

Online Influence in Education

Dr Princy Francis
Asst Professor of Commerce
MES Asmabi College, P.Vemballur
ABSTRACT

Teacher oriented traditional classrooms limit the knowledge acquisition of the students within in the classroom. E-learning is a solution for the classroom limited learning as virtual classrooms, online courses, web based learning, documents, PowerPoint, audio and video, different mobile apps and search engines are the different modes of e-learning to gain new and updated knowledge. The study focused on the online influence in education among state and CBSE students having 10 years to 15 years at kodungallur municipality during the period of January 2020. Non-random sampling technique was used to collect questionnaire from 150 students. It opened up the perception of students on the digital way of learning. Based on the study it was found out that availability of the content was the most advantage of online learning, followed by understanding and better learning. Health problems were the main disadvantages of online learning, followed by lack of interaction and distraction of the students. The study showed an increasing trend of online influence in education that showed the future prospects of online education.

Keywords: *online learning, e-learning, perception of digital learning, online education*

Nowadays internet become a core part of education process(Mdlongwa, 2012). This global network is used to share ideas or information and knowledge through electronic items like smartphones, computers. It helps to overcome the challenge of low efficiency and productivity among teachers and students. ICT is also introduced in schools as part of school curriculum. Teachers can also be helped to manage and communicate their work more efficiently with others. The students were started to produce knowledge themselves. More quality content is available and can connect with experts globally. This makes learners to be showed a better understanding of topics under the study with the element of fun. Various skills would be captured beyond schools. Save time, learn from anywhere on the global, convenience, cost

reduction, readily available learning materials, less boring, covering a wider audience, flexibility of audience, offering a variety of courses on one platform are the main advantages of online education.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Even though the government gives a lot of schemes to propagate the digital culture among citizens, people are reluctant to accept digitalisation in all fields. With the advent of technology the teachers and students are moving online. Different online methods are available for learning purpose in the digital economy. Even though online education is a growing sector, the pros and cons of the online influence in education has not been studied so far in Kerala. This study is being conducted to analyse the online influence in education sector towards CBSC and STATE level students.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Internet is having a positive influence on education in and out of the classroom. It provides the opportunity for people anywhere in the world to access quality educational service at the comfort of their home. Since there are no studies conducted in Kerala, this study tries to find out the online influence of the respondents in Kodungallur area.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The study focuses on the online influence in education among state and CBSE students at kodungallur municipality during the period of January 2019. The study “online influence in education” among students was conducted to get clear picture about today’s students, their studying style using technology and online influence among them. The study was conducted by using primary data. Primary data was collected from 150 samples of kodungallur municipality.

OBJECTIVES

- To know socio-demographic profile of the respondents towards online learning

- To understand the different methods used by the respondents in online learning
- To analyse the pros and cons of online learning faced by the respondents

THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK

Online education is a type of educational instruction, delivered through the internet to students using their home computer/mobile. During the last decade, online degree and courses have become popular alternative for a wide range of non-traditional students, include those who want to continue working full time or raising families. Most of the time, online degree programs and courses are offered via the host school's online learning platform, although some are delivered using alternative technology. The main difference between online and traditional learning is the fact that online education liberate the students from the usual trappings of on-campus degree programs-including driving to school, planning their schedule around classes, and being physically present for each sequence of their course work. ICT helps the students can learn at their own comfort and requirements. Mobile popularise the online learning in every nook and corner of the country. E-learning promotes anywhere anytime study in the comfort of the students cheaply. Internet is an effective communication tool to interact with students and experts. The main advantage of e-learning is flexibility that allows to schedule their learning space and time. Focus learning is possible in internet that helps to skip the uninterested areas and focus on the subject matter which needs in learning process. Automatic self test questions can be generated and answered to check whether the knowledge gained is proper or not. Soft skill like self discipline, self motivation and time management are directly or indirectly achieved by the online learners through ICT usage. E-learning is a quick way of learning.

Reduction of cost of education, reducing the need of direct instructors, increasing productivity, learning through gamification, high degree of flexibility, providing accessibility to the people of all ages and experience are the main objectives of e-learning.

Many types of E-learning can be created with advanced development tools, which are suited to the needs of the modern workplace learners. Most of the E-learning methods are synchronous and Asynchronous in nature that depends upon the learner's need and the learning objectives. Synchronous events take place in real time. Synchronous communication

between two people requires them to both be present at a given time. Examples of synchronous learning are chat and IM, video, audio conference, live webcasting, application sharing, virtual classroom. Asynchronous learning is time-independent. A self-paced course is an example of asynchronous learning because online learning takes place at any time. E-mail or discussion forums are examples for asynchronous communication tools. In such cases, students ideally complete the course at their own pace, by using a learning platform like an LMS. Self study, video/audio tape, CBTs and WBTs, blended e-learning, mobile learning, social learning, simulation, game based learning and learning apps are the different methods adopted in e-learning.

Under the study of Nazim (2008a) it is found out internet made as a useful tool in education and research sector to update and collect latest information. As India identified the importance of open access journals/books and institutional repositories, Indian Institute of Science and Technologies, INFIBNET, Shodhganga, DRTC, UGC are some of the initiatives as part of digital India in the education and research sector(Nazim and Devi, 2008).

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research is descriptive in nature. The population for the study is the students having age between 10 years and 15 years at Kodungallur municipality and doing efforts to initiate online learning. The number of sample covered under the study is 150 students. The sampling technique used in this study is non-random sampling technique. Both primary and secondary data have been used for the study. The primary data has been collected from various students in kodungallur municipality through the issue of questionnaire. Secondary data has been collected by using internet, journal and different books. Statistical tools like percentage, pie charts, graphs, tables have been used to analyse the data.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The study “online influence in education” was conducted to know students perception towards online education. The study was conducted in KodungaloorMunicipality. A sample of 150 students was selected. The collected data were analysed by using statistical tools like

percentage, table, graph, descriptive analysis. Following are the data analysis and interpretation.

Table1:Demographic Details among Respondents towards online education

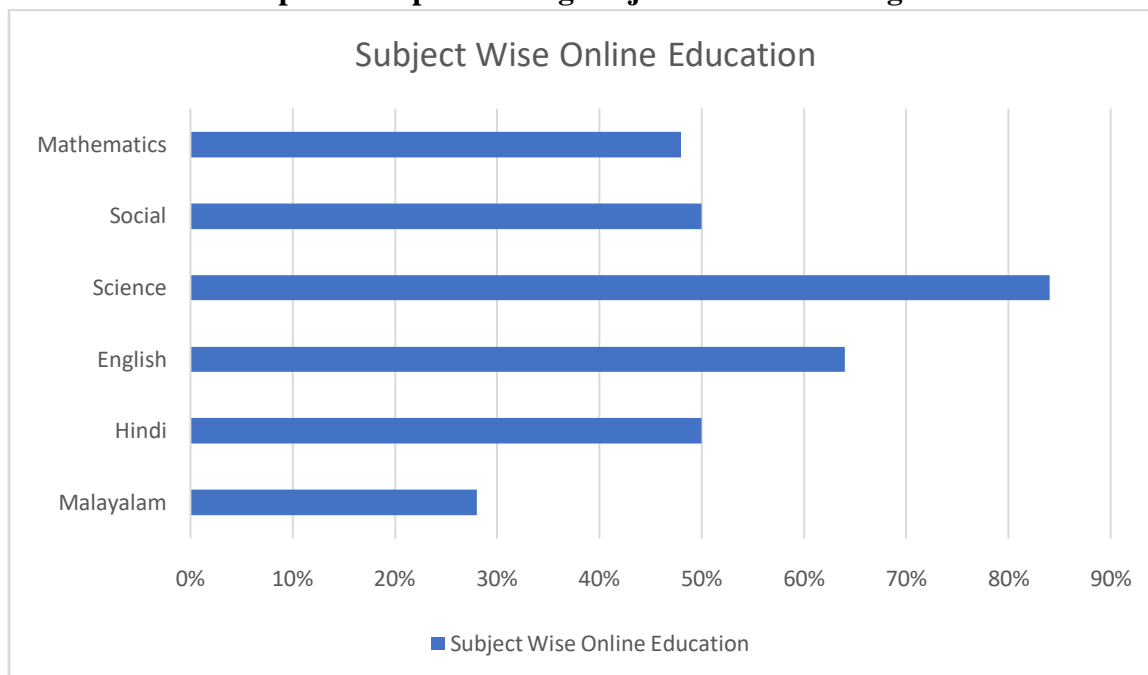
Variables		Frequency Table	Percentage
Sex	Male	39	26
	Female	111	74
Class	5-7	93	62
	8-10	51	34
	11-12	6	4
Board of Education	Kerala	72	48
	CBSC	78	52
No of subjects learned online	1	9	6
	2	33	22
	3	51	34
	4	57	38
Preferable device for online education	Mobile	126	84
	Laptop	15	10
	Desktop	9	6
	Others	0	0
Average time spent in online education per day	Below 30min	57	38
	30min-1hr	84	56
	1-3hr	6	4
	Above 3hr	3	2
Total		150	100

Source: primary data

From the above table1, it is understood that 74% of the students under the study were females. The study found out that the students started their studies dependent on internet their

fifth standard onwards. The students from CBSE and Kerala Board are almost equal in the case of online learning. Majority of the students browses internet for more than two subjects. 56% students spent an average of upto one hour per day in internet for education purpose. 84% students used mobile as their preferable device for internet access.

Graph 1: Graph Showing subjects learned through online



Source: primary data

From the above graph it is clarified that the most dependent subject on internet is science(84%), followed by English(64%), social(50%) and mathematics(48%).

Table 2: Table showing the methods adopted in online education based on Fried man Test

	Methods	Mean	Mean Rank	Chi-Square	P -Value
Methods adopted in online education	Self- Study	4.60	2	2.369	<0.00**
	Video/audio tape	3.48	4		
	Blended learning	4.70	1		
	Social learning	3.72	3		
	Learning apps	2.52	5		
	Others	1.98	6		

** Significant @ 99% level of significance

Source: primary data

Based on Friedman test using SPSS 16.0 blended learning is the most adopted method in online learning, followed by self-study and social learning. Even though the trend of learning subject through paid app is a growing concept in Kerala, it is the least preferred method in online education due to its high cost.

Table 3: Table showing the advantages of online education based on Fried man Test

	Advantages	Mean	Mean Rank	Chi-Square	P -Value
Advantages of online education	Understanding	3.50	2	1.31	<0.00**
	Highmark	2.12	5		
	Better learning	3.09	3		
	Availability	3.64	1		
	Independence	2.65	4		

** Significant @ 99% level of significance

Source: primary data

Availability(3.64), understanding(3.50) and better learning(3.09) are the major advantages of online education on the basis of mean rank derived from fried man test.

Table 4: Table showing the disadvantages of online education based on Fried man Test

	Disadvantages	Mean	Mean Rank	Chi-Square	P -Value
Disadvantages of online education	No Security	1.94	4	0.660	<0.00**
	Distraction	2.42	3		
	No interaction	2.78	2		
	Health problems	2.86	1		

** Significant @ 99% level of significance

Source: primary data

Table 5: Table showing the effect of online education based on Kolmogorov -Smirnov Test

	Mean	Z - Value	P -Value
Effect of online education	3.17	1.240	<0.00**

** Significant @ 99% level of significance

Source: primary data

Table 6: Table showing board of study on online education based on Mann-Whitney U Test

Effect of online education	Board of study	No	Mean Rank	Mann-Whitney U	P -Value
	CBSE Syllabus	72	85.06	2.119	<0.00**
	State Syllabus	78	66.67		

** Significant @ 99% level of significance

Source: primary data

In the above test, it is proved that there is a difference between CBSE syllabus students and state syllabus students in the case of online education. CBSE students have shown more tendency to move to online education.

CONCLUSION AND SCOPE FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

There is no doubt about the growth of online education as it shows improvement in the online learning. It is noted that the students seriously follow internet in their school time itself. They started to spend on an average of one hour per day in internet for gaining knowledge. The reason of propagating internet usage is mainly because of mobile devices say smart phones. Mainly students uses internet to clarify and gain more about science subjects. All most all students prefer the blended learning by mixing internet and traditional learning, followed by self-learning. Learning through social media is a new trend in the education field. Availability of information without much strain is the main attraction of internet learning. It is also noted that there are severe health problems are being faced by the students due to the continuous use of internet and smart phones. Health problems can be extensively studied further to be aware of its smart usages. More over the study pointed out the effect of online learning is a growing phenomenon and make a lot of improvements in education and research sector. This study is limited to the school children. It may extend to college students, research scholars and faculties to understand the wide scope of internet in education field. There are some paid services and apps are available in internet. Hence further study may be contributed the financial involvement of the education and research sector in digital world.

REFERENCES

Mdlongwa, T. (2012) 'Information and Communication Technology (ICT) as a Means of Enhancing Education in Schools in South Africa: Challenges , Benefits and Recommendations', *Policybrief: Africa Institute of South Africa*, (80), pp. 1–8.

Nazim, M. (2008) 'Information searching behavior in the Internet age: A users' study of Aligarh Muslim University', *International Information & Library Review*, 40(1), pp. 73–81. doi: DOI: 10.1080/10572317.2008.10762764.

Nazim, M. and Devi, M. (2008) 'Open access journals and institutional repositories : practical need and present trends in India', *Annals of Library and Information Studies*, 55(March), pp. 201–208.