National Education Policy - 2020 : Issues, Challenges and Remedies

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Chapter

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18. Integrating blending and online teaching learningin higher education issues and challenges

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Abstract:

Due to Covid pandemic colleges and universities have offered online courses. However, considerable concerns and problems have developed, particularly as it relates to the quality of online education. The online education is often associated with internet education, virtual education, cyber-learning, and asynchronous, themes that shape online education: collaboration, connectivity, student-centeredness, unboundedness, community, exploration, shared knowledge. Online courses and degrees have been widely adopted by higher education institutions as another method to substitute traditional classroom instruction. As the number of online education courses in higher education has increased, concerns and issues have arisen about the quality of these courses. Many problems that have arisen in online education regarding its quality are often related, but not limited. Many opponents of online education question whether or not online learning can provide the same interaction between instructor-students and students-students as traditional classrooms offered.

1.1 Introduction:

Education is a way of bringing drastic changes in our life. Study is most essential to achieve a wanted goal in our life. The teaching and learning process is continued from ancient times. Earlier there were gurukulas as the center of attaining education. These Gurukulas today have been modified as schools, colleges and universities. The ancient teaching and learning methods have modified greatly. Nowadays there are various teaching methods applied in education. The Covid pandemic has changed education system forever. The Covid is first discovered in China in December 2019 in china and it spreaded in all worlds rapidly. The pandemic resulted in lockdown in all country to prevent infection from spreading. Since then, everything has become online from school,

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college, university to offices, shopping everything. The schools and offices were closed all across the world and started all the school and office work online. All the schools, colleges and universities are conducting classes, exam, presentations, viva, etc., all online. With this sudden shift of school, college and university from offline class to online classroom, in all parts of country, someone are wondering whether adoption of the online teaching persists in higher education after post pandemic, and how such sift impact the higher education system. Online learning generally has a lot of opportunities available but this time of crisis will allow online learning to boom as almost all academic institutions have switched to this mode. Online learning, remote working, and e-collaborations exploded during the outbreak of Corona Virus crisis Favale et al (2020).

This chapter includes the issues of online learning and Challenges analysis of e-learning modes in the time of crisis.

Issues Regarding online Education:

Some of the issues regarding online education for a student are listed below

1. An online class brings education to right to your home.

1. Online education gives you more freedom.

2. Online education is convenient.

3. They offer flexibility.

4. Class recordings are available for any time to study.

Reflection, flexibility, and convenience are reported as strengths of online education by several researchers Petrides (2002), Vonderwell (2003), and Poole (2000).

1.3 Challenges regarding online education

1.3.1 Challenges regarding online education for student

There are some challenges regarding online education faced by students are listed below

1. Online education require staying logged in on a screen for all lecture time, long-duration screen time becomes a great difficulty for students and harmful for their health, especially the eyes.

2. Technical issues such as poor networks, lack of power, poor computer knowledge, lack of direct conversation

3. Feeling of isolation from class, group work not as efficient as it would be if done offline

4. Low level of eagerness may come to daily participate the online class

5. Online course require good time management

6. Online courses require you to be active learner

7. Online classes have more possibilities of distractions where students may surf on other online platforms or pay less attention.

1.3.2 Challenges regarding online education for teacher

When education first went online due to Covid restrictions, everyone believed that it is temporary change, however here we are almost year and half later online education still going on. It is a challenge for teachers also to move from offline mode to online mode, changing their teaching methodologies, and managing their time. It is challenging to develop content which not only covers the curriculum but also engage the students, Kelbritchi et al (2017). There are some challenges when conducting online class for a teacher listed below.

1. One of the biggest challenges is to hold attention of student in the online class.

2. Preparation of online class requires more time as compare to face to face teaching

3. Teacher facing problem in assessment of student performance, student may cheat while conducting test.

4. Online class requires more effort as compare to offline class.

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5.   Many teacher face technical issues that are unavoidable and cause stress. They become helpless if technical errors come in middle of the live session.

Another important aspect of the online experience is the design of the online environment itself. Clark (2002) stated in Myths in E-learning that the effectiveness of e-learning "all depends on the quality of the designed content". He also suggested that the content of e-learning should be more "meaningful, distinct, vivid, organized and personal" to increase students' retention.

1.4 Conclusion:

So from this discussion on issues and challenges in online education, it is clear that online education is completely depending on the interest of student and internet facility. Whereas offline education students ware fully attentive towards the class there is no any possibilities for distraction from class. Teacher can provide equal attention to all students, address their issues and solve it quickly. Classroom teaching enhances student's critical thinking skills. Teachers can easily judge the performance of every student in the classroom. The offline study is the best way of enhancing the concentration level of student. Also the extra-curricular activities are organized in offline mode which helps in the overall personality development of student.

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