

## **Study the Effort of Adopting to Online Learning in State Universities during the Covid-19 Pandemic in Sri Lanka**

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Online learning can be regarded as the panacea in the time of Covid-19 pandemic. Education and health are the core drivers of sustaining any economy. A country should take measurements to keep health and education sectors sustained regardless of any adverse situation. When the Covid-19 crisis defeated everything, several sectors were able to absorb the challenges thanks to the online system. Education sector can be regarded as one of the sectors which adopted to the online system very soon. This study attempts to provide insights to study the effort of adopting to online learning in state universities during the Covid-19 pandemic in Sri Lanka. The current study followed the case study approach. Accordingly Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka (SUSL) was selected to gather some data for this study. This study will provide a better understanding of the online learning effort of state sector universities in this pandemic situation. As this is a case study, there is a limitation to generalize the outcomes of this study. Around 100 questionnaires were sent to the students and another set of questionnaires were discussed in two focus group discussions. Convenience sampling technique has been used to select the sample and gathered data have been analysed using the mixed method and presented descriptively. The calculations and percentages have been analysed with the help of MS Excel. The results of the data revealed several information related to the online adoption effort of SUSL in terms of lectures, attendance, examinations, performance, students' preferences, perceptions on e-learning, issues faced during online mode, online assessment methods etc. This study is most relevant for the academics as it facilitates them in gaining a better understanding of the students' opinions towards online learning in this pandemic situation and identifying their concerns related to e-learning.

**Keywords:** Covid-19, Online Learning, Postgraduates, LMS