

Impact Of COVID-19 on Education Sector in Pakistan. (A Case of Punjab Group of Colleges)

**Muhammad Furqan Ayyub
Adnan Asghar
Hafiz Muhammad Jawad Arshad**

ABSTRACT

On 20th March, 2020 because of wide spread of COVID-19, the individuals were advised for isolation at home considering the lockdown of educational institutes. This caused economic barren and lack of learning and knowledge globally. As a result, Pakistan was at the top level worldwide for closure of schools during CORONA virus (COVID-19). For elimination of its adverse effects, The Government of Pakistan rapidly started effective strategies. The development and implementation of different tools for students to facilitate in their studies proved a great milestone for PGC. Microsoft teams for online lectures, recorded lectures, video audio conversations between students and teachers, special test system to gain competitive edge managed the situation during this COVID 19.

Key Words: PGC, COVID-19, Microsoft teams, online lecture, Recorded Lectures

INTRODUCTION

In Pakistan, the Punjab Group Of Colleges has been successfully establishing the highly managed policies for its largest quality education network. For excellent growth of the society, The PGC set the education development with great commitment and contributed in the remote areas as expansion. The Punjab College was established by The Chairman Mian Amer Mehmood in Lahore in 1985, at intermediate and graduation level with top class study practices. Moreover, 3 chartered universities, 417 colleges, 15 Resource Academia Campuses, 1075 Allied Schools, and 425 EFA Schools were also established afterwards. For every student, The PGC has a glorious structure from Playgroup to Ph.D. Else the remarkable education system school and college levels, The PGC finely running Capital University of Science and Technology in the Federal Capital, University of Central Punjab in Lahore, and Mohammad Ali Jinnah University in Karachi. Now, after lapse of 35 years, The Punjab College with state of art has become a highly known brand in education sector in Pakistan with 417 purpose-built campuses in 118 cities nationally providing educational facilities. For years, The Punjab Colleges have been achieving top positions in all educational boards, sports, and debates. We are committed for excellencies forever in the education sector with latest tools and study practices.

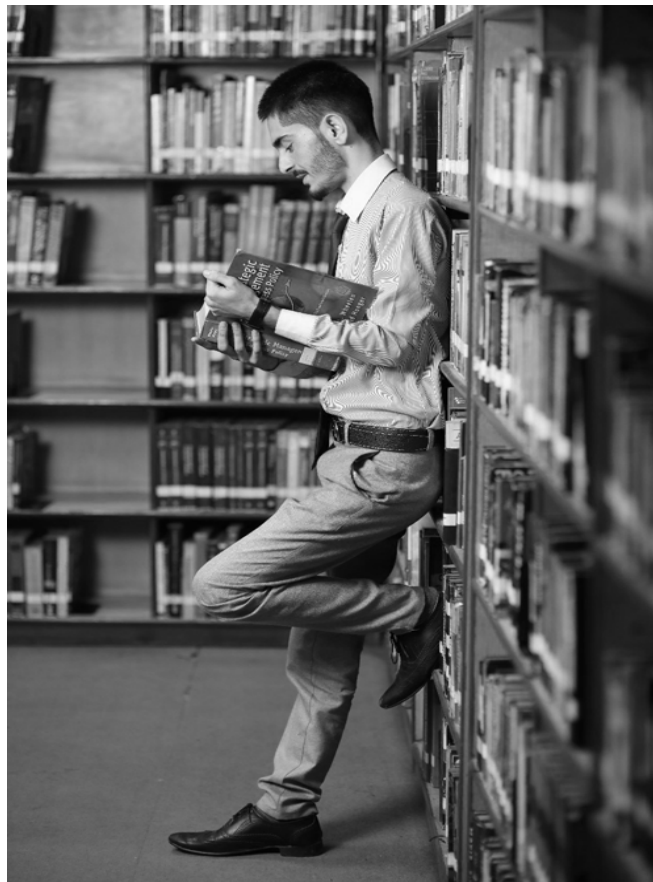
STERATEGIES AND TOOLS

Punjab group of colleges gives admittance to a-list instruction to all the learning devotees. The premier point of presenting e-learning by PGC is to open entryways of learning readily available and this drive uncovers the amazing chance to encounter the virtual world and learn in an alternate and more straightforward way. The plan of this entryway offers "in the nick of time" data and significant course based material for quick learning. This across the board student

direction gateway brings to you MCQs, intelligent recordings, past papers and numerous grounds the executives highlights. E-learning by PGC adjust your learning style, fortify your ideas and keep tabs on your development to assist with driving you to the method of flawlessness.

LIFE AT PGC

At Punjab Colleges, an immense scope of social, instructive, sports and social exercises are accessible and the blend of these exercises makes a charming student life nearby for our students. Engaging in grounds life is the speediest method for turning into a piece of the school local area and to make one's own improved growth opportunity. Grounds life exercises are worked around the idea of empowering every student local area part to communicate his/her own gifts and to regard all individuals from our grounds local area. Alongside high scholarly norms and open doors for improvement in a wide assortment of fields, the nature of our offices is likewise a significant motivation behind why Punjab Colleges are a top decision for students across Pakistan.



CULTURAL FESTIVAL & FUN FAIRS

Consistently we sort out exciting social celebrations and fairs where students have an opportunity to show their imaginative potential.



SEMINARS & WORKSHOPS

To give experiential information to our students, we coordinate classes and studios with industry experts and great lecturer from varying backgrounds. Students benefit from genuine encounters and examples of overcoming adversity.

Concerts

Now and again PGC arranges shows with famous performers and artists in all our grounds. We firmly put stock in advancing the craftsmanship and culture of our country.

Welcome and farewell party

From the time our students go along with us till the time they leave; we make an honest effort to provide them with an encounter that could only be described as epic. We commend these essential snapshots of trouble and joy with our students every year.

Study and recreational trips

PGC sorts out outings to invigorating social and northern objections for every one of our students. The outings are represented by rules and managed by our group of experienced staff.

Sports gala

Sports affair is a yearly game where all students get to participate and contend with one another. The champs are perceived by PGC and properly compensated while offering them a chance to vie for public level clubs.

Science & art exhibitions

Consistently at PGC, we put together Science and Arts Exhibitions so our students have an opportunity to seek after their energy and interest throughout everyday life. This produces a stage for development and workmanship.

DISCUSSION

Because of the wide spread of COVID-19, the Govt. imposed lockdown on 20th March, 2020 and the people were encouraged to disengage themselves at home. This lockdown violently impacted the economy as well as every one of the instructive exercises were closed down which

made a colossal hole in students' learning and information all around the globe. Pakistan was among the primary nations on the planet to establish broad school terminations because of Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). The Government of Pakistan made a quick move toward the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic to answer and to alleviate its effect. Countless approach papers about how to answer the pandemic have been created by the Government and other closely involved individuals, however the test was, and is, to guarantee a planned execution of best practice and direction across one of the biggest education systems. The World Health Organization has adulated Pakistan for endeavors made to hold the quantities of contaminations down. The primary case was pronounced on 18 March 2020, and the Government held its first essential gathering on 26 March 2020. The National Disaster Risk Management Fund designated reserves and, in May 2020, the Government distributed its National Response and Resilience Plan - a structure for methodologies and reactions to the pandemic. Being a head of educational chain PGC likewise confronted these issues toward the beginning of the COVID-19. PGC develop different tools for students to facilitate in their studies during this pandemics, such as Microsoft teams for online lectures, recorded lecture, video audio conversations between student teacher, special test system etc.

ONLINE LECTURE THROUGH MICROSOFT TEAMS

For continuance with excellences motives in the field of quality education along-with the standards and the goals set by which ultimately contribute towards the nation and country during COVID 19, PGC adopt different tools and techniques to facilitate the students. PGC not only set the Microsoft team for quality education for both the top managed faculty and the dear students but also felt it extremely necessary to manage the recorded lectures for the students in order to save the present and the future of the students and upcoming generations of the dear Homeland "Pakistan" as the matter of imparting quality education to the beloved students of PGC was highly required as the Great leader of Pakistan and his kind company also had laid the greatest stress for spreading the knowledge and saving and utilizing the precious present & future of the students and allied families together connected as nation for the establishment of nation based on unity, discipline and faith.



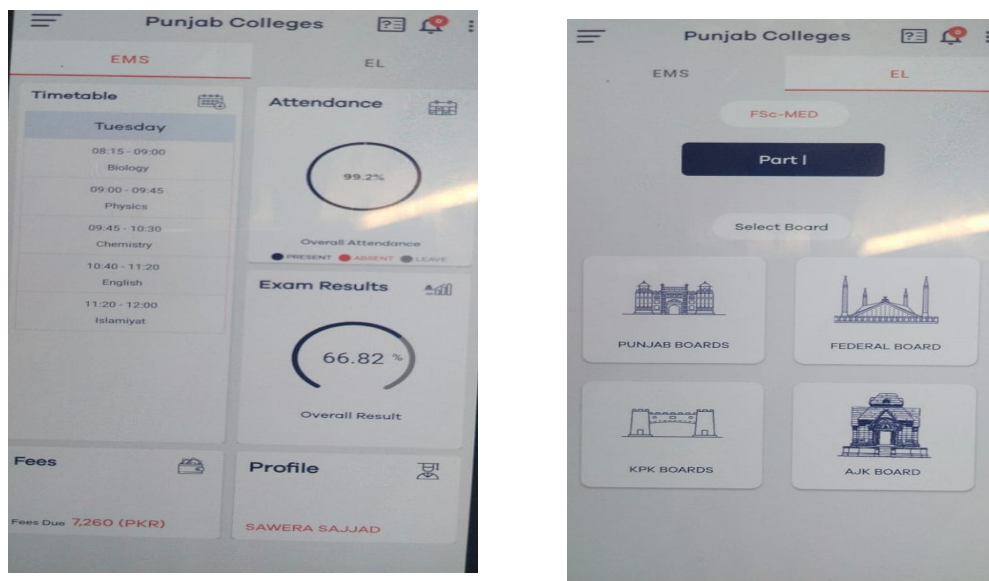
***Students Portal login interface**

RECORDED LECTURES

This strategy of designing and setting the recorded lectures really proved as an extremely effective technique as it provided the opportunity to students for learning, quality education and utilization of talent through internet and exposure by attending the video classes. During Covid-19, this strategy truly helped the organization i.e. PGC and its shining, valuable students as the video lectures became a new tool for the students for remote learning to save & utilize time effectively for greater achievements. It's really challenged the Covid-19 with true spirit as the faculty hired by the PGC was also committed towards achieving the organizational goals of quality education in the time of Covid-19 as an extreme crisis in the country which may prove as a great hurdle in the field of education to hinder imparting the quality education which the PGC let not succeeded it through its faculty based on true commitments and objectives and the skilled strategies and it really contributed towards to the students, parents and nation & country along-with PGC.

Student portal

As the vision of Punjab Group of Colleges has always been to develop and implement latest & innovative techniques, tools, measures and mechanism in the field of study for ensuring one best class quality education over the students to enable them to complete strongly with challenges nationally & internationally, the PGC developed & implemented student portal. This student portal provides ease to the students and their parents for reports of students. The student portal also provides guidance to students over the academic affairs regarding MCQS, Interactive Videos, Past Papers and multiple Campus Management. It has a proper way of login and further usage and whenever any student uses the student portal, he feels clearly that he is quite attached with the latest I.T. techniques which also not only gives the student a feel of being a part of fast pace, but also gives the opportunity to contribute towards I.T advancement at national as well international level. This is how the PGC has always been engaged in developing & implementing the latest practices in the field of education for ensuring the best class quality education, the PGC did the same during the Covid-19 and implement the student portal for students to facilitate them and eliminated the effects of Covid-19 by doing so, failing which Covid-19 may prove as a hindrance in the way of the spread of the best class quality education for students. So, PGC made it quite impossible by utilizing its organizational skills related to I.T's with proper time management and without study loss of students. So, the development of student portal has been no doubt a great milestone for PGC & students over Covid-19.



***EMS and E-learning app desktop**

Test system

As it is quite clear in the study market that the student gets him enrolled in PGC for the best future and the study practices, therefore, PGC has developed a complete & structure study system for the students ensuring the quality education and Bi-Weekly Test System is one of the above mentioned study system. For this purpose, i.e. Bi-Weekly Test System, the students and their connected In-charges are provided the syllabus in the start of the each month, by the PGC management.

This approach enables the both the students and their In-charges for exact preparation of the course, which ultimately shows the results of students as well the In-charges through the Bi-Weekly Test System and if this approach is taken in the long scenario, it shows the excellent and outclass results with top positions in the study markets every year. So, Here again, it is not out of space to mention here the PGC has always been interested, motivated and initiative for implementing the best class quality education practices for the students.

SPECIAL DISCOUNT POLICY DURING COVID-19

The PGC not only has a clear focus of best class quality education system for the students for ensuring their bright & successful future both nationally & internationally but it has also been quite interested and initiative for supporting the community and dear nation of Pakistan.

The PGC offers the scholarships for the competing students for enabling them successful in future. The PGC also provides the opportunity of discount in fees on kin-ship basis as well as for the deserving students, so, that their bright future may intact and they may excel in field of study.

The PGC also provided 25% waive off in fees to students during the Covid-19, as it laid the worst effects on economy and made it quite difficult for the students & the parents to continue best class quality education at national level due to the worst economic crisis caused by the Covid-19. Here, again, by developing & implementing the 25% waive off in fees for students, the PGC

provided that PGC has always been committed highly for the spread of the best class quality education for the community and nation and, this is how the PGC again made the Covid-19 fail and continued its real vision of spreading the best class education for the community and the nation as well.

Teaching Notes

Synopsis

This study will observe the affects of COVID-19 on the economy specially on all the education sector. This study will also investigate the policies of the Government of Pakistan to overlook this problem. This study will also help to know, how PGC develop different tools for students to facilitate in their studies during this pandemics, such as Microsoft teams for online lectures, recorded lecture, video audio conversations between student teacher, special test system to gain competitive gain and manage the situation during this COVID 19.

Objectives

The objective of this contextual analysis is to show understudies how the working environment elements have advanced after Covid-19 around the world. The reason for this examination is to show understudies the adaptable working worldview and the difficulties that organizations experience while carrying out it. Moreover, the educational program will assist understudies with looking basically and scientifically at the execution period of any arrangement - the difficulties and requirements that organizations should face and how they might defeat them. This examination will propel understudies to find out about inventive techniques for the supportability of organizations.

Target Audience

This contextual analysis is the most appropriate for college understudies of the board sciences and examination. This might be instructed in essential administration and business based main courses. This will assist understudies with understanding how the adaptable functioning worldview functions and what its repercussions are.

Learning objectives and key issues

The main purpose of this study is to learn how best educational practices and appropriate strategic management techniques can be used to improve quality education and further develop a business and how challenges were encountered during the difficult time.

Experience of using the case

This case can be useful for the instructors at the undergraduate business studies level to communicate the principles of management and covers strategic management topics

Questions for discussion

What should be priorities first in order to secure the organization's long-term viability? How would an organization need to change internal connections to guarantee that no pandemic difficulties slowed the company's turnaround unintentionally? Which strategic management techniques are used to address the challenges in the development phase? Which strategic management techniques are used to operate their functions in the worst condition of a Pandemic?

Further reading

The researcher or scholar can visit the web portal of PGC and financial statement for getting more information and supplementary material and guidance.

www.pgc.edu.pk

- <https://www.unicef.org/pakistan/media/011/file/UNESCO%20and%20UNICEF%20Education%20Case%20Study.pdf>
- <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1309091.pdf>

Time management

Tasks	Timeline
Division of the Students in Group of 3-5	5 Minutes
Discuss: What students think about the changes in education sector should require after Covid-19?	10 Minutes
Discuss: The trend of Technology and flexible working paradigm in Pakistan and discuss the story of PGC?	10 Minutes
Discuss: What do students think about utilization of advanced technology in this situation for the facilitation of the students, and explain in detail what it is and how education sector around the world have used it to sustain progression?	15 Minutes
Discuss: The possible problems that an education sector would have, and then the actual issues that during Covid-19 PGC experienced.	15 Minutes
Discuss: Gain insights from students on how the education sector might overcome these obstacles. Discuss thoroughly the implications of the solutions they propose.	25 Minutes
Assign tasks and Close the Case	10 Minutes
Total	90 Minutes

Teaching strategy

Instructors can use this study as project-based, case-based, and discussion-based teaching methods.

Distribution of the White Board

This case study will be taught on the whiteboard during class and teachers teaching the student according to the given pattern on Whiteboard.

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What do students think about utilization of advanced technology in this situation for the facilitation of the students, and explain in detail what it is and how education sector around the world have used it to sustain progression?	The possible problems that an education sector would have, and then the actual issues that during Covid-19 PGC experienced.	Gain insights from students on how the education sector might overcome these obstacles. Discuss thoroughly the implications of the solutions they propose.
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Points what students proposed
Students' feedback and the strategies they proposed to solve this case study

Questions' answer

How PGC out perform its competitors during COVID-19?

Answer: PGC develop different tools for students to facilitate in their studies during this pandemics, such as Microsoft teams for online lectures, recorded lecture, video audio conversations between student teacher, special test system etc.

How PGC help their students and society during COVID-19?

Answer: PGC facilitate their students in their studies during this pandemic with aspects and on other side PGC also helps the parents and students in their fee packages with special discount policy. PGC offer a special discount rate up to 25% fee waiver to all their students.

Resources:

- White Board
- Board Marker
- Charts
- Duster
- Hard copy of the case study for each student or soft copy on laptops/mobile phones to access the document
- A projector in the class to display the case study content