover, teachers can create their own artistic books, projects and organize classes online through this platform .

HOW WILL PANDEMIC AFFECT TEACHERS

a)

In spite of so many advantages of online study and classes, in above discussions it is shown that online education system

can't but face few obstacles to fulfil everyone's need. Deterioration of mental health among teachers because of limited experiences in ICT affected the whole teaching learning process.

b)

Sudden change in education system because of outbreak of COVID-19, causes technostress among teachers and constrains the untrained and inexperienced teachers regarding updated technology to play their role satisfactorily through various digital platforms.

b)

Those who are acquainted with traditional offline classes through years and have not shown interest in conducting online classes seem like the victims of present situation and are facing obstacles in executing their teaching plans in accordance with the interest of students.

c)

Not to easily overcome the generation gap between the privileges of technology and the unaccustomed senior teachers now demonstrates the negative outcome as the crow flies.

d)

They have also found difficulties in interacting with students, conveying their thoughts, and information through digital platforms to enlighten students with knowledge.

Even if one is able to find the possible ways to fight against those demerits, economic depression among develop-

ing country, and mostly underdeveloped country would make it strenuous to upgrade the quality of teaching learning process with the help of digital innovation.

SUGGESTIONS

It's the high time when teachers can mould and train themselves by allowing individuals to be more flexible as well as more technical in Post Covid-19 environment. The possible ways one can take in order to represent himself as to be fitted with online or virtual classroom are as below:

a)

By allowing the teachers to be trained by a short-period-course regarding the usage of digital teaching process digital teaching process can be designed smoothly.

b)

Being themselves prepared for online classes, they have to make plans so that in short span of time they can manage to determine the chapter allowing the students to perceive knowledge about the whole matter in a way where the interaction between students and teachers, between one student and the other, and the exercises on the topic, and taking class tests related to the subject can be executed.

c)

Those who are differently able students are found not to grab all the resources and opportunities related to online teaching-learning process during pan-

demic situation, as well as for the long at a great extent. If guardians can involve themselves to cooperate their children, it can solved easily and therefore, directly or indirectly teachers will feel free to apply their teaching methods and lesson plans.

d)

If learning process is being seen to occupy digital platform, the problem of using computer related to the disability of novice students, seems to be a major drawback. In this issue teachers can help them by taking demo classes on how the learners able to perceive this teaching process.

e)

Not only to teach the subject but also by allowing the students to give feedback and to ask questions about the doubted portion, a healthy classroom-like ambiance can be created.

Moreover, well organized online digital method, network connectivity, and co-operation of guardians to help students to access online platforms, are highly needed to demonstrate a healthier teaching learning process.

CONCLUSION

When COVID-19 has enforced the government to shut all the schools, colleges and academic institutions down, it is modern technology who has given its blessing upon the learners to carry on their study modernising the human race. As an important academic entity allowing a short period of training and therefore preparing themselves for online classes, teachers can get rid of technostress or other difficulties and operate the whole online class smoothly.

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