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**Catalysts in contemporary history**: COVID 19 & education, 2020-2022

**Dr. G. Naga Sridhar**
Assistant Professor – History Kempu Ratnam Elish Educational Society, Chagallu/Hyderabad

**Abstract**---As a result of the outbreak of pandemic Covid-19, the globe has seen a significant effect, with more than 2.3 million documented fatalities and nearly 3 million confirmed cases. As a result of Covid-19, the globe has been brought to a stop by global lockdown, resulting in personal, social and economic hardships for many individuals throughout the world. As a result, specialists in the scientific and medical community and government officials from across the globe have been working together since the outbreak to ensure that the public is protected and the disease is prevented from spreading. Forcing forced vacations on students at all levels of education—from elementary schools and community colleges to universities—could have the unintended consequence of paralyzing India’s educational system and its 285 million young learners. In addition to worries about students’ safety when educational institutions reopen, there are a number of other issues that need to be comprehended and clarified, with a particular focus on the most important aspects, such as the administration of examinations, the postponement of the start of the new academic year, entrance examinations, preventative measures at institutions, and so on. After the pandemic was brought under control by measures such as preserving personal hygiene and maintaining physical distance, focus shifted to these other factors. The impact of the pandemic Covid-19 on the educational system in India has been the primary emphasis of this chapter. The purpose of this is to illustrate not only the current catastrophic issue, but also the difficulties of the future and our preparedness to deal with them.

**Keywords**---COVID, challenges, education, history, contemporary history India, pandemic.
Introduction

On the 31st of December 2019, an illness similar to pneumonia was discovered for the first time in the city of Wuhan in China. On the 30th of January 2020, the Public Health Emergency of International Concern stated that this ailment was an outbreak. On the 11th of February in the year 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) designated the outbreak of the new Corona Virus illness as Covid-19. As a result of the emergency pandemic scenario, a number of different attempts are being made to suppress the spread of the virus throughout the country. Impact of Lockdown on Education, Economy, and Environment in India

Lockdown has been implemented all over the world, which has resulted in the closure of educational institutions, marketplaces, public transportation, entertainment zones, and other areas.

As the virus spread across the world's 212 countries, the declining numbers of those who had been infected were clearly visible. 73.5 percent of the world's students will be affected by the closures, which are now in effect in 177 nations on a national level and 13 on a municipal level. The closure of educational institutions has far-reaching economic and societal effects, not just for students, professors, and their families. An educational crisis was already underway before the worldwide coronavirus pandemic spread, as demonstrated by the large number of people who were classified as "Learning Poverty." Since the coronavirus has infected more than 160 countries (as of March 24, 2020), the school system has been thrust into turmoil. The most crucial component in avoiding the spread of the virus locally is to empower residents with the correct knowledge and to follow the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare's guidelines.

Precautionary measures taken by the Central and State governments in India due to the rapid spread of the coronavirus have resulted in the closure of educational establishments. Because the pandemic was a public health emergency, it became necessary to close educational institutions. Many tests have been postponed or cancelled as a result of the closure of educational institutions throughout the world. The closure of educational institutions also affects teaching for students around the world. Not only does this effect internal evaluations, but it also impacts all tests that are required for the most important public certifications. Unblind subjective evaluations may have long-term ramifications for equal opportunity since they are used as a crucial qualification to attend higher education.(1)

On a scale that has never been attempted before, education is being moved online. There is a lot of trial and error and uncertainty for everyone when it comes to student evaluations shifting online. To be sure, we need to take stock of where we are and how the virus is affecting our educational system now that we are still fighting it. Secondly, let's have a conversation about Economic, cultural, health, and societal crises have been triggered over the world as a result of the Covid-19. Aside from this, the lives of people will be fundamentally altered for years to come, and we are still discovering a great deal about the tremendous Impact of Lockdown on Education, Economy & Environmental in India in the wake of the epidemic.
Let us also remember that it is everyone’s obligation to keep their distance and their personal hygiene in order to win the struggle against Covid-19. It’s an issue that affects everyone. Nearly a dozen US organizations wrote to the federal government, saying, “In order to slow the spread of the virus among students and staff, campuses have been forced to close or move entirely to remote instruction. However, these changes have caused major disruptions to students as well as operations and financial resources at the institution. According to the organization, the "significant" financial repercussions on schools and universities would have a rippling effect on the communities they serve.”

If backup plans aren’t put in place in India, students hoping to get into colleges in 2020 may have a difficult time doing so. At a time when educational professionals advocate for online teaching methods, we have yet to see how well a country that has traditionally relied on classroom instruction can make the transition to online instruction. Does the pandemic of Coronavirus provide a new approach to education? How effective would the digital education approach be in a nation like ours, given the digital divide that is? Is it possible for India to embrace learning at any time and from any place? Is it possible that it will lead to new ideas in education? Will the lack of a more adaptable infrastructure cause it to fail? A decade ago, audiovisual devices in classrooms became more common, yet the traditional and old Indian education system still uses face-to-face or physical instruction.

There are several ways to look at the pandemic's influence on higher education. The use of online instruction is becoming increasingly common in colleges all around the world. The following is a list of things. Issues relating to the present influence of COVID-19 on education, with an emphasis on the issues that lie ahead The abrupt end of the school year and its impact on exams A team of experts from the World Bank's education department is working to help nations deal with the current epidemic and advise them on how to implement large-scale remote learning programs in the near future. Systemic education is also supported by the Bank. Lockdown in India has a negative impact on the economy, education, and the environment. When educational facilities are closed because to COVID19 outbreaks, countries throughout the world are turning to remote learning methods, such as online courses. Even in high-income nations, however, digital gaps have been highlighted through online learning. With Internet penetration rates of less than 50 percent and a huge percentage of students without gadgets to facilitate online learning at home, the situation is considerably worse in lower resource contexts in middle- and low-income nations. In order to enhance the number of people who can participate in remote learning, countries are increasingly resorting to television. Interactive television courses have lately been introduced in low- and middle-income nations since the 1950s. During COVID-19, the World Bank's EdTech team compiled examples of educational television programming utilized by countries and prepared a fast response advice note on how to use educational television programming.

It will be difficult for institutions to complete their syllabus on time without sacrificing educational quality in light of the postponement of board
examinations, university exams, college exams, and the entrance exam. Student education will be negatively impacted by delays in board examinations, college closures, and national level admission tests. This is a huge undertaking in terms of logistics and human resources, as well as logistical and infrastructural planning required to ensure that students and faculty have access to clean drinking water, sanitizer, and clean restrooms during the various semester-ending exams and exams, including competitive exams. UGC in New Delhi has sent a positive message by reducing test time for UG and PG courses from 3 hours to 2 hours.

There may be some delays in the upcoming school year, but they are for the better. The broken hopes and ambitions of the kids can only be rebuilt with the help of each and every one of us. HRD minister Shri Ramesh PokhriyalNishank decided to organize a commission that would sketch out the academic calendar of universities and look into aspects linked to online learning and online tests in order to deal with the consequences of the Covid-19 lockout on higher education institutions. He also met with the heads of several universities' departments to encourage them to use the educational platforms SWAYAM and SWAYAM PRABHA in mission mode as well as other online digital mediums. RC Kuhad, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Haryana, has formed a committee to address the challenges of exams and academic calendar.

There has been a nationwide test postponement order issued by the University Grants Commission (UGC). Also highlighted is how a lockdown affects education, economics, and the environment in India. An ideal electronic publication for international readers There were measures to be taken to ensure the health of students living in hostels, university faculty and staff, adherence to social distancing and isolation instructions, and the testing of suspected cases of Covid-19 in educational institutions, according to the www.isca.co.in meeting that took place. Students' mental health troubles, income issues for all employees (permanent, temporary, and daily wage workers), and research on Covid-19 were also highlighted. An isolation chamber with 40 beds has been built at both BHU and AMU, according to a joint announcement. The academic year will not be disrupted because most universities will continue to offer online courses. 3 Digital/On-line Coursework In a country like China, where the educational system is more tightly controlled, a shift to digital learning will be less of a challenge. As there are many low-income kids in the United States who do not have access to broadband and laptop computers, digital learning may not be the best answer for these pupils.

In India, not every student has high-speed internet connection, and as a result, they will suffer. As soon as online lessons begin, many students will find themselves unable to afford them. There is a risk that India’s education divide could worsen unless the internet is made widely available to everybody. Rain Classroom, one of the most advanced online teaching platforms with more than 19 million members, was founded in China in 2016. Each of the three sessions lasts for 30 minutes and throughout the live interactions, students are encouraged to submit questions in real time. The program is efficient and can quickly gather and categorize responses.
The program is efficient and can quickly gather and categorize responses. In order to further promote online education at IGNOU, a committee headed by Vice Chancellor Prof. Nageshwar Rao has been formed. Every school in the country was closed, which had an impact on the academic year at all levels, because of the unexpected lockdown and quarantine of the persons. Faculty has used digital / online theoretical lessons using Apps available to students to fulfill the curriculum. Various online courses, such as Physical Education and Creative Arts, can be taken from anywhere in the globe. Students are monitored and courses are held using online resources by teachers. While it may be challenging for scientific students to grasp the topics in digital media, the App must be installed over the internet or Wi-Fi. Due to a lockdown in India’s education, economy, and environment, only a small percentage of pupils are able to attend these digital lessons.

It is possible that there are a number of reasons for this limited access, such as the lack of internet service, smart phone/laptop/personal computer, inadequate connectivity in rural places, the closure of online shopping / shopping centers, etc. As a result, this group may face some financial or psychological hardships. Currently, the cancellation of tests and the abolition of the notion of detention have advanced students to the next level. Because the educational system cannot be corrupted in any way, it is doubtful that any other level of school will follow the same formula. Many internal examinations have been canceled because they were deemed unimportant. However, their goal is to provide information about the child’s growth to parents and instructors.

The absence of this information causes a delay in recognizing both high potential and learning challenges, which can have long-term negative effects for the child. (2) Students in their last years, in particular, endure worry about their future because their next steps in further school or professions are contingent on them passing their examinations. Since of the Covid-19 epidemic, these kids are in a more difficult situation because not only is their education process disrupted, but they also have a significant obstacle in proving themselves for their future adventure. In the absence of clear academic indications like as grades and marks, many of these students find themselves unable to differentiate themselves and lacking a unified framework to prepare themselves for the employment and educational duties that await them.

The idea and project library is an excellent place to seek for those initiatives. As a society, we are less prepared for the challenges of the future when we disturb our education system. Preparation for reopening in Ebola outbreaks have shown that nations with low educational achievements, high dropout rates, and limited resilience to shocks are most vulnerable to the effects of a health emergency. Prolonged school closures have a disproportionately harmful impact on the most vulnerable pupils, despite the fact that they appear to be a rational approach to promoting social separation in a community. Due to this, parents may experience difficulties in securing long-term daycare or even enough nourishment for their children if the educational institutions do not provide them with school meals. Lockdown in India has a negative impact on the economy, education, and the environment.
Another issue is that the academic year begins later than it should. It’s still too early to tell whether or not the academic year will begin in August or September based on what UGC has said. We don’t know when pupils will be allowed to travel back home by bus, rail, or plane. However, if the situation improves, it may be possible. Currently, the situation is dynamic. All educational institutions are urged to show perseverance and restraint before to and throughout the reopening of their doors. It’s imperative that these institutions take all the required preventative precautions to avoid the spread of Covid-19, and they must do so without any compromise.

The government’s recommendations for the reopening of educational institutions. Education institutions need to get periodic guidance from the government on best practices for managing educational institutions such as colleges and universities. This guidance should include specific instructions for each member of the institution as each new academic year approaches. These institutions must also be checked periodically by conducting health campaigns, maintaining physical distances, conducting awareness initiatives, and providing medical services, among other measures. Placements at the college or university level Coronavirus (Covid-19) has infected a large number of students who are seeking placements. Between December and April of each year, most business schools perform on-campus recruitment.

The coronavirus has affected every facet of people’s lives. (3). The current economic crisis can be seen on a worldwide scale, and it is having an effect on the monetary aspects of educational institutions, to say nothing of the financial aspects of family budgets. That coronavirus has also led to the closure of several educational institutions and industries, resulting in a pause in the placement process for various institutions. It’s been widely reported that IT and consulting companies have seen a 5% to 10% increase in compensation packages over the past year, despite concerns that the sector has been slowing down since October. Many students will be unable to complete their degrees on time, and businesses that have already promised those positions may not be able to wait for them to finish them. This is the issue that students with on-campus placements have to deal with. No, they were unable to learn one tenth of the course material. There may be some omissions that must be filled.

However, considering the impact of the lockdown on education, the economy, and the environment in India by recruiters to students, there is now a sense of uneasiness among certain groups. We must also take into account the length of the Covid-19 danger to India and the consequences of the virus on the world economy in terms of commercial and economic activity. The worldwide economic slump is hitting educational institutions and families alike, especially in terms of their financial resources. In the days ahead, it’s possible that institutions may be forced to make difficult decisions to deal with the problem of economic consequences in order to continue their basic goal. Every organization should place a high value on employee and student health, but decisions must also be made to ensure academic excellence is not compromised, better learning and teaching resources are provided, new methods for improvising resources are developed, emphasis is placed on discretionary spending, essential services are delivered using cost-effective methods, and more creativity is employed.
There has been tremendous disruption to the country's higher education system, which is essential to its future economic well-being, as well as foreign higher education, due to the newly discovered epidemic. The jobless rate in India, according to the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, has risen from 8.4% in mid-March to 23% in early April, with the urban unemployment rate reaching 30.9 percent. We must take immediate action to reduce the potentially disastrous impacts of a pandemic on employment, research, and internships. It is critical that we all work together to ensure that the best academic resources are passed on to future generations, and that we do it in a methodical and well-planned manner in order to meet these new economic realities.

It is estimated that there are about 15 lakh primary schools and 50,000 colleges and universities in India's vast educational system. Individuals of all ages, but particularly students, are being hit hard by the coronavirus pandemic's fast spread, which has resulted in higher than normal levels of stress and anxiety, as well as higher than usual levels of loneliness and sadness, as well as dangerous alcohol and drug usage. A staggering 90 percent of the world's enrolled students (15.5 billion young people) are today uninformed. The Director-General of UNESCO, Audrey Azoulay, issued a stern warning about the "global scope and pace of the present Impact of Lockdown on Education, Economy, and Environment in India." It has been reported that students have experienced an increase in loss of appetite and sleeplessness during this lockdown period due to the uncertainties of delayed exams, academic burden felt by final year students as they are going to lose job market, financial burden by weaker sections, and task of staying healthy by continuing to have healthy eating habits. While the UGC has directed all universities and colleges to set up mental health helplines to address the psychosocial concerns of students, it has also been reported that students have experienced an increase in loss of appetite and sleeplessness during this period.

To prepare for something like this that has never happened before, the education sector has to undertake a few critical measures. They represent Employ a combination of live broadcasts, information that is pre-recorded and available on demand, and educational programs. For nations that have little to no previous experience with education television, the quickest method to get started is to broadcast live classes that take place in simulated classroom settings. Countries that already have educational television shows might benefit from broadcasting existing pre-recorded material (which may be made accessible as on-demand programming) created by private and non-profit organizations (such as Khan Academy).

When working with pre-existing information, one must take into consideration the sourcing, curation, and acquisition of intellectual property rights from local or foreign sources. Determine which channels will be used to broadcast the programming. Some nations already have established national education television networks that have a significant viewership. Those who do not have this option might consider forming partnerships with the various state television networks. The formation of partnerships with private broadcasters can further expand the scope of this programming across communities and make it possible for kids of varying grade levels to watch the same program at the same time. A
further method to extend the reach of content that has been livestreamed or made available as on-demand entertainment is to have it rebroadcast.

Create timetables for various instructional programs that air on television. The availability of such programming must be made clear in the broadcast schedules at all times and in all locations. Impact of Lockdown on Education, Economy, and Environment in India Some nations are providing student-friendly daily and weekly Impact of Lockdown on Education, Economy, and Environment in India. Create a communication plan and make it a habit to communicate frequently. In order to raise awareness, schedules should be communicated in a consistent and widespread manner using any and all media outlets available, such as television, radio, mobile phones (via text messages or WhatsApp), social media platforms (such as Facebook), and the websites of education ministries and education television networks. Having all of the materials that are linked to programming organized in one location makes it simpler to access them, which in turn enhances adoption. You can accomplish this goal by going to the website of the education ministry, the website of the national television network, etc.

It is important to offer assistance to children, parents, and teachers. Students, parents/caregivers, and educators will require technical assistance (for example, toll-free helplines or low cost Chabot’s can be engaged), pedagogical support, and socio-emotional support for the entirety of this programme. It is possible to utilize educators to supply By providing responses to viewers’ queries while they are watching educational programming, television may become more participatory. It is possible to gather questions via phone calls, text messages, email, or social media, and then respond to them during live recording sessions of lessons. Maintain a variety of communication channels, and seek out and incorporate user input wherever possible in order to enhance the programming. There is one significant benefit of using video. Students have the opportunity to examine the material more than once, which may lead to an increase in its overall efficacy.

It’s time to put all of the educational television shows in one place and make them available to schools and children outside of traditional educational settings by archiving them on the internet (such as the education television website or YouTube). Additional activities like text messaging and printed information should be considered. Consider the concepts of equality and inclusion. As part of its suggestions, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) said that You have to make a choice between using high-tech and low-tech solutions such as integrated digital learning platforms, video tutorials, massive open online courses (MOOCs), and broadcasting via radio and television.

As part of COVID-19, the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) is launching the Diksha site, which includes e-Learning resources for students, instructors, and parents. These resources include videos, worksheets, textbooks, and assessments. National Repository of Open Educational Resources (NROER) portal provides a wealth of resources for students and teachers in numerous languages, including books, interactive modules, and videos, as well as a slew of STEM-based games, under the supervision of its national boards of education (CBSE and NCERT). As a nationwide online education platform, Swayam
introduces a total of 1900 courses in a wide range of academic disciplines, including engineering, humanities and social sciences, law and management courses.(4)

Take steps to guarantee that students, particularly those who suffer from impairments or originate from families with poor incomes, are able to participate in distant learning programs by implementing these steps. Ensure that the uploading of data or educational resources to web spaces, as well as the sharing of these things via applications and platforms, does not infringe upon the data privacy of students by conducting a data security assessment first. The Effects of the Lockdown on India's Education System, Economy, and Environment Utilize the many resources at your disposal to facilitate communication between educational institutions, parents, and students as well as teachers. Build communities to guarantee that students have frequent connections with other people, to enable social care measures, and to address any potential psychological difficulties that students may have as a result of their isolation.

To determine whether or not the objective of the distance learning program should be to teach students new information or to improve their understanding of previously taught material, it is important to organize discussions with various stakeholders to investigate the potential length of time that educational institutes will be closed. Help teachers and parents better utilize digital technologies by providing them with assistance. If there is a need for monitoring and facilitation, it is also necessary to organize brief training or orientation workshops for the instructors and the parents. Combine the relevant methods, and reduce the number of apps and platforms as much as possible. Combining synchronous contact and courses with asynchronous learning can be accomplished using techniques or media that are accessible to the majority of students.

Universities should take a variety of steps to slow the spread of COVID-19 as it develops and changes. Emails and university intranets should be used to communicate often with students and faculty. A school's main concern should be the health and safety of its pupils and employees. Students' mental health and well-being should be supported by adequate counseling services. International students' needs for food and lodging should be handled by the appropriate authorities. In order to provide students with a rich and successful educational experience, faculty members must embrace technology and pay close attention to student experiences.(5) Create guidelines for distant learning and monitor students' progress. Define the guidelines for distant learning with parents and students. Formative questions, quizzes, or exercises can be used to keep an eye on students' progress in their studies. Students' ability to self-regulate should be used to help determine the length of distance learning units. Students' self-regulation and metacognitive capacities should be taken into consideration while determining the appropriate amount of time for livestreaming classes. Bring people together and foster a sense of belonging. The Government and Teaching organisations should take serious note of the plights of PGs and devise satisfactory mechanisms to overcome their problems and provide reasonable solutions also.(6)
Students who are experiencing difficulties in school can benefit from the creation of support groups comprised of educators and parents, as well as administrators at educational institutions, to alleviate feelings of isolation and powerlessness. Young people who struggle with mental health concerns might benefit greatly from the structure and regularity of their school days.(7). Finally, the pandemic Covid-19 issue has taught the world many lessons that will be remembered for many years to come. There was a wide range of new avenues for investigation and extension in the teaching and learning process as technology and technology-based teaching and assessment entered the educational arena. Our educational system does not have the necessary technologies in place to meet the needs of today's students. Rural and urban regions need to be renovated to accept this unique adjustment in the educational system, which necessitates greater funding from the government. Lockdown in India has a negative impact on the economy, education, and the environment.

In light of the fact that offline educational centers have traditionally been the primary emphasis, we think that a combination of online and offline learning will be what works best in the next months, and we hope that this combination may be turned into a permanent module. Higher education in India will be affected by COVID-19, but the experience has taught us how to become more resilient in the face of challenges like this in the future. Students need to take advantage of the current climate of unpredictability and use this period to study for upcoming examinations or enroll in online classes that will be beneficial to them in the long run. We are all going through what could be the most difficult conditions of our whole lives right now. The recent epidemic of the Coronavirus has brought to our attention the inevitability of change.

References