ABSTRACT

The study is conducted to investigate the psychological impact of virtual classes on students. The purpose of the study is to explore how students react and interact in an online students centered environment.

The study is based on a survey done by students from different colleges. The study examines the psychological behaviour such as attitude, motivation, the students exhibit during their online classes. The survey results are based on a questionnaire which on being filled by the students who are involved in the online classes. These online classes have been started due to the global pandemic named COVID-19.

COVID-19 is also known as Corona Virus are a group of related RNA viruses that causes disease in mammals. In humans these viruses cause respiratory track infections that can range from mild to lethal.

Till date there are 33,66,446 corona virus cases in the world and more than 2 lakh deaths. In India a total of 35,365 patients are said to be of corona positive. Because of this pandemic there is an overall lockdown in the country.
I. INTRODUCTION

Virtual classes is basically an online learning environment which allows live interaction between the tutor and the learners as they are participating in learning activities.

Communication in real time in the virtual classroom gives the learning process a completely different dynamic. Virtual class consists of all the latest technologies, including the internet and the Web. It is a re-conceptualized version of education and training through distance learning. It allows students to participate in from different places and times through their respective computer networks. Virtual classes have set up a new standard in the education sector that gives learning experience beyond and above the physical classrooms. Virtual classes are really helpful for the students as the tutor uploads videos of their teaching which can be viewed later. This helps the student to study and understand the topic on their own pace. A major advantage of virtual classes is that it is free from the usual physical distractions that take place in a physical classroom. It helps boost confidence and encourages students to question freely as some of the students are not free in asking in a physical classroom. Virtual classrooms provide immediate feedback from the students and as well the teachers. The need for feedback, which acknowledges the positive aspects of the learners' performance and gives valuable comments and recommendations for improvement, benefits the education and progress of the students.

It helps get a personalized learning experience and individual success. The teacher uses various sources to present the content text, images, diagrams, audio, video, etc, which helps to the learning process by providing a flexible learning experience that is tailored to the various needs and preferences of the students.

The teacher is able to present the content through various types of media which helps retain the attention and interest of the students.
II. LITERATURE REVIEW

An online class is a course conducted over the internet. They are generally conducted through applications and software of a private firm. It was previously done by institutions that are far away or by those who cannot attend or provide physical classes. But, in the recent scenario of the COVID-19 pandemic, everyone was needed to cope up with the technology, providing and receiving knowledge that is online, over an application. There has been mixed reactions of both teachers and students but now everyone is adapting to this change.

III. METHODOLOGY

Quantitative research was performed to assess upon various grounds whether the students were in support of online testing or not.

Questionnaire were completed by the respondents upon a Likert scale to which they agree or disagreed to a series of statements. The method helped us to collect information with minimum distortion in terms of perspective.

Sample Size

150 were selected randomly as sample responses.
IV. DATA ANALYSIS

1. Here majority of them agree that virtual classes sharpen the digital skills, some of them very strongly agree on this aspect. But there are few people who do not agree at all.

![Diagram showing responses to Do virtual classes sharpen the digital skills of students?](chart1)

2. Here majority of people do not agree at all but some are in doubt whether it can be applicable or not. Only few of them agree to it.

![Diagram showing responses to Can Physical Classes be replaced with Virtual Classes?](chart2)
3. There is a very slight difference between the opinion of the people regarding virtual classes to be the future of education.

![Pie chart showing opinions on virtual classes]

4. In this chart we can see multiple responses from the respondents. Majority of people have neutral opinion and then the next majority of people agree on it. Others differ in opinion.

![Pie chart showing opinions on the emergence of virtual classes]

5. This chart also shows the same response are earlier, majority of them have neutral thoughts, then the next majority of people agree and rest differ in their opinion.

![Pie chart showing opinions on virtual classes encouraging peer interaction]

6. Here majority of them disagree and only few people agree to it.

Virtual classes are more effective than physical classrooms.
153 responses

7. In this chart we can see multiple responses from the respondents. Majority of people have neutral opinion and then the next majority of people agree on it. Others differ in opinion.

Do virtual classes lead to low motivation of students?
154 responses

8. Here majority of them agree and few of them disagree because bonding between students and teachers is very important for effective learning.

Virtual Classes reduces the Teacher - Student bonding.
154 responses
9. Here majority of them agree and few of them disagree because virtual classes lack engagement.

10. In this chart we can see multiple responses from the respondents. Majority agrees but some people also disagree with this aspect. Some also strongly disagree to it.

11. This is the most important aspect of online classes and majority of people disagree to it.
12. I think that majority of people has a neutral experience regarding online classes.

V. CONCLUSION

Virtual classes are going to be the future of education. Due to the ongoing lockdown in the country, classes all over are taking place on the online platform. This has really helped the colleges as well as the students because they could continue their studies without any hindrance. But while virtual classes have advantages there are a number of problems faced by the teachers and the students. These problems act as a barrier to their education.

While teachers need to put in intensive work and time to design the instruction, students need to equip themselves with technical proficiency to decode the course. Switching from physical classrooms to virtual classrooms makes learning a bit different and complex for the students.

Students are in a habit of passive listening and taking down notes but they do not get this facility in the virtual classes. There are students who do not have access to good internet connection and hence they are not able to catch up with the virtual classes. Self-motivation is also one of the common challenges faced by the students. Studying in a physical classroom with full concentration gives a better understanding of what the teacher is teaching. But in virtual classrooms students are less active. They do not get face to face interaction with their teachers and it can become problematic for the students to understand the course. Basically though virtual classes are going to be very helpful in the near future but still there are a few things which
are needed to be solved. The point is, even though it virtual classes aren't perfect, they are an amazing addition to our learning and towards our transformation for tomorrow.

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Students should try to have a reliable Internet connection. They should try to invest their money in the one which gives a better service and more data.

2. They should try to set up a good studying environment. It becomes a little difficult for the students to understand through online classes specially if your laptop is set up in the living room and you're attempting to study or take tests while your family's watching TV. But one should get a dedicated study place free from distractions.

3. Students should try to motivate themselves and try to concentrate in their classes. They should listen to their teachers carefully and can ask their doubts if any.

4. They should try to understand the ongoing scenario and try to adapt the change in their education system.

5. Students should save everything which is been provided by the teachers so that they can study from it later and make their notes.

VII. REFERENCES

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2. Problems Faced By Students In eLearning And How To Overcome Them