
Student Perspective Towards E-Learning During Covid-19 Among College Students in Kerala, India

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ARTICLE DETAILS

Research Paper

Keywords:

E- learning, Educational system, Covid-19

ABSTRACT

The COVID-19 pandemic had a significant effect on India's educational system. An estimate of 1.3 billion students worldwide, or around 320 million students in India alone, was unable to access schools or institutions, according to UNESCO. The traditional face to face classroom education system changed to e -learning. This paper analyses the student perspective towards e- learning during COVID- 19 among college students. It also tries to find out the challenges faced by college students during e- learning and study the positive and negative impact of COVID-19 among college students. Both primary and secondary data were used for the study. Primary data have been collected through questionnaire using Google forms from students of colleges and universities in Kerala. According to survey results, the majority of students utilized Android phones for e-learning, and many of them encountered difficulties like technical difficulties and lack of real-world experience.

Introduction

In Wuhan, China, the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) was initially discovered in December 2019. Every nation has been impacted by this worldwide pandemic, including India. Nearly every area

of the Indian economy was impacted. Among these, education sector is the most affected sector. In order to control spread of corona virus, Government introduced national lockdown and social distancing measures led to closure of schools, colleges and universities in educational field. It created many concerns in the minds of students, teachers and parents. It created psychological problems like frustration, stress and depression among students. In order to overcome this crisis, schools, colleges and universities focused on online teaching & learning and distance education. COVID-19 acted as catalyst for change from traditional face to face learning to e-learning. E-learning or electronic learning or online learning or web based learning is the most effective method for providing education through online. It is the process of acquiring knowledge through media and electronic technologies. E-learning can be summed up as "learning that is enabled electronically." The majority of e-learning takes place online, giving students access to their course materials whenever and wherever they choose.

Online platform like Google meet, Google classroom, Zoom, Whatsapp, YouTube etc. used for providing education during in the pandemic. Use of desktop, laptop and smart phone are major component in e-learning. E-Learning helped to improve students' quality of education, communication, self-learning skill etc. During online learning, students faced many challenges also. Lack of internet connectivity, lack of IT literary, lack of practical experience for subjects, poor interaction with teachers and peers, are some of the problem faced by students. This study is mainly conducted to understand students perceptive towards e-learning during COVID-19.

Objectives of the study

1. To examine the impact of COVID-19 on college students' academic performance.
2. To understand the difficulties encountered by college students while using online learning.
3. To investigate the COVID-19 positive and negative aspects for college students.

Methodology

The population of the study includes the UG and PG students of Kerala state in India. The data collection process made use of both primary and secondary sources. Students from Kerala institutions and universities completed questionnaires using Google Forms to provide primary data. The secondary data were collected from the internet, a variety of research papers, periodicals and journals. By using convenient sampling technique, 200 students made up the sample for the research. Likert scale analysis, the ranking method and the percentage method were used to analyze the gathered data.

Results

Table 1: Demographic variable of the respondents

Variable	Profile	Frequency	Percentage
Gender	Male	64	32
	Female	136	68
	Total	200	100.0
Stream of study	Commerce	76	38
	Arts and Humanities	58	29
	Science	66	33
	Total	200	100.0
Course	UG	142	71
	PG	58	29
	Total	200	100.0
Year of study	First year	54	27
	Second year	74	37
	Third year	72	36
	Total	200	100.0
Monthly Income of the family	Up to Rs.10000	60	30
	Rs.10001- Rs.20000	72	36
	Rs.20001- Rs.30000	36	18
	Above Rs.30000	32	16
	Total	200	100.0
<i>Source: Primary Data</i>			

Interpretation: In this study data were collected from college students by using demographic variables. Regarding gender of the respondents a higher proportion of college students fall under the female category which accounted to 68% of the population, and male constituted 32% of the population. The other demographic variable was stream of the study. Commerce category constituted higher proportion of members of 38 % and the science constituted 33 % of the population and the remaining 29% of the respondents fall under the category of arts and humanities. Course is another demographic variable.

College students constituting higher proportion which was 71 % fall under the category of UG and only 29 % of the population represents PG. Another important demographic variable is year of study and it was subdivided into three categories first year, second year and third year. The highest proportion of respondents fall under the category of second year which was 37 % of the respondents, followed by 36 % of the respondents fall under the category of third year and 27% of the population constituted the category of first year. Regarding monthly income of the family of the respondents a higher proportion of college students fall under the income category of Rs.10001- Rs.20000 which accounted to 36% of the population, followed by the income category of up to Rs.10000, which was 30% of the population. College students under the income category of Rs.20001- Rs.30000 constituted 18% and above Rs.30000 was the lowest constituting 16 % of the population.

Table 2: Familiarity with e- learning platform before lockdown

Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	40	20
No	160	80
Total	200	100

Source: primary data

Interpretation:

Table 2 examines how familiar students were with the e-learning platform prior to lockdown. According to the report, 80% of students had never used an e-learning platform before the shutdown. Prior to lockdown, just 20% of the respondents were familiar with e-learning platforms.

Table 3: Awareness about Government e-learning programmes such as SWAYAM, SWAYAM PRABHA, DIKSHA etc. before lockdown

Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
Fully aware	51	25.5
Aware	89	44.5
Not aware	60	30
Total	200	100

Source: primary data

Interpretation:

Table 3 reveals that the Ministry of Education launched several online learning tools and platforms, including SWAYAM, SWAYAM PRABHA, DIKSHA, and others. Survey result shows that 44.5% are aware of the aforementioned tools and platforms. 30% of respondents were unaware of the Ministry of Education's recently established programs, whereas 25% of the respondents were completely aware of them.

Table 4: Willingness towards e-learning

Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	175	87.5
No	25	12.5
Total	200	100

Source: primary data

Interpretation: Table 4 shows that most of the respondents i.e. 87.5% are willing towards e-learning and the remaining 12.5 % are not willing.

Table 5: Gadget used for e- learning

Type of gadget	Frequency	Percentage
Android mobile	122	61
Desktop	13	6.5
Laptop	65	32.5
Total	200	100

Source: primary data

Interpretation: Table 5 indicates that many students (61%) availed android mobile to attend online classes during the lockdown. 32.5 % of the students used laptop for online classes and 6.5% of the students attended online classes using desktop.

Table 6: Availability of Gadget for online class

Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
Self	187	93.5

Family members	8	4
Friends	5	2.5
Total	200	100

Source: primary data

Interpretation: Table 6 shows that around 93.5% of the students attended their online classes through their own gadgets and 4% of the students used the gadgets owned by the family members. Only 2.5% of the students borrowed gadgets from relatives for attending online classes.

Table 7: Platform used for e- learning

Platform used for e-learning	Frequency	Percentage
Google meet	61	30.5
Whatsapp	24	12
Zoom	42	21
YouTube	34	17
Google classroom	26	13
Others	13	6.5
Total	200	100

Source: primary data

Interpretation: Table 7 reveals that 30.5% of the learning activities took place in the platform of Google Meet and 21% of the students used zoom as a platform of learning. 17% of the respondents used YouTube as the medium for e-learning and 13% used Google classroom for attending online classes. Only 12% of the students used Whatsapp and 6.5 % used other platforms such as the apps developed by colleges for attending online classes.

Table 8: Frequency of attending online class

Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
Regular	160	80
Occasionally	31	15.5
Rarely	9	4.5
Total	200	100

Source: primary data

Interpretation: Table 8 analyses the frequency of attending online classes. Out of 200 students in the study, 160 students regularly attended online classes. 15.5 % of the students attended classes occasionally and 4.5% rarely attended their online classes.

Table 9: Time spent on study during lockdown

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Less than normal hours	47	23.5
Same as normal hours	130	65
Greater than normal hours	23	11.5
Total	200	100

Source: primary data

Interpretation: According to table 9, 65% of the students utilized their time for studying as same as normal hours and 23.5 % studied less than the normal hours. Only 11.5% of the students were studied more than the normal hours during online classes.

Table 10: Ranking problems faced by students during e- learning

Opinion	Rank 1		Rank 2		Rank 3		Rank 4		Rank 5		Rank 6		Rank 7	
	re sp on se	mar k	re sp on se	mar k	re sp on se	Ma rk	res pon se	Ma rk	Res pon se	ma rk	Re sp on se	M ar k	re sp on se	M ar k
Lack of familiarity with digital technology	14	98	6	36	28	28	140	60	240	36	108	32	64	24
Feeling stress and depression	30	210	10	60	40	200	32	128	34	102	24	48	30	30
Technical	44	308	26	156	26	130	28	112	10	30	30	60	36	36

issues														
Teachers are not interested in teaching	6	42	28	168	34	170	4	16	30	90	18	36	80	80
Absence of practical experience	42	294	4	24	30	150	34	136	28	84	28	56	34	34
Lack of self-motivation	8	56	2	12	64	320	44	176	28	84	30	60	24	24
Don't have favorable environment to study at home	4	28	40	240	58	290	10	40	26	78	26	52	36	36

Source: primary data

Table 10.1: Ranking problems faced by students during e- learning

Options	Total marks	Average
Lack of familiarity with digital technology	710	3.55
Feeling stress and depression	778	3.89
Technical issues	832	4.16
Teachers are not interested in teaching	602	3.01
Absence of practical experience	778	3.89
Lack of self-motivation	732	3.66
Don't have favorable environment to study at home	764	3.82

Interpretation: Table 10.1 shows that Technical issues are the main problems faced by college students during e- learning.

Table 11: Satisfaction level of students in improvement in self-study skill during e- learning

Highly satisfied		Satisfied		Neutral		Dissatisfied		Highly dissatisfied	
response	Mark	response	mark	response	mark	Response	Mark	response	mark
20	20	40	80	23	69	84	336	33	165

Source: primary data

Table 11.1: Satisfaction level of students in improvement in self-study skill during e- learning

Option	Total mark	Average
Satisfaction level of students in improvement in self-study skill during e- learning	670	3.35

Interpretation : Table 11.1 demonstrates that most of the college students are satisfied regarding improvement in self-study skills during online classes.

Table 12: Satisfaction level of student’s in Teacher student interaction and Peer interaction during e- learning

Highly satisfied		Satisfied		Neutral		Dissatisfied		Highly dissatisfied	
response	Mark	response	Mark	response	mark	Response	mark	response	mark
80	80	56	112	52	156	10	40	2	10

Source: primary data

Table 12.1: Satisfaction level of student’s in Teacher student interaction and Peer interaction during e- learning

Option	Total mark	Average
Satisfaction level of student's in Teacher student interaction and Peer interaction during e- learning	398	1.99

Interpretation : Table 12.1 shows that most of the college students are dissatisfied about the Teacher student interaction and Peer interaction during e- learning.

Table 13: Satisfaction level of student's on use of Teaching aids and Teaching methods during e- learning

Highly satisfied		Satisfied		Neutral		Dissatisfied		Highly dissatisfied	
response	Mark	response	Mark	Response	mark	response	mark	response	mark
15	15	32	64	35	105	80	320	38	190

Source: primary data

Table 13.1: Satisfaction level of student's on use of Teaching aids and Teaching methods during e- learning

Option	Total mark	Average
Satisfaction level of student's on use of Teaching aids and Teaching methods during e- learning	694	3.47

Interpretation:Table 13.1 shows that most of the college students are satisfied regarding use of Teaching aids and Teaching methods during e- learning.

Conclusion

In conclusion, COVID-19 has a significant effect on India's education system. The study mainly focuses on college students' perceptions of e-learning during COVID-19 in Kerala, India. Regarding gender of the respondents a higher proportion of college students fall under the female category which accounted to 68% of the population. Commerce category constituted higher proportion of members of 38 % and

college students constituting higher proportion which was 71 % fall under the category of UG. The highest proportion of respondents fall under the category of second year which was 37 % of the respondents. Regarding monthly income of the family of the respondents a higher proportion of college students fall under the income category of Rs.10001- Rs.20000 which accounted to 36% of the population. Prior to lockdown, 80% of students were unfamiliar with online learning environments.

The Ministry of Education launched several online learning resources and platforms, including DIKSHA, SWAYAM PRABHA, and SWAYAM. Of the respondents, 44.5% are aware of the aforementioned tools and platforms. 87.5% of the respondents, or the majority, were open to e-learning. During the lockdown, a large number of pupils (61%) used Android mobiles to attend lessons virtually. Approximately 93.5 percent of the students used their own device to access their online courses. 30.5% of the educational activities were conducted using the Google Meet platform. 160 of the 200 participants in the study consistently attended online courses. 65% of the pupils studied during normal regular hours. The survey's *findings indicate* that college students' *biggest* concerns while using online *learning are technical* ones. While most college students are unhappy with peer and teacher interaction during e-learning, they *are* content with *the* advancement *of* their selfstudy skills during online sessions. The utilization *of* instructional *aids and* techniques *during* online *learning is* likewise regarded favorably by *college students*.

Suggestions

1. Government shall provide a good internet connection to all students so that they can study without much problems.
2. Teachers can also practice using online teaching applications.
3. Gadgets shall be provided to students at a reasonable rate.

Limitations of the study

- The convenience sampling approach was employed to gather data from respondents, and the sample size was restricted to 200.
- Study is limited to kerala state in India.

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