

E-LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN TIMES OF COVID-19

Suresh

Designation: Lecturer In English

College: Sangolli Rayanna First Grade Constituent College, Benagavi

ABSTRACT:

The Covid-19 outbreak has drastically afflicted almost all sectors globally and still affecting the human life in unprecedented ways. Education sector is also one of the worst hit sectors by the Corona virus outbreak. Most of the educational institutions across the globe have been closed due to the lockdown unladen nationwide in various countries to contain the spread of the Corona virus. In the fight against Covid-19 our Indian government also unladen nationwide lockdown in a phrased manner of stem the tide duration. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has taken various prompt and effective measures in educational sector to address the challenging situation arising out of Covid-19. The ministry through its digital learning platforms helps the teachers and learners to utilize time productively by engaging in online learning while maintaining social distancing. While countries are at different points in their Covid-19 infection rates, worldwide there are currently more than 1.2 billion children in 186 countries affected by school closures due to the pandemic. In response to significant demand, many online leaning platforms are offering free access to their services, including platforms like BYJU's, a Bangalore based educational technology and online tutoring firm founded in 2011, which is now the world's most highly valued edteck compony. For those who do have access to the right technology, there is evidence that learning online can be more effective in a number of ways. The whole education ecosystem is coming together to ensure that learners do not suffer during these time of crisis. While the educators are giving free access to their tools and technologies, learners are responding by utilizing the opportunities in great numbers. In the Indian e-learning market, Byju's is the leader among popular e-learning apps. It is given close company by Oliveboard, Udemy, Coursera, NIIT, and IGNOU. Its not just the school education platforms that are making their services free. Oliveboard, which is one of the largest e-learning platforms for banking and government job aspirants, is providing Graph Coaching, a free course for all banking exams to all aspirants across the country to reduce the risk of Corona Virus infection. To meet the current demand, online education industry has scaled up in a massive way.as more and more learners latch on to the bandwagon, the trend will continue even after the current health scare has died down. Because the flexibility and variety offered by online education will remain unmatched. the country is witnessing an upsurge in e-learning as the educational institution including school, colleges, and universities have been providing online classes for students to keep them on track through various digital platforms.

Key words:

- 1) Covid-19
- 2) e-learning
- 3) education
- 4) lockdown
- 5) online class
- 6) educational programs

Objectives:

To know the e-learning opportunities and gain the knowledge of the online classes

INTRODUCTION

The spread of COVID-19 has led to the closure of educational institutions all over the world. Such closure accelerated the development of the online learning environment within those institutions that learning would not be disrupted. The coronavirus pandemic has tested the readiness of centers to deal with a crisis that requires online and remote measures. Many were not prepared, but it is important to review the reasons for offering students online classes, which go beyond periods of confinement. Most of the educational institutions across the globe have been closed due to the lockdown unladen nationwide in various countries to contain the speed of the corona virus. In the fight against COVID-19 our Indian government also unladen nationwide lockdown in a phrased manner of stem the duration.

The Ministry of Human Resource Development has taken various prompt and effective measures in educational sector to address the challenging situation arising out of covid-19. The ministry through its digital learning platforms helps the teachers and learners to utilize time productivity by engaging in online learning which maintaining social distancing. Some of the digital learning platforms offered under the ministry are as follows: Swayam (Study webs of active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds)

Swayam is massive open online course (MOOC) platform hosting 1900 courses covering both high school and higher education in various subjects. Academicians from hundreds of institutions throughout the country are involved in the development and delivery of there courses. The courses will be offered under this portal are free of cost, however learners who want to take a certificate after the completion of the course, need to register for the find proctored exams, with nominal fee, along with self-learning material, Swayam portal provides video lectures and facility of self-assessment. The questions and queries of the learners are also being outcome through discussion forum.

In the Swayam nine national coordinators have been appointed to manage the courses. They are AICTE (All India Council for Technical Education) for self-passed and international courses. NPTEL (National Program on Technology Enhanced Learning) for engineering, UGC (University Grants Commission) for post-graduate education, CEC (Consortium for Educational Communication) for undergraduate education, NCERT (National Council of Education Research and Training) and NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling) for school education, IGNOU (Indira Gandhi National Open University) for out of the school students, IIMB (Indian Institute of Management Bangalore) for management studies NITTR (National Institute of technical Teachers Training and Research) for Teacher training Program . and it also offers Online Faculty Development Programs (FDP) and Annual Refresher program in Training (ARPIT) for teachers and academics.

Swayamprabha: Swayamprabha is a group of 32 DTH channels devoted to telecast high-quality educational program on 24X7 basis using the GSAT-15 Satellite. The channels covered with huge levels of education encompassing school education, and higher education, occupational and professional education, in a type of disciplines including arts, science social science and humanities. All these channels are uplinked from Gandhinagar and Visakhpatanam . The Inlibnet Centre (Information and Library Network Center) maintains the web portal. And all these channels are available to viewing throughout all over country with DD-DTH, Jio TV App, Dish TV, website: swayamprabha.gov.in

Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) is also offering digital learning resources through its online platforms like Gyandhara, Gyanvani, Gyandarshan, e-Gyankosh, IGNOU e-content app etc.

Gyandhara: is also an internet radio counseling service. Students can listen the live discussion by teachers and experts on the several topics of the day and interact with teachers on phone. Website: <https://www.ignouonline.ac.in/gyandhara>.

E-Gyankosh: is also a National Digital Repository in this students can find out all the digital learning resources developed through the Open and Distance Learning Institutions in the country website: <http://egyankosh.ac.in/>

Gyandarshan: is also a 24 hour television channel which airs education and developmental topics. This channels rays program produced by IGNOU, CEC, CIET, IITs, NITTTRs, vigyan prasar etc. website www.ignouonline.ac.in/gyandarshan/.

IGNOU: e-content app is digitalized study material for all the courses which are offered by IGNOU.

NDL: (National Digital Library): this is a digital storehouse which includes textbooks, articles, audio, videos, lectures, books, simulations, fictions and all the various type of learning media, the NDL furnish free of cost access to aindian Languages. Website: <https://ndl.iitkgp.ac.in/>

IIT PAL: IIT pal provide online coaching for aspirants of IIT entrance exams on physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, and Biology subjects. Through the official website of National Testing agency. Website: <https://nta.ac.in/lectures> content.

E-Shodh Sindhu: E-Shodhsindhu is the Consortium for Higher Education E-Resources which furnish access to satisfactory digital resources including full-text, bibliography and virtual databases to academic institutions at a lower value of subscription. This dais will furnish current, as well as archival access to more than 15000 core and peer-reviewed journal and actual databases in different disciplines from a large number of publishers and aggregators to its member institutions. Website. <https://ess.inlibnet.ac.in/>.

Shodhganga: ia a national digital storehouse of Indian electronic theses and dissertations set up by the Inlibnet center. Shodhganga flourishes a dais for research school to deposit their Ph.D theses and make it available to the whole scholarly community in the open access. The researchers can also access the study material and theses in native languages, Hindi and international languages, the online platform has required 269778 theses , 7500 synopses . website://shodhganga.inlibnet.ac.in/.

E-PG Pathshala: E-PG pathshala is also an online dais which flourishes curriculum based, communicative e-content in various 71 subjects across all disciplines of social science mathematical sciences, humanities, language and linguistics. E-PG pathsahala also provides some access to E-Adhyayan,UGC,MOOCs,and e-pathya. E-adhyayan flourishes more than 700 postgraduate course books to students. UGC MOOCs,a several of the vertical to generates a course on postgraduate subjects in Swayam and E-Pathya, a software-driven course that can be entranced in distance learning as well as campus learning mode. Website:epgp.inflibnet.ac.in.

E-Pathsahala is a door-frame jointly initiated by Ministry of Human Resource Development and National Council of Educational Research and Training, to flourishes educational resources for teachers, students, parents, researchers and educators. the learners can take admission for education e-resources including textbooks, audio video. periodicals, a variety of other print and nonprint materials through mobile phones (android and windows platforms), and tablets (as e-pub) and on web thorough laptops and desktops (as flipbooks). Website: <http://epathsgala.nic.in/>.

CEC (Consortium for Educational Communication): CEC co-ordinates the creation of e-content for 87.non-engineering undergraduate courses, including the production of over 26,000 modules, The CEC-UGC YouTube channel provides admissions to unlimited educational curriculum-based lectures absolutely free. Website: <https://www.youtube.com/user/ceceduset>

NROER (National Repository of Open Educational Resources): NROER is a collaborative platform has been started by the Department of School Education and Literary , Miknisrty os Human Resources Development flourish digital educational resources for all school subjects and grade in multiple languages. The storehouse organizes its collections into an ever-growing parabolic map of the concept and the uses can access the resources through audio, video, interactive, documents, objects and image libraries which are available on homepage. NROER door-frame has a total of 14527 files 13475 interactive, 1664 audio, 2586 images and 6153 videos on different languages, website:<http://nroer.Gov.in/welcome>.

DIKSHA (Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing): Diksha is a National Digital Infrastructure for Teachers to provide e-learning resources in the education domain. The objective of this initiative is to help teachers and the students to continue their studies as usual, however, through different mode. The Diksha platform offers teachers, students and parents engaging learning material relevant to the prescribed school curriculum. The content can be downloaded from iOS and Google Play Store: Website: <https://diksha.gov.in> or <https://seshagun.gov.in/shagun>.

UMANG mobile app (Unified Mobile Application for New age Governance): The app provides a single platform to all Indian citizens to access e-Gov services, UMANG app offers access to e-pathsala where students can find books and study material of NCERT. UMANG App can be downloaded free from app stores of Android, iOS and windows.

CONCLUSION

The country is witnessing an upsurge in e-learning as the educational institution including schools, colleges and university have begun providing online classes for students to keep them on track through various digital platforms like YouTube, WhatsApp, Skype, Google

meet, Google class rooms and others. The online environment offers unprecedented opportunities for the students to continue their learning through a variety of formats and modalities. It also provides them an opportunity to access a wider world of resources and study materials beyond their text books and to spend their time productively during lockdown period.