



WEBINAR – BRIEF
Webinar Brief No. 16: 2021

Education Going Online

Pakistan Institute of Development Economics
(PIDE), Quaid-i-Azam University Campus,
P.O. Box. 1091, Islamabad, 4000, Pakistan
www.pide.org.pk



EDUCATION: GOING ONLINE

07 FEBRUARY 2021 AT 07:00 PM PST



SCAN TO JOIN WEBINAR

DISCUSSION POINTS:

- RESTRUCTURING EXAMS AND ASSIGNMENTS.
- DIFFICULTIES IN ONLINE TEACHING+EXAMS.
- PENETRATION OF TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS (EXISTING AND THE NEED TO INCREASE).
- INTERNET ACCESS ISSUES FOR STUDENTS.
- CHALLENGES TO FACULTY IN SHIFTING TO ONLINE TEACHING AND EXAMINATIONS.

MODERATOR

DR. NADEEM ULHAQUE

VICE CHANCELLOR, RIDE

SPEAKERS/PANELISTS



PROF. PERVEZ HOODBHOY
NUCLEAR PHYSICIST
AND ACTIVIST



DR. NASIR IQBAL
DEAN
SOCIAL SCIENCES, PIDE



DR. ASMA HYDER
PROFESSOR AND DEAN
SESS, IBA KARACHI



DR. ZAINAB RIAZ
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
LUMS



DR. MURTAZA HAIDER
PROFESSOR
RYERSON UNIVERSITY



MR. SHAAF NAJIB
STAFF ECONOMIST
RIDE

Education Going Online

The pandemic situation has changed work ethics by 360 degrees. Covid19 has impacted our education system by challenging the traditional methods of teaching prevailing in Pakistan by eradicating the concept of on-campus learning. Online teaching was entirely a new concept for Pakistani students due to the closure of educational institutions. So Pakistani education system faced a lot of struggles and challenges while shifting from on-campus learning to online learning. Pandemic has taught us that how we can modernize our teaching system using the technology.

Key Challenges of Online Teaching

- Should we bring in more online teaching even if the pandemic ends as students have poor living conditions in hostels and poor security?
- Students, as well as teachers, are feeling the diminished accountability in a distance education system as the students have shifted from classrooms explicitly designed for learning to bedrooms and kitchen tables where they are distracted by plentiful reasons.
- The workload and screen time of students, as well as teachers, is increasing immensely due to the online education system.
- Pakistan households are very crowded so students don't get proper independent space for learning online
- Only 35% of the population has access to the internet that may increase social inequality due to the non-availability of the internet in marginalized areas of the provinces.
- The language barrier is still one of the main concerns for young Pakistani students.
- The administration of online lectures was a struggle for the university's competent authorities.
- Quality assurance of online lecture content was difficult as it was the first experience for Pakistani teachers.
- Catering the different types of audience online was a challenge because a lot of factors contribute towards effective on-campus learning.
- Instructors need to bring innovation in the current education system as the pandemic has taught us that the teachers may become redundant in the coming few years.
- According to the PBS statistics, only around 6%-7% of the households have access to laptops or tablets and the rest doesn't even have known how that how to use this equipment.
- Moreover, only 24% population in rural areas have access to limited internet connections.

- One of the major challenges being faced by the education system is the enhancement of the learning capacity of students as one of the World Bank reports suggest that the knowledge of a 10th-grade student is even below the level of a 5th-grade student.
- Students are more focused on earning a degree rather than enhancing knowledge with some clear objective and it creates a skewed situation as some students having a 4/4 CGPA doesn't even have basic knowledge about their subject so it has become a challenge to get a good product from job market as well.

Solutions devised by panelists

- Online education is a way forward for Pakistan and Pakistan should benefit from it. Pakistani Teachers should learn from foreign online courses to ensure the quality of education. (Pervaiz Hoodboy)
- Collaborative course design; We need to change our traditional method of instructional pedagogy to a constructive approach to make our education system better as today's generation of students is comparatively more well informed and vocal. (Dr. Asma Hyder)
- We need to give importance to student opinions and preferences while designing our courses that whether they are comfortable with flip classrooms, group assignments, or individual tasks. (Dr. Asma Hyder)
- Incentive-based learning like offering fee reimbursement for courses or whole semester in the online education system can be used to ensure active participation by students. (Dr. Nasir Iqbal)
- The role of online proctors could be introduced in online teaching to ensure transparency and competence among students.
- Resistance from accepting the modern techniques of education by both faculty as well as students should be addressed to streamline the education system.
- As faculty members, we need to work on bringing innovation to our teaching methodology by making ourselves advanced and making teaching adaptable to the learning environment of students.
- Trust and confidence-building among students and teachers

- TA should monitor the chat rooms during the class and offer the online tutorial
- Use of proper equipment for teachings like a surface tablet, microphone, lights, and camera.
- Regular teachers' evaluation should be done during and after the course to ensure student satisfaction with teaching material, Quizzes, assignments, grading policy, and student learning.
- Quality enhancement of questions is necessary to ensure that students should avoid cheating.
- An open book exam is a viable option and the quality of questions should be enhanced to inculcate the habit of book reading in the students.
- Development of student's interest in a particular subject by teachers to ensure students learning.

Recommendation for Development of Efficient Education System in Pakistan

A hybrid model would be a viable option for Pakistan currently by increasing the internet access to all the students studying across Pakistan. It is the responsibility of everyone including the educational institutions, teachers, students, and parents to ensure transparency by minimizing cheating ways. So everyone needs to put their share to adopt the modern online education system by adapting to innovation and technology.

Prepared and Design By

Hania Afzal

Lecturer, PIDE

Edited By

Hafsa Hina

Assistant Professor, PIDE