IMPACT OF LOCKDOWN DUE TO COVID-19 A CENTURY PANDEMIC IN INDIA

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Abstract

Covid-19 a novel coronavirus has diversify from Wuhan city to throughout China and is being exported to the whole world. Here we describe the impact of 21-days lockdown in India to save the 1.3 billion population from entering into stage 3 of epidemic with precautions to all the indians to stay at home. The panic has created in India due to spread of the novel coronavirus and effects of economy and commerce of India.

Keywords: Novel, World, lockdown, Population, Economy.

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Introduction

The coronavirus is an enormous family of viruses that is responsible for ailment which extend from the common cold to severe respiratory syndromes. COVID-19 is a novel virus. According to the WHO, symptoms for COVID-19 are high fever, cough and shortness of breath. The WHO announced, coronavirus pandemic on March 12, 2020.

The pandemic of 2019 novel coronavirus originated from Wuhan city to the whole China and is being transmitted globally. The impact of an pandemic depends on the number of persons got infected, the infection transmitted from infected person to his family or close friends, relatives and in the last transferred into the community[1].

In China, high cases of pneumonia occurred in Wuhan, on December 31, 2019, [2]. The Chinese authorities confirmed that this disease was identified as a novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2 on January 7, 2020, [3]. Early cases were disclosed to be connected with seafood in Wuhan, but the recent outbreak data shows that this virus spread person to person transmission [4]. Slowly it spread around the world, According to the data on January 30, 2020, a total of 9976 affected positive cases had been reported in at least 21 countries,[5] including the first confirmed case of COVID-19 infection in India.

SARS-CoV-2 is genetically similar to the strain of SARS-CoV, which provoke a worldwide epidemic with 8096 confirmed affected cases 774 deaths, resulting in a mortality rate of 9% in more than 25 countries in 2002–2003 the...
Coronavirus in India

The population of India was estimated to be 1,387,297,452 people as on 1 January 2020. When the first confirmed positive case was reported on January 30, the hysteria spread in the country due to COVID-19. Epidemic has reached many other cities in the country, infecting several hundred people within few days. The novel coronavirus, which originated in China, has claimed thousands of lives worldwide.

The first case of the COVID-19 was reported on 30 January 2020, when three students returned from Wuhan, China to Kerala. But after two months i.e on 30 March 2020, the Health department confirmed a total of 1071 positive cases, 99 patients recovered and 29 deaths in the country. [11]. The infection rate of COVID-19 in India is noteworthy slower than as compared to the worst affected countries globally. India has suspended all tourist visas, as a majority of the confirmed positive cases were linked to the affected countries travel history [12]. The transmission rate rapidly increased in March, after many positive cases arises all over the country, many patients have a travel history to affected countries.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi insisted a 14-hour public curfew on 22 March 2020 and every Indians followed it seriously. Further study of the stages of this epidemic on 24 March, the prime minister ordered a nationwide lockdown for 21 days, to slow down its graph peak because India was 2nd stage at that time [13].

The World Health Organization state that India had "tremendous capacity" to accord with this major epidemic outbreak, as India is the second highly populated country in the world. Every big nation worldwide have a close eye on Indian ability to deal with this pandemic [14].

21-days lockdown in India

On 24 March, Prime Minister announced a nationwide lockdown, for 21 days to save the Indians from epidemic, if this pandemic is not contained; it could set us back by decades. The restrictions were imposed mainly to slow down the transmission of the coronavirus from infected person to the other person.

The idea of lockdown came from studying the graph of epidemic in China, the first country to experience a Covid-19 outbreak from January to March. China lockdown its epicenter Wuhan city in the last week of January and then
locked down larger area after that. The World Health Organization hail China’s efforts as “perhaps the most ambitious, agile and aggressive disease containment effort in history.”

India aims to lockdown for 3 weeks, it covers 1.3 billion people but China covered 760 million people a little more than half of the country’s population during lockdown. However, India’s intention is higher in three-week lockdown because China’s lockdown as “one of the biggest social control campaigns in history”.

Impact of lockdown in different sectors of India

Economy

COVID-19 lockdown may cost the economy adversely in India. There is a 21-day lockdown to flatten the growth curve of COVID-19 and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 from person to person. While each sector has its own dynamics and different cycles during lockdown. Some sectors are affected heavily such as Mining and quarrying, construction, hotel, transport, real estate etc. Due to the epidemic, India became the one of the worst affected economies according to a UN report [15]. Asian Development Bank valuate that the pandemic could cause destruction of up to billions to India’s economy [16]. Indian stock markets endure their worst crash due to outbreak of pandemic.

Commercial venture

Indians are being cautious so avoiding going to crowded places and for social gatherings as a precaution against the coronavirus outbreak. The key measures include closure of all gyms, museums, swimming pools, theatres restaurants, hotels, malls, sweet shop still 14 April in view of coronavirus. All prerequisite government services will remain continue and shops for necessity goods such as food, milk, medicine will remain open at a specific time to all the people during lockdown.

Education system

In India education is a compelling factor for its economic development. As education is the mode for bringing socio-economic conversion in a society, numerous measures are being taken to intensify the access of teaching to the marginalized sections of the society. As a precaution during epidemic the Central government proclaim a nationwide closure of schools, colleges and universities for the safety of the students [17].CBSE, JEE main examinations and board exams for Matric and Senior Secondary were postponed [18]. In some states the students were promoted to the next classes from 1 to 8th Standard. The Civil Services Examination interview [19] and the SSC exams in some states were postponed [20].
Entertainment

21-day lockdown, the government decided to retelecast 80s' iconic shows Ramayana and Mahbharat from March 28 along with other gems like the detective show Byomkesh Bakshi, series Circus, Buniyaad, Mashaal and the Malgudi Days.

The closure of all the cinema halls and multiplexes, shootings of films and serials stalled owing to the coronavirus lockdown [21]. The broadcasting networks omit fees for four channels announced by the Indian Broadcasting Foundation. These channels are Sony Pal, Star Utsav, Colors Rishtey and Zee Anmol.[22]

Ceremony and Historical buildings

As the outbreak of epidemic, International border ceremony would be conducted regularly but without any viewers, during the lockdown [23]. The 21st IIFA Awards ceremony was postponed indefinitely [24]. The India Fashion Week, was retard[25] and the Padma Awards was postponed.[26].

Entirely the historic monuments and museums will remain closed during the lockdown period as a precautionary measure for the safety of the Indians these are Taj Mahal, Statue of Unity, Red Fort, Lotus Temple, Qutab Minar [27,28]

Religious

India is a secular state and there is heterogeneity of religious faith [29]. In Indian history, religion has been an crucial part of the culture. The predominance of Indians engaged in the religious rituals from morning to evening [30]. During the 21 days lockdown period, major religious places closed among these are Mumbai's Siddhivinayak Temple [31], Called off the Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrimage [32]. Restrictions of devotees at the temple premises so many temples started live broadcast of the aarti. Visitors and devotees are not allowed in Jagannath Temple, Venkateswara Temple, Gandhi Ashram, Rameswaram Ramanathan Swamy Temple and The Mecca Masjid [33-37].

Sports

In India, varieties of sports are played, ordering from tribal games to more established sports like cricket, badminton and football. Due to COVID-19, 21 days lockdown various sports events are cancelled or postponed. These happenings are the International Shooting Sport Federation World Cup, India's FIFA World Cup [38], All matches are cancelled by All India Football Federation[39], The Indian Premier League [40] and the One day International matches cancelled [41].

Transportation

Public transport remains the foremost mode of transport for Indians. Due to COVID-19 lockdown, public transported are adversely affected which includes flights, railways and roads.

Flights

The suspension of all domestic and international flights [42] during the lockdown period in the country so that the people travelled from infected countries will not able to spread the disease in India.

Railways

Indian railways are the second busiest mode of transportation in the world. The government cancelled all passenger trains in the country except the goods carrier trains during lockdown because railways the the cheapest and easiest mode of transportation for billions of people. The disease can spread easily in this mode of transportation.

Road

Indian roads are the busiest in the world, transporting billions of passengers daily. Indian government imposed a ban on public transport including state, inter-state, government or private buses, auto rickshaws and cabs on roads during lockdown [43].

Migrant workers

Sudden nationwide lockdown has adverse effect on lakhs of migrant workers who lost their jobs and had no money to buy food. They started trudging towards their villages, sometimes braving a journey of hundreds of kilometers. One commentator described it as the “biggest human migration on foot after Partition.”

Need of Lockdown and measure for preventing the virus.

India is the world second largest populated country. Lockdown is immensely needed because India entered the stage 2 of COVID-19 and India’s health sector face many shortage of even basic safety kit for Doctors, nurses and ventilator support doe patients for tackling the coronavirus pandemic. Moreover people are socially connected with each other in India. Covid-19 is a appalling threat because this virus can kill the healthy adults to elderly people. The virus has a casualty risk of near about 1%; it is more severe than typical seasonal influenza, when compared with the influenza pandemic (0.6%) in 1957 and the influenza pandemic (2%) in 1918. Covid-19 transmission rate is very fast. The average shows that a one infected person can spread the disease to two or three others persons quickly — an exponential rate of increase. It can be transmitted easily to other people who are ill or even presymptomatic. In fact, to save the Indians from entering into the community spread stage 3 of Covid-19 lockdown was imposed nationwide for 21 days.

The lockdown keep people at home which is not necessarily that pristine isolated place. Government also issues some basic protective measures against Covid-19 to the people.
Frequently wash hands.

Regularly clean your hands for 20 seconds with water and soap or sanitize hand which contains 70% ethanol because it kills viruses.

Keep Social distancing

Social distancing is the best and effective method to slow the spread of the disease. Maintain at least 1-3 meter distance between two people because when someone coughs or sneezes they spray small liquid droplets from their nose or mouth which may contain virus. If you are too close, you can be affected. Wear masks and gloves when going out of the house.

Maintain Personal hygiene

Personal hygiene is the most important weapon against this virus. Always Cover mouth and nose with inside of elbow during cough or sneeze, if you are using a tissue then dispose it immediately after use properly. This will protect the other people around you from COVID-19. Avoid toughing hands, eyes, nose or mouth because hands can be easily contaminated with virus. An average person touches their face 23 times in a hour. From there, the virus is easily transmitted.

Conclusions

COVID-19 is a pandemic in the century which can be transmitted quickly form one person to another so to keep in mind Lockdown is imposed in India for 21-days. Researchers and Scientists are working on developing the treatment and vaccines for Covid-19 but need quick and developed platforms to predict and manufacture products at low cost and massive scale and highly equipped medical facilities to face this epidemic in future.

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