



CHANGING NEW NORMAL IN EDUCATION: YOUTH PERSPECTIVE

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Abstract:

During the year 2019, Coronavirus disease known as COVID-19 PANDEMIC has left the world with no choices but to stay at one place, with no social contact and required social distancing was the only solution that seem to work. The development of the countries came to a halt. People from Education, Medical, Science and Research were the savior who brought back the life to normal. There was a paradigm shift in all the fields of life and higher education has been no exception. The education becomes a real challenge where students didn't have smartphone, laptop/ desktop, data network and how to study online was the major issue for both – the students and the teachers. The survey aims at analyzing and evaluating present time challenges in teaching – learning and how adapting to new teaching strategies through online platform has helped in making education possible to access for the students. The survey was conducted through google form based on the student's approach towards learning online. The survey focused on their regularity, understanding of the subject, norms of Covid-19, role of Teachers in Higher Education, parents view on sending children to college and school, National Education Policy 2020 and students approach and acceptance of the changes being made to keep pace with the changing norms in the field of Education.

Keywords: coronavirus, national education policy, higher education.

Introduction:

Corona induced the world's unprecedented lockdown that kept 1.4 billion students out of their



pre -primary and secondary schools in more than 190 countries in Education sector. Schools were closed and children were confined to the houses the education of around 3 16 million students was hampered in India alone we shifted to an alternative education mode but that alternative was not accessible to all children belonging to the poor or even the middle class who were not able to arrange the required smartphones or computers or get internet as for the online learning they were forced to drop out from schools .This made the realization that the one single area where reform is needed is education .However the shift from the traditional education system to online education mode was so sudden and unplanned that teachers did not get time for preparation or training. But this transformation despite the difficulties and limitations has paved the way for a change in the education system.The fundamental objective of our education system is to inculcate life skills among students.It became evident that the education system should be made flexible and accessible for all. We have options like Open Book exam is attitude-based assessment and linking content knowledge to values of life. New Education Policy 2020 is a step towards student centric learning. The online system of education was a step towards new teaching learning framework and laid the foundations of modernization of education. It can play an important role for teachers to assess each student with the help of technology.

Meaning: THE NEW NORMAL

A previously unfamiliar or atypical situation that has become standard, usual, or expected. In other words, current situation, social custom, etc., that is different from what has been experienced or done before but is expected to become usual or typical. The term new normal in education - refers to an online teaching- learning framework during Covid-19. To cater the needs of the students and initiate learning , online system of education was adopted globally.

The new normal education could be described as “mostly blended learning” in which the teaching and learning process are mediated with technology and done in various modalities. The Department of Education has pushed for a modular approach, which has become the norm during the pandemic. Faced with several difficulties, many schools thought of using technology such as the internet, handheld radio, radio broadcast, videos, limited face-to-face, and other means.

Various platforms like Google Classes, Google Meet and Zoom became handy. Nevertheless, many of these tools were new to teachers and students. Most have no training a prior to usage, though online webinars have flooded educators for them to be capacitated with the blended learning modalities. Below are some other important factors to consider -

Cooperation among the key players

To continuously survive the challenges of the new normal education, what I observed is that there is a pressing need for equal cooperation and teamwork of teachers, parents, and learners,



not only on focusing how to use technology. Without the cooperation of teachers, learners, and parents, quality education may not be guaranteed.

Time management

Since students are not required to be online 24/7, a time schedule of classes is provided for students which will serve as their guide. Time management skills is then paramount and should be taught, encouraged and instilled. Usage of technology and lesson preparation.

For technology, the Learning Management System (LMS) platform could be taken advantage of. This platform allows teachers to create virtual classes where they can assign activities that learners need to go through, monitor if the activities have been completed, grade submissions, and conduct online quizzes to assess comprehension while face-to-face classes are not allowed.

Preparation of series of engaging Technology, Entertainment and Design (TED) Talks with follow-up Q&As is not advised. Good online schooling during the pandemic is a team not a solo performance. It calls for a careful preparation and coordination. A unique video lesson anchored with most essential competencies(MELC) should be prepared by teachers teaching the same subject.

Monitoring of performance

Communication with learners and their parents should be active to provide learners with a better educational experience. A learner's email or messenger should be checked for assignments and projects to be submitted. Learners need help, they should not be working alone or independently. That is one reason why teachers should take initiatives to set up a meeting with parents for the progress of their child.

Setting-up a study area

Learners are informed to set up a designated study space. A designated spot at home should be assigned where learners can have it as a study corner. Learning materials, on the other hand, like cellphone, laptop, notebooks, pens and paper should be available.

These are simple but necessary factors to consider if survival is the objective in the new normal education. There are other recommendations to help the education sector, but for now these are useful as they can be implemented by teachers, learners and parents together.

Department of Education has been firm on its stand that "Learning must continue". Diverse strategies and learning modalities have been introduced to make sure it will address students' needs and interests in continuous learning. Nevertheless, simple but effective measures must be put in place for the teachers, learners and parents in adjusting with the new normal setup.

The present paper is an outcome of the survey conducted in HEI at Jaipur during Covid 19 times throwing light on the new change from normal.

On the basis of responses discussed above by the students the following analysis was done

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The survey was conducted in private college of Jaipur , to have an insight of the changing new normal. Therespondents had been 121.from which 114 were from graduation and 7 respondents have been from post graduate.Figure 1 shows distribution of respondents according to class. Maximum students were in graduation (94.21%) and rest 5.79% were post graduate. Thus, sample consists of maximum graduate students.

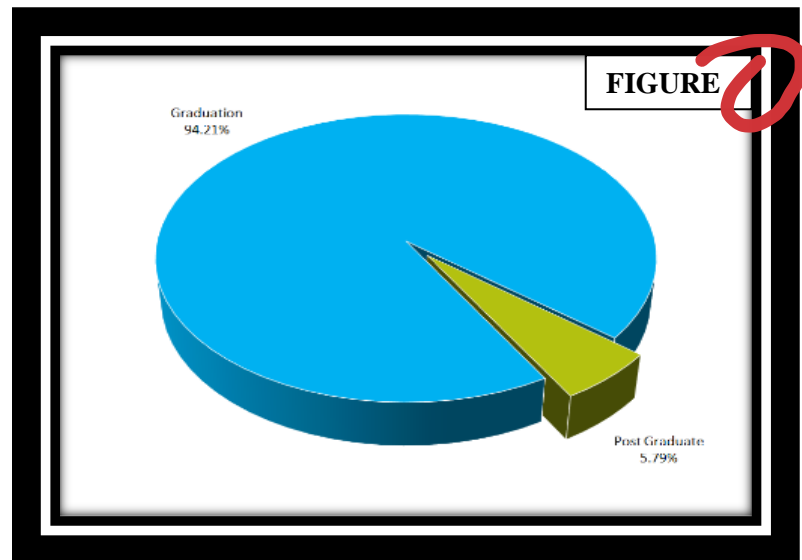


FIGURE: 1 SHOWS DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS

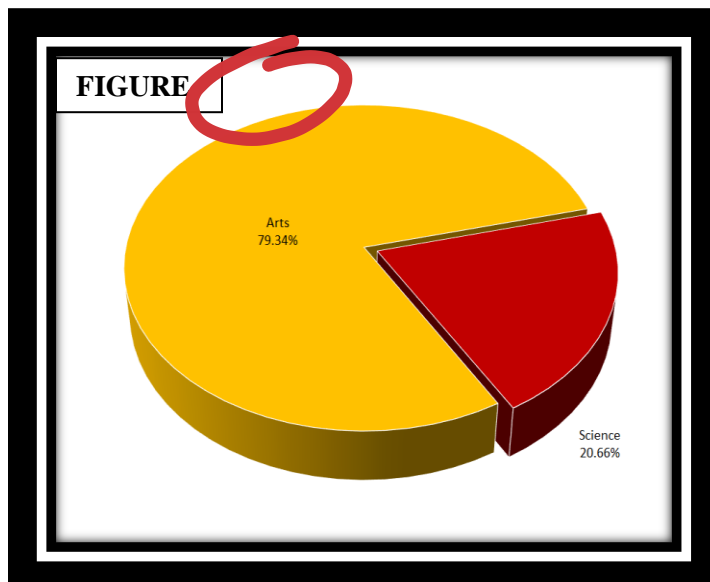


FIGURE 2 .SHOWS THE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS

According to the faculty in which they are studying. Maximum 79.34% of students were from Arts faculty and rest 20.66% from science faculty.

As the students are the Primary stakeholders in the Education system. The responses received from the students in favor of this statement are as follows –

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- Any education system is incomplete without students after all it is all going to directly and indirectly affect them only,
 - They are the future of the society, the country and future of the economy.
 - They are also responsible for the achievement of the learning outcomes through their active participation in school activities, programs, and projects.
 - They are the one who is associated with the welfare and success of a society. They are the ones who are learning and gaining knowledge.

The second epitome of the education are the teachers, **the GIVERS**, without whom the education system stands incomplete when asked related to the role of teachers in Higher Education related to education and life the summery of responses received were:

- They provide their immense knowledge to students.
- They help and motivate students to work hard,
- They should listen to students' problems in difficult times. Understand them and if they are wrong then correct them with patience. Teaching methods adopted by them should be good.
- Guide and help students in every possible Instead of just teaching textbook material
- Teachers should also explain how to learn using flowcharts,
- Teachers can explain the inter connection of various chapters with each other i.e., how various chapters are linked. Most important is associating texts with practical life, this can be done by giving real life examples. This will help students in relating their textbooks with surroundings around them.
- Regularly conducting classes and taking doubts clearing sessions.
- To increase student's practical knowledge and prepare them for the future by guiding students during the lecture and help in preparation of their competitive exams.

Role of teachers related to life of students according to responses received from students:

- teachers besides teaching should be as guides and mentors. **Keeping the betterment** of students in mind.
- Guide and support students in achieving their ambitions.
- Encourage students' mind and their way of thinking.
- Providing students with experiences that enable them to enter the field as practitioners.
- Teachers must have healthy attitude and should possess rich values.

- Teacher should act as a friend, philosopher, and guide. They should guide students and solve their problems.
- They should help in building up of the personality of the students.
- Teachers should talk about other things beside course. They should act as a family member and not as a part of institution only. They should encourage students to develop their skills according to their interest and identify their creativity and enhance it.
- Teachers should try to understand children in a polite way.
- They should be friendly and teach in an informative and curious way.

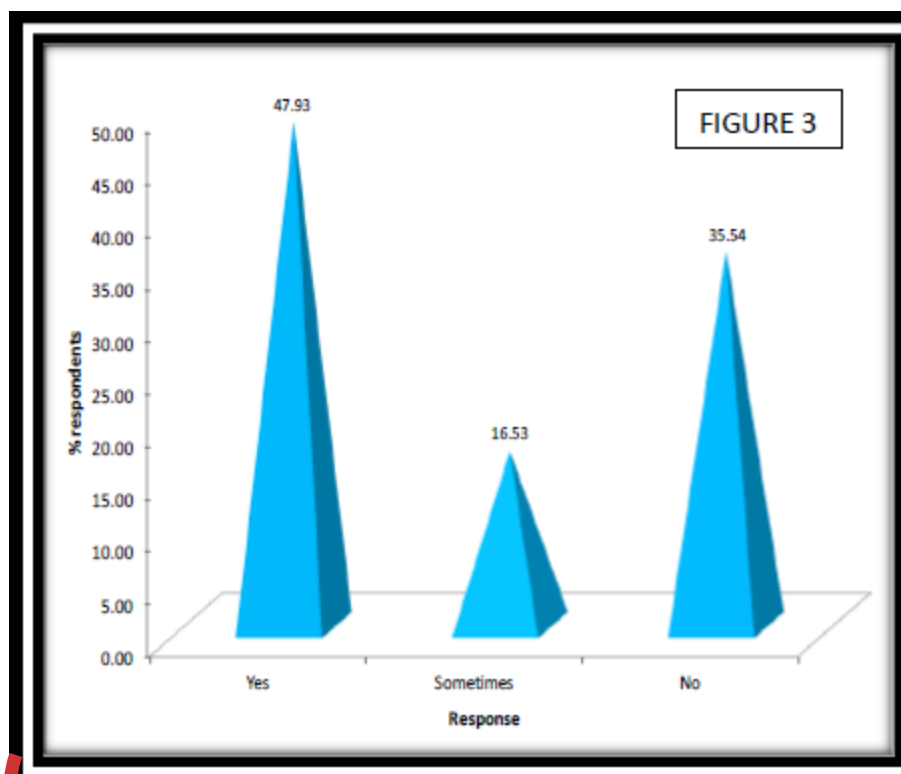
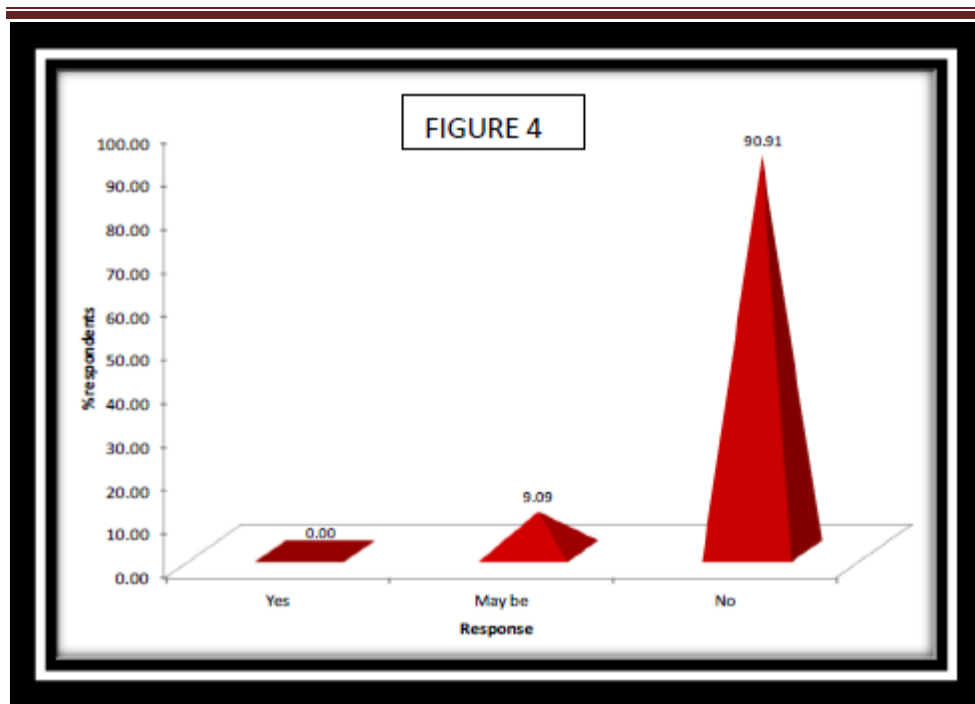


FIGURE 3 :UNDERSTANDING THE SUBJECT THROUGH ONLINE MODE

As far as understanding the subject through the online mode of teaching is concerned, less than 50% (exactly 47.93%) of students affirmed that it is easy to understand through the online mode of teaching. 16.53% said sometimes and 35.54% completely denied from it.



REGARDING AWARENESS RELATED TO THE NORMS OF RE-OPENING OF THE

FIGURE 4

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS: FIGURE 4 depicts that Maximum students were unaware of the norm of re-opening of educational institutions and 9.09% were not sure about it. Thus, not a single student is completely aware of norms of re-opening of schools.

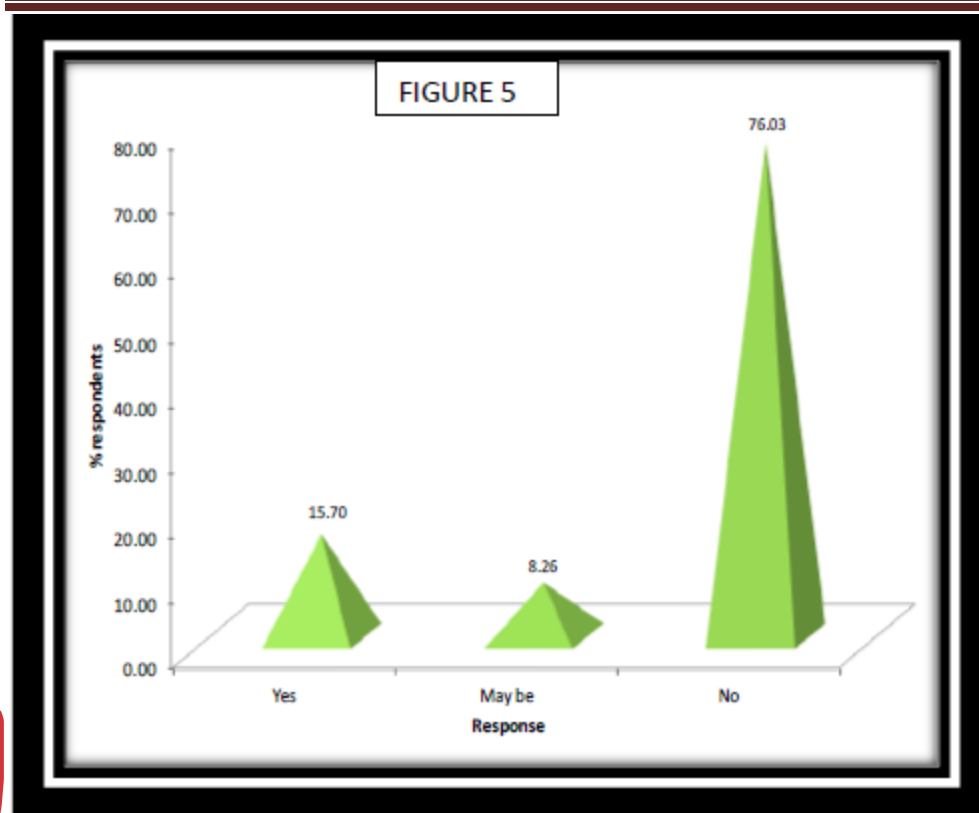


FIGURE 5: SHOWS RESPONSES OF STUDENTS RELATED TO HOW TO FOLLOW THE NORMS OF SOCIAL DISTANCING IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS:

Maximum students (76.03%) denied that it is practical to follow the norms of social distancing in educational institutions. Only 15.70% agreed about it and 8.26% were not sure about it. Thus, maximum students feel that it is not practical to follow norms of social distancing in the educational institutions.

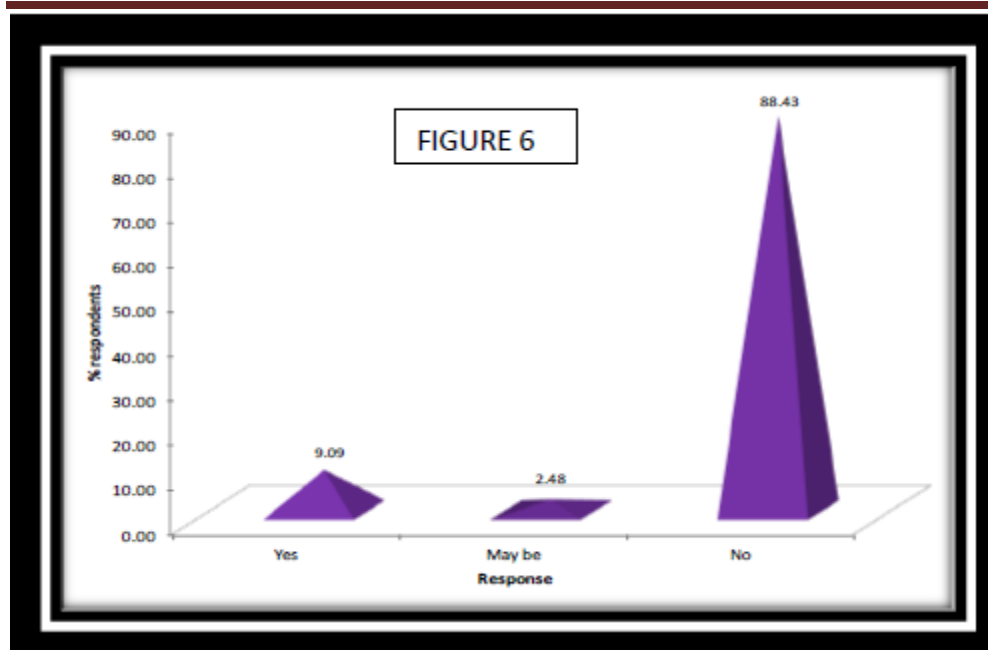
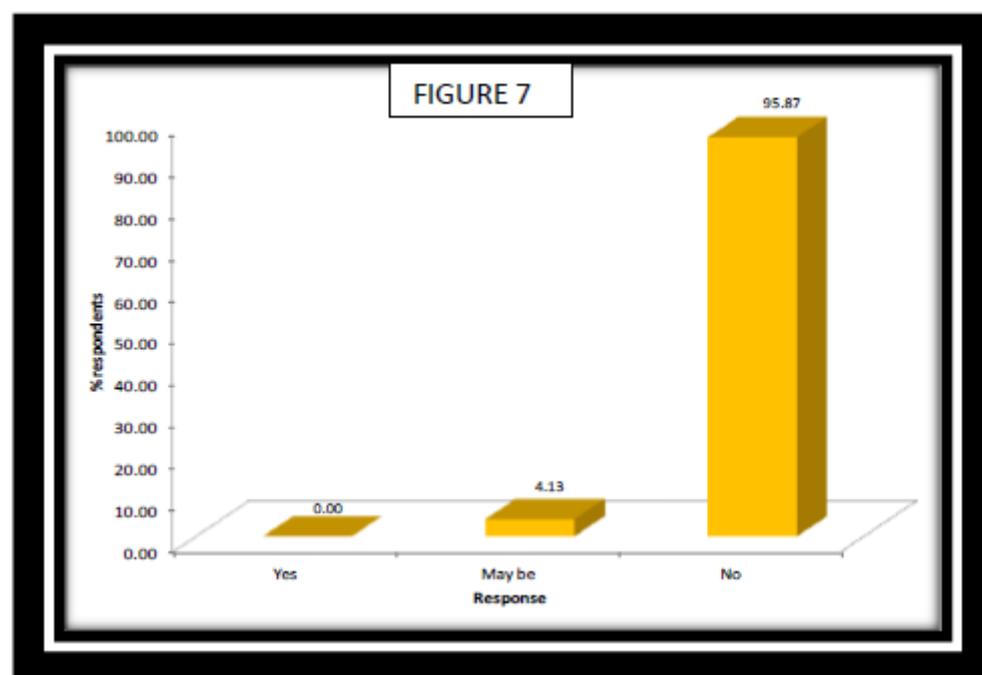
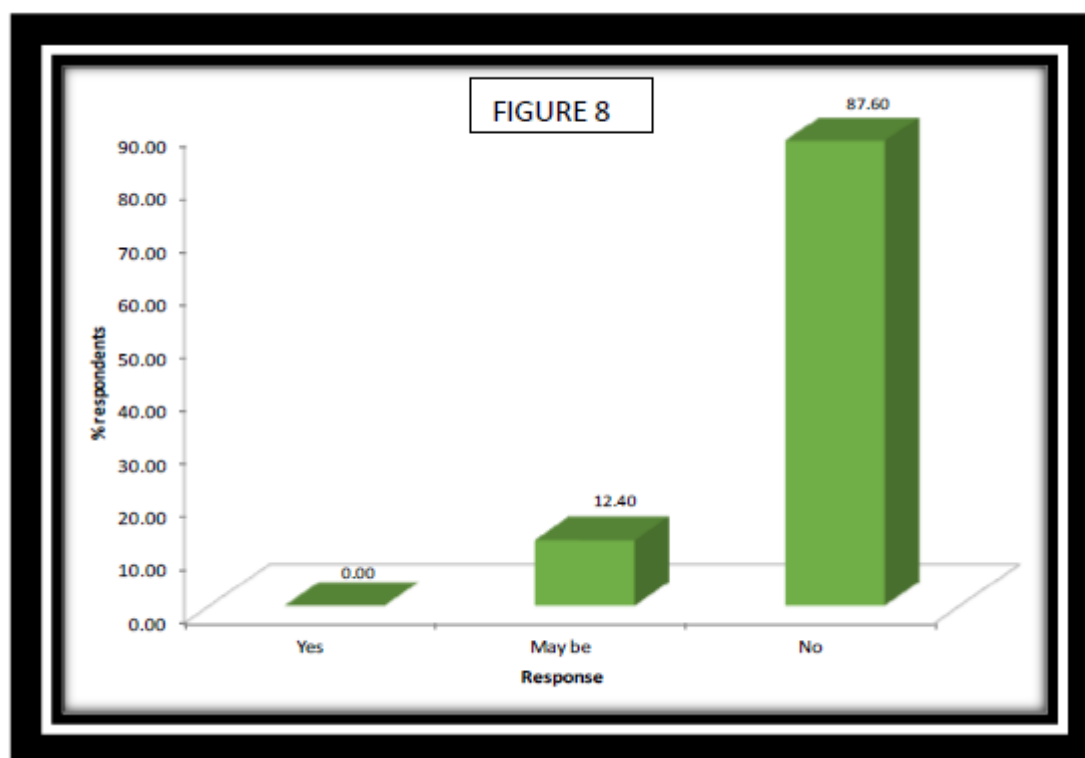


FIGURE 6: THROWS LIGHT ON WILL YOU REJOIN YOUR CLASSES AS SOON AS THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS RE-OPEN.

In response to the question maximum(88.43%) denied. Only 9.09% said they re-join institute and 2.48% were not sure about it.



As far as parents' awareness about norms of re-opening of educational institution was concerned ,in this case 95.87% said that their parents are not aware about norms of re-opening of institutions and rest 4.13% were not sure about it. No one said that their parents are aware about norms of re-opening of schools .This is clear from FIGURE 7.



As shown in FIGURE 8 Most of the students said that their parents were not willing to send them to school or college. 87.60% said that their parents are not willing to send them again to school. 12.40% were not sure and no one (0%) agreed about this question.

FIGURE 8

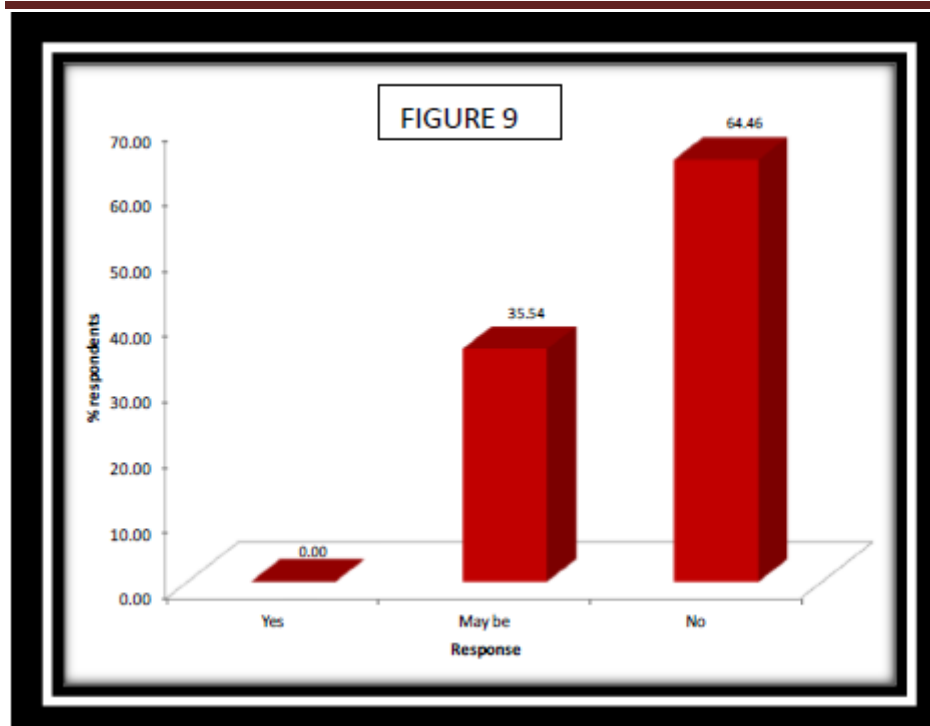
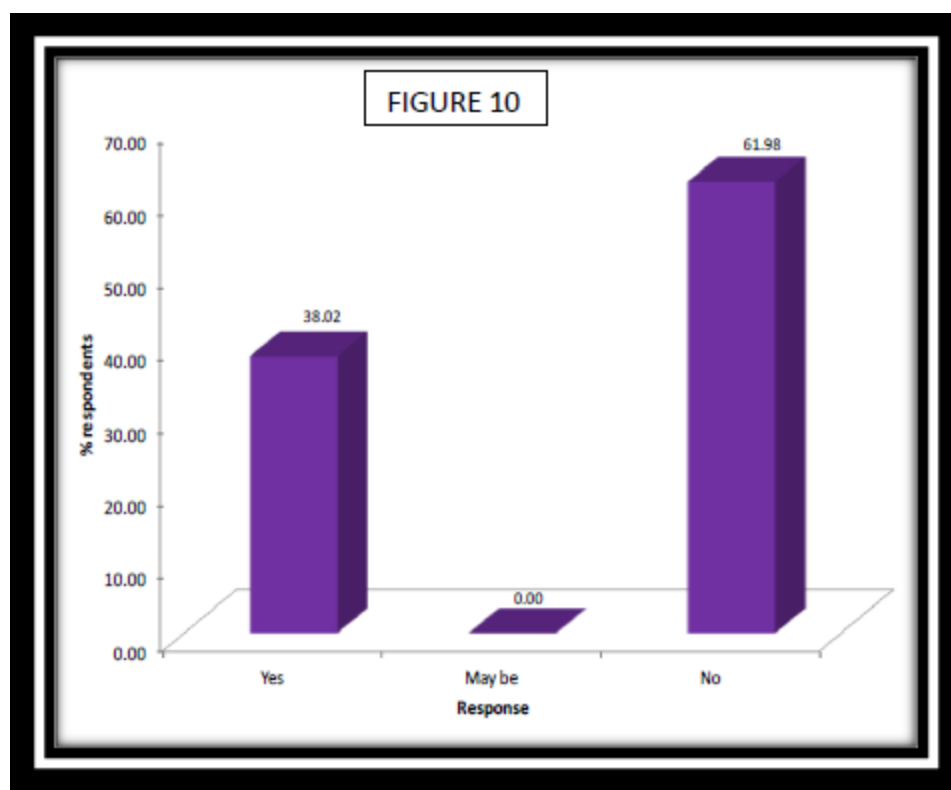
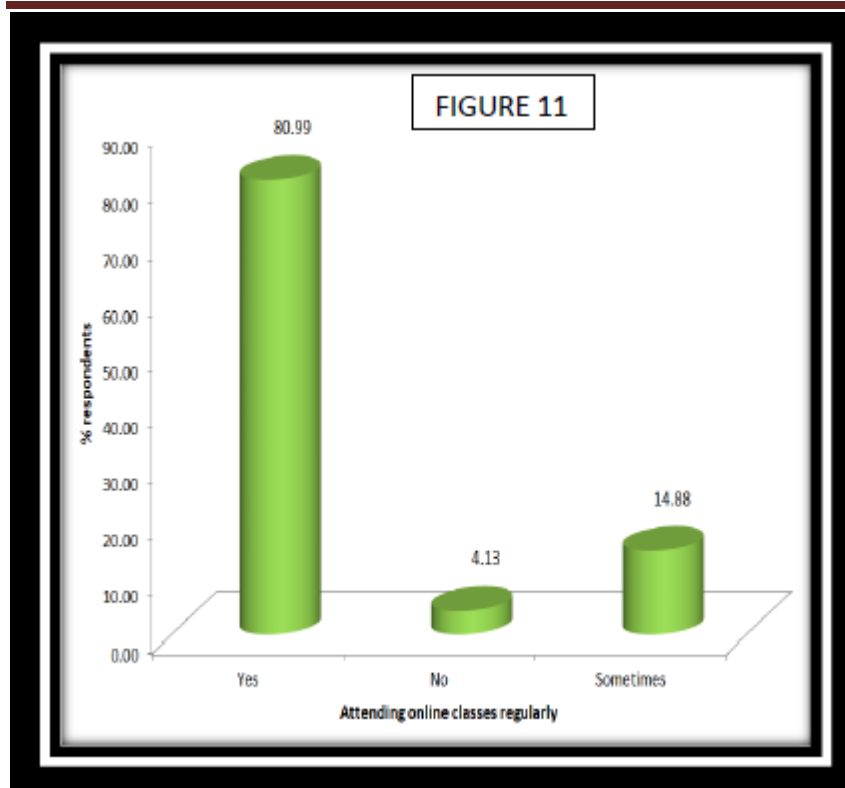


Figure 9 depicts the responses of students regarding awareness of National Education Policy 2020, a large percentage of students (64.46%) are totally unaware off and rest 35.54% were not very sure about it.



Regarding accepting changes being made and keeping pace with changing norms in the field of education, from figure10 it is clear that 38.02% are accepting it and rest 61.98% completely denied it.



As far as attending online classes regularly figure 11 shows that 80.99% said they are attending it regularly. 14.88% said they sometimes attend it and only 4.13% said they are not attending regular classes. Thus, maximum number of students are attending online classes regularly.

Positive Feedback (Advantages) of Online classes views shared by the students

As discussed earlier a large proportion of the students are attending online classes due to compulsion and not willing. Only 50.41% students said online classes are best. Some of the students said about advantages of online classes. These advantages are – They said that classes are free from time and space limitations i.e., they can take classes anytime, from anywhere and can see recording repeating number of times. They said they can see recording of the classes as many times as required. Some of the students said that they get readymade notes in online classes. Some said online classes are helpful in pandemic time and few said recorded classes are



best.

When asked about the negative feedback (Disadvantages) /Problems faced in Online classes

As nearly 50% students said online classes are best on the other hand 43.80% students said that online classes are OK but offline classes are best. They also said about the problems they were facing during online classes. Nearly 30% students said that they are facing network problem. 11.57% students said that it is difficult to understand subject matter online. 8.26% said there is lack of interaction between teachers and students in online classes. 5.79% said there is problem of time clash because time of online classes are not fixed. Some students (3.31%) said that they missed some classes because software does not allow to add more students because there is limit in goggle meet so that students more than certain number cannot be added. 3.31% students said they are attending online classes due to compulsion because it is necessary for continuing education. Difficulty in understanding the subject, video pause (buffering problem) and voice cracking were also the problem reported by 2-2 students in each case. Some other problems were bad impact on health, difficulty in taking notes, distraction caused by applications (like social media messages etc.) while using mobile for online classes, every student does not have laptop or computer for attending online classes, external disturbances at home, lack of discipline, missing co-curricular activities, missing of college environment were the problems some students reported due to online classes. 25.62% students reported mixed of other problems including above discussed problems. Few students reported that their parents do not allow them to use mobile. Some student who belongs to rural part of Rajasthan do not have access to electronic gadgets and network due to various reasons.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS:

Table has given Below

Test Results

Relationship with Class (UGPG)

QUESTION	CHI SQR	DF	P-VALUE	RESULT
Do you find it easy to understand through online mode of teaching?	1.4103	2	0.494	NS
Are you aware of the norms of re-opening of the Educational Institutions?	0.3886	1	0.533	NS
Do you think it's Practical to follow the norms of social distancing in educational institutions?	1.8206	2	0.403	NS
Will you rejoin your classes as soon as the Educational Institutions re-open?	0.6528	2	0.722	NS
Are your Parents/guardians aware of the norms of re-opening of educational institutions	0.2266	1	0.634	NS
Are your Parents willing to send you to school/College	1.8634	1	0.172	NS
Have you heard of National Education policy 2020	2.7359	1	0.0981	NS
Do you Agree and Accept the changes being made to keep pace with the changing norms in the field of Education?	0.7254	1	0.394	NS

The table14 given above shows the results of the test association between the response to various questions related to online classes and the class of students i.e., of UG or PG levels.



These questions were related to their experience and attitude toward online classes. The test results given in the table above shows the non-significant associations between the response of students for any of the question and the level of their class. All the non-significant chi-square values show that attitude of students toward online classes is not affected by the level of their class, in other words, these students of UG and PG levels have the same feelings and attitude toward online classes. For example, for the question “Do you find it easy to understand through online mode of teaching? the response of students of UG and PG level was not significantly different which mean almost the same proportion of students of UG and PG level find online classes difficult or easy to understand through. Second example - in response to the question “Will you rejoin your classes as soon as the educational institutions reopen?”, with regard to this question also there was a non-significant difference in the response of UG and PG level students, which means almost the same proportion of students said they will rejoin or does not rejoin the institution when these institutions will reopen. In a similar vein, responses of students of UG and PG levels, with regard to other questions can be understood.

Relationship with faculty (Arts/Science)

QUESTION	CHI SQR	DF	P- VALUE	RESULT
Do you find it easy to understand through online mode of teaching?	2.4572	2	0.293	NS
Are you aware of the norms of re-opening of the Educational Institutions?	0.878	1	0.349	NS
Do you think it's Practical to follow the norms of social distancing in educational institutions?	1.7893	2	0.409	NS
Will you rejoin your classes as soon as the Educational Institutions re-open?	1.8681	2	0.393	NS
Are your Parents/guardians aware of the norms of re-opening of educational institutions	3.3734	2	0.0663	NS
Are your Parents willing to send you to school/College	0.5417	1	0.462	NS
Have you heard of National Education policy 2020	0.1886	1	0.664	NS
Do you Agree and Accept the changes being made to keep pace with the changing norms in the field of Education?	0.1046	1	0.746	NS

The feelings and attitudes of students of arts and science faculty towards online classes were also tested. In the table given above results of tests applied to examine, the association of faculty of student in which they study (i.e., arts or science) and their response regarding different question with regard to online classes is given. In the case of students of different faculties also a non-significant association between attitude towards online classes and the faculty in which they study was found with regard to all the questions. It was assumed that



students of science faculty may find it more difficult to study through online classes as compared to students of art faculty, but non-significant associations show that students of arts or science faculties have the same feeling or attitude towards the online mode of teaching. For example, the non-significant association with respect to the question “Do you find it easy to understand through online mode of teaching?”, indicates that the same proportion of students find it difficult to understand through online mode of teaching whether he or she is from arts or science faculty. The non-significant association for other questions as well can be understood in a similar way.

SUGGESTIONS:

Few steps can improve education in new normal:

- Availability of internet facilities to the maximum.
- Teachers and the students to be trained to avail the best results related to elearning.
- More and more teachers and students should adapt to the changing educational dynamics.as psychologically teachers are feeling lonely while delivering online lectures and students are becoming indifferent to this new normal.
- Engage students in the learning.
- New teaching pedagogies to be practised.
- Education needs to be prioritized.by more of media coverage and budgetary measures.
- Curriculum needs to be reshuffled. Blooms Taxonomy needs to be put into practice.

Thus, with such suggestions the learning can be made much more accessible to the maximum by changing new normal in education as **CHANGE IS THE LAW OF NATURE.**

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