

Closure of Educational Institutes Due to Coronavirus Outbreak (COVID-19): Its Impact on Education Process and Mental Health of Students and Academician

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ABSTRACT : Currently, we are facing the danger of the COVID-19, which is started from Wuhan city, China, and speeding like bush fire in the jungle, it covers the different regions of the globe. The COVID-19 is epidemic a pandemic being declared by the WHO (World Health Organization), its effects on the day to day work in the Government as well as the private business and economics sector, and social and public events, as well as in the education. The progressive and development work is forced to suspend or stopped due to the COVID-19 throughout the globe. The lockdown process effect on the regular activity of the educational institutes like examinations, workshops, conferences either forced canceled or suspended. The Government, the Universities, and the policymaker body for education across the globe monitor the system. In this paper we like to address the problem arise, policy and the effective solution can or need to take in considering the education and physical as well as mental health of the students, faculty, and staff involving this process.

Keywords: coronavirus, COVID-19, pandemic, education, mental health

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The world is facing a war-like situation with the spreading of the COVID-19, it started from Wuhan City in Hubei Province of China. The breakout of the COVID-19 is officially informing the WHO by the Chinese authority in the mid of, December 2019. With the cause, the virus identifies as SARS-CoV-2 and the disease named as the COVID-19. To date, June 17, 2020, the COVID-19 spread across 215 Countries and Territories, with a total of 9 million confirmed positive cases of the COVID-19, and a human life loss of 452,084 deaths, figure 1.1. India is standing in 4th worst effect country after United States America, Brazil, and Russia [6]. After the outbreak in China Regions, it severely affected shown in the Southern Part of Europe i.e. Italy. Spain.

#	Country, Other	Total Cases	New Cases	Total Deaths	New Deaths	Total Recovered	Active Cases	Serious, Critical	Tot Cases/ 1M pop	Deaths/ 1M pop	Total Tests	Tests/ 1M pop	Population
	World	8,476,239	+47,639	452,080	+1,628	4,444,375	3,579,784	54,468	1,087	58.0			
1	USA	2,235,678	+1,207	119,955	+14	918,796	1,196,927	16,644	6,756	362	26,252,588	79,329	330,933,464
2	Brazil	960,309		46,665		503,507	410,137	8,318	4,519	220	1,709,468	8,044	212,504,592
3	Russia	561,091	+7,790	7,660	+182	313,963	239,468	2,300	3,845	52	15,679,724	107,445	145,932,404
4	India	368,705	+1,441	12,280	+18	195,139	161,286	8,944	267	9	6,249,668	4,530	1,379,492,981
5	UK	299,251		42,153		N/A	N/A	379	4,409	621	7,121,976	104,930	67,873,411
6	Spain	291,763		27,136		N/A	N/A	617	6,240	580	4,826,516	103,232	46,754,183
7	Peru	240,908		7,257		128,622	105,029	1,111	7,311	220	1,417,911	43,028	32,953,556
8	Italy	237,828		34,448		179,455	23,925	163	3,933	570	4,773,408	78,945	60,464,665
9	Chile	220,628		3,615		156,232	60,781	1,794	11,545	189	886,169	46,372	19,110,122
10	Iran	197,647	+2,596	9,272	+87	156,991	31,384	2,795	2,354	110	1,344,599	16,017	83,950,760
11	Germany	189,504		8,927		173,600	6,977	406	2,262	107	5,029,696	60,038	83,774,757
12	Turkey	182,727		4,861		154,640	23,226	745	2,167	58	2,773,904	32,903	84,304,421

Figure 1.1: The COVID-19 condition list of top 12 countries till date (June 17, 2020)[10]

In response to the COVID-19 and the WHO guidelines to prevent the spreading, the Government of different countries has to put travel restrictions to stop migration. The country or region put into lockdown with all precaution measures deploy to limiting the spreading including social & public awareness, social distancing, and sanitization methods to apply in and around. This force to suspension of regular activity in all sectors of the society. The basic minimum work has been carried out by minimal workforce and on-line utility. The emergency services put forward on high alert.

The educational system is found itself paralyzed due to the COVID-19 situation, the forced closure of all the

schools, colleges, and universities because of lockdown as a preventive measure, are forced to suspend their routine process. In each country have a different way of implementing the educational system and implemented differently. So it has to address properly so that the educational system starts working in an effective way to educate its students. Follow.

2. COVID-19 SITUATION IN INDIA

The COVID-19 situation in India is in a spreading stage, the figure2.1 indicates the official numbers of positive cases, recovered cases, and the total number of human life lost during this period till June 17, 2020.

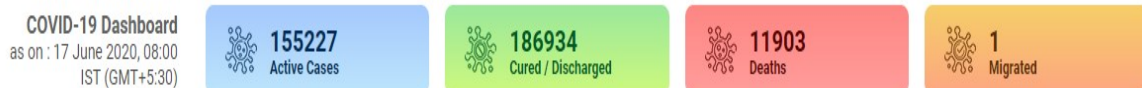


Figure2.1: The COVID-19 condition in India till date (June 17, 2020)[10]

The figure2.2 shown below describe the increasing number of COVID-19 cases in India, while the figure2.3 shows the daily increase in cases, this reflect in an increase in positive cases throughout India. the figure2.4 reflect the spreading of the COVID-19 cases in India. The human life lost due to the COVID-19 India is

shown in figure2.1 and figure2.5. The figure2.6 shows the day-wise human life lost to the COVID-19 situation in India. This is an indication of the spreading and incremental nature of the COVID-19 cases. The numbers are quite a worry factor and show the severity of the situation.

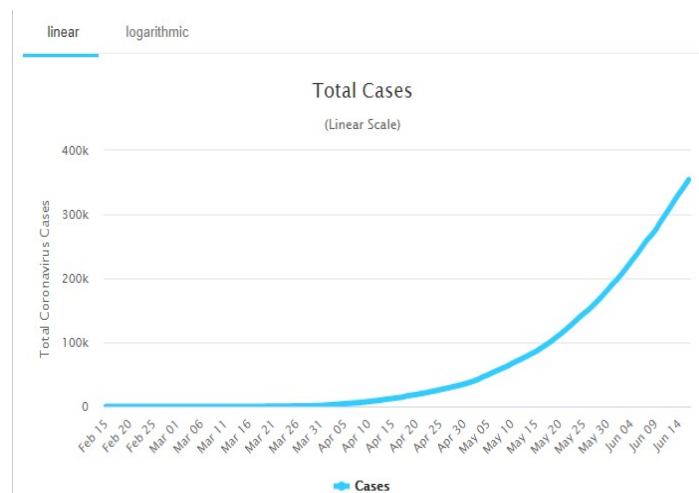


Figure2.2: The COVID-19 spreading in India till date (June 14, 2020)[9]

Daily New Cases in India

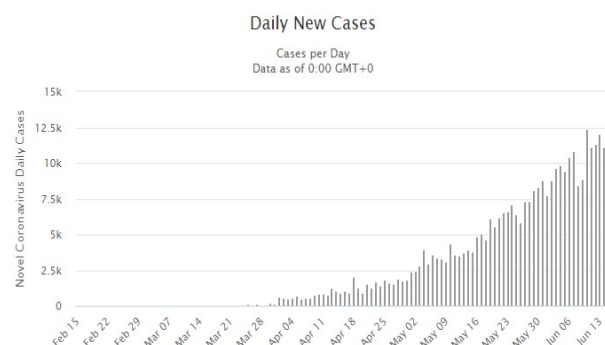


Figure2.3: Daily increase in the COVID-19 positive cases in India till date (June 13, 2020)[9]

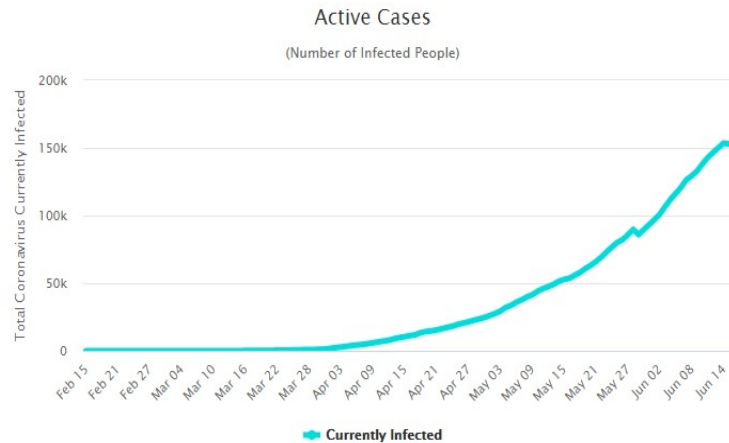


Figure2.4: Daily increase in the COVID-19 positive cases in India till date (June 14, 2020)[9]
Total Coronavirus Deaths in India

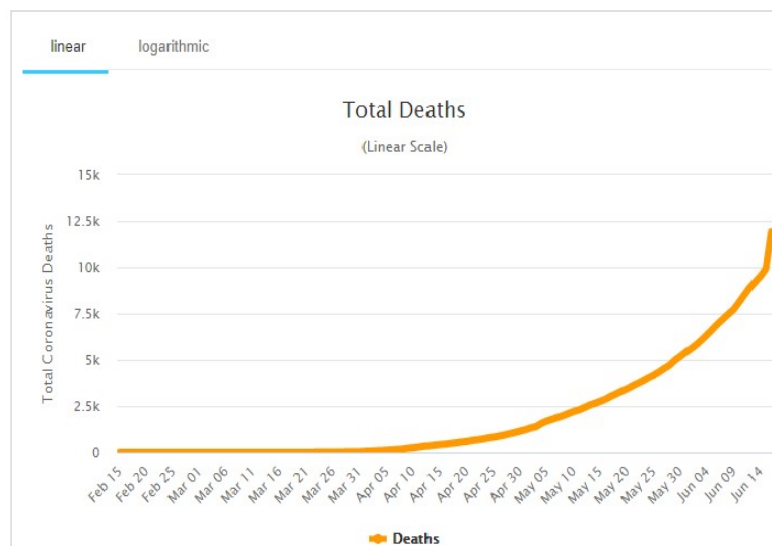


Figure2.5: The human life lost due to the COVID-19 in India till date (June 14, 2020)[9]

Daily New Deaths in India

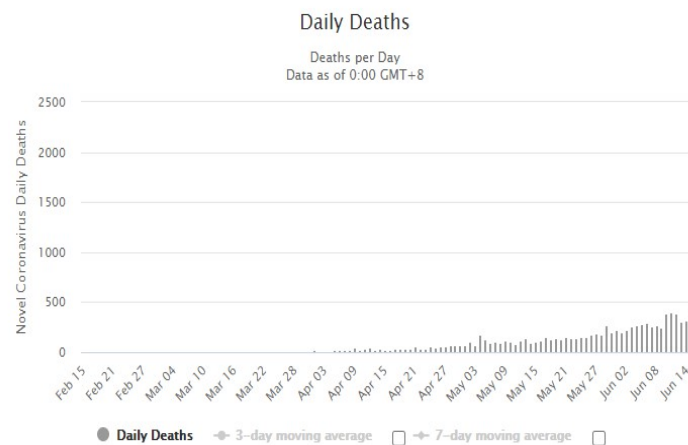


Figure2.6: The human life lost due to the COVID-19, day-wise, in India till date (June 14, 2020)[9]

Newly Infected vs. Newly Recovered in India

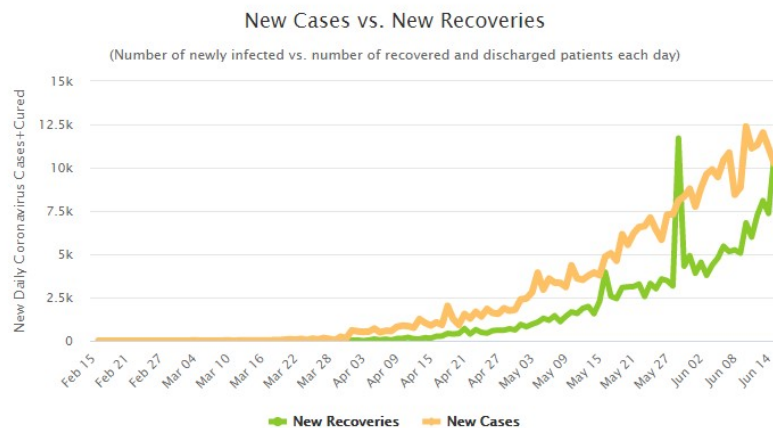


Figure2.7: The comparison between new cases Vs recover cases, COVID-19, in India till date (June 14, 2020)[9]

Location	Confirmed ↓	Cases per 1 million people	Recovered	Deaths	New cases (last 60 days)
Worldwide	79,41,404	1,021	—	4,34,796	
India	3,54,065	260	1,86,935	11,903	

Figure2.8: The comparison between India Vs rest of the world, COVID-19[9]

The figure2.7 and figure2.8 indicate the recovery rate and the spreading of COVID-19 cases in India and compared with worldwide numbers. The figure2.8 suggest the rate of spreading in India is much similar but it is quite a better achievement in the recovery rate with comparison to other major spreading country or region. This control is due to the necessary step taken by the Government of India with public awareness and support.

The government of India, initially stop all international air communication as well as mass communication inside the country by declaring lockdown. The phase-wise lockdown process and decision concerning the situation in a different part of the country is taken by the Government with the help of local executive bodies. The government arranges the community isolation or quarantine center for the people, who are moving from a COVID-19 affect region to their native with all necessary medical assistance and guideline mention by the WHO. The effective involvement of the medical staff, the police, and the public limited the spreading to a large extends. As India is the second populated, the numbers are quite low as compared to other parts of the globe.

The main spreading in Delhi, Mumbai, Gujarat region still a cause of concern. The Indian Government with the support of the State Government are taking a necessary step to stop spreading. The Indian Government keeps public awareness and all precaution measurements in the war-like situation. Due to sudden shutdown arises few

difficulties to the common public in the initial phase, with the time the step taken according to the situation solve major of an issue. It is a challenging task for the Government to arrange the proper medical facility, basic utility to the common public like the food, electricity, and electronic communication to face the situation effectively. The sanitization of public places, public transport, and regulated the traffic is carried out effectively. The need for poor people as well as the general public address to a large extent. The lack of medical preventive as medicine is yet to find a solution only the precaution measure is the only way to stop spreading the COVID-19 situation.

3. CHALLENGES FACED BY THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

Due to the COVID-19 situation, the education system of the world is suddenly come to halt with the suspension of regular classes, examination and evaluation process, conference and workshops, etc. this leads to paralyzing the system. Education is the backbone of the society, which help the person to grow in all means to lead his or her life and be a part of society. The education system operates differently and different stages from kinder garden to university.

3.1..Structural Issue in Education System

First, Classrooms, students, faculty are a basic component of an educational process with the help of non-teaching staff in an educational institute. Classroom teaching is effected badly in the COVID-19 situation as

we cannot stop the gathering of students and difficult to maintain the minimum distance. In colleges and universities, the classroom can be shifted to video conference mode on-line classes is a good effective alternative but practical and research lab work faces some issues in technical and higher studies. So the physical group work should be avoided. Online classes are not so effective for kids into playschool and initial learning processes which are now closed into in house learning where the parent's role is quite important. The adaptability to an online class is a subject of concern as many faculty as not use to it, training to this technology should be available to them keeping social distance in mind. The sudden rise in need of the IT equipment is a bigger issue especially the rural part of any country [18]. Many colleges and universities are not ready and equip for the online class process due to infrastructure, nature of the teaching process they adapt as well as a financial issue associated with it [7]. So online classes solution needs to address either the student has a computer, laptop, or similar device for communication with proper internet facility if the students unable to go for online classes what should be done and how to accumulate them.

3.2.Process for Assessment & Evaluation

The Lockdown is a precaution measure for COVID-19, many educational college and university suspended their regular semester or annual examination process. Holding an examination and evaluation process is a major part of the educational system. Online classes and online submission of assignment make few assessments and evaluation work to easier but not a concrete solution as unable to address the unfair practice to finish the task[6 7]. Uncertainty on the examination process put the stress on the student regarding their professional career to go further. Conducting online for the lab tests, practical test, and performance tests are not possible in many cases.

3.3.Travel and Transport Restrictions

Lockdown leads to a lack of transport support to the education institutes. There is almost a ban on Buses, used for students' transportation cause. The students who used to stay in hostels to pursue their studies have to vacant as a precaution measure by authority, minimum work at institute level is carried out with allowing level and method of transport method by authority: single person in a two were or two people in a car. Without Travel and Transport support it is difficult to back normalize conditions at present. There may be few foreign students it is a bigger problem for them. Lack of transport support forced the event like study tour, technical show, conference, and seminar which is an integral part of the education process.

3.4.Psychological Health of Students and Faculty

The outbreak of COVID-19 disturbs the normalized function of society in all aspects. The rapid increase number of COVID-19 cases in each corner of the world puts everybody into uncertainty and what will happen

shortly. The uncertainty put everybody into stress; will leads to a mental health issue or Psychological Health of person. Similarly the in education sector we have looked at the Psychological Health condition of the student, faculty, and non-teaching staff as well. As the students face the problem of the place to stay if he or she is not near to educational institute as hostels or private staying place are closed by the appropriate authority by the government order to keep the lockdown in place. Transport and traveling is another issue. The safety issue of a foreign student also concerns as their travel is not possible and staying is in the problem. The COVID-19 interrupts in education, especially the final year appearance student is into the stress of their plan timeline. Apart from the employment issue will come out as the business and economy come to standstill due to COVID-19. These entire factors may lead to the mental stress of students which may lead to a negative decision about career or life.

To find a suitable solution with immediate effect each education institute should create a task force that can deal with the crisis face due to the COVID-19. The task force should accumulate members from the health sector, educator expert, human resources expert, facility management, students. The task force needs to work in the direction to address the outbreak and decisions as per the situation. Regular counseling should be carryout, which keeps everyone in a positive frame of mind. Stress relives process needs to apply.

It is time for everybody to learn from the situation and overcome these hurdles, the online learning process should explore to maximize utilization. As students are exposed to new technology, it is easier to adapt to online learning. The faculty should motivate the student for active participation. University and institute authority should take a positive step regarding this new process [15]. The faculty member should train for online learning possible.

4. CONCLUSION

The emergency arose due to the COVID-19 in almost all regions across the globe, with its effect on every section of the society. It is necessary to follow the prevention measure instruction given by the WHO and the Government, for limiting the spreading of the COVID-19. It is the need of the time to look after all suitable alternatives to make in use to carry out regular work in Education by using the high-end technology and its application, awareness. With consideration, that value of human life should put into the highest priority.

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