

LEARNERS PERCEPTION TOWARDS ONLINE LEARNING DURING COVID-19

BHAVISHA VERMA

Assistant Professor of Commerce, Sanatan Dharma College Ambala Cantt

PRIYA RANA

Assistant Professor of Commerce, Sanatan Dharma College Ambala Cantt

ABSTRACT

To maintain the COVID-19 pandemic regulations one has to follow social distancing and social distancing is not possible in educational institutions. So, the educational institutions were closed to follow pandemic guidelines. This led to usage of online learning a larger scale. Learners used online medium to carry forward studies and this led to flipped classroom in education system. The paper is based on learners, perception towards online learning and for these 130 respondents' opinion was asked through questionnaires the data was analyzed with the help of Pearson Correlation and Online learnings significance is checked with number of variables such as flexibility, location, Health Concerns, post pandemic scope, new tool, online study content, detailed analysis is given further in paper. The conclusion says that learners find it convenient to use online learning during pandemic times and they are little bit concerned about the health issues that are arising due to online learning.

KEYWORDS: Online learning, COVID-19, physical learning, flipped classroom and migrant behavior.

INTRODUCTION

Learning previously is only done physically and online learning was mere an idea to shift to different direction. But with the emergence of COVID-19 the whole education system was shifted to online whether it is primary classes, secondary classes or Higher education as it is the only way left to carry forward education system, without any halt. As Indian education system is concerned it is very difficult to put students in every nook and corner to online learning. Due to lack of accessibility to smartphones and laptops it was a very hard task. But as the time passed these issues resolved and mostly students were shifted to online learning. So, this basically a kind of migration that is done by the learners and when the situation is back to normal then they will return back to originality- here migration of population theory is also applicable which suggests that migrants in search of work or livelihood shift to other place and return back to origin after work gets completed. This migrant behavior truly justifies the present and past pandemic situation. This flipping of classroom is seen not at India only but at the world level and those studies which are not possible with practicality also moved to various options that helped learners, study online. If we take a case of medical students their studies are baseless without practical knowledge but those learners are also shifted to clinical and non-clinical (with non-theoretical knowledge and with theoretical knowledge respectively). The learners used the online classes as method to not let go the time as waste, but to utilize this pandemic period as way to move in positive direction. This Online learning can only persist in upcoming days if work is

done to improve the conditions or situations of present online learning scenario. The major favorability is seen towards online learning is that it provides freedom to learner in terms of Convenience, freedom to use irrespective of time, easy submissions of assignments, Instructors special guidance to each student, makes learner aware of different courses that are available online. Some of the Live learning platforms are recently developed after seeing the growing demand of video conferencing applications and these are proved to be a much faster growing business.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

(Khan M.A et.al 2021) Students Perception towards E- learning during COVID-19 in India. The study revealed that E-Learning has given an ease to students to engage with teachers and fellow teachers in a convenient manner despite of the life-threatening virus. The data is collected from 184 valid response and learners faced ease in using e-resources (Study material) flexibility of time and space is also seen in Online Learning. The findings are based on Usefulness, Self-Efficacy and behavior of students with regards to Online Learning. The study finds out the usefulness of E-Learning with respect to geographical locations which is not possible in case of conventional learning. The study also revealed that due to COVID-19 pandemic learners accepted the Online Learning wholeheartedly which wasn't possible in absence of COVID-19.

(R. Dhanalakshmi et.al 2021) A Study on COVID-19 impacting Indian Education. The study explained that tough times has led the Indian Education to move in the direction of blended learning. There has been a rise in the use of Learning Management System, with increased use of Online Meetings digital Literacy has been observed during pandemic times, World Wide Exposure and better time management has been seen and experienced. The never heard before open book exam is possible and by of the students didn't have to suffer due to pandemic. World Economic Forum said that it will take approximately 12-24 months' time to recover and during that period only the Online Learning can save the learners future.

(Sharma Anamika et.al 2021) Evaluating pre and post COVID learnings. The paper compares the student's perception in pre and post COVID era. The paper used two factors pre-COVID learning/Blended Learning and post-COVID learning/Web-Assistance Learning. The Hypothesis selected that there was no statistical difference between pre-COVID and post-COVID learning was rejected as there is a statistical difference as learners' perception was found more towards post-COVID learning in comparison of pre-COVID learning. In post-COVID learning the flexibility, Sufficiency, Accessibility, Usability, Content Quality and Instructor guidance all was seen at best both the sides learners as well as Instructors collaborated well and moved in direction of Online Learning with joint efforts.

(Aristovnik A. et.al 2020) Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the life of Higher Education Students: A Global Perspective. The study was conducted on life of higher education students with a global perspective. The questionnaire is shared on Online learning and how they are coping during this pandemic. The findings revealed that students of higher education are less affected by the COVID-19 effects their studies are less harmed. The study revealed that students as a global perspective supported the institutions and teachers as they have to shift from onsite to Online learning due to spread of COVID -19 virus. The Content given by teachers during online learning the video

conferences, the real time face interactions with students also emerged as a better way to interact during the pandemic times. Students experienced that the workload is lessened due to Online learning. Whereas some students are of the opinion too that online learning has worsened the performance of students and they find it difficult to focus in Online learning. Lack of Self-Confidence and stress level has increased due to Online Learning. Therefore, students have to balance the between self-learning and Online teaching to improve their performance academically.

(Yu Sheng Su et.al 2021) Factors Influencing Student's Switching Behavior to Online Learning under COVID-19 pandemic: The usefulness and difficulty in operating platform are major concerns for universities and institutions if they want to continue with future online learning. The paper is based on PUSH-PULL-MOORING Model, where the Push Effect has affected negatively Learners Convenience, there is a comparison between (expectation and actual performance when Service Providers is concerned, Security Risk is also a negative factor as potential learner is uncertain and due to security risk moved to Online Learning. For Pull Effect the factors such as Instructors Attitude, Task-Technology Fit, Usefulness and Ease of Use are major influencers that helped Learners to move Online from physical learning. Mooring Effect says that social impact and personal influence has plays a big role for learners to move online from physical classes. The study suggests that there is a migrant behavior among learners and they shifted to online under the influence of COVID-19 pandemic.

(Khalil et.al 2020) The sudden transition synchronized to Online learning during COVID-19 pandemic in Saudi Arabia: The study was conducted on the basis of preclinical and clinical students where clinical students are less likely to be in favor of online learning as it lacks the practicality whereas preclinical students are more in favor of online learning as it commands less practical knowledge and more theoretical knowledge. According to medical students' perspective the study has some issues with moving to online learning such as technical barriers and behavioral influence, institutional methodology and absence of non-verbal clues were experienced. With all the challenges medical studies were brought to online is a bigger shift in traditional classroom, studies.

OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

To investigate the Learners Perception towards of Online Learning during COVID-19

METHODOLOGY

The study is conducted with the help of questionnaire with section A being the personal information and section B consist of questions that are related to learners' perception towards online learning. Perception and Satisfaction and Overall effectiveness while studying online are the parameters for questions added in questionnaire. The questionnaire is floated in Sanatan Dharam College Ambala Cantt to gather data. To check the perception of learners with online learning SPSS (version 18) is used and Correlation is checked with online learning as one variable and many other variables such as flexibility, location, online submission of assignments, health hazard, post pandemic continuation of online learning, Electronically Assignment Submission, Confidence, Content of Study material available on online mode, Face to face interaction with instructor.

DISCUSSION

The Problem: Investigate the relationship between Online learning and Flexibility.

Reporting Pearson Correlation: Pearson Correlation of online learning and flexibility was found to be negatively correlated and statistically (in) significant ($r = -0.024, p > 0.05$).

The Problem: Investigate the relationship between Online Learning and Location Feasibility.

Reporting Pearson Correlation: Pearson Correlation of online learning and Location Feasibility was found to be negatively correlated and statistically (in) significant ($r = 0.084, p > 0.05$).

The Problem: Investigate the relationship between Online Learning and Online Assignment Submission.

Reporting Pearson Correlation: Pearson Correlation of Online learning and Online Assignment Submission was found to be negatively correlated and statistically significant ($r = -0.175, p < 0.05$).

The Problem: Investigate the relationship between Online Learning and No Physical Interaction.

Reporting Pearson Correlation: Pearson Correlation of Online Learning and No Physical Interaction was found to be negatively correlated and statistically (in) significant ($r = -0.070, p > 0.432$).

The Problem: Investigate the relationship between Online Learning and Ease to Use Online Learning Platform.

Reporting Pearson Correlation: Pearson Correlation of Online learning and Ease to use Online learning platforms was found to be negatively correlated and statistically significant ($r = -0.173, p < 0.05$).

The Problem: Investigate relationship between Online learning and Convenient Functions.

Reporting Pearson Correlation: Pearson correlation of online learning and Convenient Functions was found to be negatively correlated and statistically significant ($r = 0.236, p < 0.01$).

The Problem: Investigate the relationship between Online Learning and Online Study Material.

Reporting Pearson Correlation: Pearson correlation of online learning and Online Study Material was found to be negatively correlated and statistically significant ($r = -0.236, p < 0.01$).

The Problem: Investigate the relationship between Online Learning and New Learning Tool.

Reporting Pearson Correlation: Pearson Correlation of Online Learning and New Learning tool was found to be negatively correlated and statistically (in) significant ($r = -0.042, p > 0.637$).

The Problem: Investigating the relationship between Online Learning and Future Scope.

Reporting Pearson Correlation: Pearson Correlation of Online Learning and Future Scope was found to be negatively correlated and statistically (in) significant ($r = -0.012, p > 0.894$).

The Problem: Investigate the relationship between Online Learning and Health Concerns.

Reporting Pearson Correlation: Pearson Correlation of Online Learning and Health Concerns was found to be positively correlated and statistically significant ($r = 0.189, p < 0.05$).

The Problem: Investigate the relationship between Online Learning and After COVID Scope.

Reporting Pearson Correlation: Pearson Correlation of Online Learning and After COVID scope was found to be positive and statistically (in) significant ($r = 0.004, p > 0.01$).

Therefore, it is evident that when learners found it easy to submit assignments online, to use large study material online, instructors, attention is distinct and they also face some kind of health issues. They are not sure about the future of online classes as their will be huge upliftment's are required in this field to let it. But learners are much more confident while using the Online Learning Applications. And they are using this application with greater efficiency.

CONCLUSION

When learners, perception is analyzed regarding Online Learning during COVID-19 it is clearly evident that learners moved from traditional to online learning to save themselves from life threatening virus. But when learners, perception is analyzed it gives a clear picture that learners are absolutely comfortable while submitting assignments online as it reduces efforts, there is much more study material available online and instructors, guidance is also distinct for every learner. Learners, found online learning as most convenient method of learning at homes. But as there is not only positive aspects of online learning there is negative aspect also learners are conscious about the health issues, they are facing due to long hour of gadget viewing, plus online learning is not replaceable for practical subjects teaching like in medical field where practical knowledge is must. But learners are still doubtful regarding the continuation of online post pandemic. If Online learning continues post pandemic then universities and institutes has to completely transform their strategies for better functioning of online learning.

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