

Abstract

Coronavirus pandemic has significantly disrupted various sectors in almost all countries including India such as oil and gas, automobiles, aviation, agriculture, retail, etc. We can't ignore that hardly a sector would remain unaffected by the crisis. The impact may be more or less. Same is with the education sector in India and due to coronavirus pandemic the state governments across the country temporarily have been shutting down schools and colleges for an undefined time period.

Introduction:

The crisis crystallises the dilemma policymakers are facing between closing schools (reducing contact and saving lives) and keeping them open (allowing workers to work and maintaining the economy). The severe short-term disruption is felt by many families around the world: home schooling is not only a massive shock to parents' productivity, but also to children's social life and learning. Teaching is moving online, on an untested and unprecedented scale. Student assessments are also moving online, with a lot of trial and error and uncertainty for everyone. Many assessments have simply been cancelled and all major entrance examinations are postponed including engineering, medical, law, agriculture, fashion and designing courses, etc. Importantly, these interruptions will not just be a short-term issue, but can also have long-term consequences for the affected cohorts and are likely to increase inequality.

Impact:

For School going children:

- While global home schooling will surely produce some inspirational moments, some angry moments, some fun moments and some frustrated moments, it seems very unlikely that it will on average replace the learning lost from school.
- But the bigger point is this: there will likely be substantial disparities between families in the extent to which they can help their children learn.
- Key differences include the amount of time available to devote to teaching, the non-cognitive skills of the parents, resources and also the amount of knowledge.

- It's really hard enough to for the child to learn something that they may not understand themselves.

For university going graduates:

- The careers of this year's university graduates may be severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- They have experienced major teaching interruptions in the final part of their studies, they are experiencing major interruptions in their assessments, and finally they are likely to graduate at the beginning of a major global recession.
- Evidence suggests that poor market conditions at labour market entry cause workers to accept lower paid jobs, and that this has permanent effects for the careers of some.
- It shows that graduates from programmes with high predicted earnings can compensate for their poor starting point through both within- and across-firm earnings gains, but graduates from other programmes have been found to experience permanent earnings losses from graduating in a recession.
- This situation can be a ringing alarming bell mainly in private sector universities. Maybe some faculties and employees may face salary cuts, bonuses and increments can also be postponed.

Moreover, the lockdown has generated uncertainty over the exam cycle for all sections of students. May it be universities who face impact in terms of a slowdown in student internships and placements, or a lower fee collection that can create hurdles in managing the working capital. Another major concern is that it can affect the paying capacity of several people in the private sector, which is catering to a sizeable section of the students in the country.

Summarising Words:

We can't ignore that technology plays a crucial role in the educational system and the demand for the current situation is this only. It may play an important role in the lockdown period like study from home and work from home. In India, some private schools could adopt online teaching methods.

Possible alternatives or solutions for interrupted education during COVID-19

- With the help of power supply, digital skills of teachers and students, internet connectivity it is necessary to explore digital learning, high and low technology solutions, etc.
- Students those are coming from low-income groups or presence of disability, etc. distance learning programs can be included.
- To provide support for digitalisation to teachers and students.
- The necessity to explore digital learning platforms.
- Measures should be taken to mitigate the effects of the pandemic on job offers, internship programs, and research projects.
- E D tech reform at the national level that is an integration of technology in the present Indian education system.

We can't ignore that at this time of crisis effective educational practice is needed for the capacity-building of young minds. Central Government and State need to take some measures to ensure the overall progress in the country. Time never wait, this tough time will also pass. Till then stay safe, stay at home!