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Research Paper

Electronic learning and education with special reference to lockdown and covid 19

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Abstract

Covid 19 has disrupted full-time academic activities abruptly leaving administrators, teachers and students in a quandary. The covid - 19 has resulted in schools shut all across the world, globally over 1.2 billion children out of the classroom .The pandemic has transformed the centuries old ,chalk talk teaching model to one driven by technology . A multi pronged strategy is necessary to manage the crisis and bulid a resilient Indian education system in the long term. Someone has rightly stated that learning should never stop even at the time of crisis. ICT which a great enabler and facilitation of online learning has kept the learning process intact even at this time. UNESCO is supporting countries in their efforts to mitigate the immediate impact of school closures, particularly for more vulnerable and disadvantaged communities and to facilitate the continuity of education for all through e learning .Teachers are using several e-learning platforms to communicate with their students for curricular transactions. It is fallacious to presume that it is a substitute of regular academic activities, but at present it is the best technology in our hands.E-learning has several advantages but the need of the hour is to address its major concerns for its uninterrupted and efficient use. Research also shows that e learning has been advantage for the students because they can learn anything by staying their respective home.

Introduction

The covid 19 pandemic has effected in educational institutions across the world being compelled to suddenly harness and utilize the suite of available technological tools to create content for remote learning for students in all sectors. Due to covid 19 millions of students of educational institutions across the world have been driven out of their respective educational institutions and teachers are confined to their homes. In these critical times the good news is that mainstream institutions are willing to move online and teachers, students are using e learning aspects for their continuity of educational learning.

E learning is an abbreviation of the term electronic learning. Electronic learning in its meaning stands for the type of learning carried out supported by some or the other electronic gadgets, media or resources. In the sense e learning calls for the services of the electronic information and communication media means like teleconference, video conferencing and computer based conferencing email, live chat, surfing on internet, online reference libraries, e-learning video set etc. With the introduction of information and communication technology (ICT), the education sector has also been blessed with many facilities like any other sector in this critical situation of covid 19 the government is also putting many efforts to implement the e learning in every sector of educational structure. The mainstream of education has witnessed a massive revolution over the last few decades and most of the educational facilities have now made the extreme change and making the learning process more ready available to students with the use of smart tools , different Innovative teaching materials are now in use across the globe. E learning has become the important mode of education during lockdown period in the rise of covid 19. Atleast for coming day's e learning will become the biggest intermediate of teaching learning process.

The development of e E-learning programme has decreased the hassle related to teaching in different institutions. Teachers realize it very simple to distribute and share learning materials to students. E-learning involves acquisition of knowledge and skills using electronic technologies such as computer and internet .

Objectives

1). *to study the significance of the study with special reference to e -learning in the field of education.*

- 2) To find out the scope of e-learning in the field of education.
- 3). to studies the merits or advantages of e-learning in the field of education.
- 4). to studies the demerits or disadvantages of e-learning in the field of education.
- 5). to find out how to make e-learning more effective in the field of education.

Methodology

This present study is also based on secondary sources like books, Articles, Journals, websites etc. The method used is Descriptive Analytic method.

Findings and Discussion

Significance of the Study

This study is most significant in establishing the importance of e-learning in educational field in the situation of lockdown and covid 19 . E-learning can also been seen as a important way for improving the quality of education and effectiveness of learning. Irrespective of the geographical location , e-learning enables the learners to become a self learners . It is effective and powerful and makes information easy to grasp and absorb.

In these critical situation of rising the covid 19 where all the individuals are bound to be at home the e-learning system not only provide evaluates the progress of the students and credit can be earned towards educational institutions. It can give increased flexibility of learning students, enhances access to information resources for more students m E-learning helps to enhance the quality of education by the easy sharing of the new practices among learners and teachers communities.

Scope of E-Learning

In the lockdown and covid 19 situations many of the university and colleges are conducting their course and also certificate will be provided online. The e-learning scenario is rapidly growing in India due to covid 19. E-learning is not inexpensive but also convenient. E-learning refers to the use of internet technologies to deliver a broad Barrat of solutions that enhances knowledge and performance. E-learning is also called as web based learning, computer instruction, online learning and internet based learning. There is huge scope of e-learning in India especially for the

Indian youths. E-learning has opened new avenues to education in India and has changed the dynamics of educational content.

Categories of e-learning E-learning have two (2) categories that enable students to learn from the platform. The methods of obtaining information from e-learning platform depend on the learner's choice on the category to be used. Each of these categories has its own benefits and drawbacks.

The two categories are ----

Synchronous and Asynchronous e-learning:-

1). **Synchronous e-learning** is an instructor led platform occurs when remote students enroll in a class that is paced at particular intervals that must be completed according to specific schedule. a). **virtual classroom** (instructor's lead classes that are broadcasted in real time to remote students over an internet connection).

b). **Shared Whiteboard** (a shared environment allows multiple students to collaborate on a discussion with text and drawings). 2). **Asynchronous e-learning** is a self-placed learning process that can be done even offline with or without the presence of the teacher or students. Asynchronous e-learning occurs when students begin and complete a training course at different times according to their own schedule . Common feature of asynchronous e-learning include - * **Discussion group** (discussion between students in the same course in real time). * **Self paced courses** : these are course that can be completed at one's own pace . There may be assignment and checkpoints along the way.

Merits or Advantage E-Learning

Here the question arise why we have to use e -learning , what are the benefits the e learning have during the covid 19 situation , then here are some points which can easily ellobrate the above use -.

- **Reduced Costs:** e-learning is cost effective as compared to traditional forms of learning. The cause for the rate deduction is due to learning through this way happens easily and faster way. There is also shown a decreased rate in the training tuning time with related to love trainers' course materials and travel.

- **Less effect on environment:** - **less** effect on environment in the e learning there is is no no required of of cut the trees forgetting the paper. So e learning called as environment friendly aspect of learning.
- **Promotes active learning:** E-learning environment promotes active learning. The e learning and online educational programme are generated and designed in that ways that assist the student for subject and solving problem through a diverse range of methods and a discussion forum to discuss problems, new ideas and much more.
- **Advantages for Teachers and Creators:** E-learning provides a platform where the teachers and content creators can get their message to their target audience. E learning assures that every trainer receive equal amount of learning.
- **E-Learning is student-centered:** Online learning is fundamentally student-centered, due to the easy implementation of student discussion boards and peer grading systems. It promotes students to student's interaction.
- Learners of e-learning courses learn more-faster than their traditional counterparts, as e-learning allows the learners to skip the material and select only those content material which they really need.

Demerits or Disadvantages of E Learning:-

Whenever we talk about the positive aspects we have to talk about the negative aspects so they are -

- ❖ **Dependent on technology:** E-learning depends mainly on technology. Computers are the basic need of e-learning. This becomes the investment for e-learning
- ❖ **Lack of practical work:** In the case of e-learning, there is no practical session for the students. The students may be supplied the educational videos in which the real use of the understanding is showing but that is not sufficient for the pupil. The real or practical knowledge can be totally described until they can do it by them. This is a great demerit.
- ❖ **Create social Isolation:** In e-learning students have the freedom to learn on their own time wherever they are, but this may leave them with a feeling of isolation and lack of support of physical classroom.

- ❖ **Technical issues:** technical issues can include a slow Internet connection, specific browser requirements, and poor device compatibility.
- ❖ E-learning as a technique of education help the learners experience about assessment and evaluation system but there is also a chance of unfair means in the use of e learning in the field of education.

How to Make E-Learning more Effective

The following actions will improve E-learning more effectively in educational institutions with special reference to covid 19 and lockdown situation - (1)Availability of hardware (particularly computers) (2) Faster Internet connectivity. (3)Improved software (4) Appropriate policies favoring e-learning (5) Provision of technical support for e-learning by the government. (6) Lower prices for connectivity (7) appropriate content in appropriate languages (8) Awarenessraising about the value of e-learning (9) improved training for teachers in e-learning at all levels.

Conclusion

From the above fact we can say that there is an imergency of implementation of e-learning in every sector of education due to covid 19 situation. E-learning is one kind of programme, the utilize the all aspects of e-learning in the field of education which gives institutions improve the teaching learning activities. It enhances students-teacher connection and allow accompanied by interactions among themselvesp. This paper spotlighted the importantce of e-learning in the field of education due to covid 19 and necessary aspects related to the e-learning and education special reference to the current situation . The study makes the following recommendations: 1) E-learning platform should be employed at various levels of educational institutions.2) Government and education regulatory bodies should enforce the adoption of e-learning platforms in additionto conventional teaching mode.3) Teachers should be motivated to distributed learning materials, assignment to students using electronic mode.

E-learning is becoming an important part of education and it can provide new possibilities for digital generation. Government of India has been taking tremendous step to develop ICT. Indiancountry understands the digital generation needs to empowere-learning process among young aspiring minds. Indian Government started new projects day by day like NMEICT, e-PG Pathshala etc. but students utilization of this project is veryless for their academics. The main

objective of this project entitled on National Mission on Education through ICT; to spread quality education both rural and urban areas. Ministry of HRD started MOOCs Courses through SWAYAM Platform, it is open to study, whoever may be undertaking MOOCs courses and get e-Certificates. Hence, above valuable UGC INFLIFNET Projects very valuable to students, research scholars, all the academicians must make use of this project for their academic and research purpose.

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