



ONLINE TEACHING AND LEARNING- DURING COVID-19

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ABSTRACT :

In the world the COVID-19 has spread its wings and almost all the countries have been affected by the corona virus. Many lakhs of people have lost their lives due to the spread of the pandemic. In this pandemic USA has been worst victim. The economy of each and every country has been badly affected by COVID-19. At this point of time both the state and the central govt have taken various measures like lockdown and shut down etc so that this pandemic will not spread further. In view of this all the schools, colleges and universities have remained closed. The authorities of the educational institutions are forced to take other alternative like the arrangement of online classes for the learners so that the syllabus will be completed in due course of time. Besides that the e-learning materials have been provided to the students. Other measures are conduct of online examination, submission of assignment, group discussion, home task and other valuable tips necessary for the learners.

Overall online Class is the best choice for the students during COVID-19. The disadvantages can be overcome with the intervention of ICT, establishment of proper infrastructure, proper training to the students before inception of online class and arrangement of network, etc. During COVID-19 when schools, colleges and universities have remained closed, there is no other alternative available with the educational institutions only ICT based teaching and learning can be utilized for the students as well as for the teachers. Through this digital platform both the teachers and learners interact with each other and an interpersonal relationship develops between them. With the help of digital the students can feel class room situation and learns many things through discussion and participation. The academic needs of the students are fulfilled by the online learning. Similarly the teachers also take interest in online teaching with the support of ICT and they provide feedback to the students which help them improve their performance in the class. From anywhere and any place the online teaching and learning can take place. At this point of time, online learning is the only alternative left to the educational institutions to provide academic support to the students.

Keywords- COVID-19, ICT, online teaching, digital, lockdown, interpersonal, e-learning, corona virus, zoom apps, whatsapp, facebook, google meet, telegram, etc.

INTRODUCTION:

In the world the COVID-19 has spread its wings and almost all the countries have been affected by the corona virus. Many lakhs of people have lost their lives due to the spread of the pandemic. In this pandemic USA has been worst victim. The economy of each and every country has been badly affected by COVID-19. At this point of time both the state and the central govt have taken various measures like lockdown and shut down etc so that this pandemic will not spread further. In view of this all the schools, colleges and universities have remained closed. The authorities of the educational institutions are forced to take other alternative like the arrangement of online classes for the learners so

that the syllabus will be completed in due course of time. Besides that the e-learning materials have been provided to the students. Other measures are conduct of online examination, submission of assignment, group discussion, home task and other valuable tips necessary for the learners.

In co-operation of the parents the online classes are organized for the students through digital platform like the zoom apps, whatsapp, facebook, google meet, telegram, etc. The students for the first time face the difficult task to tackle as they are unfamiliar with the technical apps. But due to the efforts, interest, aspiration and enthusiasm, the students are adapted to the digital platform in order to fulfill

the learning needs. At the same time the teachers are also having difficult task to handle the online class, as most of the teachers are found to be unfamiliar with the ICT based teaching. But with their effort, self determination and commitment towards teaching and the students, they are gradually acclimatized with the ICT based teaching and learning.

At this critical juncture, the UGC has framed new guidelines for teaching and assessment. As per the new guide lines set up by the UGC, the teachers are supposed to take 25% of classes online. The objective is to tackle the unprecedented incidents occurred in the World. At the same time the both the teachers and the students are to be familiarized with the ICT based teaching and learning so that the education of the students will not be disturbed and the syllabus can be completed within time frame. Many universities and colleges have taken up the initiatives to organize the online class for the students. It is a new experience both for the teachers and the students.

Activities undertaken through online by the students-

1. Online class through digital platform- During COVID-19 the students are prepared to participate in the online class with a view to tackle the academic hurdles. With various digital platforms like zoom apps or google meet the students are adapted and gradually learnt about the ICT based teaching and learning.
2. Home task through online- Through whatsapp or mails the teachers assign the home task to complete at home so that the students feel comfortable to work out the home task at his/her place. The students also chat with the teachers through whatsapp and share his/her difficulties. Through online all the issues of the learners are addressed properly.
3. Examination through online- through online the examination is conducted for the students

and the answer scripts and home assignments are sent through mails or whatsapp for evaluation.

4. Group discussion- Through zoom apps or google meet, the educational institutions organize group discussion for the learners and the teacher take leadership in the activities. This online group discussion promotes communication skill among the students.

5. E-content through online- the educational institutions provide e-content to the students for preparing themselves at home. The e-content is shared by whatsapp, mails and google meet apps.

6. Feedback through online- time to time the educational institutions collect feedback from the students regarding the online class and on the basis of the feedback received, necessary modification is made to resolve the difficulties of the students.

Activities undertaken through online by the teachers-

1. Preparation of slides – The teachers prepare slides for the students so that the students can easily understand the concept of the lesson without any difficulties. The slides are shown to the students through google meet or zoom apps or face book to make them understand and the teachers ask question to the students to test their understanding level.
2. Ensuring the e-content- The teachers before undertaking the online class make it sure that the students are having e-content or study materials. Then the teachers accordingly proceed with schedule of programme.
3. Assigning home task- The teacher after taking the online class, gives home assignment to the students so that the students exercise his or her mind at home. If she or he faces any difficulties, in the next class it can be discussed. The teacher receives solved home assignment through mails or whatsapp and the teacher also

evaluates the same and give the feed back to the students for their improvement.

4. Initiating the group discussion- The teacher initiate the group discussion among the students through zoom apps or google meet for the development of their communication skill and observe them and intervene in the discussion if it is required.

5. Evaluation of assignments- The teacher prepares the question papers and share it through whatsapps and mails. Accordingly the students write the answers and submit them through mails or whatsapp. The teachers evaluate them with proper care and guide them further for their improvement.

6. Collection of feedback- The teachers distribute the feedback form through a google link in order to know the difficulties of the students. In order to avoid their difficulties shared by the students, the teachers modify its teaching process or assessment procedure in future to come. The feedback of the students generally help the teacher to change his or her teaching process so to suit the academic needs of the students.

Advantages- The online teaching and learning during COVID-19 do have both advantages and disadvantages. The advantages are as follows.

1. At any of point of time, online class can be arranged for the students.
2. It creates interest among the students to participate in the online class. The students can interact with the teacher on any topic at any time through digital mode.
3. The teachers visualize the images of any content through slide form that draws the attention of the learners.
4. In the online class 250 students can participate and interact with the teachers on any topic of their choice.
5. The teachers assess the performance of the students and provide the feedback to them through online mode instantly.

6. The students and the teachers from any place can participate in the online class.

Disadvantages- The online teaching and learning does have disadvantages which are minimal in nature and can be overcome with the technical intervention and promotion of infrastructure.

1. In the inaccessible place, the online class can not be organized due to poor networking system.
2. The students with less knowledge in ICT can not operate and participate in the online class.
3. The online class is more expensive and costliest affair for the students.
4. Proper infrastructure is required for the conduct of online class.

Overall online Class is the best choice for the students during COVID-19. The disadvantages can be overcome with the intervention of ICT, establishment of proper infrastructure, proper training to the students before inception of online class and arrangement of network, etc. During COVID-19 when schools, colleges and universities have remained closed, there is no other alternative available with the educational institutions only ICT based teaching and learning can be utilized for the students as well as for the teachers. Through this digital platform both the teachers and learners interact with each other and an interpersonal relationship develops between them. With the help of digital the students can feel class room situation and learns many things through discussion and participation. The academic needs of the students are fulfilled by the online learning. Similarly the teachers also take interest in online teaching with the support of ICT and they provide feedback to the students which help them improve their performance in the class. From anywhere and any place the online teaching and learning can take place. At this point of time, online learning is the only

alternative left to the educational institutions to provide academic support to the students.

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