

Pandemic Covid-19 and Its Effect on School Education – A Case Study of Kharagpur, West Bengal

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Abstract: COVID-19, the biggest threat of present world, has also huge impact in the field of education. Main focuses of this study to find out the impacts of COVID-19 on the school education sector (I-XII) and gave suggestions to overcome the problem. The researchers framed a questionnaire and conducted a survey on 90 school teachers. For this study purposive sampling method was used and followed statistical analysis. The researcher concluded that suddenly education systems get a big turn from face to face formal class room to online classroom and the huge changes in present scenario and the upcoming imprints on education Field. Further this study suggested some recommendation, based on the views of the school teachers from the survey which tries to recover the pathetic condition after this global breakdown.

Key Words: COVID-19, Pandemic, formal class room, online classroom, breakdown.

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I. Introduction:

Covid-19, a new and very serious issue, hit the world in the form of health related problems. At the end of March, 2020 this Pandemic spread over 185 countries resulting 90% closure of schools, colleges and universities etc. In India around 320 million students are affected. It creates a dilemma between shutting down of all educational institutes along with postponement of exams and keeping them open as this decision is going to affect approximately 1.725 billion students worldwide. Finally, the decision of temporary closing of educational institutions has been chosen in many countries to save human lives in a broader sense. According to WHO, the human society is going to stay side by side with this dangerous virus until any proper medicine is invented. So the globe after the Pandemic of COVID -19 is going to change a lot and also the system of education. According to UNESCO, total 320713810 learners affected in India and among them 143237427 are from primary section students and 133144371 are from Secondary section. West Bengal Board teach subject on online system through TV Channel but not fruitful. Then they tried to touch up with students with the help of “Bangla Shiksha Portal”. Other boards and private schools in West Bengal followed the online system and teach the students through online mode. But theoretically it may have effective, needs to be review practically how much it effective. Researcher tried to find out impact of COVID-19. Daniel (2020) from his study “Education and the COVID-19 pandemic” suggested some flexible ways to repair the education system which helpful for teachers, institution and institutional heads.

II. Objectives Of The Study:

- To find out the impact of Covid-19 in school education system.
- To find out the suggestions of teachers to overcome the problem.

III. Research Questions:

1. What are the views of teachers towards the impact of Covid-19?
2. What are the suggestions of teachers to overcome the impact Covid-19 on education?

IV. Methodology:

- Earlier, broad research topic was pondered by the researchers.
- Then, researcher reviewed the related literature from genuine sources.
- Therefore objectives and research questions were framed.
- Researchers comprised a questionnaire for measuring views of teachers towards the impact of Covid-19 on the school education system.
- Researcher applied a questionnaire for data collection on the participant.
- After that the researcher used qualitative method for analysis.
- Lastly researcher founded and concluded research findings.

4.1.Variable:

The researchers selected one variable for this study that was views of the school teachers towards impact of covid-19 on school education system.

4.2.Sample:

Researchers have selected 90 teachers from Primary, Secondary and higher secondary schools of Kharagpur Circle. West Bengal Board of Primary Education (WBBPE), West Bengal Board of Secondary Education (WBBSE) and West Bengal Council Higher Secondary Education (WCBHSE) were considered for the study. For this research work Judgemental Sampling was used.

4.3.Tools:

Researchers framed a questionnaire for measuring the views of teachers towards impact of covid-19 on school education system. This questionnaire consisted of 25 close ended questions and 1 open ended question on.

V. Results & Discussion:

Data have been presented in table and then graphically represented.

SL No	ITEMS	RESPONSES	
		YES	NO
1	Increased use of Smart Phone	90	0
2	Misuse of Internet	75	15
3	Availability facility to include in online education system for each & individual	0	90
4	Change of formal education system	90	0
5	Increase of number of Dropout	75	15
6	Increase Mental stress	78	12
7	Changed education system is helpful for students	36	54
8	Student in online education system	15	75
9	Assessment through online system	2	88
10	Smooth interaction	3	87
11	Participation at all teachers in online system	12	78
12	Online System- Burden for Teaching-Learning	40	50
13	Technology based learning	48	42
14	Increased tendency of Self- learning	63	27
15	Suitable for all type of Students	42	48
16	Possible to teach Primary students through online mode:	15	75
17	Possible to teach Secondary students through online mode:	57	33
18	Possible to teach Higher Secondary students through online mode:	81	9
19	Economic factor vital on education system	80	10
20	Decrease of student attendance	78	12
21	Uncertain future of Students	72	18
22	Change of Normal environment in educational institutes	87	3
23	Reduce the difference between formal and distance education	47	43
24	Possibility to teach Practical based subject	6	84

Source: Primary data

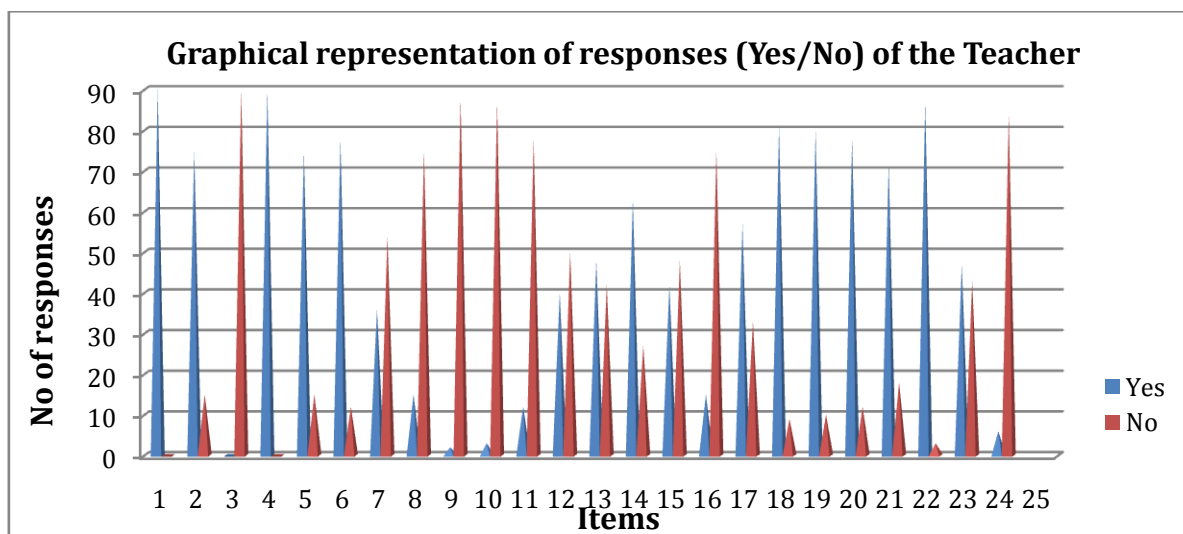


Fig 1: Representation of Teachers’ Responses (Yes/No) towards impact of covid-19 on school education system

VI. Interpretation:

After data analysis, researchers get the following interpretation according to research objectives.

Interpretation of 1st research questions:

i. Increased use of Smart Phone:

Out of 90 teachers all believe that this tendency of use of Smartphone has grown after the changes that have come into education system due to Covid-19 outbreak.

ii. Misuse of Internet:

From the survey it has definite that internets has being misused by the students.

iii. Availability facility to include in online education system for each & individual:

As per opinion of 90 teachers, it can be said that it is not possible to include all students into online education system.

iv. Change of Formal Education System:

All out of 90 teachers are of opinion that changes have come into formal education system. Due to sudden structural change of formal education (face to face learning to online learning), a large number of students and teachers are unable to use it properly. Due to closure of primary school, students will be lagging behind; satisfactory learning outcome will not be achieved.

v. Increase of number of Dropout:

Most teachers think that number of dropout rate will increase due to covid-19.

vi. Increase Mental Stress:

It concluded from survey that online education system may be the cause of mental stress among students. In such circumstances, many students will face financial crisis. Death, illness in the families will increase their mental pressure, depression, and trauma lesser attention and motivation etc.

vii. Changed education system is helpful for students:

The changed education system due to Covid-19 outbreak is not being helpful for the students as per opinion of maximum no of teachers.

viii. Interest in online education system:

Most teachers think that interest in online education system is not going too increased among students.

ix. Assessment through online system:

Almost all teachers agreed that proper assessment has not possible through online system.

x. Smooth interaction:

Maximal teachers thought that smooth interaction with students has not possible in online system.

xi. Participation of all teachers in online system:

From the survey it has cleared that all teachers has not possible to inclusion in online education system. Due to lack of technically sound teacher and proper teaching, the platform of online education system will not be utilised properly by all.

xii. Online System burden for teaching – learning :

50 teachers, out of 90 have agreed that online system burden for teaching-learning. Because in primary, secondary, HS education system online teaching learning process has not being implemented properly as the curriculum is not well designed for online system.

xiii. Learning to be technology based:

From survey it has concluded that the education system will be technology based in upcoming day. Most institution closed and not possible to reopen on this moment, they are helped to technology.

xiv. Increased tendency of Self Learning:

The tendency of self learning among students has increased due to Covid-19. In this situation students learn in home.

xv. Possible to inclusion of all type students in online education:

Most of the teachers agreed that new online education system has not suitable for all type of students.

xvi. Possible to teach primary students through online mode:

From the survey it has cleared that for primary section, online mode has not possible.

xvii. Possible to teach Secondary students through online mode:

Out of 90 teachers, 53 think that, teaching possible through online mode for the Secondary students.

xviii. Possible to teach Higher Secondary students through online mode:

Most teachers agreed that online system applicable for Higher Secondary students.

xix. Economic factor vital on education system:

For Covid-19 economic factor vital role play in education system in future. If consider globally, the students of developing and under developed countries will not be able to adopt online education system as easily as done by pupils of developed countries. The students of economically backward class will be lagging behind

as this system depends on internet, electronic gadgets etc. a lot. As per 2017-2018 National Sample Report only 23.8 % Indians have internet access.

xx. Decrease of students attendance:

Almost teachers agreed that decreased the student's attendance in online education system. Most students attend when compulsory to attendance in online class.

xxi. Uncertain future of students:

Teachers concluded that uncertain future caused due to Covid-19 pandemic. According to International Education Report, sudden implementation of unorganised e-learning will decrease literacy rate up to 67% in primary field. In secondary and HS section number of drop out students will increase notably among economically backward classes. In higher education, quality education will be hampered due to lesser student mobility creating job risks.

xxii. Change of Normal environment in educational institution:

As per opinion, the normal environment of educational institution has being hampered for Covid-19. In such pandemic situation due to COVID-19, admission and recruitment in the various fields of education is either stopped or postponed. It will have vast impact on education.

xxiii. Reduce the difference between formal and distance education system:

Due to Covid-19 it reduced the difference between formal and distance education system. In online process one can take or attend a class without being physically present in certain place.

xxiv. Possible to teach practical based subject:

From the survey most teachers disagree to possibility to teach practical based subject on online system.

Interpretation of 2nd research questions:

On the above section researchers tried to discussion on impact of covid-19 on education with respect to teachers view point. Also some suggestion gave the teachers, which sum up and following down-

- For smooth online teaching learning process, we have to build up a healthy and regular relation between parents and teachers. Also the parents should be more conscious about the lesson of their children.
- A new curriculum must be introduced so that it can be helpful for online education system. With this, the curriculum must be well designed with health education, peace education and education related to sustainable development.
- For mental well-being of students the government should introduce mental counselling in education system.
- Online class is going to take a vital role in the new world, so online teaching related training, well designed online portal must be introduced.
- The online classes should be started in all languages and all subjects to achieve the learning outcome in its highest level.
- Online assessment and evolution system is also important for future in education system.

VII. Conclusion:

Researchers discovered several impacts of Covid-19 on secondary education System. From the survey researchers get some positive and negative impacts. Positive impact are online system helped to attend a class without being physically present in certain place and also a large number of people will be able to use a single platform easily. But, it has many negative impacts, i.e. after covid-19 learning dependent on economic condition, technology based learning, but developing India's people are economically backward. In higher secondary education, teaching is possible through online mode, not against in primary section. Students feel stress for changing face to face formal education to online education system. In this study researchers have some suggestions from the teachers on curriculum, learning process, and evaluation system etc, which restoration of loss in education system. In future more look forwarded on education system that mends the wound of teaching-learning process.

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