Online Education Woes

Why in News

A recent study by the **Azim Premji University** on the **efficacy and accessibility** of e-learning has highlighted various challenges involved in online education in the country.

Key Points

- **Student Specific Finding:**
    - Reason for student's lack of accessibility to online classes:
        - Non-availability or **inadequate number of smartphones** for dedicated use or sharing.
        - Difficulty in **using apps** for online learning.
        - Children with disabilities found it more difficult to participate in online sessions.
- **Parents Specific Findings:**
    - **90%** of parents of government school students surveyed were **willing to send their children back to school,** if the health of their children was taken care of.
    - **70%** of the parents surveyed were of the opinion that online classes **were not effective** and **did not help** in their child's learnings.
- **Teacher's Specific Findings:**
    - Teachers' main problem found during the online classes was the **one-way communication,** which made it **difficult for them to assess** whether students were able to understand what was being taught.
    - More than **80% of teachers** surveyed said they were **unable to maintain emotional connect** with students during online classes, while **90%** of teachers felt that **no meaningful assessment** of children's learning was possible.
    - 50% of the teachers reported that **children were unable to complete assignments shared during the online classes,** which had led to serious gaps in learning.
    - The survey also revealed that around 75% of the teachers spent, **on an average, less than an hour a day on online classes** for any grade.
    - Teachers also reported that they were **ill-prepared for online learning platforms.**
    - More than half the teachers surveyed shared that their **knowledge and user-experience** on online platforms and modes of teaching were inadequate.

Source:TH

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