



“A Study On Right To Education As Fundamental Right And The New Education Policy: 2020”

Shraddha Tripathi

LL.M Student

Amrit Law College

Abstract: Education is generally considered as a key to development of individuals and society, it is a basis human rights which revolves around all other rights. This research paper explores every possible nooks and corner which is going to be impacted due to lack of education. This content also explore many crucial aspect of education during Covid-19 pandemic including basic science, the art of International collaboration, legal standard and that too impact on healthy environment etc.

This abstract also explores the critical role of education in fostering social equity and empowerment. It underscored how the equitable access to quality education diminishes barriers to opportunities, promotes social inclusion and drives economic advancement. Role of education extends beyond individual benefits, it is instrumental in cultivating informed, responsible citizens who contribute to the democratic process and societal cohesion. However, global disparities in educational access and quality highlighted persistent challenges. Millions of children particularly in marginalized and conflict- affected regions remain deprived of their right to education. This content is also based on the comprehensive analysis of how the Covid-19 pandemic has transformed education and highlights areas for future development to create more robust and inclusive educational systems.

Keywords; Right to education, Impact of Covid-19, comprehensive analysis, lack of education, Barrier to education

1.1 Introduction

Recognition of right education has gone through various stages with and aim to access quality education among individual without gender discrimination. The Indian education systems have historically been designed with the primary objective of providing a conducive environment for the holistic development of students. Schools and universities were established with the aim of nurturing individuals, not just academically, but also socially an emotionally. In many instances, educational institutions are often referred to as a second home for the students where students use to spent their significant time within the four walls of schools. Teachers have moral responsibility of imparting knowledge as well as moral and societal values. The structured routine of education brought a sense of self-discipline to students fostering with academic and personal growth. Schools played a crucial role in providing essential services such as health care facilities and meals as well as offering psychological supports ro students.

However, with the emergence of a more competitive and profit-oriented approach to education, the traditional values and humanitarian aspects of the educational experience have been overshadowed. The Covid-19 pandemic further exacerbated this issue, as academic institutions focused more on achieving academic excellence rather than fostering a supportive and empathetic community. This shift has inadvertently led to a generation that prioritizes personal success over communal well-being, potentially fostering a culture of self-centeredness and opportunism.

In the wake of the indefinite closure of a once-routine gathering place, parents and caregivers took on the responsibility of supporting home learning, embracing new technological advancements. Initially, the prevailing emotions were confusion and anxiety, as no one had foreseen or prepared for such a situation. However, despite the turmoil and loss of lives, humanity innovated tirelessly worked to ensure the continuity of the academic year. Countless hours were spent in discussions and meetings to develop a solution that would enable ongoing learning, teaching, and assessment using online digital platforms.

Teachers and professors, many of whom were not technologically adapt, embarked on a mission to impart knowledge within the confines set by authorities. Parents, teachers, and students encountered diverse challenges. While technology had traditionally been a supplementary teaching tool, it now took center stage in delivering and accessing knowledge. Each country faced its own battles, from providing essential study tools such as computers, phones, and tablets to ensuring access to the internet. Implementing solutions in underdeveloped rural areas proved especially challenging.

During Covid-19 period, people began supporting each other selflessly, showcasing a remarkable spirit of generosity and solidarity and reigniting moral values that had previously not much prevalent. As teachers adapted to advanced internet use for daily instruction and students embraced technological developments under the guidance of their parents, a deeper understanding of the situation developed. Rather than solely taking their children's side, parents, witnessing the effort being poured into each lesson by the professors, gained insight into their children's strengths and weaknesses.

Universities introduced various hybrid learning techniques, which combined face-to-face and online learning. While this approach offered students the freedom to choose either option, it disrupted the traditional classrooms setting and the sense of belonging to a cohesive class unit. The long- anticipated announcement regarding the reopening of schools and universities brought a wave of relief, marking the end of exhausting online classes. The shift to virtual learning posed significant challenges for college students, as it was difficult to monitor their activities and some took advantage of the situation to bypass academic integrity. The pandemic also necessitated a significant reduction in the excessive use of electronic devices, which had adverse effects on student's physical and mental well-being. Additionally, the social and communication skills of younger students had waned, leading to increased anxiety in social situations.

Despite, these challenges, the convenience of virtual meetings and online submissions persisted through platforms like Zoom. Furthermore, the traditional method of evaluating students based solely on examination scores has evolved post Covid-19, with a greater emphasis now placed on overall performance rather than a single exam. However, it is important to note that the prolonged break from traditional schooling had varied impacts on students, with some finding it inconvenient and unproductive while others adapted well to the new methods of learning.

1.2 Impact of Covid-19 on education

The Covid-19 pandemic in early 2020 led to mass schools closure affected more than 1.6 billion students in more than 190 countries. This global impact has forced schools to adopt emergency distance learning strategies, adopt traditional teaching methods, and enable digital technology in education.

1.2.1 Immediate impact and instant response

The rapid shift to online learning has exposed a huge gap in digital access readiness. Students belongs to low income background, rural areas and students with disability had faced significant challenges such as poor internet connectivity, lack of equipment and lack of adequate support for online learning this led to downfall in education among individuals, in response, the government, schools, and NGOs had implemented various measures such as distributing educational materials providing equipment and using the internet and training teachers in digital pedagogy.

1.2.2 Innovation and adaptation

Despite, the challenges the pandemic has spurred innovative ideas in education and research as well. Virtual classrooms, digital platforms and learning applications have become important tools, hybrid learning combined face- to- face and online learning becomes a flexible way to deliver continuous learning. Teachers have also introduced new learning method that majorly focuses upon student engagement independent learning and integration of learning skills

1.2.3 Equity and inclusion

The pandemic has highlighted the urgent need to address inequalities in education. Disadvantaged groups including marginalized communities and student with special needs are at risk of exclusion from education. Efforts to choose the digital divide include public- private partnership to expand online infrastructure and plans to create low cost offline learning resources for underserved communities.

1.3 Building a knowledge foundation

Education in the biomedical sciences provided the foundational knowledge and necessary for understanding and combating the Covid-19 virus, the key contribution includes:-

1.3.1 Virology and immunology education

The extensive training in virology, immunology, and molecular biology equipped scientists with the necessary knowledge to rapidly comprehend the intricacies of the SARS COV-2 virus including its genetic structure and how it behaves within the human body. This deep understanding greatly expedited the development of highly potent and targeted vaccines against the virus.

Education also led to the crucial development of mRNA vaccines and viral vector technologies which represented significant advancement in vaccine technology.

1.3.2 Research Methodologies and skills

Educational programs in scientific research methodologies equipped professionals with the skills to design, conduct and analyse the complex studies required for vaccine development. This research includes clinical research training thereby expertise in designing the clinical trials ensured that vaccine accepters could be tested efficiently and safely without any negative impact. This research also includes data analysis and bioinformatics in which advanced education in these areas allowed researchers to rapidly analyse genetic sequences and track viral mutation informing vaccine design and updates.

1.3.4 Interdisciplinary Collaboration

Education fosters interdisciplinary thinking and collaborations essential for addressing the multifaceted challenges of vaccine development. This consists of integration of diverse disciplines here combining knowledge from fields such as pharmacology, epidemiology and computational biology enabled a comprehensive approach to vaccine development and distribution. It also consists of global academic networks whereby educational institutions facilitated international collaboration sharing research findings and resources that accelerated the vaccine development process.

1.3.5 Innovation and technology transfer

Educational institutions and research universities played a crucial role in innovation and transfer of technology, this innovation includes university research contributions. Many breakthrough technologies used in Covid-19 vaccine originated from academic research such as mRNA technology developed at institutions like the University of Pennsylvania. It also boosted the partnership among various companies, universities often partnered with pharmaceutical companies, providing the intellectual and technological foundation for vaccine production.

1.3.6 Public education and awareness

Education extends beyond the scientific community, influencing public acceptance and understanding of vaccines. It accelerates the science communication wherein educated professionals engaged in science communication helped disseminate accurate information about vaccine safety and efficacy, combating misinformation. It also laid to the health education programs. These programs promoted understanding of vaccination benefits, encouraging higher uptake rates and contributing to public health efforts.

1.3.7 Long term implications

The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the critical role of education in driving vaccine research and innovation. A strong and comprehensive educational system is essential in equipping individuals with the knowledge and skills necessary to future health crises effectively. It is crucial to continue investing in education and training in scientific and medical fields in order to ensure a steady supply of skilled professionals who are prepared to address new and emerging threats. Additionally, efforts to enhance public health literacy through broad educational initiatives can lead to improved public understanding of health issues and increased trust in scientific solutions. Enhancing public health literacy involves implementing comprehensive educational initiatives aimed at enhancing the public's understanding of health related matters and fostering greater trust in scientific approaches to addressing these issues.

The rapid development and successful development of Covid-19 vaccines have underscored the vital role of education in this process. From providing foundational scientific training to fostering inter disciplinary collaboration and engaging with the public education has empowered individuals and institutions to effectively address the challenges posted by the pandemic. Looking ahead, it is clear that sustained investments in education is crucial for continuing to foster innovation and resilience in the face of future global health challenges.

The Covid-19 pandemic has brought to light the crucial role of education in addressing the multitude of challenges it has presented. Education played a pivotal role in mitigating the impact of the pandemic. Education has not only enhanced public health literacy but also contributed to the training of healthcare professionals, facilitated research and innovation and adopted to remote learning environments. Additionally, education helps in fostering community resilience and promoting informed decision-making in the face of this global crises.

The global impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has been unprecedented affecting various aspects of life including health economies and communities worldwide. Throughout the crisis, education has played a crucial role in addressing and mitigating these disruptions by equipping individuals with the necessary knowledge and skills. Education contributed in multiple way to fight against Covid-19 through adaptation to new modes of learning.

Promoting public health literacy has been essential during the Covid-19 pandemic. Education has played a crucial role in effectively disseminating information about Covid-19 and encouraging adherence to public health measures. Some key contributions of educations in this regard include the following-

1.4 Awareness Campaigns

Educational initiatives have been instrumental in raising public awareness about the virus, its modes of transmission and preventative measures such as maintaining social distance wearing masks and practicing proper hand hygiene. These campaigns had helped individuals understanding the importance of these measures in reducing the spread of the virus.

1.4.1 Combating Misinformation

Educational institutions and public health authorities have been actively involved in dispelling misinformation and conspiracy theories related to Covid-19. They have worked diligently to promote accurate and evidence based information through various mediums such as traditional media online platforms and community outreach efforts.

1.4.2 Health Education

Schools and community programs have incorporated Covid-19 education into their curricula, providing students with comprehensive knowledge about the impact of the pandemic and equipping them with the necessary skills to protect themselves and others. This integrated approach ensures that individual understand the significance of taking proactive measures to safeguard public health.

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1.4 Right to Internet ensures Right to Education

Right to Internet has widely recognized during pandemic era as access to Internet enables the delivery of education, enhance the equitable learning opportunities and assist student to prepare for demand of new method of learning. Every student has right to access to internet and is essential for realizing the fundamental right to education. In addition, Indian judiciary has played a pivotal role in interpreting right to education broadly and often directing the governments to take effective steps to ensure continuation of education even during the pandemic. The supreme Court of India also observed that the right to access to internet as a fundamental right in order to ensure education as a fundamental right and both are intertwined with each other.

1.5 Challenges and Opportunities

Parenting has always been a challenging role, but the COVID-19 pandemic has brought about a new set of difficulties. With children staying home due to school closures and limited access to technology, parents are finding it difficult to strike a balance between engaging their children and helping them adapt to the uncertain environment. This is particularly challenging for the 800,000 children in Chhattisgarh who used to attend more than 50,000 Anganwadis (learning centres for children aged between 3-6 years) before the lockdown. These children are currently deprived of learning opportunities as their centers remain closed due to the pandemic. The lack of access to education and learning is a significant concern for these children and their families, highlighting the need for support and resources during these challenging times. In order to tackle the situation like COVID-19 pandemic, the campaign aims to support parents and grandparents in facilitating children's learning at home. It specifically focuses on ensuring that children, regardless of their access to technology, have opportunities for continued learning. Additionally, the government of Chhattisgarh has launched the 'Sajag' program, in collaboration with UNICEF, to provide technical support to anganwadis and volunteers. The program's goal is to assist parents and caregivers in promoting their children's education while they are at home.

Right to Education during Covid-19

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Conclusion

Though Covid-19 has proved to be measure setback in ensuring Education as a Fundamental Right but it has unequivocally underscored the critical importance of education as fundamental right. The widespread impact of the pandemic has starkly exposed and exacerbated the existing inequities and obstacles within our educational systems. Moreover, it has necessitated a profound reassessment of how education is imparted and has shed light on its indispensable role in society. This has highlighted the pressing need for holistic and far-reaching measures to guarantee that every individual, irrespective of their circumstances, has access to fair and high-quality education. In summary, the Covid-19 pandemic has reinforced the notion that education is a fundamental right by exposing and amplifying the inequalities and challenges within the educational system. It has also prompted a critical rethinking of how education is delivered and the essential role it plays in society, emphasizing the need for comprehensive strategies to ensure equitable, quality education for all, regardless of financial or any other backgrounds.

When the global community as impacted by the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, educational institutions worldwide were compelled to close their doors as a critical precautionary measure. This unprecedented shift led to a widespread adoption of electronic means for various activities, including education. As a result, students had to adapt to online or distance learning for an extended period spanning approximately two academic years. Recognizing the evolving needs in this new landscape, national education policies have reoriented their focus towards the comprehensive transformation of education quality and the enhancement of learning outcomes.

The rise of e-Learning or online education has revolutionized access to learning, opening up new opportunities for students. Nowadays, virtually every educational institutions offers distant education and development programs in order to support the intellectual growth and success of young people. Additionally, personalized digital learning is not confined to one's own country; just by clicking individuals have the chance to access to the courses offered by various universities through online education. Resultantly, ambit of education has widened to the great extent during Covid-19 however, it is all consonance with the Right to Education as Fundamental right guaranteed under Indian Constitution.

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