

## ONLINE TEACHING: SOME BURNING OBSERVATIONS

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### Abstract

Time is changing very fast. Globalization and privatization have shifted the entire focus of education on quality. Quality of education is spreading Quality of education plays pivotal role in the process of development of nations. Quality concerns in education are national priorities for all nations. For this very purpose, digitalization came into existence to solve the problem of scarcity of good teacher and availability of good material. Now, a student sitting in a village can learn from a teacher sitting in big cities or abroad. But as we know that every coin has two sides. So, online learning can help the students a lot, but due to lack of practical teaching-learning experience, most of the students cannot maintain their focus on the teaching while learning online. The present endeavor aims at finding out the realities of merits and demerits of online teaching-learning along with how to make online teaching boon to children sitting in village, especially girl students.

### Introduction

Not only India but also entire world has been changing daily, and now our education system has grown to meet the increasing demand of education in society day by day. In the age of globalization, our education system is also changing its teaching methods, the use of AV aids, and teaching-learning styles. Due to lack of national resources, government supports the digitalization of education, same way students start liking to online teaching-learning. But despite of low costing, there are more chances of students to deviate from the right path. After COVID-19, there came a big change in teaching –learning style. Government, parents and students all seem to be in favor of online education. But in true sense, is our youth ready for not deviating? A big burning issue. Today, students are working like a machine to get information from internet, while other aspect affective and psycho-motor domain of behavior are not getting developed.

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This system will generate a knowledgeable army of people devoid of feeling or mercy as well as lack of muscle-power. Even though, digitalization is becoming helpful to rural laborious students who keenly want to do good for society as well his own family. Now, they need not to go to big cities for getting education, they can learn at their home or field with a great comfort. The lack of money will not stop them from learning. Students in cities will not be overflowed due to the online teaching facility available. This endeavor highlights the significance of digitalization of education, its effects on quality of education and personality of the students.

### **Objectives**

O<sub>1</sub> To study the concept of Internet and facilities

O<sub>2</sub> To mention the concept of digitalization

O<sub>3</sub> To state the concept of online teaching

O<sub>4</sub> To analyse the merits and demerits of online teaching

O<sub>5</sub> To describe the role of a teacher, parents and government for quality education

### **Methodology**

This study is purely descriptive in nature. Information collected and applied are from secondary data resources. All the information is collected from books, journals, website reports of responsible organizations, e-books, e-articles and local newspapers etc. This paper highlights over the changing scenario of teaching learning and its effects on the quality of education and students' academic performance.

### **The Concept of Internet and Facilities**

The advent of the Internet was a catalyst for moving distance online education to the next level [1]. The Internet is now playing a bigger role in our lives and dictating how we live, socialize, teach, and learn. As the Internet is developing into a main educational tool, online education offers the educator and the learner access to numerous resources. During the last decade online education of various kinds, often called distance education or web-based education, has become a normal part of many university programs. Online teaching and learning is designed to reach and engage the modern learner on one-to-one basis anywhere, anytime. A popular one involves Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC), which have grown involving many researchers and research institutions [2]. The reasons for offering online course include easy and convenient access for students, higher degree completion rates, and the appeal of such courses to non-traditional students. In a similar vein, barriers to the adoption of online courses

include lack of faculty commitment and high costs of implementation and delivery of the courses [3].

### **The Concept of Digitalization**

At present, education is experiencing a major transformation in term of of access, equality and quality. These revolutionary changes are brought by new entry of digitalization in education. Digitalization is the process of converting something into digital form. It plays a vital role in people life through internet. Mobile internet provides a super high way to connect people to digital services. Due to digitalization in education, there are some problems related to health issues of students especially eye and brain, misused internet, disturbed the teaching system. Even though it helps the people to ensure good quality of service at low cost, at any time and accessible to every person.

### **The Concept of Online Teaching**

Online education provides huge opportunities and many big challenges. It is beneficial to both the students and teachers. It gives the freedom of time and space, cost-effectiveness and flexibility. Online learning allows student sitting in village can pursue an internationally recognized degree without attending the classes on campus. Online education is more preferred by those students who cannot participate in traditional classroom settings due to many genuine reasons. It makes possible and convenient to students having internet connection who can now study anywhere. Over the past few decades, the number of online courses have also grown rapidly. Online courses are available 24/7. Although online education may work for everyone, some less-developed countries see the online education as cost effective. It is needless to say that online teaching and learning (in either synchronous or asynchronous manner) is applied in all disciplines such as engineering, computer science, medicine, nursing, business, music, and social sciences. Online teaching and learning is becoming common even in business organizations. Issues facing an online instructor include being effective in delivering the course, responding to student emails, getting used to the online tools and infrastructure. Critics of online teaching and learning question its value, effectiveness, and quality. Since online teaching and learning systems have not been able to convey interactions between the instructor and students; its educational effectiveness is lower than the traditional face-to-face lecture. Responding to student email messages in a timely manner can be challenging since it requires significant amount of instructor's time. It takes a lot of time to prepare and teach an online course. The challenge of online education largely depends on online instructors. There is also the issue of intellectual property and ownership of materials placed on the web [4]. Issues

facing online students include the requirement of self-directed learning and self-discipline which may influence the success or failure of online learners. They may be tempted to procrastinate in working on their assignments. The issue of quality in online learning has been raised and it is as complex as the reality of online learning itself. The Quality Matters Program based in the US ([www.qmprogram.org](http://www.qmprogram.org)) has established national benchmarks for online courses and has become internationally recognized [5].

## **The Merits and Demerits of Online Teaching**

### **Merits of Online Teaching**

1. Teaching can be done to a large number of students from where the teacher wants to do. This offers a lot of flexibility to teachers and students both.
2. Safe teaching environment and lesser anxiety in performing the task as compared to class room teaching
3. On-line recorded lectures are usually available on internet or college website. Now, student can avail it anytime and anywhere.
4. Online teaching is equal to all, no discrimination on the basis of gender, rich or poor and low or high academic performer
5. Open to worldwide students, a student can avail foreign degree sitting in a small village at low cost, equally important to global student community

### **Demerits of Online Teaching**

1. Lack of punctuality, concentration or more chances for being distracted, because YouTube has a big magic to distract the students from their online teaching.
2. No control on watching what's up messages, attending phone calls or replying to messages, while in traditional teaching, no mobile phone is allowed even in the school.
3. Time zone country wise is different. So, on-line teaching across the border is a myth.
4. No opportunity to student for real experience of real incidents. Laboratory work cannot be done by watching only. Science students cannot get real experience and knowledge.
5. Usually students belonging to rural or remote areas are not familiar with technology. Internet signals are seen in rural areas very weak. So, students cannot attend the online class smoothly.
6. Classroom notes when a teacher uploads on college website, it will be the property of college. So, the teacher tries to avoid it and if they provide, only in halfhearted manner.
7. Mostly one-way teaching takes place, it will create dissatisfaction in students and more chances for the students to dropout from the course.

8. No teacher interaction and no class mate for any discussion over any confusion in the topic being taught online.

### **The Role of a Teacher, Parents and Government for Quality Education**

For making online teaching a powerful weapon for quality education, every teacher, parents as well as government can play a big role on their part. Teacher should create good online content; parents should have an eagle eye on children while they are studying online. They should be sure that their child is not wasting time in watching useless videos or useless content. Students should themselves be aloof from more watching You-Tube for their healthy health especially eye problems. Government through the agencies should have control on the content or videos being uploaded daily.

### **Conclusion**

So, to be precise, the online teaching can help the students to learn a new topic, but more chances for being distracted. Online teaching to students cannot be equally as good as traditional face to face teaching. As we know that there is a big difference between learning the horse riding online and learning it by someone in traditional way. But it will be boon to those matured and highly dedicated persons who wish to do in their life.

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