

# RELEVANCE OF E-LEARNING METHOD IN THE ENHANCEMENT OF TEACHING LEARNING PROCESS DURING COVID-19 SCENARIO: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Surendra Kalet

PhD Scholar (UGC-NFSC Fellow, Department of Sociology, Sambalpur University, Jyoti Vihar, Burla, Odisha-768019, India

> Email Id- <u>surendrakalet123@gmail.com</u> ORCID ID: <u>https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2427-4658</u>

> > Dr. Saswat Chandra Pujari

Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Sambalpur University, Jyoti Vihar, Burla, Odisha-768019, India Email Id- <u>saswat.samaya@gmail.com</u> ORCID ID: <u>https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6774-8457</u>

## ABSTRACT

The corona virus disease (Covid-19) outbreak has been affecting a large number of people and undermining their lives on the planet. The government of India are figuring out how to ensure that we are well prepared to face the challenges of Covid-19. One among these vital step is the lockdown to curb the rapid spread of this virus. The lockdown provoked by Covid-19 in March incited schools and universities to exercise through e-learning for teaching and learning activities. This technology is currently playing an important role in the educational sector. E-learning methods has become one of the most popular ways to learn at home in the contemporary time. This paper highlights the impact of e-learning, the different types of e-learning, and the significant role of e-learning during the Covid-19 crisis.

Keywords: Covid-19, e-learning, education, opportunities, challenges

## INTRODUCTION

The e-learning education method is one of the learning processes that employs electronic advances to inspire educational programs outside of the traditional classroom setting. The progressions of various types of e-learning environment and different virtual platforms have been playing an immense role during this crucial pandemic time, therefore the utilization of e-learning consider as another significance method of teaching, features an unrolled a progressive improvements during the Covid-19 situation. Education is considered as backbone of any nation on the earth (Tamrakar and Mehta, 2011). As the rule out of pandemic time the governments are utilized to suspend the schools, colleges and other government organizations for here and there. Entire universes are battling the one among a sort and threatening virus called COVID-19. The governments of most nations have decided to lockdown and requested that student should remain at their homes due to the peril of this virus on human life. So the teachers in various nations have begun utilizing e-learning in showing the students during this period.

E-learning is the utilization of diverse kinds of technology, for example, text, pictures, sound, videos, data and correspondence advances to assist students in education. Technology is important in many fields, including business, medication, and education then forth. E-Learning is often characterized by the utilization of PC and web advancements to convey an expansive cluster which empowers learning and improves execution (Ghirardini, 2011).

The COVID-19 pandemic has inclined educational frameworks everywhere in the world, stimulating the impermanent terminations of faculties, schools, colleges and universities. Most governments around the globe preference to shut down the educational institutions, annoying to decline the spread of COVID-19. As of 12 January 2021, roughly 825 million students are influenced due to school terminations in light of the pandemic. As indicated by UNICEF, 23 nations are as of now executing terminations, and 40 are getting nearby terminations, it affecting about 47 percent of the world's student's population ("Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Education - Wikipedia").

### COVID-19 PANDEMIC: INDIAN SCENARIO

COVID-19, which is commonly referred to as Novel Corona Virus, is said to be a respiratory issue in people which has been proclaimed as a worldwide outbreak and pandemic within the first quarter of the year 2020 by the World Health Organization ("Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)"). As indicated by the ongoing data in India as per (28<sup>th</sup> February, 2021), 164511 active cases, 10775169 have been discharged & 157051 deaths have been seen due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and 14301266 people have been vaccinated. The greater part of the positive cases were found within the regions of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Delhi, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, and



Rajasthan ("MoHFW | Home"). At present, a completely unique corona virus, the intense respiratory condition causing the Corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19), has risen in late 2019, which has represented a worldwide wellbeing danger with its progressing pandemic in numerous nations and domains (Pradesh et al., 2020). The pandemic of the novel Corona virus (COVID-19) has fundamentally disrupted all aspects of human life. Because COVID-19 covers the entire globe, education officials are on high alert. The Covid-19 pandemic has forced schools and universities to close on the spur of the moment, wreaking havoc on the educational system.

## **E-LEARNING: CONCEPT AND DEFINITION**

The internet has become one of the greatest elementary approaches for both teachers and students to exchange and secure data, as well as one of the most basic methods for evolving accessible resources for examination and learning (Richard and Haya 2009). Technology-based e-learning encompasses the use of the internet and other critical advancements to create learning materials and furthermore direct courses in an association (Fry, 2001). In certain definitions e-Learning includes something beyond the contribution of entirely on-line courses. According to (Oblinger and Hawkins, 2005), e-learning has advanced from a completely online course to using technology to deliver a portion or all of a course without requiring extensive time and effort.

### **TYPES OF E-LEARNING**

E-learning is an innovative technology that has been used for teaching and learning process. Learning is frequently accomplished through websites, participation in online gatherings, chain email conversations, webbased life, or web-based preparation stages (Guragain, 2016). Essentially, PCs and the internet are required for the transfer of data and skills. Computer-based learning, electronic learning, virtual education opportunities and advanced cooperation, content delivery via the web, sound or video tape, CD ROM, and satellite television are all examples of e-learning applications. E-learning can be self-paced or instructor-led, and it can include images, text, movement, and gushing videos and sounds. Various shortened forms are utilized as equivalent to e-learning like, CBT (Computer-Based Education), WBT (Web-Based Education) and IBT (Internet-Based Education), (Algahtani, 2011).

| Types            | Concept  | Visual Represents (Source-Google)  |
|------------------|--|--|
| Blended learning | Separation learning or a mixture of both online and offline.   | Blended<br>Learning<br>Classroom<br>Learning   |
| Purely online    | No up close and private gatherings.  |  |
| Synchronous      | Teachers drive online<br>courses through live<br>webinars, internet<br>messaging, video<br>conferencing, and virtual<br>classes. | SYNCHRONOUS LEARNING<br>Live webinars Instant messaging Video conferencing Virtual classrooms<br>The second sec |
| Asynchronous     | Self-put learning strategies<br>placed on the online system<br>or capacity gadgets.  | Asynchronous Learning Activities<br>Field + Tale Note:<br>With: Visco-based<br>With: Visco-based<br>With: Visco-based<br>With: Visco-based<br>With: Visco-based<br>With: Visco-based<br>With: Visco-based<br>With: Visco-based<br>With: Visco-based<br>Learning Activities<br>Listen to Padeate<br>Listen to Padeate<br>Listen to Padeate<br>Listen to Padeate<br>Listen to Padeate<br>Engage in Onine Decessor  |



| Teacher-drove gathering                 | Separation is a setting in<br>which students from various<br>geographical areas can learn<br>from a single educator.                   |   |
|---|--|---|
| Self-study                              | Learning by visiting online<br>journals, educational<br>exercises or useful sites.   | S E U D Y   |
| Self-concentrate with<br>subject matter | Learning by consistently<br>visiting a couple of<br>specialists' sites or modern<br>locales.   |   |
| Web based                               | Acclimating just by turning<br>upward on the web with the<br>use of web indexes or web<br>based life gatherings, such<br>as: Facebook. | Video-<br>conference<br>Face-<br>teaching<br>Face-<br>teaching<br>Courses |
| Computer based                          | Taking information by<br>going to the PC and<br>examining materials from<br>various storage devices such<br>as CD ROM or USB.          |   |
| Video/sound tape                        | Learning by going to mixed<br>media documents through<br>YouTube or other<br>video/sound sharing sites.                                |   |

# TRADITIONAL LEARNING VS E-LEARNING: A COMPARATIVE OVERVIEW

| Mode of teaching-learning | Traditional learning  | E-learning  |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| Classroom deliberations   | The teacher usually quite the students.   | The students discuss any event for the maximum time or quite the teacher.   |
| Learning process          | There is almost no gathering or<br>individual examination because the<br>education is directed with the entire class<br>having an interest. | A significant percentage of the<br>educational process is carried either in<br>groups or by individual students via<br>the internet.  |
| Subject matter            | The activity is directed by the teacher in accordance with the examination schedule and, as a result, the present educational plan.         | The students choose the topic;<br>consideration is based on a variety of<br>sources of information, including web<br>information banks and internet<br>specialists found by the students. |



| Emphases in the learning<br>process | Students understand "what" rather than<br>"how" the kids, trapping educators in<br>fulfilling the mandatory topic sharing:<br>students are uninterested in request-<br>based education and problem-solving,<br>but teachers complete duties assigned by<br>the educators. | Students are more aware of "how"<br>than "what"; their education includes<br>research, which includes locating and<br>acquiring facts from online databases<br>and specialists on correspondence<br>work: Education is the subject that is<br>most closely tied to today's world; it is<br>more extravagant and remembers<br>supplies for varied arrangements. |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Motivation                          | Because the students' motivation is poor,<br>they are uninterested in the content.  | Inspiration is high due to the connection to issues that are more personal to them and the use of technology.  |
| Teachers role                       | The teacher is the authority to controlling the classroom.  | The teacher directs the students to the information.   |
| Location of learning                | The classroom, and consequently school, is where learning takes place.  | There is no specific region where learning takes place.  |
| Lesson structure                    | The framework of the activity, and hence<br>the division of your time, is directed by<br>the teacher.   | Gathering the elements has an impact<br>on the exercise's structure.   |

# E-LEARNING EDUCATION METHOD DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

To support the decrease in the rapid spread of the corona virus, students from various portions of the planet, including India, began perusing and learning at home through numerous applications. Most students approach educational materials through live transmissions. New strategies for learning have been substituting traditional individual class room learning, from live communication to educational influencers (Alqurashi, 2019). In the context of this crisis, there is widespread concern among India's educational institutions about the safety of students and their educational issues. A large portion of the organization has shifted to online education using Skype calls, Zoom, Google Meet, and other virtual alternatives to reduce separation in education.

Without a question, this is a difficult time for students, as a result, the plan purpose is to lighten the strain on students and assist them in making the most of their time without sacrificing quality. Despite the fact that the student body is undergoing creative transformations during this Corona period but at the same time, there are also some depraved aspects on students; psychological well-being among students may be harmed by computer concerns (Maddux et. al, 2007). After the lockdown in India, the majority of schools and colleges reported students using e-learning applications for educational purposes, and teachers are utilizing various internet-based applications to present various materials to students (Manazir and Govind, 2020). This virtual learning stage has fundamentally reshaped and advanced how we instruct and attract our students in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic for the requirements of social separation. Furthermore, it has allowed us to continue that our expectations can constrict learners' burn out and advance their wellbeing when separation has become a bit of a normal daily existence. Program-specific virtual learning stages can possibly play a big and valuable part in the learning of students (Almarzooq et al., 2020). E-learning has been a persuasive method in education for adapting, compared to the present pandemic period. E-learning could give more prominent teachers or self-study courses among students (Luaran et al., 2014). To place it plainly, e-learning is a mixture of technology for educating and learning to help with the pandemic. It also empowers the students to adapt adequately and the teachers to have the opportunity to play their roles and play out their tasks at the same time for a learning strategy to happen.

### INDIAN VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

- BYJU'S Classes
- Directory of Open Access Journals
- eGyanKosh
- E-Kalpa
- Enhanced learning (NPTEL)
- FOSSEE
- National Programme on Technology
- National Digital Library
- NCERT Test books



- Spoken Tutorial
- SWAYAM online courses
- SWAYAMPRABHA



### **E-LEARNING EDUCATION METHOD: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES**

E-learning is a knowledge storage facility that provides amazing information. The world is becoming more computerized, and an increasing number of schools are attempting to expand the use of e-learning method in education ("Benefits of Online Learning, Advantages of Online Learning, 2020"). Despite the fact that the use of technology in the field of education has changed the way things are done during this pandemic, there are still a few drawbacks to relying entirely on technology, which are outlined below:

#### **E-learning: Its opportunities for Students**

E-learning has numerous points of interest, with the blend of an efficient e-learning framework and a profoundly energetic student, one can make extraordinary progress during a brief timeframe. Some of the major e-learning points are listed below ("Advantages of e-learning for students' e-learning industry, 2020").

| Enhance student-to-<br>student and faculty-to-<br>student communication | E-learning education gives numerous approaches to create correspondence<br>between individuals and teachers, containing conversation sheets, chat and<br>e-mail.   |
|---|--|
| Availability to course<br>materials                                     | Learning apparatus that is accessible every minute of each day and makes it feasible for students to prepare without a limitation on their assets.   |
| Suit diverse learning<br>styles   | An educator can introduce these materials in numerous arrangements to suit<br>various sorts of learning styles. As an example, if a teacher puts both<br>talking notes and slides on the internet, both visual and sound-related help<br>students who want to consider "listening" and "watching". |



| Cost effective                              | For many students, e-learning is a cost-effective method of learning because<br>they can browse a wide range of courses and choose one that meets their<br>needs.  |
|---|--|
| Work from anywhere                          | E-learning is almost certainly an extremely beneficial tool for almost all students. It's a phenomenon where students can search for any kind of data by sitting in a seat in their workplace.   |
| More opportunity to think<br>before sharing | This will prompt more prominent confidence and increasingly rich<br>conversations. There is no limitation with reference to what hours to settle<br>on a selected day for a topic. Nevertheless, it gives students the ability to<br>choose their own hours. |

# E-learning: Its Challenges for the Students

Technology applies both incredible accommodation to human's creation, life and education so far but, if elearning is taken into consideration, the following negative impact will occur ("E-Learning Pros and Cons, 2020"). Some major drawbacks, which are listed below ("Advantages and drawbacks of Rapid ELearning, 2015").

| Decrease of outer activity | Face-to-face relational contact is going to be supplanted by humans and PCs. The costly interaction between humans and computers will reduce the likelihood of students' external exercises and reduce students' practical time.   |
|----------------------------|--|
| "Lost in internet"         | Information loss not only diverts learners' attention but also wastes their<br>time, resulting in ineffective teaching. There is a wealth of beneficial<br>knowledge, but due to information loss, most of it has negative impact on<br>the network, leaving some students aimless. The following information and<br>activities are presented in a blind format. |
| Technology dependence      | Learning how to use applications may take a long time for some students.<br>Other factors, such as a slow Internet connection or machine malfunctions, can make learning time-consuming and frustrating.   |
| Social confinement         | Students may feel socially disengaged now and again due to the absence of students around them while learning. Learning through a PC takes into consideration more extensive access, but it can likewise effectively prompt disengagement.   |
| Costs the executives       | Purchasing PCs, Computers, and Smartphones might not generally be<br>simple for everyone. Additionally the expense of making preparing<br>materials is high contrasted with the traditional strategies   |



| Harm to vision                      | The retina, which is delivered by the eye, is elicited by blue light and causes different synthetic responses. These responses inside the attention are often noxious to the photoreceptor cell atoms delivering them harmed. |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Downside for disability<br>students | During the COVID-19 lockdown, lessons using Zoom or other video conferencing platforms may be the newest thing, but many disabled students find it is difficult to attend classes without a computer and internet connection. |

# **E-LEARNING EDUCATION SYSTEM: A CRITICAL OUTLOOK**

The study of virtual technology is merely a part of human practice, and cannot be replaced by the effect of real practice in relying on nature, objects, and students to reach free and greater subjectivity. Even when interacting online, communication based on sentiments differs from communication based on rationality in real life (James, 2002). Following are also some major critics of e-learning education method:

- No authority over the students or classroom
- There is no authority over the educational environment or climate.
- A virtual classroom necessitates the use of PCs and the internet, which are unlikely to be available to everyone
- Expensive; enlisting into online live class or courses are often exorbitant
- Technical challenge (network, programming adaptation, gadget design)
- Safety and security (virtual students are frequently presented to the imperfections of the online. They are dependent upon unseemly sites and advertisements, online predators and programmers. Their security is in peril also).

# KEY PLATFORMS FOR VIRTUAL LEARNING





#### CONCLUSION

Staying at home is one among the crucial means of slowing down the rapidly spreading of COVID-19. As a result, all schools, colleges, and universities in India and other countries have been closed. Technology has become an integral part of our daily life, with the help of e-learning methods, and applications such as Zoom, Google Meet, Google class room, and others, e-learning is being extensively used in the teaching and learning process, allowing students to study at home during the COVID-19 pandemic. The adaptability, accessibility, collaboration, and adaptability of learning motivate students to practice e-learning method. E-learning has become very conventional among students around the world, especially in the lockdown phase due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### REFERENCES

- Alqurashi, E. (2019). Predicting student satisfaction and perceived learning within online learning environments. *Journal of Distance Education*, 40(1), 133-148.
- Algahtani, A.F. (2011). Evaluating the Effectiveness of the E-learning Experience in Some Universities in Saudi Arabia from Male Students' Perceptions, Durham theses, Durham University.
- Almarzooq, Z. I., Lopes, M., & Kochar, A. (2020). Virtual Learning During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Disruptive Technology in Graduate Medical Education. *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*, 75(20), 2635–2638. <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jacc.2020.04.015</u>
- "10 Benefits of Online Learning | Advantages of Online Learning." Accessed March 3, 2021. https://www.indiaeducation.net/online-education/articles/10-benefits-of-online-learning.html.
- ELearning Industry. "9 Benefits of ELearning for Students," November 11, 2017. https://elearningindustry.com/9-benefits-of-elearning-for-students.
- Deccan Herald. "Online Classes during Coronavirus: Disabled Students at Disadvantage," May 15, 2020. <u>https://www.deccanherald.com/national/online-classes-during-coronavirus-disabled-students-at-disadvantage-837788.html</u>.
- "Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)." Accessed February 28, 2021. https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019.
- "E-Learning Pros and Cons," July 28, 2014. https://www.eskill.com/blog/e-learning-pros-cons/.
- E-learning Industry. "3 Advantages and Disadvantages of Rapid ELearning," November 24, 2015. https://elearningindustry.com/3-rapid-elearning-advantages-and-disadvantages.
- Fry, K. (2001). E-learning markets and providers: some issues and prospects. Education, 233-239.
- Guragain, N. (2016). *E-Learning Benefits and Applications*. February, 6–10. https://www.theseus.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/105103/Guragain Nischal.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y.
- Ghirardini, B. (2011). *E-learning methodologies: A guide for designing and developing e-learning courses*. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.
- "Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Education." In *Wikipedia*, February 27, 2021. <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Impact\_of\_the\_COVID-</u> 19 pandemic on education&oldid=1009208439.
- Luaran, J. E., Samsuri, N. N., Nadzri, F. A., & Rom, K. B. M. (2014). A Study on the Student's Perspective on the Effectiveness of Using e-learning. *Proceedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 123, 139–144. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sbspro.2014.01.1407.
- "MoHFW | Home." Accessed February 28, 2021. https://www.mohfw.gov.in/.
- Manazir, S. H., & Govind, M. (2020). E-Learning Pedagogy In Institute Of Higher Education In India Post Lockdown Due To Covid-19 Research based Policy-Guidelines on Issues and Constraints of Students Authors : Sharique Hassan Manazir. May.
- Maddux, C., Sprague, D., Ferdig, R., & Albion, P. (2007). Online education: Issues and research questions. *Journal of Technology and Teacher Education*, 15(2), 157-166.
- Oblinger, D. G., & Hawkins, B. L. (2005). IT Myths the Myth about E-Learning. Educause review, 40(4), 14.
- Pradesh, U., Pandit, P., Dayal, D., Pashu, U., Vigyan, C., Evam, V., Pradesh, U., Zoonosis, S. De, Pereira, S., Pereira, D., Malik, Y. S., Pradesh, U., & Rodriguez-morales, A. J. (2020). Coronavirus Disease 2019 – COVID-19 Kuldeep Dhama,. *Preprints, April*, 1–75. https://doi.org/10.20944/preprints202003.0001.v2.
- Richard, H., & Haya, A. (2009). Examining student decision to adopt web 2.0 technologies: theory and empirical tests. *Journal of computing in higher education*, 21(3), 183-198.
- Tamrakar, A., & Mehta, K. K. (2011). Analysis of Effectiveness of Web based E-Learning Through Information Technology. *International Journal of Soft Computing and Engineering*, 1(3), 55–59. <u>https://pdfs.semanticstudent.org/14b6/cb3aed6a589760ace54a9cf3953742a03888.pdf</u>.