

# **EFFECTIVENESS OF E-LEARNING AND ONLINE CLASSES DURING COVID-19**

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The Covid-19 pandemic has affected the educational system worldwide and the system has now resorted to online modes of learning. This survey checks the effectiveness of such online classes and e-learning.

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

The objective of the present study is to know how well online classes are performing during the pandemic crisis of Covid-19.

The study tries to identify the perception of different categories of students towards e-learning and online classes during the Covid-19 lockdown phase.

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

The data required for the study are collected from primary and secondary sources. The data are collected through a self-administered, online circulated, structured questionnaire. This has fetched 260 responses and all the respondents are students who are using e-learning sources for attending their regular course of study during the Covid-19 pandemic.

## **MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY**

The major findings of the study are mentioned below:

- Demographic features of the sample respondents
  1. 58.85% of the respondents are female and 41.15% are male.
  2. Majority of the respondents are attending the online classes in order to complete their regular graduation courses (52%).

3. Majority of the respondents belong to a low-income group category.

Only a small number of respondents are having an annual family income above Rs.1,00,000.

- Out of the 260 respondents, 240 (92.3%) are of the opinion that traditional face-to-face classes are better for quality education when compared to online classes. Only 20 (7.7%) respondents prefer online education in this regard.
- While identifying the satisfaction level of the respondents with regard to e-learning and online classes, it is found that majority (100 respondents) are neutral in their opinion. 33.5% of the respondents are satisfied and 18.5% are dissatisfied towards online education. Only a small number of respondents are of extreme satisfaction and dissatisfaction with regard to e-learning.
- Majority of the respondents are using smart phones for attending the online classes (76.5%). 18.1% of the respondents use laptops and the rest of 5.4% use other mediums like TVs, desktops, tabs etc.
- The study found out that online classes do not offer the same student services as that of traditional face-to-face classes.
- Majority of the respondents are of the opinion that they are provided by necessary guidelines by the lecturers before the online sessions.
- It is identified that data recharging tends to be an additional financial burden for most of the respondents for the access to online classes.
- The study found out that 93.1% of the respondents are not getting any sort of financial aid from Govt./any other authority for attending the online classes.

- The study comes across many challenges faced by the students to the success of online classes:
  1. The network/internet connection issues are identified as the major challenge faced by the respondents in attending online sessions.
  2. The lack of face-to-face interaction with teachers and friends stands as the next major challenge.
  3. The lack of classroom atmosphere, background noises, disturbances from the surroundings, availability of good infrastructural facilities, and the psychological difficulty in adjusting with the sudden shift to online education tends to be the challenges faced by a small group of respondents.
  4. The responses show that the lack of familiarity to the use of technology is not a challenge faced by the students. Most of the students are capable of using latest technologies with ease.

## SUGGESTIONS

1. Provide some opportunity to facilitate face to face interaction between teachers and students and should include some student-oriented sessions.
2. Try to upload the recorded version of class, then everyone can make use of it.
3. Make sure that all students are online and should collect feedback of the students.
4. Reduce the class hours because increasing class hour creates mental strike, phone battery weakage, increases headache, tension, laziness and reduce memory power.
5. Govt. should supply laptops and other electronic devices at low cost to those who don't have access to online classes.