Preference of Students in Technology to Substitute Traditional Classes by Online (Pandemic Times)

Aastha Khare
MSc Biostatistics (fFrst Year Student), Banaras Hindu University (A Central University)

Abstract

COVID-19 has brought many challenges ,change in mode of education was one of them with colleges being shut down due to safety precautions there was a sudden switch in mode of classes with this requirement many technologies came very useful to maintain the authenticity and quality of education. Among those technologies Google classroom, zoom and meeting applications like these were massively used among students since it was the basic need as the replacement of traditional classes to maintain safety issues, along with meeting applications open educational resources, Wikipedia, and MOOCs are also used frequently among higher education students.

Keywords: *Technology, Digitalization, Pandemic, Higher education*

Introduction :-

India is the second most populated country in the world with the prediction that it will be beat China in coming years and with the increase in population used of technology has also increased which gives huge opportunity to digitalisation of fields and new technologies are helpful in order to do so.

And with pandemic due to COVID-19 outbreak many countries including India had to implement nationwide lockdown and follow safety protocols post lockdown which had a huge affect over the field of education. And this leads to rapid growth in the field of digitalisation of education.

In second wave of COVID-19 outbreak in India students have gone over many physical and mental health issues and in hard times like this digitalisation played a very important role to maintain balance in life.

Platforms like Google classroom zoom and Microsoft teams made learning online easy by providing live class feature. Open education resources, E-portfolios and blogs and micro portfolio provide study material of all kind and MOOCs introduced blended learning concepts.

Operational Definition of Keywords:-

Technology: In the context of this research study technology stands for use of computer and internet applications in the field of education. In this research following technologies are considered: social media open educational resources, Wikipedia, Google classroom, zoom, Microsoft teams-portfolio, MOOCs blogging and micro portfolio

Digitalisation: in the context this research study digitalisation refers to use of e resources, technology in teaching higher education students.

Pandemic: in the context of this research study pandemic stands for the time period after the spread of corona virus in the world.

Higher Education: in the context of this research study higher education students are students enrolled in undergraduate, postgraduate, research courses in government or private colleges.

Objective of the study :-

- To know about frequently used technologies during pandemic by students of higher education.

Methodology of the study :-

- In this research paper Indian population is taken under consideration out of which 248 higher education students has been selected randomly using simple random sampling method
- Self constructed questionnaire based survey method is been used and for analysis Likert 5 point scale is taken in use.

Variables :-

- Independent variable: type of institution (Government and Private), level of study (Undergraduate, Postgraduate and research).
- Dependent variable : digitalisation

Study Prospective :-

1. Type of college – government, private
2. course – undergraduate, postgraduate, research

Analysis:-The following table presents the entire survey data in percentage form.

Table 1

Survey data on use of different technology by Government, Private, undergraduate, postgraduate, research students in percentage

social media	*Government*	*Private*	*Undergraduate*	*postgraduate*	*Research*	*Grand Total*
very frequently	44.16	44.00	44.16	51.16	25.00	44.14
frequently	25.54	44.00	27.92	25.58	50.00	27.34
less frequently	12.55	8.00	11.17	13.95	12.50	12.11
not at all	9.52	4.00	9.64	2.33	12.50	8.98
rarely	8.23	0.00	7.11	6.98	0.00	7.42
open education resources	Government	Private	Undergraduate	postgraduate	Research	Grand Total
very frequently	39.39	40.00	41.62	30.23	62.50	39.45
frequently	27.71	44.00	26.90	44.19	25.00	29.30
less frequently	11.69	8.00	11.17	11.63	0.00	11.33
not at all	11.26	4.00	11.17	6.98	0.00	10.58
rarely	9.96	4.00	9.14	6.98	12.50	9.38

Wikipedia	Government	Private	Undergraduate	postgraduate	Research	Grand Total
very frequently	54.11	44.00	56.85	39.53	87.50	53.13
frequently	22.51	40.00	21.32	39.53	12.50	24.22
less frequently	7.79	4.00	6.60	9.30	0.00	7.42
not at all	8.23	8.00	9.14	2.33	0.00	8.20
rarely	7.36	4.00	6.09	9.30	0.00	7.03
google classroom, zoom,microsoft teams	Government	Private	Undergraduate	postgraduate	Research	Grand Total
very frequently	54.98	52.00	60.41	37.21	62.50	54.69
frequently	34.63	36.00	32.99	44.19	37.50	34.77
less frequently	3.03	8.00	3.05	2.33	0.00	3.52
not at all	3.03	0.00	1.52	4.65	0.00	2.73
rarely	4.33	4.00	2.03	11.63	0.00	4.30
E-portfolio	Government	Private	Undergraduate	postgraduate	Research	Grand Total
very frequently	22.08	36.00	24.87	18.60	25.00	23.44
frequently	26.84	40.00	27.92	30.23	37.50	28.13
less frequently	12.99	8.00	10.66	18.60	12.50	12.50
not at all	28.14	16.00	28.93	23.26	0.00	26.95
rarely	9.96	0.00	7.61	9.30	25.00	8.98
MOOC	Government	Private	Undergraduate	postgraduate	Research	Grand Total
very frequently	22.51	48.00	24.37	25.58	50.00	25.00
frequently	32.90	32.00	32.49	39.53	25.00	32.81
less frequently	9.96	4.00	7.11	16.28	12.50	9.38
not at all	25.11	16.00	28.43	9.30	0.00	24.22
rarely	9.52	0.00	7.61	9.30	12.50	8.59
blogging and micro portfolio	Government	Private	Undergraduate	postgraduate	Research	Grand Total
very frequently	18.18	32.00	20.81	11.63	37.50	19.53
Frequently	29.00	48.00	28.93	44.19	25.00	30.86
less frequently	13.42	8.00	11.68	16.28	12.50	12.89
not at all	31.60	12.00	32.99	18.60	12.50	29.69
Rarely	7.79	0.00	5.58	9.30	12.50	7.03

Results and discussions :-

Following are the survey observations:

<u>In terms of government and private-</u>

Social media

- approx. 44% students of both type of colleges use social media for study purpose along with entertainment

Open education resources

- 44% private college students are frequent use open education resources.

Wikipedia

- 54.11% government college students are very frequent users of Wikipedia.

Google classroom, zoom, Microsoft teams

- 54.98% government college students are very frequent have used these platforms.

E-portfolio

- 40% private students are frequent users of E-portfolio

MOOC

- 48% private students are very frequent users of MOOCs

Blogging and micro portfolio

- 48% private students are frequent users of blogging and micro portfolios

In terms of course of study-

Social media

- 51.16% postgraduate students very frequently use social media for study purpose along with entertainment

Open education resources

- 62.5% research students very frequently use open education resources.

Wikipedia

- 87.50% research students very frequent users of Wikipedia.

Google classroom, zoom, Microsoft teams

- 62.50% research students are very frequent have used these platforms.

E-portfolio

- 37.50% research students are frequent users of E-portfolio

MOOC

- 50% research students are very frequent user of MOOCs

Blogging and micro portfolio

- 32.99% undergraduate student never used blogging and micro portfolios.

In general we observe that - Government and private collages both are frequent users of social media but still 9.52% government college students does not use *social media* for study purpose. And among undergrad, post grad and research students post grad students uses social media more frequently. Private college students are frequent users *open educational resources* then government college student and among undergrad, post grad and research, research students use *open educational resources* more. Both private and government college students use *Wikipedia* but in comparison private college students uses *Wikipedia* more frequently and among undergrad, post grad and research, research students are frequent users of *Wikipedia*. Government college students are more frequent users of *Google classroom, zoom and Microsoft teams* in comparison to private college students and among undergrad, post grad and research, undergrad and research students are frequent users of these technologies then post grad students.28.14 % government college students have not used *e-portfolio* in comparison with

privet college students and among undergrad, post grad and research 37% undergrad students haven't used e-portfolio. Government college students rarely use *MOOCs* in comparison to private college students and under grad students are also less frequent users of *MOOCs* .both government and private college students rarely use *blogging and micro portfolio* where as in comparison 48% private college students are frequent users and among undergrad, post grad and research, research students are frequent users of *blogging and micro portfolios.*

Google classroom, zoom and Microsoft teams are the most frequently used technology in pandemic times and of blogging and micro portfolio is least used by the students.

Conclusion :-

Online education was the need as traditional classes are suspended to maintain safety due to pandemic, and for the need many technologies came useful to make online learning smooth as possible without affecting the quality of teaching. For this research study here are the following conclusion points ...

- Awareness regarding e portfolio, blogging and micro portfolio is required among students of Research and post graduates.
- Social media is highly used by students in their studies apart from entertainment. Used by almost every student in present times
- Mostly students use Wikipedia
- Research students are very frequent users of open education resources
- A little bit more awareness is required regrading open education resources in private collages.

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