An empirical study on effectiveness of online teaching on Under Graduate students of Mumbai University during COVID 19 Pandemic.

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Abstract

Ensuing Covid 19 pandemic in world has brought about a paradigm shift in every aspect of human life. All the characteristic of human life got transformed drastically over night. Home stays, quarantine, curfews etc all become house hold terms in fraction of hours. As all industries were equally affected so also Education industry. Online education, virtual learning, online exams within closed doors of home became the buzz words. As every coin has two sides, this online education also has its pros and cons. This paper attempts to bring some aspects of online education to light.

The study reveals that there is offline and online teaching should simultaneously go on so that students will have better chance educating themselves.

Key words: online education, lock-down, online exams

Introduction

March 2020 brought about usual guest on the doors of Republic of India. It was none other than a minuscule virus which emerged from China and brought entire world to a grinding halt including India. The COVID-19 pandemic in India is part of the worldwide pandemic of corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome corona virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The first case of COVID-19 in India, which originated from China, was reported on 30 January 2020. (Wikipedia.org, 2020)

On 16 March, the union government declared a countrywide lock-down of schools and colleges. On 18 March, CBSE released revised guidelines for examination centers. This includes maintaining a distance of at least 1 metre between students taking the exam with a class not having more than 24 students. If the rooms of the examination centers are small, divide the students and make them sit in different rooms. On 19 March, CBSE and JEE main examinations were postponed till 31 March, 2020. (Educationasia.in, 2020)

On 20 March, Maharashtra government cancelled examinations for class 1 to 8 and promoted the students to the next classes, whereas examinations for class 9 and 11 were postponed till 15 April. Madhya Pradesh Board of Secondary Education postponed board exams for class 10 and 12 and asked school principals to promote or detain students of class 5 to 8 based on their performance in previous terms. Board exams of class 10 and 12 were postponed in Kerala. Assam government cancelled all exams till 31 March. The Union Public Service Commission also postponed the interview for the Civil Services Examination 2019 to be held from 23 March to 3 April. The SSC exams in Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry were postponed to 15 April,2020. (Wikipedia.org, 2020)

India's Covid-19 caseload climbed to 10,558,710 on Sunday (17th Jan, 2021) with 15,144 fresh infections while recoveries surged to 10,196,885, pushing the national recovery rate to 96.58 per cent, according to the Union Health Ministry data. The country continues to be second-most-affected globally, and ranks 13th among worst-wit nations by active cases, according to data from Worldmeter.

In this entire precautionary tale of Covid 19, silently but surely education industry metamorphosed itself into virtual online education industry. All sections right from Pre-primary up to post graduate course went into online mode. This research aims at following objectives:

Literature Review:

Muthuprasad T, et al (2021) stressed in that most of students have positive attitude towards online classes since it is flexibility and convenience to learners. The students also required some interactive sessions like quizzes and assignments at the end of each class to optimize the learning experience.

Faizul Nisha and V. Senthil (2015) stated the Massive Online Open Courses are online education with potential of future for today's distance education. Because of Massive Online Open Courses education has became easily available at anytime to anyone and anywhere and has improved students life by providing excellent education at flexible times.

Indrajit Bhattacharya and Kunal Sharma (2007) puts across a strong case for online education in building up human resources capacities and capabilities. The paper advises heavy investments at higher education level in ICT at institutional level to improve human resources for a developing nation like India.

Objectives of the study

1. To understand students experiences with online education.
2. To study number of hours spent on online education along with gadget used for the purpose of online education.
3. To get to know the effectiveness of online education.
4. To identify institutional support given to students for online education.
5. To know how stressful is lock down to students.

Hypothesis

The hypothesis for the study is as follows:-

H0 – There is no significant impact on student's educational patterns due to online education during lockdown phase in Maharashtra College, Mumbai – 400 008.

H1 – There is a significant impact on student's educational patterns due to online education during lockdown phase in Maharashtra College, Mumbai – 400 008.

Statement of the problem

Education industry has undergone drastic changes during recent Covid 19 pandemic. The study is undertaken to analyses the effectiveness of online teaching on Under graduates during Covid 19 pandemic

Data Collection

a. Primary Data: Primary data has collected through well-structured questionnaire from respondents. Most of questions asked were on online education and its effectiveness on Under Graduate students.

b. Secondary Data: Secondary data has collected from books, journals, magazines, newspapers and internet for this study.

Data Collection Tool: Google form has designed to collect online data from respondents through structured questionnaire.
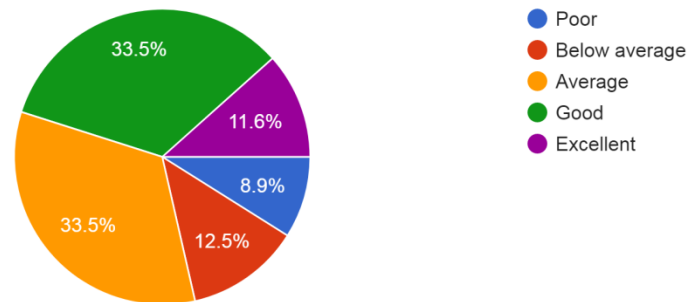
Sample: Total 224 sample of male and female students were responded to the questionnaire which enable to the researcher to draw conclusion.

Sampling Technique: Non probability Convenient Sampling method is used for this research.
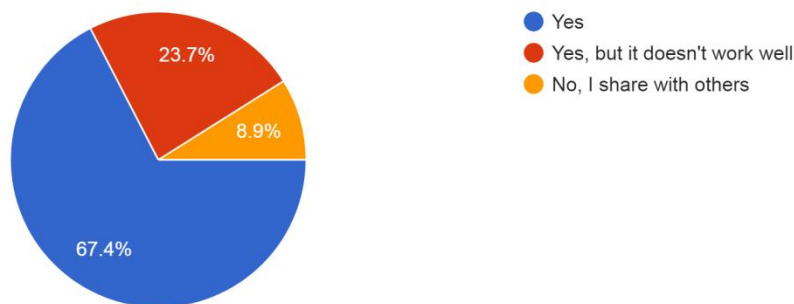
Data Analysis & interpretation

Out of 224 responses 11.6% responses are excellent and a total of 67% of responses were for Good and Average experience about online education.
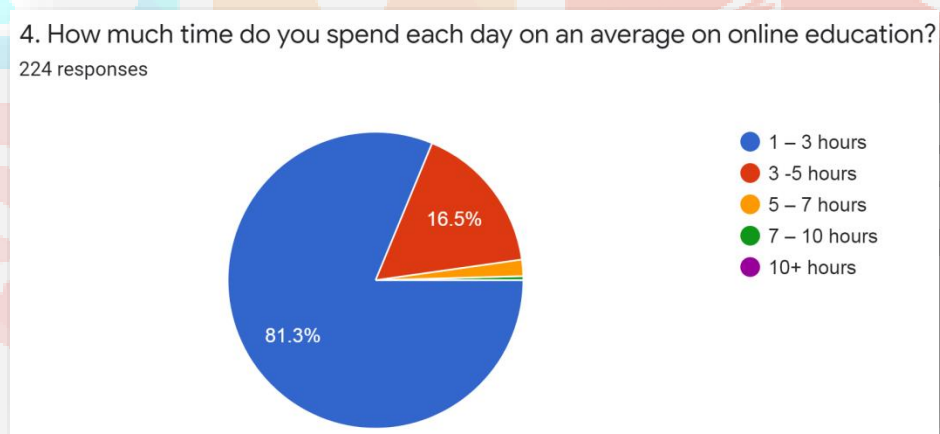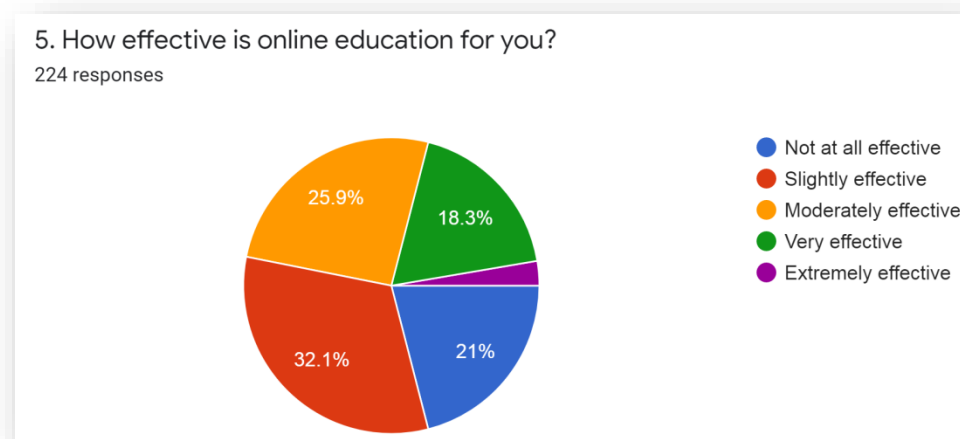

Out of 224 responses, 67.4% of respondents have their own gadget for online education, and 23.7% have its not working well and close to 9% of them do not own but share from other family members.
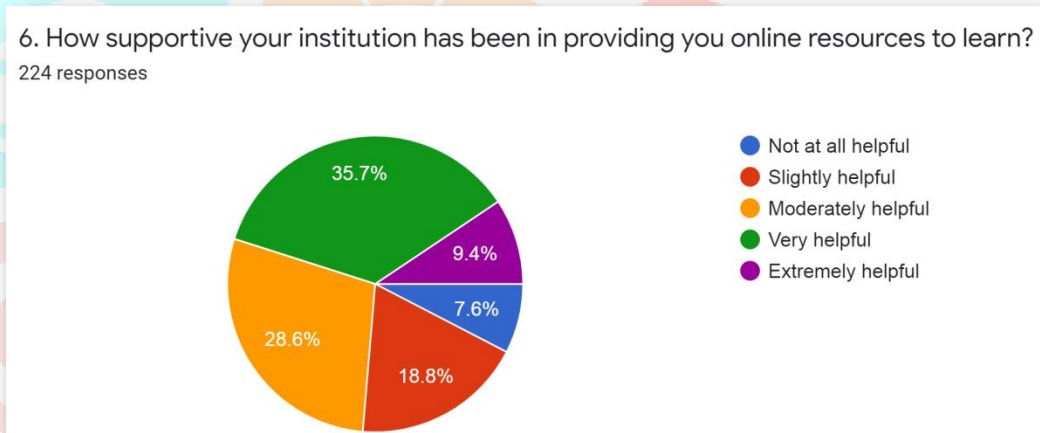
3. What gadget do you use for online education?
224 responses
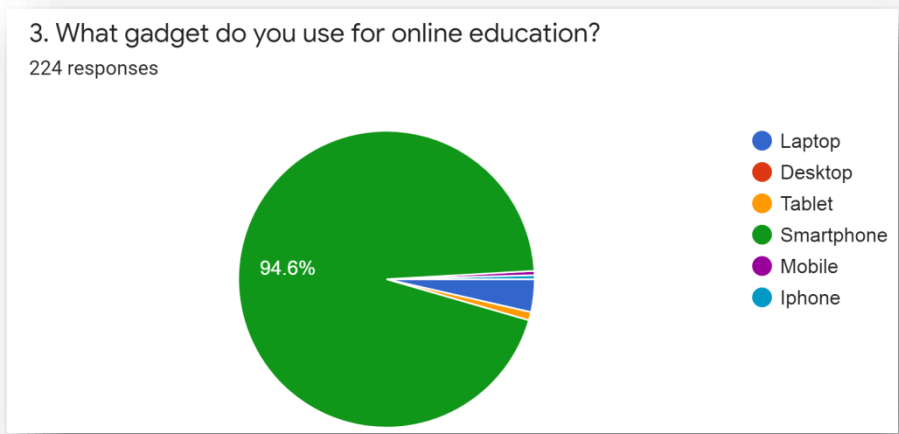
Almost 95% of respondent use smart phone for online education and rest use laptop or desktop or tablet etc.

4. How much time do you spend each day on an average on online education?
224 responses

81.3% respondents spend 1 – 3 hours on an average on online education.

5. How effective is online education for you?
224 responses

- ● Not at all effective
- ● Slightly effective
- ● Moderately effective
- ● Very effective
- ● Extremely effective

25.9% 18.3% 32.1% 21%

79.01% of respondents say that online education is effective to some extent while 20.09% say that online education is not at all effective.

6. How supportive your institution has been in providing you online resources to learn?
224 responses

- ● Not at all helpful
- ● Slightly helpful
- ● Moderately helpful
- ● Very helpful
- ● Extremely helpful

35.7% 9.4% 7.6% 28.6% 18.8%

92.41% of respondents say that institution has been very helpful in some or the other way while 7.6% say that institution has been not at all helpful in online education.

7. How well can you do time management while online education during Covid 19 Panademic?
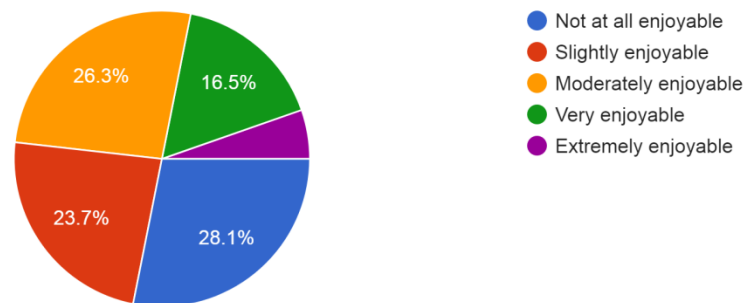224 responses
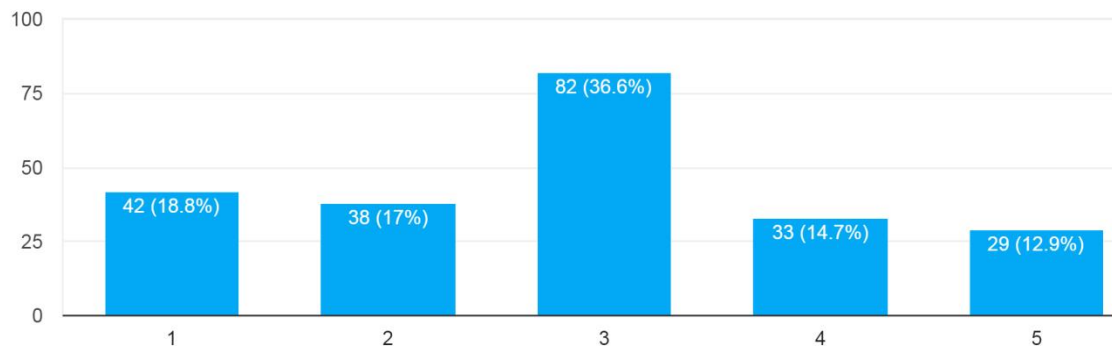
64.2% of respondent were able to manage time where as 35.8% of respondent were not able to manage time well.
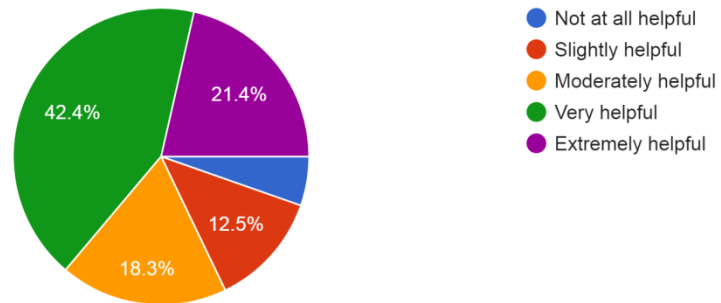
8. Do you enjoy online education?
224 responses

28.1% of respondents are not enjoying online education and 71.87% enjoying online education.

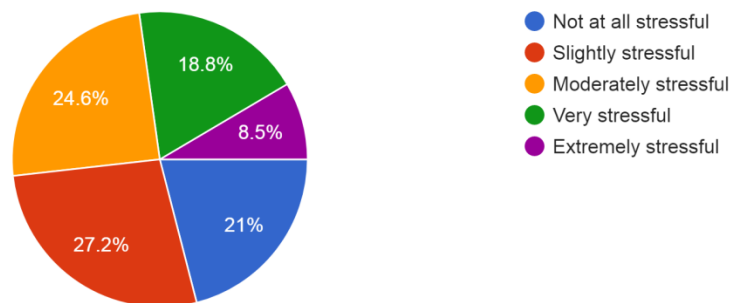9. How helpful are your teachers while studying online?
224 responses

A total of 94.64% of respondents agree that teachers are helpful in online education practices.

10. How stressful is online education during Covid 19 pandemic?
224 responses

20.98% of respondents state that online education is not at all stressful, whereas for rest of the respondent online education is stressful in different degrees.

Results & Discussions

1. Out of 224 responses 11.6% responses are excellent and a total of 67% of responses were for Good and Average experience about online education.

2. 67.4% of respondents have their own gadget for online education and almost 95% of respondent use smart phone for online education.

3. 81.3% respondents spend 1 – 3 hours on an average on online education with 79.01% of respondents say that online education is effective to some extent.

4. 92.41% of respondents says that institution has been very helpful in some or the other way with 64.2% of respondent were able to manage time during pandemic.

5. 71.87% enjoying online education and 94.64% of respondents agree that teachers are helpful in online education practices.

6. 20.98% of respondents state that online education is not at all stressful, whereas for rest of the respondent online education is stressful in different degrees.

Based on the above discussions the researcher has come to conclusion to **reject** Null Hypothesis (HO), so there is significant impact on student's educational patterns due to online education during lockdown phase in Maharashtra College, Mumbai, India.

Conclusion of the study

Every coin has two sides; online education is blessings for some and nightmare for some. As per data received, those of respondents who have their own gadget also enjoy online education. They spend on an average 3 hours online but on the other hand 20.09% say that online education is not at all effective. Looking at the overall data it appears that students enjoy learning at home but they miss real classroom teaching environment. Still the general perception is that this phase of online teaching is temporary and will soon end. Students are eagerly awaiting start of normal lecturing for better connecting with their mentors teachers and friends.

Recommendations

It is felt that online education is need of the hour. There are three vertices to it namely first the students, then teachers and educational institutions and the last one parents. As we all know that corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a temporary phenomenon and get over soon with vaccination and herd immunity concept. Offline and online teaching should simultaneously go on so that students will have better chance educating themselves. Educational institutions will be able to achieve their objectives of complete education and lastly the dreams of parents will be fulfilled that their wards are graduating with better grades and are more responsible citizens.

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