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## IMPACT OF CORONAVIRUS ON EDUCATION SYSTEM IN PAKISTAN: PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

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### ABSTRACT

**Background of the study:** *The sudden rise of COVID pandemic and its speedy spread around the globe affected almost all walks of life particularly the education system in Pakistan. The lockdown in the entire country and closure of all education institutes put a gape in teaching learning process. It made the teachers and students away from each other, thus physical interaction of students and teacher in classrooms became a dream for both the students as well for the teachers at secondary level. The parents of the students were very worried for the study loss of their children but they were helpless. Therefore, the purpose and focus of this research paper was on the evaluation of literature available internationally to see what the status of covid pandemic in the world is and what type of strategy they have adopted to cope with the problem. Method:* *The nature of this research is evaluative, as it has been mentioned in the above lines that focus was on the available literature, Online overview was also driven for data collection to evaluate it, analyze it and to see the result of the closure of educational institutes due to Covid pandemic and its impact on secondary education system of Pakistan. Results:* *Key results extracted from literature were: It affected all walks of life particularly the education system at large. It wasted the precious time of the students by halting physical interactive classrooms. ICT stepped in to replace physical classrooms with online classrooms but this new approach had many other problems like, lack of experience, many of the teaching staff as well as the students in ICT, availability of the electronic gadgets to all the teachers and students. Thus availability of the net facility to all the teachers and students in the country was also a problem. Conclusion:* *It was concluded that online classes were not as useful as physical interactive classes. It does not facilitate the entire stakeholder equally. Online classes have many flaws for instance, availability of the devices, experience of its usage, and net accessibility. In online class it is difficult for the teachers to have hold on the class like in physical classes.*

**Key Words:** Corona Virus, Covid Pandemic, Covid impact on Learning, Covid and Education.

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## INTRODUCTION

The world was shocked with the arrival of this new virus called as COVID-19. It attacked on the whole world and made the globe worse for its inhabitants and also destroyed the smooth running of life. World is experiencing an unexpected, insane COVID-19 deadly erupt that is playing awfully with each person and resources. By and large lock down has been taken note. Guidance region is maybe the most affected zones by this pandemic. Measures have been taken for training and learning and efforts are made to make it more suitable for the stake holders. Guidance plans are under unexpected move of progress. More raised level educational establishments have been driven into arranging on the web classes. Practically every school has taken measures for web learning. Information and correspondence propels (ICTs) are used therefore. Ordinarily, this is basic to measure or study the different pieces of impact of winning wonder on school, college and university level guidance and instructions (Espinell, & Shultz, 2020).

Guidance is a cycle that is direct related to the improvement of a country especially for the third world rural countries it is apparently a panacea despite each issue yet, at any rate a huge part of the issues are dealt with genuine tutoring. It has been seen that preparation is a spine of country like informative headway prompts the monetary improvement too. Particularly high level training expects a basic occupation in Pakistan's monetary and political headway. Heartbreakingly, the current COVID pandemic has almost halted the informational stream all through the world, Pakistan being no exceptional case in defying comparable issues. Thus, the western and advanced countries have adopted the electronic educating framework consistently known as distance learning or virtual learning. The evidence suggests that countries like USA, UK, Australia, France, UAE and Canada, etc are basically successfully equipped with the online demonstrating workplaces and conditions close by in every practical sense, arranged educators/understudies, and significantly qualified IT trained professionals. Therefore, it presumably won't be as tangled for these countries to prepare online as the immature countries like young developing countries. Notwithstanding the way that the recently referenced countries are moreover facing issues related to online empowering still they are indicating improvement over us.

In light of such conditions it is potentially difficult to adjust to web preparing that should fulfill the six necessities of distance learning as given on the Pakistan's HEC (2020) official website:

According to Yildirim (2005), negative behavior pattern Chancellors have been referenced to proceed with online classes if and simply if they can ensure really that six key segments are "online arranged": (a) University Readiness, i.e., a

convincing and operational learning the chiefs structure (LMS) similarly as an oversight body liable for guaranteeing courses as online arranged; (b) Faculty Readiness, i.e., workers have encountered planning in electronic teaching before allowed to show such a course; (c) Course Readiness i.e., all imperative information about a course is open on the LMS; (d) Library Readiness i.e., all course readings and assignments are available through online strategies; (e) Technology Readiness i.e., the development needed for passing on the web classes is ready for sending; and (f) Student Readiness i.e., understudies are assisted with overcoming any obstructions they may have in getting to the classes and materials. The students and teachers must be in line with the modern online and IT based educational process to save their times and careers. It on occasion gives off an impression of being functional for all the universities all through Pakistan to accomplish the recently referenced fundamentals of electronic instructing unequivocally for the less aided schools, for instance, of Baluchistan and inside Sindh. Whether or not the school the board and IT associations endeavors their level best then furthermore the concise web receptiveness and advantageous availability of intensity in the far off domains for understudies is more than inconceivable. How is it possible to show online with induction to each and every school understudy that may live in any edges district of the area? Does an especially electronic demonstrating won't relinquish the idea of high level training? But in the event that the central inspiration driving electronic teaching is just to complete the timetable and fight the semester cutoff times, such kind of instructing likely can't convey the encapsulation of acknowledging, which eye to eye closeness makes making academic conversations, engaging strong discussions that offers way to deal with Para logy that is real award rather than fulfillment of online mechanical courses.

Totally, we are up 'til now missing far behind in the field of assessment when appeared differently in relation to the worldwide levels; electronic empowering will also rot the high level training and will altogether debilitate it from investigation and award. Thusly, it has all the earmarks of being that capriciously following the western and made countries isn't the solution for our issues, with the climb of Coronavirus pandemic. Thusly, considering the imaginative conditions of schools, successfully inescapable informational conditions all through the country, basically lacking understudies and teachers, and the resources of the country the need is to develop our own high level training methodologies and game plans rather than following the lead of significantly made countries if there ought to emerge an event of preparing (Yildirim, 2005).

This inspect is a venture to lessen the crumbling of better preparing by means

of the pointers and clues provided through the scientists this is compelled to the interpretative assessment. This analyze is sizable for it's characterize of assessment dependent on preparing as a main point of interest of progress this is affected through the Covid breakout. The writing assessment activities that perhaps as of recently no such look at is performed uncommonly in Pakistan and regularly during the globe this is very much based absolutely at the overwhelming impact of crown on better preparing. Despite the fact that outstanding explores are performed at the impact of Covid on the travel industry, understudies' scholarly wellness because of the reality of the conclusion of educational institutions and financial framework in the worldview of sociologies.

### **Statement of Problem**

Recently, a number of studies have been carried on the COVID 19 as it is a burning issue now a day. Many of the researchers have worked on the effects and impact of COVID 19 on several of life like its effects on the economy, on business, on health facilities, hospitals capacities, treatment and vaccinations etc. But on the education side the ratio of research studies is not satisfactory. It is a dire need of the time that researchers should give proper attention to explore the effects and impact of COVID 19 on different aspects of education like on students' performance, learning environment, on line classes and I.T facilities. Live classes and students' teachers' problems, working in educational institutes and caring of SOPs etc are the possible areas that demands the researchers' attention. Selecting the topic in hand for this research paper caused the above mentioned reasons in the education sector in COVID 19.

### **Methodology**

The nature of this study is evaluative, which is based on evaluation of available literature. The researcher reviewed a number of research papers on effects of COVID 19 on different aspects of education and social life. After reviewing a sound amount of literature reviewed and an online overview was also driven for data collection purposes. The researcher analyzed the literature to give the results then conclusion was drawn and discussion was made properly. After discussion recommendations were given.

### **Objectives**

This study is aimed to achieve the following objectives:

- i. To examine the effects of COVID on the education system of Pakistan at secondary level.
- ii. To explore the current situation of secondary education during COVID.
- iii. To frame out some recommendations based on results.

### **Questions of this Research**

- i. What are the effects of corona on secondary education in Pakistan?
- ii. How education suffered during this pandemic?

## **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

Fetzer, Hensel, Hermle, and Roth (2020) have researched the worldwide crevasse of Coronavirus that has influenced present financial framework sooner or later of the world. They have respected through the worldwide web insights that recommends the monetary pressures. They have confirmed that due to the pandemic of the Corona virus, there is a snappy fling of financial strains with inside the US and diverse made nations of the world. Their test recommends country supported preparing determined to have Covid for convincing oversee and an interest for fortunate methods which could diminish monetary sadness for the length of an uncommonly central complete pandemic. As demonstrated with the guide of utilizing WHO (2020) it's far a pristine pressing factor that changed into now not, at this point sooner than broke down in individuals. The epic Coronavirus is a type of conventional viral move roughly. Human to human transmission is certified at this factor as of not long ago there's no reasonable logical cure and vaccination for the maintenance of this contamination. It also affected the daily life of teachers and learners because the routine tasks are not accordingly then.

According to Rieley, (2020), it is not sure that educational institutes will be back to the routine physical face to face interactive classroom in near future. Because keeping social distance is pre-requisite at this time. It will adversely affect the learning environment of the educational institutes. Education sector struggles to explore other alternatives ways to get rid of this threatening situation. These conditions made us realized that situational planning is a dire necessity for educational sector.

As per Mc Brien et al., (2009), recent expansion in ICT has made online education possible and easier for us.

At present as this this toxic virus blowout throughout the world online platforms have direly needed across the globe where the facility of video conferencing, deliberations with learners should be possible to keep the classes lively. Internet facility should be there to trace the teachers' classes even on mobile cells, lectures can be recorded projects can be submitted and feedback can be attained (Basilaia et al., 2020).

Due to the arrival of Corona pandemic the use of ICT for online classes is inevitable. Thus transfer from routine and conventional type of classes towards an online type of classes has been accelerated. (Basilaia et al., 2020).

According to J. W. Richardson et al., (2020), the exercise which were in practice in many educational institutions is now been shoot to classes occurring

on the web worldwide and numerous paths are being used to trace educational performance of learners. Now it is worthy to note that educational institutions have got the path to meet with their students while they are at their homes.

Banuri (2020) stated that, Higher Education Pakistan instructed Universities managements to switch into online classes as it is become fruitful in numerous countries of the world. There are many problems in Pakistan in online classes because here as per the data of Telecommunication Authority 2019 about 36.86% of the total population has access to net. With the rise of Covid-19 HEC adopted a realistic approach to tackle with this problem. It delivered technical support to universities and drafted a series of online education policies guidelines. It consists of 7 documents and can be traced on its website.

The traditional setup of classroom should change now. Rulers across the globe have taken serious actions for eradication of the problem and preservation of the forthcoming life of educational institutions. Thus, their serious concern to the problem and to the lives of the human beings condensed the chances of disappointment. Millions of instructors and learners have been pushed towards online classrooms, a practice which is totally mysterious in Pakistan. They are dealing different learning web sites like Zoom, Google classroom, Hangout, Edmodo, Facebook, and WhatsApp messenger to guarantee that education is not haggled throughout lockdown. (Jahangir, 2020)

Shaikh, S, et al (2021) stated that the recent pandemic's economic upheaval has had a long-term influence on Pakistan's tourism economy.

Igwe (2020) described that this virus disturbed the world finance and made a very bad impact on the financial stability of the poor nations or those nations who were now in upward direction. Also agreed that this pandemic made the globe very changed and it suffers a lot all the nations but mostly those nations where education facility is not upgraded and modernized.

Karabag (2020) stated that the corona virus made an around the globe, public emergency. Mahmud (2020) reviewed the potential after effects of Covid on by and large economy that has become a prime cause for social trained professionals. It damaged the major sectors but mostly educational paces are badly disturbed. Bouey (2020) also investigated the virus impact on china economical status and found that this virus even shackled up the china economy to some extent. He examined the repercussions of Coronavirus on China's economy identified with essentially nothing and medium surveyed tries.

Ying et al (2020), expressed their concerns about the development business in China. Khan, Hassan, Fahad and Naushad (2020) also viewed that the virus made very loss to the world tourist business and most of the nations where the tourist business was one of the leading economical tool were suffered a lot due to no or very limited visitors.

Iqbal et al (2020) stated that this specific virus has some special features which reflected in the studies that this will multiply more in cold temperature and it is more dangerous in low temperature zones in the world and is less in those regions where cold weather is moderate.

Ahmad (2020) Work marketplace policies In view of the excessive loopy scenario of virus and its poor thriving outcomes, the authorities commenced the degree of labor marketplace policies, together with making certain the maintenance of occupations, disaster assist % for the destitute society, and revising plans provided for the undertakings, on this way it's far beneficial to reduce paintings marketplace. Zia and Farooq (2020) Covid effect evaluation In spite of the manner that countries enterprise difficult to reduce the repeat of Covid with their key scientific businesses foxy together with spreading statistics approximately the muse of evading excellent gatherings, maintaining up social taking out, and increasing trying out swabs, the impact of Covid is polishing off being greater serve, which desires prolonged period scientific notion changes. Muhammad et al. (2020) Covid heading off procedures "Equilibrium is advanced to fix" is remarkably fascinating with the aid of using uprightness of confining unfold of the Coronavirus pandemic in a country. The want to comply with authorities-administered processes and World Prosperity Affiliation (WHO) policies might be beneficial to minimize the Covid influences in the country.

## RESULTS

The following results have been extracted from analysis of literature:

- Coronavirus has made misery among students at secondary level.
- It affected all walks of life particularly the education system of Pakistan at large.
- It wasted the precious time of the students by halting physical interactive classrooms. ICT stepped in to replace physical classrooms with online classrooms but this new approach had many other problems.
- Lack of experience of the teaching staff as well as the students in ICT,
- Lack of availability of the electronic gadgets to all the teachers and students.
- Net facility to all the teachers and students in the country was also a problem.
- Online educating is gotten by educational institutions globally that seems to make various issues both for the labor force and understudies, especially in juvenile countries.

- Similar difficulties are being looked by the academicians in Pakistan also.

## CONCLUSIONS

The literature is evident that COVID pandemic affected the learning environment of the whole world especially teachers and learners are the most affected ones. Although the present development in ICT made it possible to create connection between the teacher and the taught to let the system of education run smoothly.

On the other hand it affected the economy of the world badly as well, like the most developed countries of the world and other developing countries suffering due to complete lock down in the countries.

It seems difficult for the educational institutes to come back to the routine physical interactive classrooms in near future, as social distance is precondition at this time. Since online courses are not controlled like standard school classes are, the understudy should remain pushed and formed to succeed.

## DISCUSSION

As referenced over the impact of Covid isn't obliged to wellness all alone as an option without a doubt, this pandemic has affected the exceptionally social arrangement. To a couple of amount the social games have almost developed to be static due to unfurl of infection. Unquestionably, tutoring has been discouraged in loads of approaches due to Coronavirus. The evidence shows that numerous foundations are in any event, pondering to increment or suspend the training on account of such kind of interferences and preventions. Far-fetched, on-line instructing gives off an impression of being really extreme for the speakers and school learners in almost every use of the world. Indeed, even eleven however limit of the schools of the high level countries are mechanically fortify yet on-line training may likewise have downsides for those countries as pleasantly this is making distance acquiring data of confounded.

In this pandemic the situation all around the world and in all walks of life is disturbed including education sector, as mentioned by Ahmad (2020) that labor market faced very troublesome situations in these days and work was badly effected in all markets.

The whole schools of Pakistan may not be imaginatively proficient for web teaching there is nonattendance of foundation that merges both the thing and stuff advances. IT division of a touch of the schools doesn't endeavor to meet the current circumstance by allowing virtual to every single understudy. There are no certified electronic getting ready modules needed for internet instructing for the whole courses/diagram need to get overhauled by the necessities of



virtual classes. It has been shown that by a wide margin the vast majority of the school understudies in Pakistan are of run of the mill level now and again they are not set up to think and keep conscious with the conversation while sitting in the class in this way; potential outcomes are that they may show nonappearance of center interest. The teachers were more suffered due to poor tools and weak net connectivity but also they were facing problems due to lack of proper training and skills with using the modern techniques and technological tools. The teachers were not much aware about the use of Google meet, zoom and online classes pattern and software. Though it is fact that the system is now in its initial phases and it will take time to be in smooth streamline and easy for both, the teachers and students.

Considering the above conversation it is with everything taken into account right to accept that totally, planning on the web is a genuine and dire issue that will affect the possibility of direction in this way, it needs fast and sensible idea by the educationalists and strategy creators. This assessment has underlined upon some provocative demands. These solicitations require several plans that are suggested consistently by the specialists.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- i. The teachers as well as the students should be trained in modern online equipment's to make teaching learning process easy and interesting.
- ii. The system needs to be made more focused and attentive to pave the way clear for learning in today's situation.
- iii. The learners should be made more active and motivated by making the teaching system more effective and workable for the teachers.
- iv. There should be no communication gap between students, teachers and institution.
- v. Teachers should be given modern technologies equipment's and net facilities to make lectures and discussion sessions interesting for the learners.
- vi. The teachers should be trained and retrained to make them able how to use online apps.
- vii. There may be free provision of modern technological equipments trainings to both teachers and students.
- viii. Internet providers should be asked to boost up the learners and teachers potentials by enhancing net speed.
- ix. The teachers should be given incentives, so that they may be able to get all the needed equipment for online teaching process and to make the system effective.

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