

Online Education Impact and Importance during COVID-19 with Reference to Rural India

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Online Education Impact and Importance during COVID-19 with Reference to Rural India

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Abstract

On March 26, 2020 Indian Government announced a state of pandemic emergency, which resulted in the adjournment of off-line learning in schools, colleges and universities. All the educational institutions were required to take complete e-learning. Therefore, students and teachers are proactively adopting e-learning methods. We can never imagine that we will come across such a situation. Taking online education is somehow difficult for students who live in rural India. The effect of pandemic COVID-19 is seen in each area all throughout the planet. It has implemented the overall lock down making exceptionally terrible impact on the education. Indian education system has been battling to endure the emergencies with an alternate methodology and digitizing the difficulties to wash away the danger of the pandemic. In this particular paper we will discuss the present condition of online education in rural India. This study particularly highlights the impact and importance of COVID-19 in rural India.

Keywords : Online education, Rural India, Impact, Importance.

Introduction

The Covid-19 first started in Wuhan, China. And after that it spread all over the world. All the nations announced the lockdown for saving the people from the coronavirus. COVID-19 crisis is the biggest interruption of global education systems in history. The impact of COVID-19 affected the educational institution in rural India. As we know that education is the most fundamental factor of true civilization and education is a weapon to reduce inequality and many more issues. (A. Gaikwad, V.S. Randhir-2016) Due to COVID-19 schools, colleges and universities are closed. The academic year should not be wasted. That's why the Government of India decided to give online education for continuing the study. Online learning has become a dynamic platform. In rural India all the teachers and students have switched to the online mode of instruction using technology. Actually,

India is an emerging and developing country. People who live in the urban areas have better internet connection so they are able to take online classes. However, students who live in rural areas are not able to get access to online classes. But proper teacher student interaction is not possible through this online teaching method. Teachers are trying their best and students also. But the main problem is poor internet connection in rural India. Most of the teachers started the use of multimedia for effective teaching, like Quizlet Kahoot, Canvas, Google Classroom, Schoology, Blackboard Learn and Cisco WebEx Meetings. Information communication technology has become more popular during this pandemic. It plays an important role in every individual life. It will really help the students in future to achieve their goals. (N.K. Roy-2012)

Objectives

1. To study the impact and importance of online education during Covid-19 in rural India.
 2. To know the contemporary progress of online education in rural India.
 3. To give the suggestions for better performance of online education

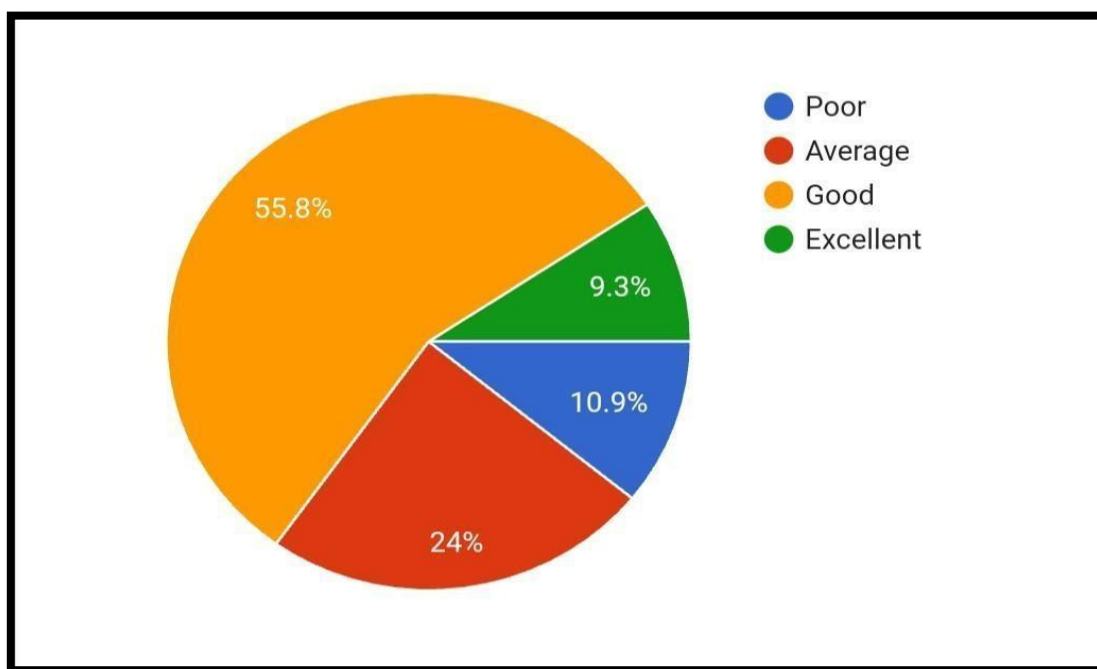
Methodology:

The data of this study is based on primary information which is collected through Google Forms, and also depend upon secondary knowledge.

Result and Discussion

The study gives the more information about online education and present condition of the rural education system.

1. How do you feel about online learning?



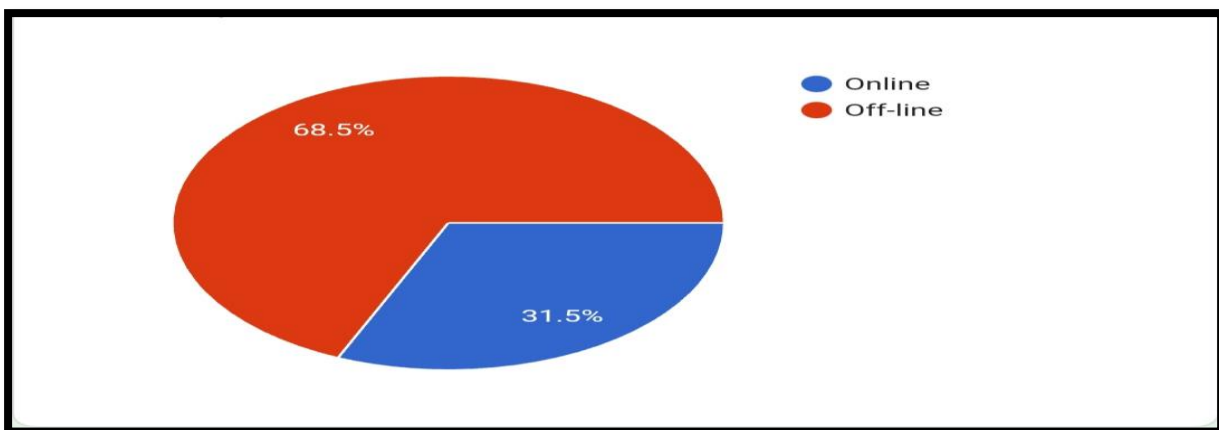
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According to my research 55.8% students who live in rural India think that online learning is good. And 9.3% students responded that online education is excellent and 10.9% students think the range of online learning is poor and 24% students believe that the online education's rate is average. In this way we can understand online learning in rural India is not developed as much as urban online education.

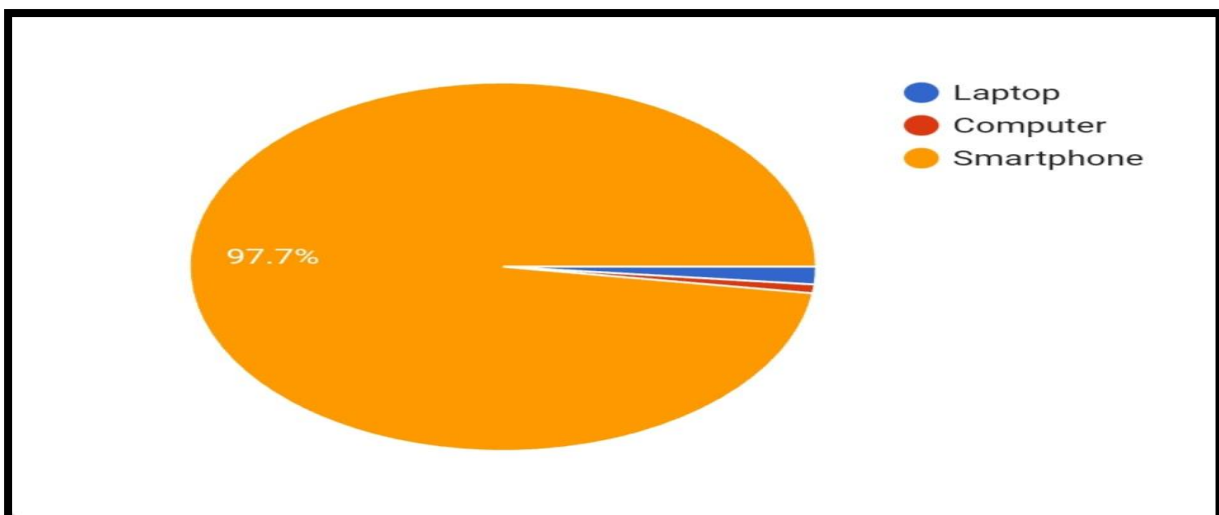
2. Which device do you use for online learning?

Majority of the student who live in rural India they started to use of smartphone for their study instead of laptops in computers because in rural area students have not proper knowledge to use computers as well as laptops. This is how student who live in rural India do not able to buy laptop and computer because they belong to lower income category.

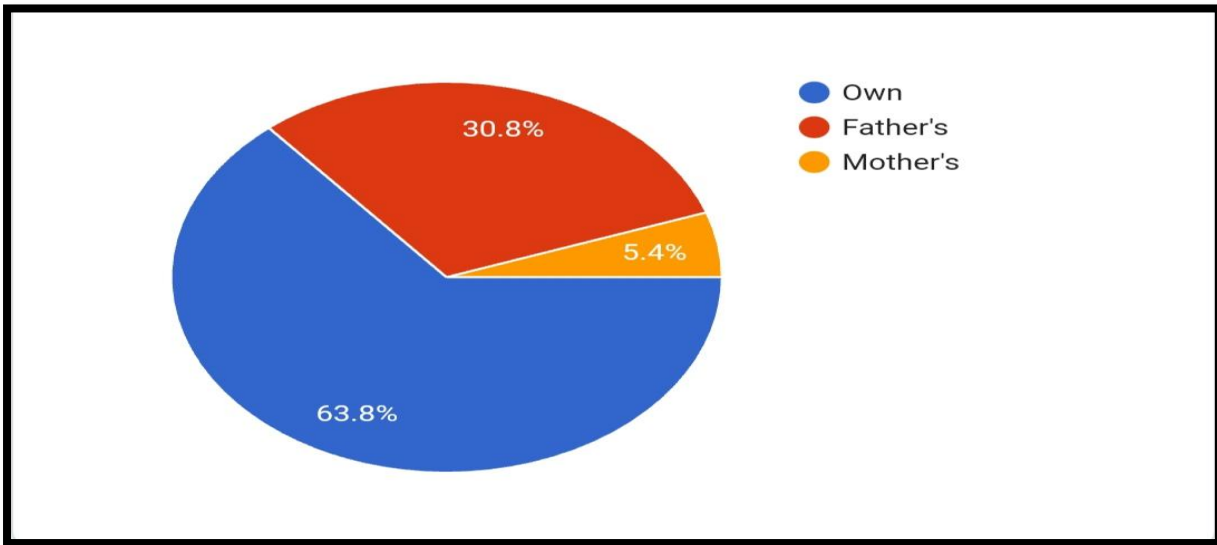
3. What do you prefer, off-line learning or online learning?



More than 68% students believe that the offline education is the best way of learning because off-line learning provides student-teacher interaction. 31.5% students believe in online learning. Off-line learning is essential to inspire communal and it increases learners' self-awareness. Whereas online learning permits the learners to take part in various activities through multimedia.

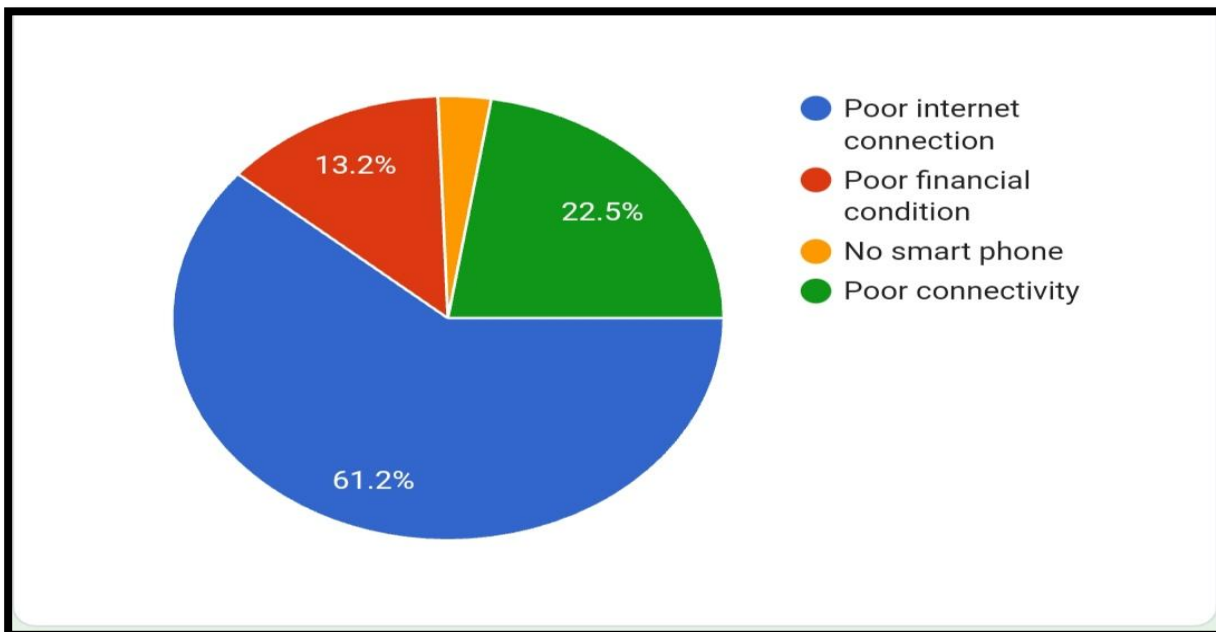


4. Do you have your own smartphone or your father's mother's?



More than 63% students have their own mobile phone for the study. And 30.8% students depend on their father's mobile for the study, 5.4% students depend on their mother's mobile. Rural Indian students using internet during the Covid-19 period. For online education students have started using smartphones, most of the students whose financial condition is not good they do not buy their own. Instead buying the smartphones they use their parents' devices.

5. What is the most challenging aspect of online learning?

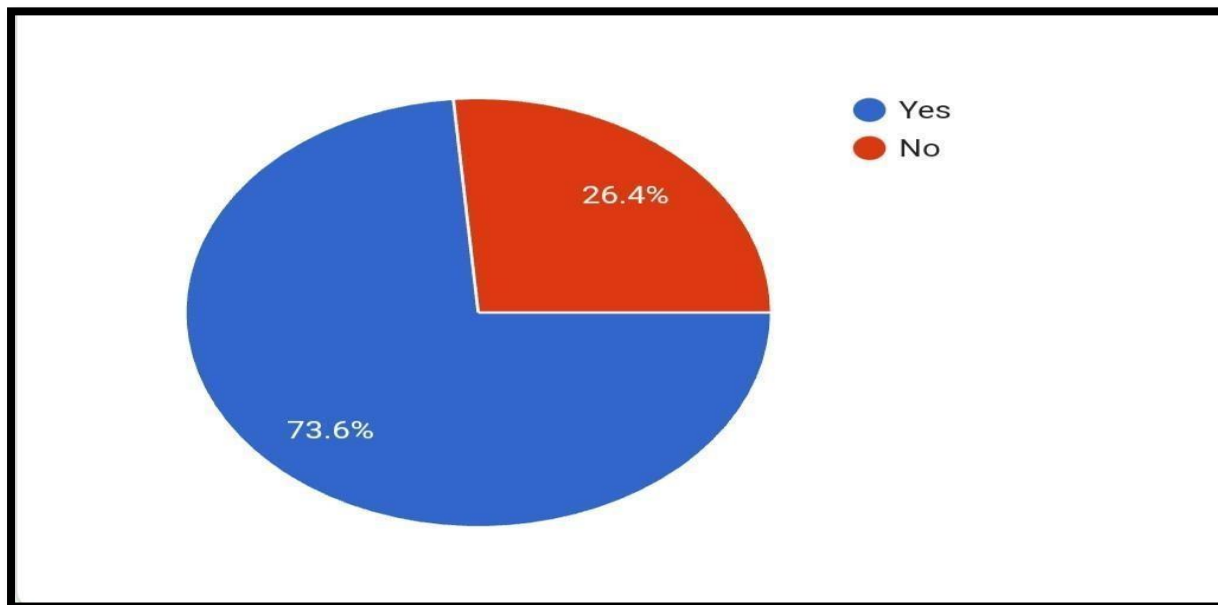


The big issue of online learning is poor internet connection. Due to this problem students become depressed because even having smartphones they do not get access to the classes. For that student

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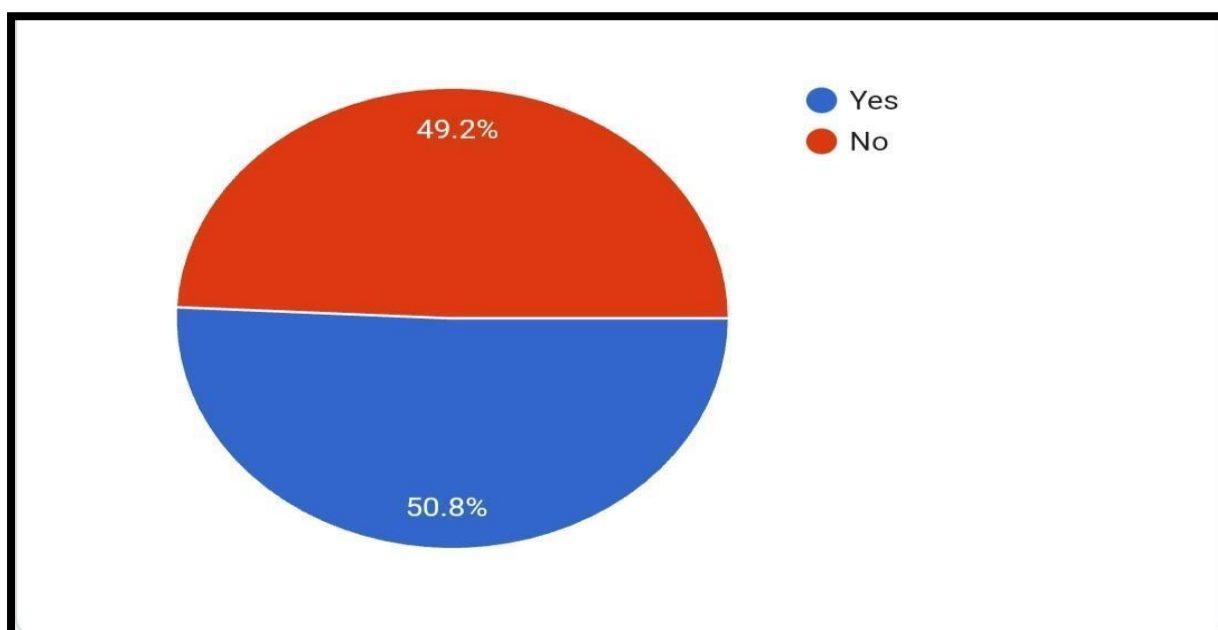
started committing suicide. It is very critical that an Indian student committing suicide during the pandemic for education.

6. Do you have access to a device for online learning?



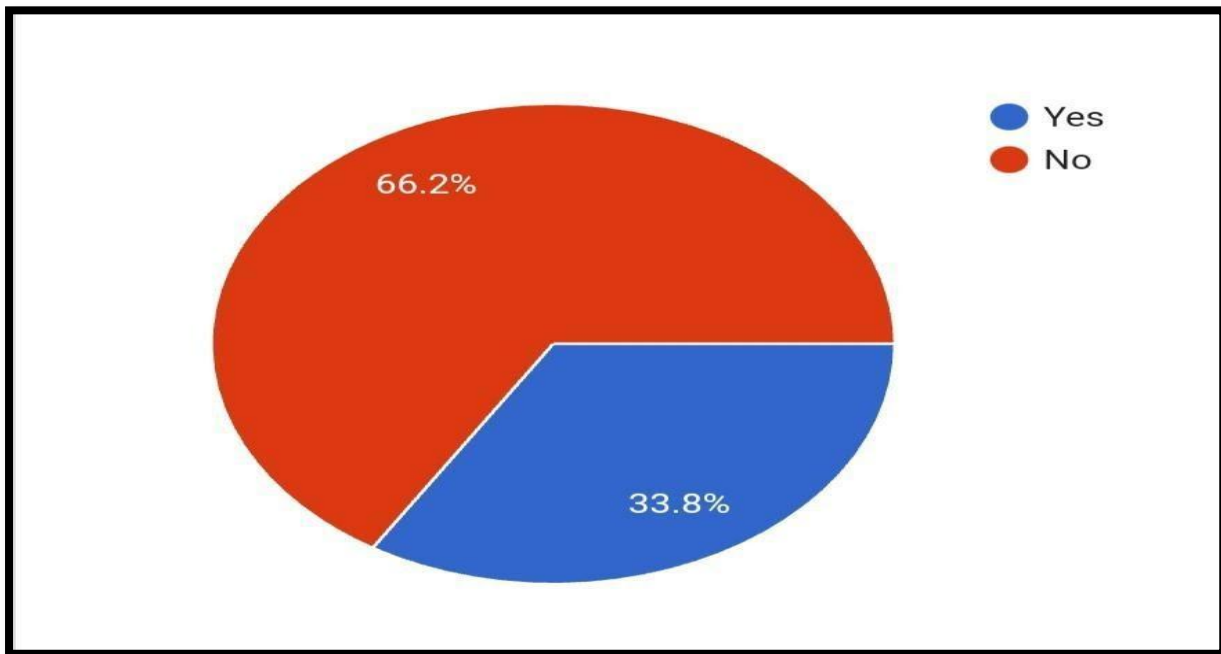
More than 73% of students have access to a device for online learning. And 26.4% do not get access to a device for online learning. During the lockdown and Corona crises all the world is using the different tools for education.

7. Do you enjoy online learning?



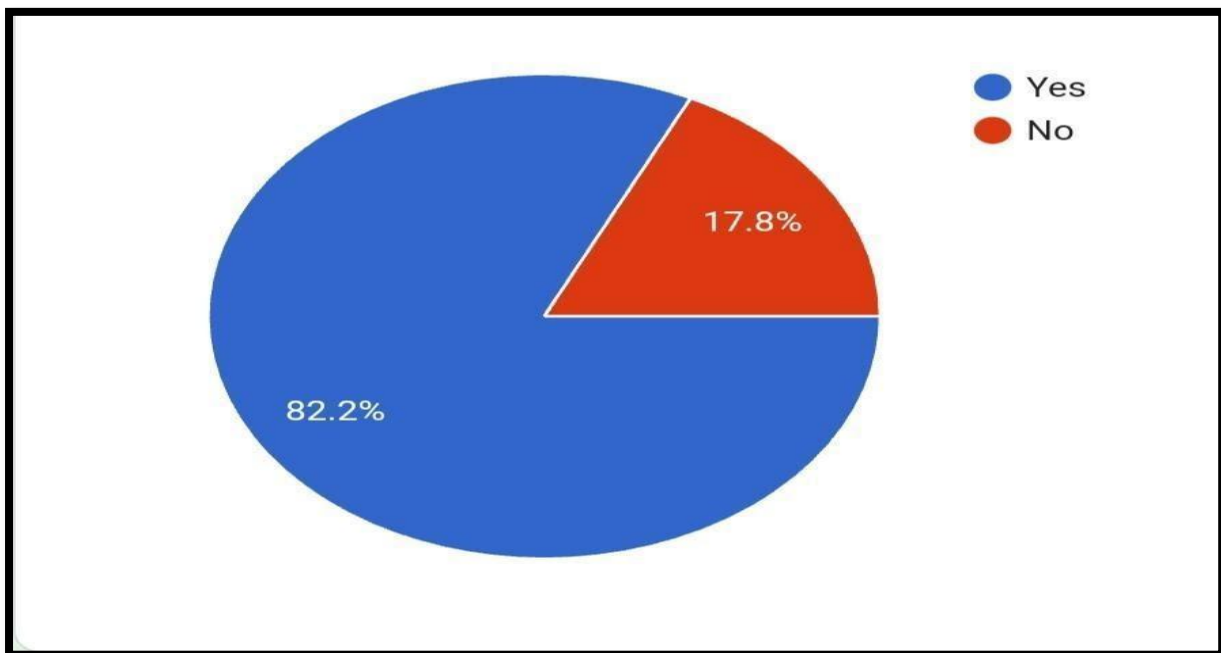
More than 50% of students enjoy online learning. Whereas 49.2% of students do not enjoy online learning. As per my research, off-line education is better than online education.

8. Do you have a high-speed Internet connection at your home?



Students of rural India face many problems during Covid-19. More than 66% students do not get the proper internet connection. And 33.8% have the proper internet connection. In Covid-19 crises, online education is started. Most of the students were not capable to attend their classes due to poor internet connection.

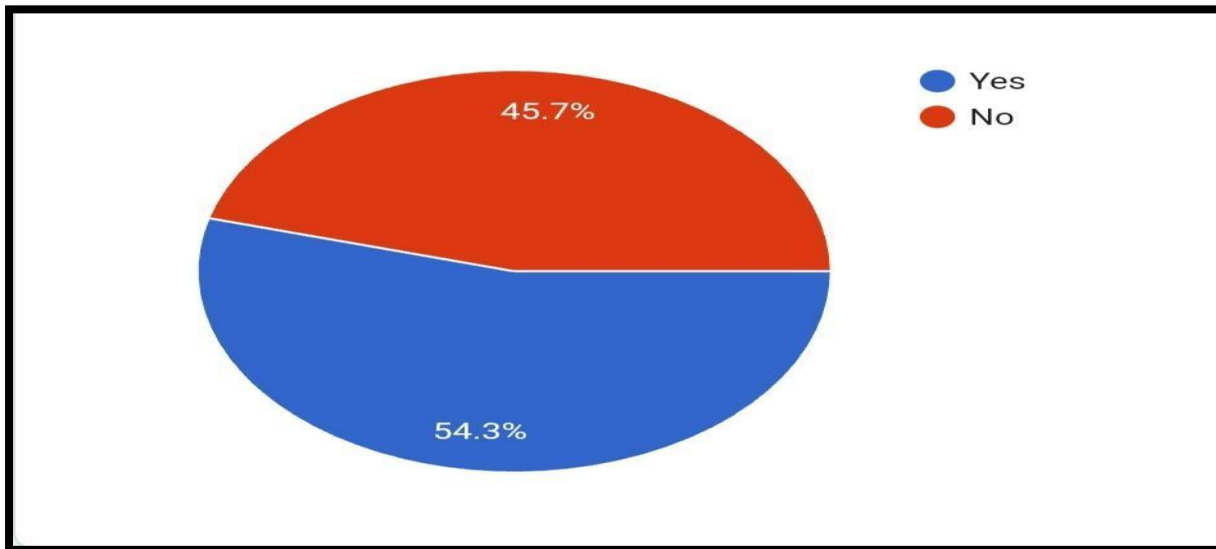
9. Does your teacher use the multimedia for teaching?



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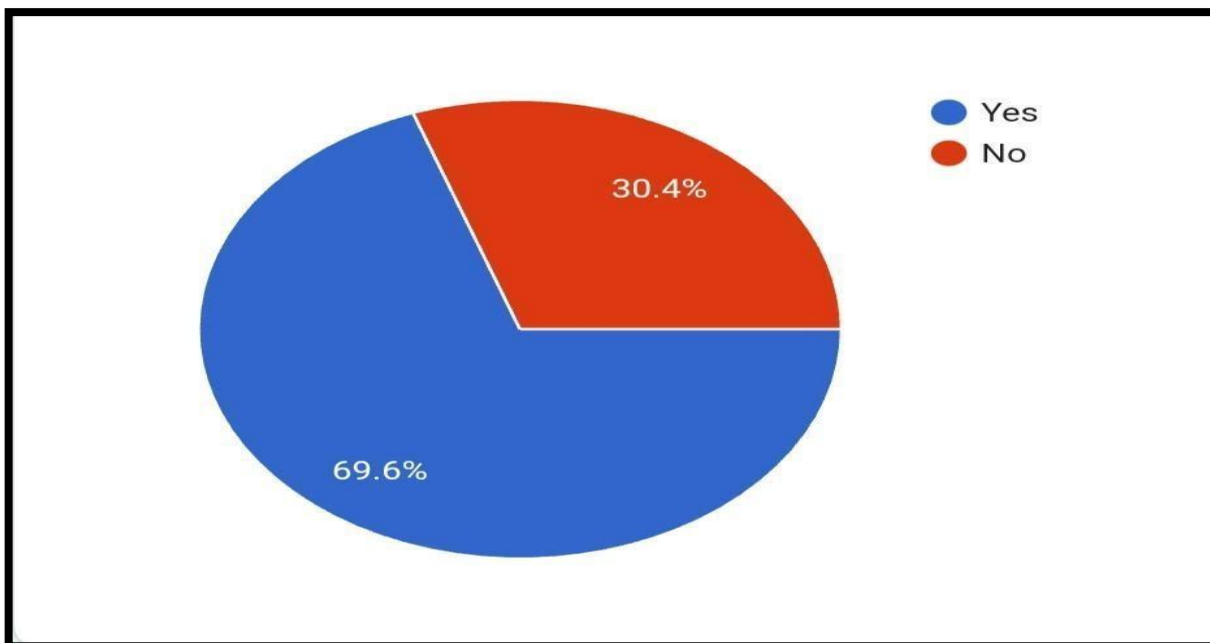
82.2% of student teachers in rural India use the multimedia for teaching. And 17.8% students do not use the multimedia for teaching. For making online education effective teachers are using multimedia effectively.

10. Is online learning providing human interaction?

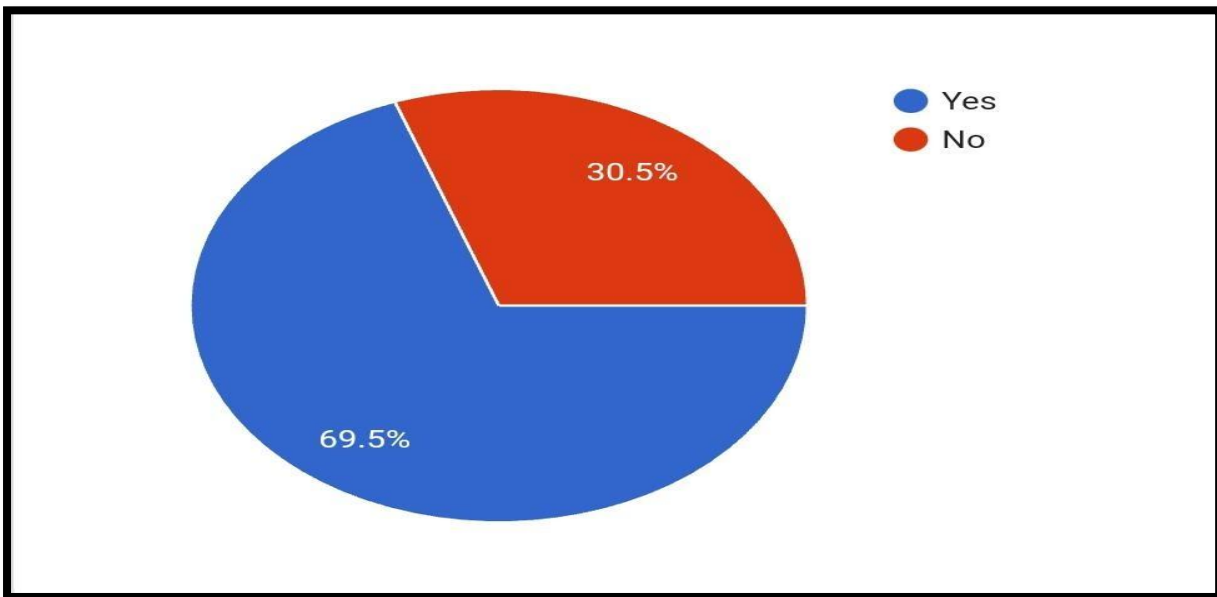


Some Indian students who live in rural areas believe that during Covid-19 they get human interaction through online platform. In other hand 45.7% students believe that they do not get human interaction. believe that they do not get human interaction.

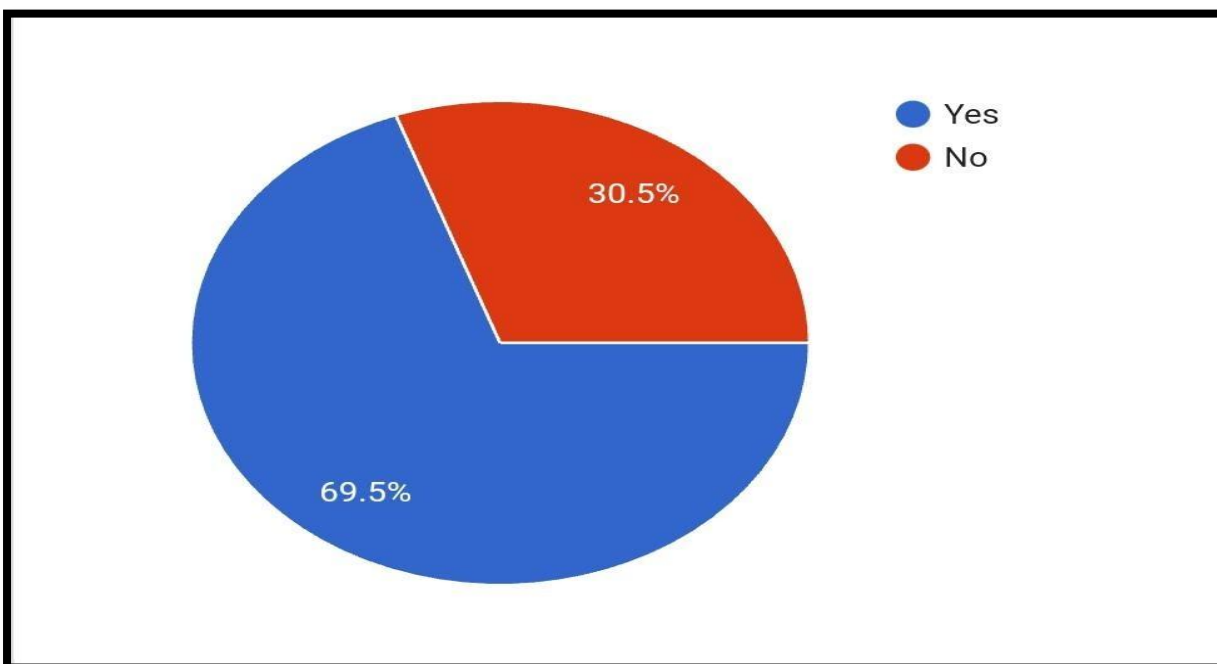
11. Does online education create a sense of quarantine?



More than 69% students feel that online education creates a sense of quarantine. And 30.4% students think that online education creates a sense of quarantine.



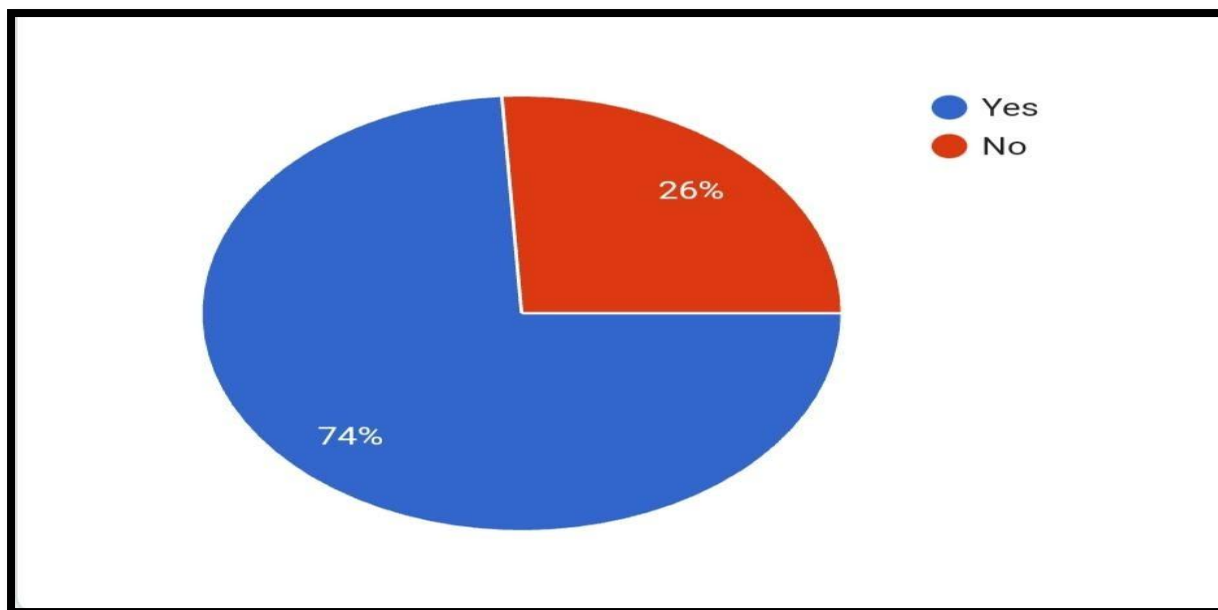
12. Have you benefited from this online education since you live far away from college?



More than 69% of students have benefited from online education. And 30.5% have not benefited from online education.

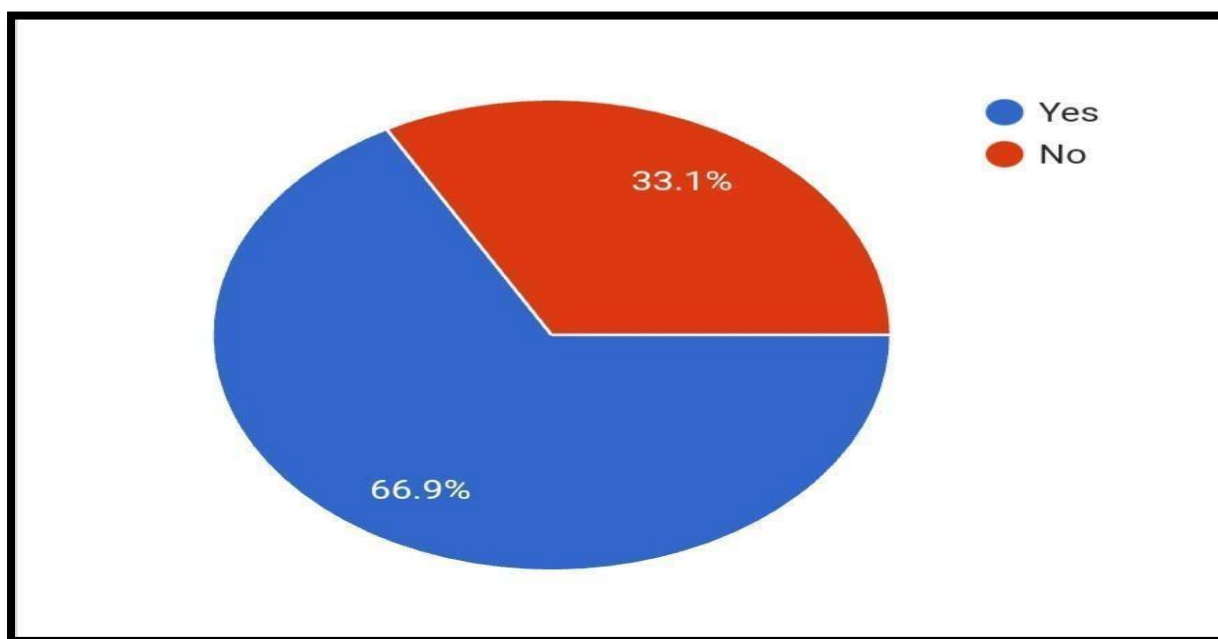
13. Is online education permit you to be more independent?

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74% of students feel more independent during online education. And 26% of students do not feel more independent. Online education permits the students to contribute their innovative ideas on different subject.

14. Is online learning stressful?



In India students face many problems. One of the big problems is stress. Some students take online education positively. Above study reveals that students become stressed.

1. Educational App in India:

A. Grade up: This app has a very big community of learners and teachers. This is exam determined communities which cover exams like SSC, JEE, UPSC, NET, GATE. Learners can collectively learn as their doubts to the mentors.

B. Adda247: This app helps the student for the study of government exams such as bank exams, SBI RBI etc.

C. Unacademy: This app covers more than 2400 video classes and specialised courses. It is free by subscription.

D. Textbook: Textbook is the best app for preparing bank government exam, UPSC exams. It makes available both websites and recorded and live classes. It also gives the access of quizzes for more practice.

E. IndigoLearn: It is one of the best learning platforms for C.A. students.

F. CAclubindia: It is an interactive platform for students, tax, accounting and finance professionals and taxpayers.

G. Drmentors Medical PG app: It is a NEET preparation app. It covers artificial intelligence based analytics.

2. Some other apps which helps to study for the student as well as teachers

A. Quizlet: Quizlet is a free website which provides learning tools for students including flashcards.

B. Kahoot: Kahoot is used for educational technology in educational institute institutions.

C. Canvas: Canvas is a system of course management which carries out online learning and teaching.

D. Google Classroom: Google classroom is a free learning platform which is introduced by Google. It gives free training and a lot of learning opportunities. Online learning is considered to be an effective and innovative way of learning for students. It reduces the time to write assignments, and the most important features of Google Classroom is that it is paperless.

E. Cisco Webex Meetings: Cisco Webex Meetings Conduct the online meetings. It is specifically designed for video conferencing and online works.

F. Schoology: Schoology is web-based learning management system. Teachers can create the task and can create assessments for students.

G. Blackboard Learn : It is a course management system. It provides grades in an electronic format to students.

3. Impact of online education in rural India:

1. In online education students often remain passive and inactive.

2. Many students have poor internet connection in rural areas, that's why most of the students are deprived from online classes.

3. In online education the interaction between students and teacher doesn't take place.

4. In rural India most of the students belong to the lower income category so, they do not buy smartphones, laptops and computers for online study.

4. Importance of online education in rural India:

1. Online education can be a lifeline for those who have obstacles or physical disabilities.

2. Online education puts together parent-teacher participation positively.

3. Student can become more innovative with the help of e-learning.

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4. Online education makes the students and teachers work with the help of current and authentic sources. (Martin F, & Bolliger DU- 2018).
5. In online education, learners can get the required information within a fraction of second.
6. New Web-based media as an instrument can be utilized to improve e-learning experience and make it seriously captivating, important and socially different.
7. The adaptability of online courses, understudies can save more hours.
8. Online teaching methods help the teachers to invent innovative methods of teaching.

The importance of online education in rural India cannot be forgotten.

5. Challenges of Online Education During Covid-19 in Rural India:

1. One of the big challenges of the online education in rural India is taking online classes/ Lectures.
2. The challenging aspect of online education in rural India is financial conditions of students during the pandemic.
3. Inadequate digital framework is a challenge of online education.
4. Bounded social synergy is also a challenge of online education.
5. Online teaching methods help the teachers to invent innovative methods of teaching.

Conclusion

Online education has become very common during Covid-19. After getting the response of the students it seems that COVID-19 and lockdown affected rural education in India. Most of the students think that offline education is the best way of learning because students who live in rural areas do not get the proper guidance of handling the technology. I think for making online education properly Government of India should take some important steps for effective education in specially in rural area.

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