

Covid -19: A Great Impact On Indian Education System

Dr Shailja Vasudeva

Assistant Professor

Department of Political Science

Shaheed Captain Vikram Batra Government Degree College Palampur, District kangra,
Himachal Pradesh, India

ABSTRACT

India is a great country with very rich culture. Here we see the Guru Shishyaa Parampara, respect of parents and trust in each and every relationship. We are witnessing that for the last so many years there is “unity in diversity” in India. But India is following social distance rule from January 2020 due to covid-19. Indians were living normal life till December 2019. But sudden onset of covid-19 started from wuhan, China in December 2019. Very soon this pandemic spread all over the world. India to could not escape from this disease. So this research article deals with what is education? And it also defines about ancient education system of India. This research article also explain about what is covid-19 and whole detail of lockdown implementation on India. Main focus of this article is impact of covid-19 on Indian education system during this pandemic. So this research article explains impact of covid-19 on students, teachers and students families too.

Keywords -: India, covid-19, lockdown, education system, impact

The main purpose of education is to learn how to know about yourself. School colleges and Universities are not only place where education can be done; one can receive education from their families, Communities and society too. So there are so many sources of education in everyone’s life. But the first and foremost purpose of education is to open the window of the mind. Education teaches and trained the people and it enhance the knowledge. Education is the only way from which we passed knowledge regarding society, state, Country, World and universe from generation to coming generation.

The education, which we received from schools, Colleges and Universities. We got degrees and certificates from that kind of education are known as formal education. In formal education we learn regarding academics. And other kind of education is informal education. We received informal education from our families, Communities, Society and also from our workplaces. Through Informal education one can know how to behave, how to wear cloths, how to respect your elders, even we learn how to cook. All that kind of knowledge and education one can receive from their families, from environment and from workplaces also.

If we talk about Ancient India, Before British rule, then India had their own education system in the form of Madrasas from Muslims and Gurukuls for Hindus. At that time that Madrasas and Gurukuls were mostly residential and teachers and students remains together till the education was completed. The main focus of Gurukuls and Madrasas were on Equality, brotherhood, discipline, humanity and love, and their teaching & learning process is majorly based on group discussions and practical knowledge of cooking, Sword bet, Archery, Mallayuddha, sports, craft, meditation, Yoga and mantra chanting etc.

British education systems had a mixture of positive and negative impact on Indian education system. In beginning East India Company didn't take any initiative to improve Indian education system, The British East India Company wanted some educated Indians, who could assist British in the administration. So we can say that modern education system began in India under British rule.¹

British education became solidified into Indian as missionary schools were established during the 1820s. In 1854 the wood's dispatch to the then Governor general Dalhousie stipulated a number of reforms be made to the companies Education system, in British India. After that Babington Macaulay produced new education system for Indians. He was firm supporter of English language. He always said that English is much more superior than Hindi and Sanskrit. His only dream was to produce English language in Indian Higher education, and a class of people, Indian in blood & colour, but English in taste. Simply one can say Macaulay was establishing an education system based upon the British Model. Macaulay didn't favour the use of the Hindi and Sanskrit language as the medium of Indian education system. He gave strong support to British language as the medium of Indian education system. In 1835, lord Babington Macaulay successfully westernised education in India. After this act of 1835, English was become the official language for the government and courts was adopted as the official medium of govt. instructions too.²

British rule ended in India on 15th August 1947. India became independent after almost 200 years. After Independence India had face poverty, unemployment, terrorism, pain of partition, violence, and religious issues and cast issues too. India faced Indo-China war in 1962, Four Indo-Pak wars held in 1947, 1965, 1971 and 1999. Even we faced two surgical strikes on 28th Sept. 2016 and another is on 26th February 2019, Balkot Airstrike. But even though Indian Education system is improving day by day. The National Policy of Education (NPE) is a policy formulated by the government of India to promote education amongst India's people. The policy covered elementary education to colleges in both rural and urban India. The first NPE was promulgated by the government of India by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1968, the second by PM Rajiv Gandhi in 1986 and the third NEP is given by PM Narendra Modi in 2020.³

COVID-19 is the name given by the World Health Organisation (WHO) ON February, 11, 2020. COVID-19 is an acronym that stands for Corona virus disease of 2019. 'Co' stands for 'Corona' 'VI' for 'Virus' and 'D' for Disease and 19 for 2019.⁶

Now a day's Indian Education System is facing a very crucial time period due to COVID-19 pandemic. December 31, 2019 China informed to the WHO (World Health Organisation) about cases of pneumonia of unknown aetiology detected in Wuhan city, Hubei province of China.⁴ January 27th, 2020, India faced the first case of COVID-19 in Kerala. That patient was 20 years old young lady belongs from Kerala and she had a travel history from Wuhan city China. And after that it is spreading in all over India very fastly.

Firstly one should have to know about what is COVID-19. COVID-19 is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered strain of corona virus, a type of virus known to cause respiratory infections in humans.⁵ As of 13 September 2020, more than 28.7 million cases have been reported across 188 countries and territories with more than 920,000 deaths, more than 19.4 million people have recovered. January 2021, It is recorded that the Corona virus COVID-19 is affecting 219 countries and territories around the world. 12th Jan 2021, total cases 91,620,445 have been reported across 219 countries and territories with 1,960,764 deaths, and recovered cases are 65,520,191 and active cases are 24,139,490.⁷ 26th

April, 2021, total 147M cases all over the world recorded in the morning and 84.25M recovered cases recorded and death rate was 3.11m on 26th April 2021.⁷ in India 17M total cases recorded, 14.1M recovered cases and 192K Mortality rate recorded on 26th April, 2021.⁸

PM Modi imposed First nationwide lockdown on 24 march 2020 for 20 days. It was ordered after a fourteen hour voluntary public curfew on 22nd march 2020. At that time main purpose of lockdown in India was to control the spread of COVID-19 out break in India First nationwide lockdown was imposed under the approximately 500 COVID Positive cases were confirmed. Second phase was imposed for 19 days (15th April 2020 to 3rd May 2020) Third phase of lockdown was imposed for 14 days (4th May to 17th May 2020) after that fourth phase of lockdown was imposed for 14days(May 18th to 31st May,2020). After that unlock process started in India from 1st June 2020 to 30th June 2020 for 30 days. And than chain of unlock was started unlock 2.0, 1st July to 31st July 2020 (31 days), unlock 3.0 for 31 days (1st August to 31st August 2020) unlock 4.0 for 30 days (1st September to 30th September 2020), unlock 5.0 for 31 days (1st Oct to 31st Oct 2020, unlock 6.0 for 30 days (1st November to 30th Nov 2020), unlock 7.0 for 31 days (1st December to 31st December) and unlock 8.0 started from January 2021.

Now a day's India is facing second wave of COVID-19. This second wave of COVID-19 is more frightening then first wave of COVID-19. Its new UK strain. April 2021, Delhi, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Kerala, Karnataka, Odisha, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Chandigarh, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh etc. states have imposed lockdown or weekend curfew or night curfew and some restrictions introduced in the borders once again for the purpose of protect the states from new strain of COVID.⁹

During first nationwide lockdown, all services and shops closed except grocery shops, Chemist shops, hospitals, Banks, Vegetable shops and other essential services. During this first lockdown all commercial and private sector were doing work from home. Temples were also closed and all social, sports, academic, religious, cultural, political activities were prohibited all, that the time of lockdown. Even in marriages and cremations only 50 people were allowed, slowly that number increased.

During this first nationwide lockdown india had already been experiencing a prolonged economic slow down. Even the GDP growth rate of our country (India) was downed. That's why the process of unlocking started in India from 1st June 2020. PM modi gave us the policy of "Aatamnirbhra Bharat" during the time period of lockdown. Aatamnirbhra Bharat, is translates self-sufficient India.¹⁰ The policy of "Aatamnirbhra Bharat" is adopted for making India "a bigger and more important part of the world Economy. May be that's why nationwide lockdown is ignored this time when have number of corona cases & active cases are in intimidating number and moritality rate is too high in this second wave of COVID-19. Means second wave of COVID-19 is a lot more dangerous than First wave of COVID-19.

During the first wave of COVID-19, When nationwide lockdown was imposed, on that time everything was stopped than only essenstial services like electricity, water supply, grocery store, chemist shop and green grocers were open, Even than teachers are performing there duty from home without taking any break, on there own expenses. Education system of India is never ever disturbed during this nationwide lockdown. It was going on perfectly through online classes. Teachers are continously giving there lectures through audio lectures, video lectures, through teachers self made notes, through google meet, youtube lectures etc. During this pandemic every teacher is trying to give their best. The teachers are trying to reach the students and to help them in every possible way. Last year (2020), in almost all the states of the india conducted UG & PG exams very successfully with the cooperation of teachers

during this pandemic. Even teachers performed their duties in Admission committees, in SOP committees and as Superintendent, Deputy superintendent and as investigators. In UG & PG exams during the pandemic. And as even evaluator they evaluate answer scripts of students and then they fill their assessments for final results. Simply we can say during this pandemic teachers took over the reins of the education system. Teachers are playing an important role during this pandemic. Teachers are appearing in the role of protector of education system during lockdown. Many states in India decided to reopen Schools, Colleges and Universities from 1st February 2021. But very soon in April 2021, once again schools, colleges have been shut down due to a sudden surge in Covid-19 cases.¹¹

The impact of this pandemic COVID-19 is noticed in every sector. But education sector of India as well as the world are poorly affected by this pandemic COVID-19. All educational activities ceased during this time. We can't deny this COVID-19 has mixed impact on our education system i.e positive and negative too. Government took initiative to emerge this pandemic COVID-19. Government has started 'har Ghar Pathshala' to ensure online classes, for that purpose use of Doordarshan has also ensured to teach the students at school level. During this pandemic there was no substitute for offline classes, but we can say online classes are proving a blessing to the students. But even though there is a mixed impact over students, their families and on teachers. This impact was negative as well as positive too.

The effect of this pandemic on education system can be categorized into three parts. First is impact on students, secondly, impact on student's families and last one is impact on teacher.

I – Impact on Students

(A) Negative Impact on Students During This Pandemic,

- 1) *Students are experiencing mental stress and depression*
- 2) *It's not certain, when will the schools open.*
- 3) *It's not certain, when will exams conduct.*
- 4) *There is uncertainty about the future of UG & PG final year's students.*
- 5) *Students of practical subjects like B.sc, M.sc and research scholars are much more affected. Because they are facing very much problems in online studies. Reason being Practicals are not possible through online students method.*
- 6) *Students are forgetting about class discipline. How to follow decorum*

(B) Positive impact on Students During This Pandemic

- 1) *The COVID-19 Pandemic period is like a blessing for drug addict students. Because there was nationwide lockdown imposed everywhere, And only essential commodities are available. So drug addict students are unable to buy any kind of drugs. And their parents and families protection & care helped them to get out of this curse.*
- 2) *Students have spending quality time with their parents and grand parents. They are now learning about the values and importance of their respective families because schools, colleges and universities are close during lockdown and children couldn't go out from their homes. So they have spending their whole time with their families.*

(II) Impact On Student's Families

(A) Negative Impact on Student's Families During This Pandemic

- 1) *Parents of the students has also facing so many financial crises during lockdown. Because they couldn't afford mobiles and laptops for their school and college going children's online classes. Even they couldn't afford the expenditure of Internet pack. We all read about so many cases in newspaper's during lockdown that, so many parents has been sold there land and pet animals for the sake of online studies of their respective schools & colleges going children.*
- 2) *Parents are facing mental stress too. They are worried about their children's studies. They are worried, how this kind of online study will help to their children's.*
- 3) *Parents are also worried about the future of their children's, who are studying in +2, UG & PG final year. They all are worried about their children's that, have they will get admissions in future and have they will further continue their studies. And they also worried about job oppoturtunities for them.*

(B) Positive Impact On Student's Families

- 1) *This lockdown is blessing for working parents. They spent quality time with their children during the lockdown period.*
- 2) *Non working parents are also enjoyed this time with their children. During this COVID-19 lockdown.*

(III) Impact on Teachers

(A) Negative Impact on Teachers

- 1) *During this COVID-19 era teacher's are missing their teacher-students bond, which can be only possible during classroom teaching. There is very less interaction between teachers and students during online classes. Because sometimes students are taking advantage of the network issues by making so many excuses.*
- 2) *Sometime internet network connection is the biggest hurdle during online classes.*
- 3) *Teachers are overburdened during these online classes. During this global pandemic the teachers are trying to provide maximum facilities to the students. That's why, they are overburdened. Teachers are conducting lectures through google meet & Zoom application for those students, which can afford 4G mobiles, laptop and internet data pack. And Teachers are also preparing video lectures and audio lectures for those students, who can not offord 4G mobiles & laptops. Along with this teachers are also preparing handwritten notes for those students, whom don't have PC, 4G mobile & laptops. So at that way work pressure increased over teachers.*
- 4) *Science teachers are facing so many problems, because its very difficult to teach practical subjects during online classes.*
- 5) *Teachers are also feeling unhappy, because students are forgetting class discipline during online classes.*

Positive Impact on Teachers

This global pandemic COVID-19 has negative as well as positive impact on teachers too. Now during this COVID-19 era, Teachers are becoming technically very much sound . They all are preparing their lectures through PPTs. They make audio lectures, video lectures and

conducting online classes through Google meet & Zoom application. So due to this COVID-19 pandemic now teachers are technologically very advanced.

So this COVID-19 era has been lot of positive as well as negative impact on Indian education system.

STAY HOME, STAY SAFE, STAY WELL

Protect yourself from Corona and stop COVID-19

References

- 1) *NCRT notes : Indian Education system during British rule (online molesial)*
- 2) *en.m.wikipedia.org>wiki>History.....*
- 3) *en.m.wikipedia.org>wiki>national....*
- 4) [www.who.int>Situation-reports>](http://www.who.int/Situation-reports)
- 5) [www.who.int>emergencies>corom](http://www.who.int/emergencies/corom)
- 6) [https://www.cdc.gov>cdcresponse](https://www.cdc.gov/cdcresponse)
- 7) [www.worldometers.info>coronavirus](http://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus)
- 8) <https://en.m.wikipedia.org>
- 9) *Information collect from News chanel*s
- 10) [https://en.m.wikipedia.org>wiki](https://en.m.wikipedia.org)

Other Sources

News channels

- 1) *Aaj tak*
- 2) *India Tv*
- 3) *D.D News*
- 4) *Star news*

News Papers

- 1) *The Hindu*
- 2) *Indian Express*
- 3) *The Tribune*
- 4) *The Times of India*
- 5) *Hindustan Times*