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Impact of Economic Crisis on Education

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Abstract

*During an economic crisis due to covid 19 pandemic, the slow progress of the economy is associated with reductions in hourly based wage system, numbers of hours worked, and the amount of public and private funds available for schools. Such conditions affect children's educational outcomes such as school gross enrolment, attendance, and performance. Due to COVID19 pandemic in India and around the world there has been a drastic change in education system. The education system drastically changed with online mode. As per the UNESCO report since the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, 1.37 billion students in 138 countries worldwide have been significantly affected by affected by school and university and higher educational institution closures. Nearly 60.2 million school teachers and university faculty are no longer in the classroom environment. Since the whole country is under lockdown due to the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, **e-education** is the best bet left. University faculties are setting up teaching learning base on online video conferencing platforms such as Zoom, Skype and Google Classroom, Google meet etc to engage with students.*

Keywords: Online Education, Issues, Challenges

Introduction

The crisis, which has ravaged many economics around the world has caused noticeable imbalance in Nigeria. Besides depleting the country's external reserves, it has led substantially to the crash of the stock market, the erosion of the country's revenue by over 60 percent and the depreciation of the national currency, among others (Bamigboye, A 2016). The national politics determines the quality of education policies, programs and processes and eventually the products (results or outcomes). Government underfunding and commoditization of education is likely to worsen the crisis in education. The current economic crisis confronting many governments is creating severe conflicts in educational sector of many nations. Education is empowering and redefining. For hundreds of millions of the young in India, education is also about discipline, development, curiosity, creativity and a path to breaking the cycle of ignorance and poverty leading to employment and prosperity. (Sam Pitroda 2020). Online education is learning, utilizing electronic technologies to access educational curriculum outside of a traditional classroom. In most cases, it refers to a course, program or degree delivered completely online. Right to Education is the primary right of every citizen of India, whether a child resides in a high-profile society or in a faraway not so developed secluded village (Zahoor Ahmad Lone 2017) The COVID-19 pandemic has introduced uncertainty into major aspects of national and global society, including for schools. For example, there is uncertainty about how school closures last spring impacted student achievement, as well as how the rapid conversion of most instruction to an online platform this academic year will continue to affect achievement (Megan Kuhfeld 2020)

2 Objectives of the study:

The economic crisis in India leads to impact on education system in India. So the objectives of this study are:

- To analyze impact of economic crisis on education.
- To study the issues and challenges of Indian education system.

3 Methodology of the study:

Methodology describes the research route map to be followed, the techniques to be used, and sampling for the study methods data collection, the tools of analysis used. The study carried out is an analytical in nature in which it online educational policy framework, highlighting various issues and challenges in

online education in currently adopted education policy. The present study is based on the secondary data. The researcher is going to collect the data from the different websites, government reports, reserve bank of India bulletins, different journals, articles, research papers, books etc.

I. Issues and Challenges in Indian education system

India is the largest democracy with remarkable diversity among its population of 1.2 billion which makes up about 17% of the world's population. Almost 70% of Indian population is rural. The adult literacy rate stands at about 60% and this is significantly lower in women and minorities. Education in India comprises of government, government aided and private institutions of which nearly 40% are government. With the population growth rate of 1.5%, there is tremendous pressure on the education system to provide quality education at affordable price and improve the literacy rate.(D.Amutha 2019)

D.Amutha identify the challenges faced by Education in India:

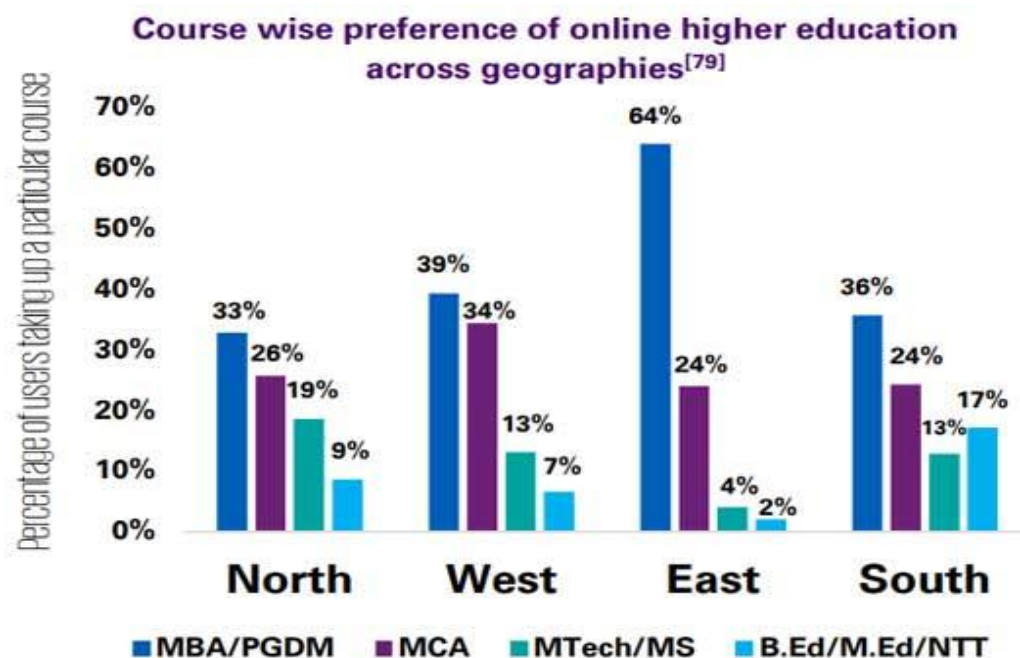
Quality:Maintaining standard of education in more than a million schools nationwide, offering training programs to teachers, and keeping good balance with education system worldwide is a big challenge. Schools vary in size and resources and are forced compromise in the all round development opportunities they must provide to students.

Access:Having infrastructural constraints and social issues, it becomes harder to make education accessible to all segments of the society (women, minorities, poor).

Cost:The cost of education is very high even for the people and places where it is accessible. E.g. the competitive pressure on students & parents forces them to opt for private tuitions & trainings to supplement the school education.

Social & Cultural:The ethnic diversity in India poses challenges to implement consistent education nationwide. There are more than 300 languages spoken in the country and makes it difficult to offer education tailored to specific social segment. Educating women in some societies is a big issue. Children of poor families are forced to work and miss out the learning opportunities. Illiterate adults have very limited opportunities to get educated at later age in their lives.

II. Data analysis and Interpretation



Source: KPMG Report: Online Education in India: 2021

India has one of the largest higher education systems in the world. It mainly consists of three parts – university, college, and course. And, all parts of the higher education system are governed by the University Grants Commission and its professional councils. According to KPMG report, online higher education in India is at an early stage of development and has witnessed emergence of different private universities offering UG and PG e-learning courses to students. However, as compared to graduation and diploma courses, the demand for online higher education is dominated by post-graduation courses such as MBA and MCA.(Shikha Anand 2019)

4 Conclusion

The Covid-19 pandemic situation has disrupted the education industry at global level. Full-fledged classes have been suspended by enforce social distancing in educational institutions, from schools to universities, have shifted completely converged to online methods of teaching learning and evaluation.

As the number of COVID cases continues to rise, there is no certainty about situation normalcy will be restored. And another major reform in Indian education system is the new National Education Policy (NEP) approved last month also talks about being ready for digital and online education.

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