COVID-19
and
Indian Education System

Challenges and Opportunities

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Editor
Dr. Dhiraj Singh
Head, Department of Education,
Modern College of professional Studies,
Mohan Nagar, Ghaziabad.

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ADHYAYA
Publishers & Distributors
DELHI (INDIA)

Published by



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Publishers & Distributors

Corporate Office : A-108, Street No. 1/3, Kausal Puri
Delhi-110094 (INDIA),
Phone No.: 9968628081, 9643620664
E-mail : adhyayapublishers@gmail.com,
adhyayapublishers@yahoo.com
Website : www.adhyayabooks.com

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© Editor
Ist Edition 2021
ISBN 978-81-952607-7-5

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Printed in India

Published by Virendra Kumar Yadav for Adhyaya Publishers & Distributors. Cover Designed and Laser Typesetting at VM Graphic and Printed at Aarna Enterprises, Delhi.

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Dedication……



Dedicated to.....

World's best Mother,
Who was my first teacher
My mother Smt. Ram Raji Singh

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MAHATMA GANDHI CENTRAL UNIVERSITY
[A Central University established by an Act of Parliament]
Dr Ambedkar Administrative Building, Motihari – 845 401, District – East Champaran, Bihar
Website: www.mgcub.ac.in | **Email:** profasheesh@mgcub.ac.in

FOREWORD



Covid-19 pandemic has changed the world manifold and so is every strata of education drastically, stakeholders at different level are looking at it from their own vested interests. A common man can infer these interests from many perspectives based on their understanding gained through particular social milieu. There may be some funny inferences, some vague inferences, some concrete inferences and some may be having highly relevant inferences and implications as well. Needless to mention the dominant role of education for addressing the crisis being faced by the whole world irrespective of their size, strength and wisdom. In this background, I am very happy to see this book entitled, 'COVID-19 and Indian Education System: Challenges & Opportunities' which has been classified into six meaningful sections. I congratulate and appreciate Dr. Dhiraj Singh for taking such initiative on varied issues along with authors of all respective piece of contribution ranging in six sections of the book. I believe that the book will be helpful in manifold especially at the time when the whole nation is working upon implementation of National Educational Policy-2020.

My all sincere and good wishes to the editor and contributors of this book.

(PROF. ASHEESH SRIVASTAVA)
Dean,
School of Education
Mahatma Gandhi Central University,
Motihari, East Champaran,
Bihar-845401
profasheesh@mgcub.ac.in

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From the Editor's Desk.....

The present age is the era of Science. Today, human civilization stands on the stage of development where man has reached the moon, landed his Mars craft on Mars, preparing to land on the Sun, discovered some alternative sources of energy and continuing the search for other alternative sources, by taking the land, water and space into its grasp created a means of rapid transportation and fast information communication technologies. By developing dangerous nuclear weapons human is also fighting with creation and destruction. Through the Internet, the whole world has crossed the threshold of physical boundaries and become a global village. Physical distances have become insignificant in today's scenario. But in this story of the development of human civilization, the struggle and life expectancy of human has played very important role. He has beautified the courtyard of the world with his creations, giving realization to his creativity and imagination.

The glorious form of the world that is present before us today is the result of the same talent, ability, courage and workability of human. But in this grand story of the development of human civilization, many obstacles also came from time to time which tried to stop the wheel of the development journey of humans. These obstacles sometimes came to us in the form of natural disasters, sometimes in the form of disease and pestilence, sometimes in the form of wars as a result of the personal selfishness and greed of humans, which had to suffer the consequences of all mankind. In these disruptions of human development journey,

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diseases and pandemics have played a major role in pulling back human civilization. Humans have always paved the way for their development while battling disasters like disease and epidemics.

It is difficult to estimate the struggles of the past from the point of development on which human civilization stands today, defeating so many disasters and conflicts. But it is also true that the journey of development is not complete without struggle. Struggle only improves the life path, enhances it, makes it broad and smooth. On the wide highway, all people walk easily, but the path of life does not come out from highways always. One has to go through dark, narrow, dust, haze and thorn-filled trails for efficient living. Success, honor and prosperity embrace those who decide these difficult paths without any gloom. And the person who gets distracted by them gets bites of despair, failure and neglect in life. Struggle is life. If there is struggle, there is life and there is joy of life. It is through struggle that experiences are added to life and the art of living comes for life.

Today the whole world is facing a crisis. The cause of this crisis is the infection spread by a micro virus which we all know as Corona or COVID-19. Today, the Corona virus has spread badly all over the world. Now Corona has ceased to be an epidemic rather than an infectious disease. It has spread its footprint in almost all the countries of the world. Prevention measures are being taken globally to prevent corona infection. The first and foremost among these measures was to follow the social distancing, stay away from crowded places, keep yourself away from any kind of social gatherings etc. Keeping this in mind, most of the countries of the world had declared a lock-down based on certain conditions and criteria. Some countries are recovering from the outbreak of this virus, while some are trying to recover now.

Corona made his debut in December 2019 from Wuhan city of China. From there, Corona rapidly spread throughout the world. Now, after almost a year, its cases have not stopped coming. Now many countries of the world have announced to make vaccine and in some places the process of vaccination has also started. But the one year gap of 2020 was difficult for the whole world. The drastic

steps taken globally to prevent the outbreak of this virus had made very difficult people's lives. Bad experience of this one-year will retain its special place in the memory world of his entire life.

In our country, Corona cases started coming from January. The central government had, cautiously, declared the first lock-down of 21 days from 25 March 2020. Thereafter, three other lock downs were announced which were completed on 31 May 2020, increasing the lock down in a phased manner. After that, the government started the process of unlocking in a phased manner from 1 June 2020. The seventh phase of unlock was completed on 31 December. In this process of unlocking, efforts were made gradually to bring human life back on track by easing the process of detention. Unlock was also necessary to manage the country's shattering economy, to prevent the decline in trade, to restart the shut down industries, to revive the livelihood of the people and to improve the poor life of common people.

After the lock-down caused by Corona, a lot of things were opened up and normal life is slowly coming back on track but during this time India's deteriorated education system has not returned to track. All educational institutions were declared closed since mid-March 2020. All kinds of examinations, whether for admission or term end examination, evaluation work, admission process, conduct of classroom teaching, etc. were all stopped. The closure of educational institutions became long term. The examinations were conducted with some conditions in unlock phase, admission process is completed too, the teaching work was also resumed through the online/virtual classes but the schools did not open.

The Indian education system saw many colors in this dark period of Corona. Many changes also took place. In the Indian educational world, many such dark stories were seen and heard during this period which was difficult to believe. Many such bright sides are also seen, whose positive effects will continue to guide the education system in upcoming days. In such a disaster, Indian education accepted and handled many changes and handled itself too. Bringing the completely collapsed teaching-learning process

back on track, the Indian teachers again put glee over the withering students' faces.

In this difficult period of Corona, the government serving teachers did not face any special problems but it was the worst period for teachers working in private schools and self-financed colleges. Nevertheless, in this dark period these teachers continued in their work without deviating from their duty path and became witness to this phase of change in teaching-learning due to Corona.

These teachers streamlined the teaching-learning process through online/virtual mediums. With the urge to learn something new, Indian teachers are also passing this difficult time. Thus, due to the Corona epidemic, many changes took place in the Indian academic world and the teaching-learning process assimilated these changes and kept pace.

Keeping in mind the changes in the teaching-learning process, impact on Indian education system and teachers, promotion of online/virtual teaching due to Corona epidemic we are compiling an edited book entitled as ***'COVID-19 and Indian Education System : Challenges and opportunities'***. In this book, various faculty members, teachers and researchers of various disciplines shared their experiences during the Corona period through their research papers/article. This book contains total 31 articles received from different parts of the country. Thus, this book will be a repository of total 31 articles.

Thanks and gratitude to the dear authors for supporting by their research papers/articles. Thanks and gratitude to Adhyaya Publishers & Distributors, Delhi for converting these ideas expressed by different contributors about given topic in the form of book.

With heartfelt gratitude to all the associates and kindred people who have directly and indirectly helped to form the proposed idea in a book form. Special thanks and gratitude to my wife Dr. Renu Singh and my lovely sons Master Adwait Singh & Atharv Singh.

Through this book, an effort has been made to study the immediate and far-reaching effects of COVID-19 on Indian

Education System and teaching learning process. This book will introduce the effects of the dark period of the Corona epidemic to future generations.

In future, this book will be helpful in guiding the researchers working on this disaster also. This book will be interesting and knowledgeable for the scholars of contemporary events as well. With this confidence----

Dr. Dhiraj Singh
Head, Department of Education,
Modern College of Professional Studies,
Mohan Nagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh

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Prof. Pradeep Kumar Misra
(Ph.D., Commonwealth Academic Fellow)
Former Dean & Head
Department of Education
CCS University, Meerut (INDIA)

Preface

Covid-19 has affected human lives in many ways. It has slowed down the economy, disrupted businesses, limited movements, and closed down the educational institutions. But unlike itsnegative impact on the economy and businesses,its impact on the educational sector is disputed. Covid-19 brought both losses and gains for the education sector. The pandemic is responsible for keeping students away for several months from educational institutions. This situationhas adverselyaffected the academic achievement and mental health of millions of students. But this situationalso motivated the educational institutions to adopt online teaching and learning as an alternative route of education. And the success of online teaching-learning is hailed as a positive impact of the pandemic on the education sector.

At this moment, when researchers across the globe are interpreting the impact of Covid-19 on the education sector, this book is a welcome arrival. This edited book presents different voices and views regarding the impact of Covid-19 on the education sector in India. Edited by Dr. Dhiraj Singh, the book includes several research articles on the theme 'impact of Covid-19 on the Indian Education system'. The articles, included in this book, are written by faculty members, researchers, and educationists from different parts of India. The research articles clubbed under six sections of this book, namely (i) Impact of Covid-19 on education, (ii) Challenges faced by teachers, (iii) Historical perspective of the pandemic, (iv) Online teaching and Covid-19, (v) Case study and survey, and (vi)

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Miscellaneous, assesses the impact of Covid-19 on the education sector from multipleperspectives. In a nutshell, this book thoroughly discusses the problems faced by the education system in India during the Corona pandemicand the presentedopportunities.

I appreciate Dr. Dhiraj Singh for editing this valuable book.I also congratulate all the teachers, academicians, and researchers whose research articles have been selected and included in this book. In my view, this book will be a handy resource to understand and assess the impact of the covid-19 pandemic on the Indian education system. The book will also help formulate policies leading to the use of newfound online teaching-learning competencies of teachers and students during the pandemic to better the Indian education system. This book is for all those willing to decode the impact of the covid-19 pandemic on the education sector.

Prof. Pradeep Kumar Misra

January 13, 2021

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List of Contributors

1. **Dr. Dhiraj Singh,** Head, Department of Education, Modern College of Professional Studies, Mohan Nagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.
2. **Dr. R. Krishna Vardhan Reddy,** Associate Professor, Badruka College, PG Centre, Kachiguda, Hyderabad.
3. **Dr. Gyanabati Khuraijam,** Assistant Professor, Department of Management, Humanities & Social Sciences, NIT Agartala.
4. **Dr. Yumnam Oken Singh,** Assistant Professor, Department of Basic Science and Humanities, College of Horticulture and Forestry, Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh.
5. **Enamul Haque Mollick,** Assistant Professor, Bangabasi Evening College, Kolkata.
6. **Manorama B. Motegaonkar,** Assistant Professor, Chemistry Department, Azad Mahavidyalaya Ausa, Latur (Maharashtra).
7. **Vanaja. M,** Assistant Professor, Kerala University College of Teacher Education, Kumarapuram, Thiruvananthapuram.
8. **Ramya. M,** Research Scholar, Plant Biology and Plant Biotechnology, Presidency College, Chennai.
9. **Dr. Meena Bhandari,** Head, ICFAI Education School, ICFAI University, Dehradun.

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10. **Dr. Dattatraya Tambe,** Associate Professor, HOD, Commerce, CSM's Arts & Commerce College, Chakan. Tal-Khed, Dist. Pune, Maharashtra (India).
11. **Dr. Vidyapati,** Head and Dean, Faculty of Education, Ewing Christian PG College (An Autonomous Constituent College of Central University of Allahabad) Prayagraj, U.P.
12. **Dr. Bendangyapangla,** Assistant Professor, State College of Teacher Education, Kohima, Nagaland.
13. **Preeti Sharma,** Assistant professor, Kamal Institute of higher Education and Advance Technology.
14. **Dr. Manoj Patidar,** Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, Govt. College Manawar, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh, India.
15. **Dr. Hutoxi Aibara,** Principal, SES's Malti Jayant Dalal High School, Mumbai.
16. **Dr. Manesh Ramdas Khandagale,** Assistant Professor (Contractual Basis), College of Social Work, Aurangabad, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad, Maharashtra.
17. **Mrs. Rajimol K P,** Assistant Professor, Atria Centre for Management & Entrepreneurship, Atria Institute of Technology, Bangalore.
18. **Dr. Rajesh B,** Professor & Head, Department of MBA, Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Technology, Bangalore.
19. **Parul Agarwal,** M.Ed. Scholar, School of Education, Galgotias University, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh.
20. **Dr. Shri Kant Dwivedi,** Associate Professor, School of Education, Galgotias University, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh.
21. **Prof. Steven A. Lobo,** Assistant Professor, Political Science, R. J. College, Mumbai.
22. **Satya Ranjan Das,** Assistant Professor, Department of Education, Vivodhananda Saraswati Teachers' Training College, Kolkata.

SAMPLE

23. **Joygopal Singha,** Assistant Professor of History, Gazole Mahavidyalaya, Gazole, Malda.
24. **Dr. Priti Srivastava,** Principal, Kamal Institute Of Higher Education And Advance Technology.
25. **Ms. Gunika Gupta,** B.Ed. Scholor.
26. **Soumya Priyadarsani Panigrahi,** M.Ed. Scholar, School of Education, Galgotias University, Greater Noida.
27. **Ms. Navita Malik,** Assistant Professor, School of Education, Galgotias University, Greater Noida.
28. **Dr. C. Umamaheswari,** Assistant Professor in Economics, Arumugam Pillai Seethai Ammal College, Thirupathur, Sivagangai District, Tamilnadu.
29. **R. Karthiga Rani,** Assistant Professor in Commerce with Computer Application, Latha Mathavan Arts and Science College, Kidaripatti, Alagarkovil, Madurai.
30. **Dr. Monika Mittal,** Asstt. Professor, PG Deptt. of Commerce and Management, GGDSD College, Chandigarh.
31. **Dr. H. Umamahesvari,** Professor, Department of Science and Humanities, Sreenivasa Institute of Technology and Management Studies (Autonomous), Chittoor, Andrapradesh, India.
32. **Dr. Kishore Mukhopadhyay,** Associate Professor in Physical Education, Union Christian Training College, Berhampore, Murshidabad, West Bengal, India.
33. **Shilpi Lal,** M.Ed. Scholar, School of Education, Galgotias University, Greater Noida.
34. **Dr. Satyendra Gupta,** Professor and Dean, School of Education, Galgotias University, Greater Noida, G.B. Nagar, U.P.
35. **Dr. Kiran Joshi,** Assistant Professor, Department of Education, Modern College of Professional Studies, Mohan Nagar, Ghaziabad.

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36. **Dr. Mirza Mahefooz Baig,** Associate Professor, Marathwada College of Education, Aurangabad. (M.S.)

37. **M. SWAPNA,** Assistant Professor, Computer Science and Engineering, Matrusri Engineering College, Hyderabad.

38. **Dr. Manisha Singh,** Assistant professor, Modern College of Professional Studies, Mohan Nagar, Ghaziabad.

39. **Muthukumaran Jothilingam,** Sports Physiotherapist, ACSM Certified Health and Fitness Specialist Holistic Life Style Coach Level - 1.

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