

Covid-19: Impact on Society

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ABSTRACT

The whole world has suffered from several pandemic situations since more than 100 years, from 1720 to 2020. While thousands of people die, civilizations end, economy collapses, such diseases often become difficult to contain, posing a major challenge to the ruling governments across the world. 1720 - Plague, 1820 - Cholera outbreak, 1920 - Spanish flu, 2020 - Chinese CoronaVirus. What's happening? There is a theory that every 100 years, a pandemic happens. At first glance, nothing seems strange, but the accuracy with which these events take place is scary." The current Novel CoronaVirus pandemic started as a simple outbreak in December 2019 from Wuhan, China, and it has now become a global threat. No country has remained untouched by the effects of the Corona virus that originated from the city of Wuhan in China, it has taken the form of a terrible epidemic all over the world. And it is changing itself day by day. This virus has caused a lot of damage to the fabric of the society. In our country, lakhs of people have lost their lives due to this epidemic, industries have been ruined, lakhs of people have lost their jobs, the question of livelihood has arisen in front of lakhs of families.

In this paper, various types of effects of corona virus on the society have been mentioned. It has affected all the sectors of the society and many problems have arisen, in the education sector, especially on girl child education, the destruction of industries, the loss of jobs, increased the inequality in society, in the field of health, psychological effects, etc. The Corona pandemic will bring many changes in the society which will have a far-reaching impact on the lives of the people. After the departure of Corona, we will find that the social fabric and habits of the people will have changed a lot.

INTRODUCTION

The current novel coronavirus pandemic started as a simple outbreak in December 2019 from Wuhan, China, and it has now become a global threat. The governments from most of the countries including India have already taken strict precautionary measures to reduce the coronavirus spread such as social distancing, closure of schools, colleges, airports, restaurants, shopping malls, and other places where the people might gather. An increase in the levels of anxiety, aggression, depression, forgetfulness, and hallucinations are possible psychological effects of isolation. Too little is understood of the social impact of the pandemic.

Although the pandemic has left a visible impression across the sectors globally, the impact on marginalized sections, women, and children has been enormous in India. Gender-based violence, lack of security, money, and health has added on to the existing misery of families living in poor and substandard conditions. Repeated lockdown extensions have led to a struggle for basic needs like food and shelter, frustration, disproportionate sharing of domestic responsibilities, and violence against the vulnerable members of the household.

The whole world has suffered from several pandemic situations since more than 100 years like Spanish flu, influenza, smallpox, cholera, swine flu, SARS, and H7N9 which caused many impacts on the society.

We all have heard in TV channel, News Papers etc. that after every 100 years some kind of dangerous virus comes which gives death to millions & the whole world has suffered from this kind of virus. From 1720 to 2020, While millions of people die, civilizations end, economy collapses, such diseases often become difficult to contain, posing a major challenge to the ruling governments across the world.

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The Great Plague of Marseille (1720-1723): The disease started spreading in Marseille, France in 1720, killing a total of 1,00,000 people. As per estimates, up to 30 percent of the population of Marseille city died due to this plague.

The first Cholera pandemic (1817–1824): It is also known as first Asiatic cholera pandemic or Asiatic cholera. It is known to have began in the city of Calcutta and spread throughout Southeast Asia to the Middle East, eastern Africa and all over the world. Millions of people died during this pandemic. This pandemic affected almost every country in Asia.

Spanish Flu (1918-1920): It is one of the deadliest influenza pandemic humanity has ever witnessed. As per estimates, the death toll is put anywhere from 17 million to 50 million and possibly as high as 100 millions.

Coronavirus Pandemic (2019-20): COVID-19 is an ongoing infectious global pandemic caused by the most recently discovered coronavirus. The virus was unknown until the outbreak began in Wuhan, China in December 2019 and it has now become a global threat. According to government figures all over the world, more than 100 lakhs people have died due to this disease so far and this count is still going on. Whereas according to non-government statistics this number is very high.

THE PANDEMIC IMPACTS ALL ASPECTS OF SOCIETY

This Corona pandemic has affected every part of society all over of the world.

- Schools & Colleges, (Teachers, Students, School Cab Drivers)
- Industries Labour, Daily Labour, Construction Labour, Film Industry Labour
- Priest (Pujari, Maulvi, Paadri etc)
- All kind of Local Small Business, Beauty Parlour etc.
- Hotels, Restaurants, Gyms, Clubs, Banquet hall, Picture hall etc.
- Accommodation & Food Services,
- In cities One person who is dependent on the house rent, PG, Girls/Boys Hostels Etc.

It has affected all the sectors of the society and many problems have arisen. In the education sector, especially on girl child education, the destruction of industries, the loss of jobs, the creation of inequality in society, in the field of health, psychological effects, etc.

IMPACT ON WHOLE SYSTEM EDUCATION -

The pandemic has affected educational systems worldwide, leading to the widespread closures of schools and universities. According to data released by UNESCO on 25 March 2020, school and university closures due to COVID-19 were implemented nationwide in 185 countries. Including localized closures, this affects over 1.5 billion students worldwide, accounting for 87% of enrolled learners.

GIRLS EDUCATION:

Millions of girls in some countries, especially in India or under/undeveloped countries might not be going back at all. That's the number of girls who might not return to school this year and coming years due to COVID-19's. This alarming number not only threatens decades of progress made towards gender equality, but also puts girls around the world at risk of adolescent pregnancy, child and forced marriage and violence. For many girls, school is more than just a key to a better future. It's a lifeline for the girls.

GLOBAL IMPACT ON EDUCATION/LEARNING SECTOR:

The corona virus pandemic has also changed the way millions of people are educated around the world. To help slow the spread of the virus, students in different parts of the world, including India, started reading and learning from home through interactive apps. Teaching materials have been made accessible to most through live television broadcasts. In most countries, online teaching is being done due to Corona, which will become a habit in the future. Although schools are running online, it is also having a lot of negative effects on the health of children.

BUSINESSES CLOSED- JOB LOST:

Businesses closed too, leading to the equivalent of 255 million full-time jobs lost, in terms of working hours, in 2020. Among the worst hit are workers in the informal economy, young people and women. Any economic recovery will likely be uneven, leading to greater inequality in the coming years. Unemployment is being created due to widespread layoffs, salary cuts etc. In such a situation, the government should try to help these people, mainly the lower middle class. Many Women left their jobs due to the closure of the schools because there is no one to take care of the children at home.

When the government is asking people to stay indoors and not go to work, government should take the responsibility of helping those who have lost their jobs there are millions of daily wage workers who have been deprived of employment due to the closure.

IMPACT ON INDIAN ECONOMY:

Being China's second largest trading partner, the effect of corona virus can also be seen on India's economy. Due to the transition in China, not only the imports in India but also the exports of the country are being affected. Due to this, where there is a shortage of raw material for making essential products for domestic companies, due to the decrease in demand from China, the market for the

products of Indian companies has also decreased. At present, while some sectors will suffer due to Corona, there will also be an opportunity for some sectors to increase their market. Talking about India, being a big trading partner of China, there can be a huge reduction in exports and imports. Domestic production of pharma, auto, electronics sectors will be affected due to impact of imports, why these companies import many essential goods to make products.

INCREASE IN INEQUALITY

Low-income individuals are more likely to be infected with the corona virus and die from it. In various cities in India, low income people have been affected in large numbers by the corona virus. Why this is because people from poorer families are more likely to live in crowded housing and work in low-skill jobs that are deemed essential during a crisis.

In India, millions of low-income people may not have access to health care because they are uninsured or under-insured. Many people lost their health insurance after losing their jobs. This has created inequality among different people in the society. Many workers with very little income in service.

IMPACT ON HEALTH CARE SECTOR

One of the social impacts of COVID-19 is its influence on healthcare. With the start of COVID-19 pandemic, healthcare workers struggled to keep up with an increase in demands, a reduced capacity, increased stress and workload, and to lack of protective equipment

Covid-19 disease has had a very deep impact on the health services of the country where earlier there was no better health services in the hospitals in the country but today there has been little improvement in the health services matters and it is getting better day by day. There has also been an unexpected increase in the manufacture of various types of equipment related to the prevention and treatment of corona virus. Due to the corona virus disease, there has been a lot of awareness among the people in the matters of cleanliness.

PSYCHOSOCIAL IMPACT

The corona virus pandemic has been followed by a concern for a potential spike in suicides, exacerbated by social isolation due to quarantine and social-distancing guidelines, fear, and unemployment and financial factors. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a huge increase in the number of mental patients, problems like anxiety, behavioural problems, depression etc. As per reports of department of woman and child welfare and woman right commission Incidents of domestic violence during the COVID-19 lockdown in India are at a 10-year high.

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL IMPACT

Due to this epidemic, a new kind of change is coming in the society and that is contactless interface and interaction. The physical world is coming to an end as traditional business, including hotels, restaurants and airplanes, is endangered. However, at the time of this pandemic, the digital world is emerging rapidly with the help of technology.

Everyone is sitting at home, and their medium of contact with the world has become a smartphone. In a post-pandemic world, technology will be everywhere as it is today and tech companies will become even more powerful and more dominant. This includes small firms such as Zoom and large

companies such as Google, Apple, Face book etc. Now a large part of life has become online and now it has become an essential part of our everyday life.

AFTER CORONA, WHEN PEOPLE LOOK BACK, THEY WILL FIND THAT MANY THINGS IN THEIR LIVES HAVE CHANGED.

There is a lot of habit in our life and these habits help us to work, take care of our family and achieve our goals in a very effective way. When this system gets a setback, our habits change. People's ways of working and commuting change, their daily routine and the rhythm of their life change. The way they eat and drink and communicate with their family changes. When people are forced to do things differently, new habits are born. Another aspect of life that has been badly affected by this outbreak is culture, especially religion.

ANOTHER ASPECT OF LIFE THAT HAS BEEN BADLY AFFECTED BY THIS OUTBREAK IS CULTURE, ESPECIALLY RELIGION.

The pandemic has affected religion in various ways and places of worship associated with different religions such as Temples, Mosques, Gurudwaras and Churches etc. have been closed. People have understood that meditation of God can be done even by sitting at home. Due to the Corona epidemic, people have great faith in God, but people's attachment to various types of religious rituals has decreased.

STRENGTHENING DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Due to Covid-19, people have to mold themselves for work from home. This has inspired all of us to make a collective effort to find digital solutions for staying at home, learning, working out and much more. For this reason some of these modalities are likely to continue in the post-Covid-19 world.

TELEMEDICINE

In order to reduce overcrowding and movement of people in the offices of hospitals and healthcare providers, many hospitals and doctors have advised patients to consult through video conferencing. Many are even implementing it. Instead of visiting a doctor or a healthcare centre, remote care can provide clinical services to the patient. Before Covid-19, many healthcare providers were in a dilemma about remote care, but now that social distancing has been made mandatory in many areas, this interest has increased among doctors too

INCREASED RELIANCE ON ROBOTS

Robots are not prone to virus infection. Robots can be used for tasks ranging from delivering groceries to performing important tasks in the healthcare system and running a factory.

Companies are now recognizing that robots can help us in the present times and robots can play an important role in the post-Covid-19 world and during any future pandemic.

The global health crisis deepened due to the corona virus epidemic and lockdown has become the new 'rule' for many people and now the perception is fast becoming that till the time the corona virus ends in the coming times, the world will always look like this. - Will change forever.

The Corona pandemic has brought many changes in the society which will have a far-reaching impact on the lives of the people. After the departure of Corona, we will find that the social fabric

and habits of the people will have changed a lot. This pandemic has completely changed the tightly interconnected systems of the globalized world.

Social interactions will be limited in the future and how we behave in the workplace, schools and public places and even how children play together will be different in times to come. The cracks in the social fabric due to the corona virus cannot be removed. There will be many questions like what should we join hands in the times to come, will we be able to travel somewhere safe or will we be able to go on vacation and will we end the homemade office setup after the pandemic is over.

CONCLUSION:

After taking the germs out of the bottle of the Genie of War, none of the greater powers can now shrug off responsibility. The establishment of a global fund to support public health in the fight against the corona virus and financial assistance to meet the sanitation needs of allied countries would be a step in the right direction. Integrated commissions and think-tank teams should be set up at the national level with non-political members and scientists. This commission can coordinate prompt actions against the outbreak of corona virus. This will strengthen the public health sector and reduce the socio-economic impact of the virus.

Now it is being said that soon the third wave will come, and it has also been said that we should get used to living with Corona. And all the things are also true, we should change our everyday habits. And all the protocols of prevention from covid should be followed. Like wearing a mask, maintaining proper distance, washing hands from time to time, staying away from overcrowding, getting vaccinated etc.

It is also a matter of happiness that the way we and our government together have given corona vaccine to 100 crore population, it is a great achievement. The world used to think that how long will India be able to give vaccine to such a huge population? How many years will it take? But the government has done this with the efforts of all of us.

The amount of praise that should be given to the government and every person associated with the health department for this great achievement is less and on the strength of these efforts we will overcome this epidemic.

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