Industry 4.0 and impacts on Education Technology Ecosystem
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The World is currently witnessing the fourth industrial revolution, also known as Industry 4.0 where the **'real' and the 'virtual'** world are connecting seamlessly in a hybrid manner.

Industry 4.0 is the digital transformation for manufacturing/production/service and related **industries using state of art Smart Technologies.** Although the transformation of these industries towards the fourth **industrial** revolution was moving forward with a tortuous speed, now since the entire world is gripped by the Covid-19 outbreak, the adoption of the fourth industrial revolution (Industry 4.0) has taken up considerable acceptability and speed. If we look at the brighter side of this pandemic, it has unlocked new opportunities for Industries to discover and implement innovative digital strategies to drive hybrid transformation across industries and at all levels. Most of the industries are adopting this change to afloat and long-term sustainability during the COVID-19 crises.

One of the main Industry which has witnessed the Fourth Industrial Revolution is Indian education technology ecosystem and Industry. The Indian education technology Industries are transforming to establish and provide remote communication and better learning opportunities. Leading the young generation to prepare for automation-dominated jobs of the future. Today in schools and Colleges, students are exposed to the nuances of Artificial Intelligence, machine learning, and digital, experiential learning via new online teaching and Assessment methods that simplify and transfer knowledge for the users by not physically present at one year-marked location.

Unlike Pre Covid-19 era when the training and assessment modalities took place from year-marked locations and using Offline methodologies (Pen & Paper) and were strongly dependent on participants physical presence but now during this COVID 19 crisis when the Physical presence and gathering of the people is not permmisable, the only way of continuing with education is through virtual learning and assessment. Pandemic crisis demands transformation towards the fourth industrial revolution 4.0 by the development of natural conduct for engagement and interaction between users, these platforms have established knowledge sharing flexible and assessment solutions.

Development and deployment of such hybrid tools especially for assessment is not the only constraint with Social Distancing challenge but with few other challenges such as:

1. Conducting assessments of each candidate while they are present at their home.
2. Availability of Laptop, Personal computers with each candidate.
3. Low Network area with limited Internet access.
4. Field Assessor, Training Centers, and students adaptation to operate in a new digital environment.
5. Monitoring of the assessment
6. Continuous follow-up on the execution of milestone sub-activities.
7. Conducting of Viva and Practical assessment through online digital tools.
8. Limitation on the availability of Assessment time.

Given the current state of affairs, most education providers are moving to the hybrid ecosystem so that the assessment is conducted without diluting values of the best of both world. With this episode in education technology, a critical lesson for everyone is to look at possible opportunities that maintain continuity in education.

We (IRIS-Corp) has considered and understood the demand of the crises, and has tried to move towards fourth industrial revolution by leveraging on the available technological cum operational solutions and its vast exposure in the assessment & analysis domain, which are at our disposal to engage and support in this changed scenario. Accordingly, we at IRIS-Corp has come up with our evolved **'Do it Yourself'** and **'Do it Anywhere'** digital proctoring Assessment Platform which is Customizable and Secured online assessment Platform which assists the stakeholder/s to harness success and fulfill education Eco-systems business endeavors by adopting in a remote way assessing their Students.

Solutions to Challenges

1. Social Distancing: IRIS-Corp has come up with the solutions where the students are not required to physically present at one place to write the Assessment. IRIS-Corp Conducts an Online Assessment Through it 'Do It Yourself' and 'Do It anywhere Platform' while following the guidelines of social distancing of the Government and hence no Physical centers are required.

2. Mobile Application for the Assessment on the move: IRIS-Corp provides a Mobile Application integrated assessment Platform that will not require the availability of Laptop and Personal Computers. Mobile Phones have become a necessity for many people in the world. There is a chance of students not having a Laptop or Personal Computer but mostly People have Smart Phones with them which will help the students to attend the assessment.

3. Mobile Application which will work with Low network and minimum 2G internet: IRIS-Corp has a Mobile Application solution that will work at the low network and minimum internet connection.

4. User-Friendly outlook: IRIS-Corp's 'Do it Yourself' and 'Do it Anywhere' digital proctoring Assessment Platform is simple, Flexible, and convenient, IRIS-Corp also provide a help desk to resolve the queries in one go.

5. Remote Proctoring: IRIS-Corp's 'Do it Yourself' and 'Do it Anywhere' digital proctoring Assessment Platform has anti-cheating technologies that enable a secure and fair test-taking experience for any type of assessment. It also has few other features such as :
- Face Recognition
- Candidate Authentication
- Live Tracking through the observer
- Random Screenshot Capturing of Candidate photos
- Aadhar Validation
- Track Browser movement
- IP Blocking
- Copy and Paste Restriction

6. Administration Support: IRIS-Corp's 'Do it Yourself' and 'Do it Anywhere' digital proctoring Assessment Platform has an Attendance Management system with a One- time test code feature. The IRIS-Corp team support in administrative activities by providing a help desk to guide and support the stakeholders at all the stages of assessment i. e Pre, During, and Post Assessment.

7. Mode of Assessment: IRIS-Corp's 'Do it Yourself' and 'Do it Anywhere' digital proctoring Assessment Platform provides four different modes of assessment i.e

- Theory/ Practical / Viva Voce Assessments
- MCQ Based Assessment
- Descriptive Assessment
- Two-way communication (Video and Audio) Viva and Practical assessment

8. Time Duration Limitation: IRIS-Corp's 'Do it Yourself' and 'Do it Anywhere' digital proctoring Assessment Platform has a feature which will bound the candidate to answer the question within a Limited Time Duration.

Our technological advancements as a country keep us adept at shifting education to a digital hybrid environment and transform the education industry with the Fourth Industrial Revolution, not just fulfilling the current needs but also safeguarding the future too.

IRIS-Corp is committed to partner in all such endeavors. To know more about IRIS-Corp visit www.iris-corp.com.

*The author is part of IRIS-corp and is leading the operations and delivery in the organisation .

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Apart from our own offices, we have partner offices in all major cities in India.