



Technology based Education System in New Normal World Effects the Study of the Pastoral Students

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The people are being accustomed gradually to the new normal world. Every way of life is dynamically changed. Our education system also adopts changes to continue children life process. It is clearly seen that we cannot continue our education system in traditional way unless we take help from technology. A large amount of people in India live in the villages. Education system highly depends on Government aided school. The new National Education Policy 2020 aims for universalization education from pre-primary level to higher secondary level with 100% gross enrolment ratio by 2030, with the use of technology. According to World Bank data, in 2019, primary level enrolment was 96.83%, upper primary level enrolment was 68.99%, and secondary level enrolment was 73%. The Indian school education system is one of the large education systems in the world. More than 1.5 million schools of which almost 2/3 are the Government aided school. The rural education enrolment rate directly impacts on the country's literacy rate.

The implementation of technology is a big problem because we have 15 lakh schools, 85 lakh teachers, 26 crore children in school education section. Apart from the large scale, diversity of language is big problem in India. Right now India has 1,652 languages. In 21st century, pastoral India still faces power, water and health facilities, road problem etc. These all are necessities for living. For them, education is an expensive thing. In the meantime COVID-19 pandemic effected India a lot. Economy scale went down, people have been stuck in home, many people have lost their jobs, schools have been shut down totally and those affected most the young generation who are the future of the India.

Financial challenges are the most important barrier. The first priority of the rural families is food. Specially, survival of life is very difficult for them and so, education is their second priority. This is one of the reasons for low enrolment in Secondary and Higher Secondary education. The midday meal scheme is one of the big weapons of Government to keep rural students in school education system. As per National Food Security Act, around 116 million students in India are covered under this scheme. Most of the students belong to village and remote area. But the pandemic wave creates continuous lockdown in schools. So, midday meal has been stopped and students cannot get there proper nutrition. The pandemic took away 6 million workers job in rural India. Rural people are mostly engaged in agriculture and their children are the first generation of education. The rural parents always focus on some works which help them in earning. Apart from financial crisis, the school infrastructure is very poor. There are not enough classrooms for the students, insufficient number of schools compared to urban India. There are only 1.39 lakh secondary and 1.1 lakh senior secondary schools in India. Most of them are located at the centre of the village. So, the students of the remote areas need to travel a long distance. ASER (Annual Status of Educational Report) 2019 report said that only 66.4% of schools have usable toilets for girls.

In this situation, the child education needs to be continued by digital mode. But it is really difficult for village area. Unstable electric source, financial problem are preventing from implementing the digital mode of education. In the survey, we can see that there is one smartphone per family in the villages. That is not enough for long duration online classes. Data packages price create adverse attitude between teachers and students. The traditional curriculum does not fit into blending teaching-learning format. Besides that, after the implementation of Right Education Act, the classrooms have become more diverse, multilingual and multiethnic. The teachers lack the skills to manage such classrooms. The professional development program is organised by Government. This is nothing but a useless old theory with zero planning to implement those ideas. The training is a complete mismatch between the problem faced by teacher inside the classroom and training program designed by the administrator. The failure of implementing something new, teachers have become demotivated and distracted to up to date their knowledge. The way of teaching is also primitive. In this condition, pandemic has created multiple hardships for teachers. Government forces them to conduct more online classes. Lack of tools and training, it is really impossible to continue teaching process. The teachers of rural schools receive low salary and they do not get the facilities compared to urban the teachers. Different Government schemes do not reach to remote areas of India because of lack of administration management, corruption, privilege of political persons are still there. For these barriers, the education system cannot construct a system that meets student needs inside and outside the school successfully through digital mode. The recent ASER (Annual Status of Educational Report) 2020 survey report highlights that 20% of rural children are without text books, 29% of children are not engaged to any educational activities, 66% students have not received any class instructions from their schools, only 11% attend live classes, 32% students have their smartphone but have not received any study materials from school teachers. This is the overall current scenario in rural India.

The only way to run education system smoothly in the remote areas of India and give the students their constitutional rights, their educational rights is through digital mode. For these, technological company should provide cheap data package to students and teachers. To encourage them, Government can offer tax benefits. Many corporate industries also should come forward to take responsibilities of young generation like Srinivasan Services Trust, the two-wheeler manufacturer company in Tamil Nadu, which took responsibilities of 11 districts to transform school infrastructure and to provide digital device equipments. Government of Ministry should arrange a separate department to provide digital learning kits, substitute source of energy like solar energy in each school. Apart from these, Government should provide a computer in each school in remote area. That will help to deliver training for teachers as well students learning also. NGOs and CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) should take more initiative in fostering digital education in rural India. Stakeholders also should come forward to provide the infrastructure to run the education system smoothly and help to promote a quality ecosystem in pastoral India.

