Role of ICT in education during COVID-19 pandemic.

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Abstract: Covid-19 was started from Wuhan city of China and it has affected many Countries from the world.It a pandemic health crisis which effects the conventional way of life of every citizen. because of COVID-19 pandemic, schools and colleges were closed. So as to scale back the effect of COVID-19 pandemic various measures such as lockdown, workplace non-attendance, school closure, suspension of transport facilities etc. were taken place. During this situation the sole way was to teach the students online. Therefore due to COVID-19 pandemic teachers transformed the way of teaching.

Key Words: Covid-19, Lockdown, Education, School, ICT Tools, Transformation, Teaching.

1. INTRODUCTION:

COVID-19 was declared as pandemic by WHO on 11th March 2020 which has affected the whole world in numerous ways. Indian government has taken various measures from 22nd March 2020. First Janta Curfew was announced and then 21 days of Lockdown was announced. Schools and Universities were closed. Over 90% of students population of the country was affected by this closure. The nation has been adjusting the higher provision for learning. Therefore the sole way remains is to teach the students through online classes and for this purpose ICT plays an important role. But only some faculties of schools and universities could adopt such methods and low income of government schools are unable to adopt the same.

The major purpose of this paper is to see how we can use ICT for better teaching and learning during COVID-19 pandemic. We can use ICT tools for higher education learning process. ICT is useful for enhancing skills as listening, speaking, reading and writing and also impact of COVID-19 on teachers and students.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW:

Various ICT tools are available online for learning and are widely utilized in most classrooms of the country. These tools can include, Televisions, Computers, Laptops, Data Projectors, Scanners, Printers, Internet and other software application as well as new hardware.
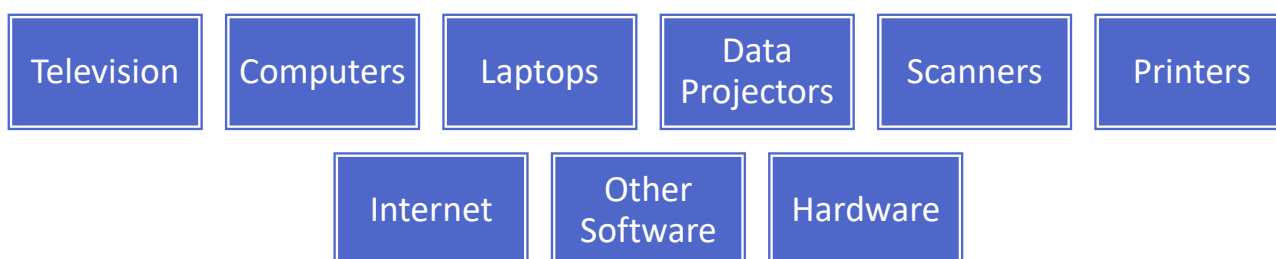

| Television | Computers | Laptops | Data Projectors | Scanners | Printers |

| Internet | Other Software | Hardware |

Figure 1   ICT Tools used in online education.

3. ANALYSIS:

Negative impact of COVID-19 pandemic on education system.

Globally, approximately around 168 million students were affected due to school closures at the on set of lockdown induced by COVID-19. The pandemic posed several challenges in public and private schools including an expected rise in dropouts, learning losses, and increase in digital divide.

Positive impact of COVID-19 pandemic on education system.

Over the past few years, e-learning has witnessed a rise due to wide presence of Internet connectivity, the abundance of smart phones and significant advances in technology. The e-learning process overcomes geographical barriers and ensures equitable access to online education. It also facilitates convenient, quick, on -the- go and 24×7 access. Numerous educational-tech firms have leveraged this opportunity to offer lessons in an stimulating and interactive way to students. E-learning seems a possible solution at the instant to fill the void created due to the absence of classroom learning.

Thus, this pandemic forced educators across schools, colleges, and universities to adopt a blended mode of learning.

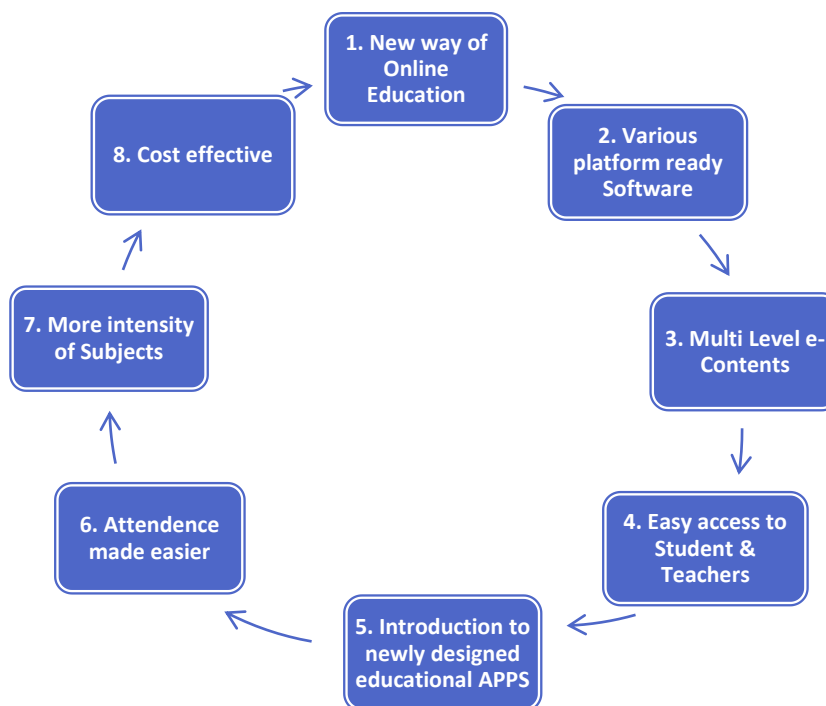## 4. FINDINGS:

Benefits of ICT during COVID-19 pandemic

Figure 2   Benefits of ICT during COVID-19 Pandemic.

1. *New way of Education***:**
     During COVID-19 pandemic education given to the students was online.
2. *Various platform ready software:*
     Swayam, Webex and Impartus etc can be used for online education purpose.
3. *Multi level e-contents:*
     Slide-based courses, Quizzes, Training videos, Podcasts, Dialogue simulations and e-books can be shared.
4. *Quick access to Students & Teachers:*

Make online classes more interactive, multiple formats may be applied, better learning opportunities will be created and immediate feedback will be obtained.

5. *Introduction to newly designed educational apps:*

These apps helps students to research what they have been taught and what's the source of it which makes them curious to grasp more but in an exceedingly systematic way where they know how, when and what to explore. This overall process helps the students to learn practically and not theoretically.

6. *Attendance made easier:*

Improved attendance of students during online learning can be maintained, can be useful to reach out the parents through this and engaging resources and activities can also be shared with them.

7. *More intensity of subjects:*

We can teach the topic with more intensity without stress. Interest among the students can be maintained. We can get them involved in various activities during the session.

8. *Cost effective learning process:*

As e-learning process doesn't require any students to travel which itself saves plenty of conveyance money and time simultaneously. Students just have to log in to the specified application or the portal which also saves plenty amount of cash on the right course materials.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- By using ICT as a tool for online education we proceed further to make a nationwide community in which motivation, interaction and presence gets boosted at far more higher level.
- We should always develop interaction between the students, teachers and the parents.
- Creation of an inclusive environment among all.
- Course content and activities should be created and tracked on daily basis.
- Various new models of education should be applied.
- More engagement of students in all activities should be involved.
- Facilities such as Wifi, internet connectivity should be arranged through many possible means in remote areas.

6. CONCLUSION:

- Online education builds a bonding with the students with the teachers and parents.
- It builds motivation among the teachers as well as the students.
- Students remain more focussed on their studies.
- A community sense is developed.
- Discussions are taken more precisely and in timely manner.
- Student engagement level increases which could be from any area, either from urban or any other geographical region.
- Faculties are ready to redesign the classroom based courses for the online environment.
- Active promotions are given to program making institutions which are using the foremost new technology in education.
- Training is given to the faculties prior to their classes.
- Online teaching and learning is inspired through reward system.

At the end, we are able to say that ICT plays an vital role in online education during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thus, it saves our precious money, time and course material.

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