

LearnEng with Shahan

BCS Written

Essay

e-Education

e-Learning

Online Education

e-Education in Corona Pandemic

E-education, undoubtedly, a time-bound consumable blessing for the knowledge hankering, newness loving, logical today generation seeking to get more within a very short scope of time. Not thinking it as an only training tool would make it to shift itself onto its own specification. Heidi Hayes Jacobs also says likewise-

“Training developers need to integrate technology seamlessly into the curriculum instead of viewing it as an add-on, an after-thought, or an event.” - Heidi Hayes Jacobs, Executive Director of the Curriculum Mapping Institute, author, educator.

Really now it's the time for us to focus it more than ever and work on it to get the best from it.

e-Learning is a catch-all term that covers a wide range of instructional material that can be delivered on a CD-ROM or DVD, over a local area network (LAN), or on the Internet. The term 'e-Learning' means 'electronic Learning' that encompasses all forms of technology enhanced learning. e-Learning is the use of technology to enable people to learn anytime and anywhere. e-Learning can include training, the delivery of just-in-time information and guidance from experts. These services

are delivered, enabled or mediated by ICT (Information & Communication Technology) for the purposes of delivering education.

'Mobile learning could reach \$80.1 billion worldwide by 2027.' - (Source: Globe News Wire)

Here it comes e-education. That's why we should plan likewise considering the world wide wave.

COVID-19 pandemic is a global reality of the year 2020 that had ceased the educational activities during the beginning of the lock down phase worldwide. However most of the educational institutions all over the world already broke the spell of the initial perception and inertia due to the pandemic and resumed their academic activities through online platforms. Although, most universities including world ranking institutions are struggling with finances, nevertheless, the effectiveness of online teaching and learning is gaining its prominence from the perspective of revitalizing the aggravating mental and spiritual states among the students along with the pandemic. The students are all the more joining eagerly in online semesters with higher retention rates, finding the e-learning process as a greener option with learning and assessment progressing with reduced distractions and with less of a time investment as commuting is not a requirement. Furthermore, online platforms provide quite a flexible and all-inclusive opportunity with additional guidance and tutoring support from the instructors. Studies have already demonstrated that online mode of teaching will enable the universities to teach 15-18% additional students at the same cost. Maybe for that our Hon'ble Prime Minister supported this point by the below speech –

"That's why we always give importance to education. This education must be modern and technology-based one," – the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said.

Our education system has suddenly turned it virtual due to Covid- 19 this transition is not so smooth specially for the rural people that lacks resources and infrastructure required for E-learning. Unforeseen disasters can sometimes unleash the unimaginable situations. Today business, economics, nations, and human leaves are reeling under Coronavirus impact. Globally the education of 3,00 million students has been disrupted.

‘Corporate e-learning takes 40% to 60% less time to complete when compared to traditional learning.’

(Source: eLearning Industry)

Shutdown of educational institutions and schools have largely disturbed the education system. Most of the schools and colleges are carrying out online classes in the time of lockdown. Online education business are registering a spike worldwide, its new age education in that time of Corona! Nearly 400,000 students travel overseas for their higher education every year. With Covid 19 the prospect of that happening anytime soon is bleak. Online education be their savior at this critical time, but there is a flip side to this dismal development. There are some key challenges in the online education segment that need to be resolved. Most of the rural household have no access to the internet and live streaming facilities. Many student across the country are totally off education suddenly due to the corona virus lockdown. That traditional education system already faces a lack of faculty and online learning adaptation is not easy.

Bangladesh has about... millions students in higher education and around 100 universities. Basic and secondary education also comprises huge number of students. There has been preparedness for online system of education leading to a lot of communication gap and confusion. We have no online education policy for schools and colleges. Academic experts, industries, students and faculty all need to be trained before adapting to the new way of online education. The other factors include adepting courses to online mode with necessary tweaks and importations. The biggest sellers of online education looms large on the villages and small towns with no internet and device access. In large part of the country the online education revolution still remains a dream.

The sudden lockdown can be a testing time for the students but due to the various exams being postponed what is offers is time. The isolation can be a gift for all students if they use it to their advantage by working towards their goal with utmost dedication. Online learning is a savior in this testing times and by choosing to learn from the most qualified teachers and the cheapest of prices students can make the most of the time that they have in their hand. having said that, there are counting perennial issues that still plague e-learning. First and foremost is the digital divide in the country and there are still many efforts from the governments

ends that need to be taken to bridge these gap. And while there are have been inventible teething problems, one can simply not deny that online course represent the future. The recent outbreak has lived many experts wondering the course of event in future and online learning is the only thing right now which can save our life from coming to a complete standstill.

In these testing circumstances due to Impromptu closure, the biggest benefactors and the blessings in disguise are the online learning platforms. Also known as e-Learning this online learning method can cater to the glowing demands of the students in the most efficient manner. The online learning platform have seen a spike in the number of students who are enrolling in the plethora of course they offer.

Generally e-Learning is seen as offering solutions to several challenges currently facing in education sector. e-Learning can improve the quality of education by:

- * providing access to a range of resources and materials which may not otherwise be available or accessible, for example graphics, sound, animation, multimedia
- * giving control to students over when and where they study
- * allowing students to study at their own pace
- * providing a student centred learning environment which can be tailored to meet the learning needs of individual students
- * providing attractive multimedia learning without any tutor
- * making it easier to amend and update materials
- * creating an environment that promotes an active approach to learning
- * reducing learning time
- * releasing time for more active, engaging and interactive forms of teaching
- * supporting increased communications between staff and students, and amongst students
- * providing frequent and timely individual feedback, for example through computer assisted assessment, and positive reinforcement
- * motivating students through appropriate use of interactive courseware
- * supporting and encouraging collaborative learning
- * supporting economic reuse of high quality, expensive resources
- * encouraging students to take responsibility for their own learning.

Despite all the blessings of the Online Education to Bangladesh as well as the whole world, we got to admit some flaws of the system imposed categorical backlogs of the overall mostly blessing.

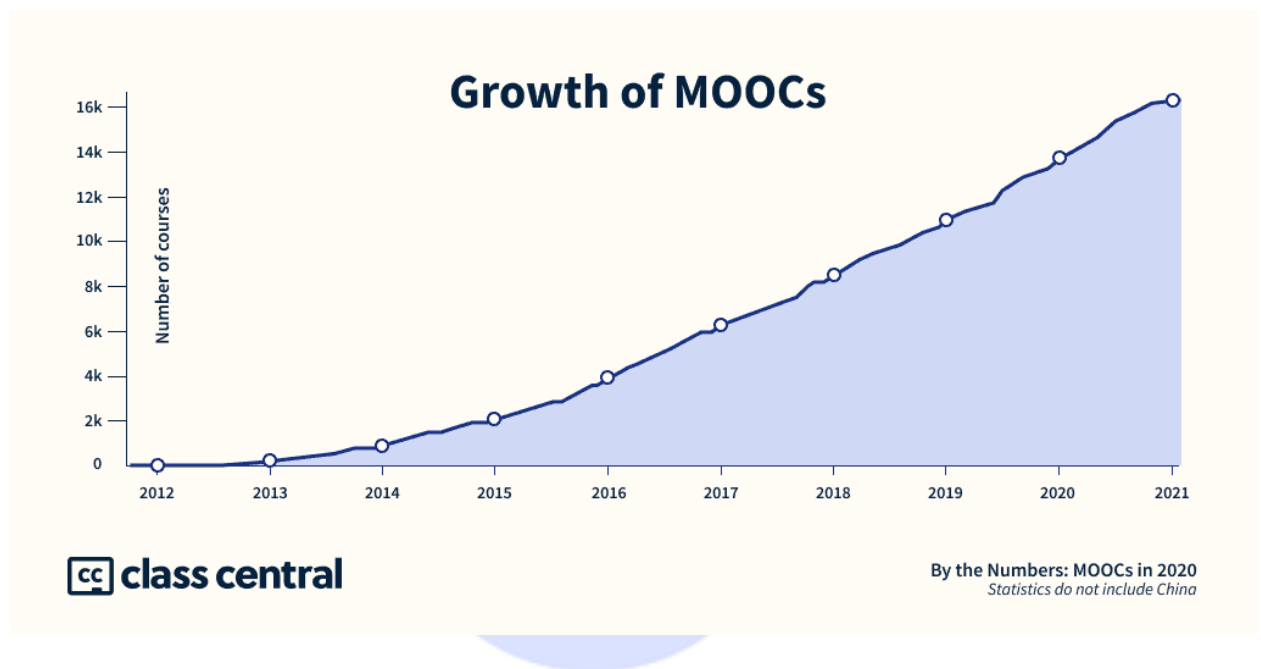
“There can be infinite uses of the computer and of new technology [in training], but if the instructors themselves are not able to bring it to the learners and make it work, then it fails.” - U.S. Senator Nancy Kassebaum. Senator Nancy focused it very well that we should not ignore the quality of the trainers – only focusing on the platform which make it a hollow system full of warm air balloons.

Online learning has covered a lot of ground in recent times and the interface is more user friendly and on top of that a student gets a classroom experience experience by sitting in the corners of their rooms. There are facilities for communicating with your educators and the students of the same course. The biggest trump card is its fixable time scale. Students can get a resolution to their problems not only during the mundane hours of the class but also during the time while they are starting themselves via email or truth or an online chat system. The exams are mostly conducted online today due to its efficient mechanism and due to the tests which are designed in the online format eLearning makes students accustomed to an almost expect exam atmosphere and thus increases their response time and chances of success. With the availability of various courses by an endless number of educators with demos and refunds policies the students satisfaction is always given a priority. An educator in online learning keeps on improvising and adding to their skills to impart better education in comparison to their peers in order to survive in this humongous platform which enhance the experience of the users and help in their overall development.

The Prime Minister made the call while addressing the 41st General Assembly of UNESCO in Paris - **"During the pandemic, lack of resources and technology has jeopardized our decades-long achievements in school and youth and adult**

learning. I urge the august body (UNESCO) to declare remote learning and online education a global resource."

We expect that soon the e-education will be declared as the global resource. We will finish by a projection where we will see the present but will apprehend the future too.



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