

# CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID 19) : THE IMPACT AND MEASURES TAKEN BY INDIAN GOVERNMENT DURING THE PANDEMIC

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**Abstract-** *Coronavirus popularly called as COVID- 19 emerged in China in the month of December 2019, has spread to various countries. It spread in India in January 2020. It's almost 12 months since the coronavirus diseases started which causes countries to faced a tough time. The virus of this diseases can be spread through passing from person to person. An enormous population is being infected with the virus in particular area. So due to this spreading reason many countries announced the lockdown. The government of India is also announced the nationwide lockdown. In these lockdown period all factories, schools, colleges, universities, hotel services, salons, transportation services, and office are closed. But essential services like pharmacies and supermarkets remain open. This has resulted loss to the Indian economy. The aim of this study is to explore the impact of the COVID-19 and study the measures taken by the Indian Government in handling the coronavirus diseases.*

**Keywords-** COVID-19, impact, India, measures, prime minister.

## I. INTRODUCTION

At present the new name of fear is coronavirus diseases (Covid 19). This is not only killing the people round the world but also causes economic downturn which destroy the country in both ends. Coronavirus are a gaggle of related viruses that cause diseases in human and birds. It is very infection diseases which is caused by a virus named COVID-19. This first identified in Wuhan , Hubei , China in December 2019 and was declared as a pandemic by the World Health Organization on 11 March,2020. This virus is transmitted through droplets generated when an infected person sneezes, cough. These droplets hang in air and fall on floor. A person can be infected by breathing in the virus if he is within close of that person who has Covid 19 or by touching that floor and then touching nose, eyes, mouth. The common symptoms of this disease are fever, tiredness, dry cough, pains and loss of taste and smell etc. Now it is spreading all over the world.

This paper analyzes the impact of coronavirus and measures taken by government in handling this disease.

## II. OBJECTIVES

To study the impact of coronavirus disease

To study the measures taken by government in handling coronavirus disease.

## III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research paper is a kind of descriptive research with a view to ascertain the impact of coronavirus disease and measures taken by government of India during COVID19 pandemic. Also used the various websites and newspapers.

## IV. IMPACT OF COVID 19 DISEASE

Economic impact of the Covid- 19 disease- The economic impact of the 2020 coronavirus pandemic in India has been largely disruptive. According to Ministry of Statistics India 's growth in the fourth quarter of the fiscal year 2020 decreases to 3.1%.The Chief Economic Adviser to the Government of India said that this drop is mainly because of the coronavirus pandemic effect on the Indian economy.According to the World Bank and rating agencies the growth of India for financial year 2021 will be in lowest figures. India has seen in three decades since India 's economic liberalization in the 1990s. However after the announcement of the economic package in mid- May, India 's GDP estimates were declined even more to negative figures, that is sign of deep recession. State Bank of India research estimates a shrinking over 40% in the GDP in quarter one financial year 2021.

Impact of pandemic on education-The covid-19 pandemic has affected educational systems worldwide, leading to the near total closures of schools, universities and colleges. No doubt it is important to prevent the transmission, but lack of advanced planning from both the state and institutions side will have a

long- term repercussion on ongoing academic session. In response to closures, UNESCO recommended the use of distance learning programmers and open educational applications and platforms that schools and teachers can use to reach learners remotely and limit the disruption of education. But many education institutions are not in positions to conduct virtual learning classes. A large number of students are also not able to attend online classes due to poor internet connectivity or lack of facilities at home. It increases huge inequalities in educational outcomes in the country.

Impact on labourers -The spread of Covid -19 has a negative impact on informal and migrant workers.The lockdown amidst the Covid-19 has critically dislocated its migrant population.with public transportation shut down, hundreds of thousands of migrants were forced to walk hundred of miles back to their home villages due to no jobs. About 450 million informal workers constitute 90% of India 's workforce are not allowed to have paid leaves. The relief packages announced by government of India. But the identification proof requirements, inadequate amount, transaction failures and transfer into wrong account are the challenges to distribute relief package to poor. The middle class and upper middle class also in the line for relief support. This is also created the problems in receiving the support to the homeless population and migrant workers.

Gendered impact of Covid -19- From traditionally the gendered division of labor has been practiced and house chores and care work has largely considered as women 's work. Therefore, complete lockdown would bring more burdens on women to arrange water, food and run the household properly. The loss of livelihoods is relatively higher for women since female workforce in India largely confined in the informal sector. Thus, the gender difference in time allocation for leisure and sleep will further increase and the absence of alternative livelihood options leads to conflicts. Previous evidence also suggests the rise in gender- based violence, divorce during pandemics.

Leads to discrimination- In this pandemic people started discriminating others. The base of discrimination is their appearance, occupation and travel history. Police, doctors, healthcare workers, flight attendant are suffering from social exclusion from their landlords , neighbor and community suspecting that they might be contacted with infection . Also, the Indians as well as foreign nationals those who have travel history are experiencing unkind behavior from natives irrespective of their health situation or their test results.

Impact on India 's trade with China- This pandemic has a major impact on imports and exports in various industries including pharmaceuticals, electronics ,mobiles and auto parts.

China is that the biggest exporter to India, followed by the US and UAE. In 2017 telecom instruments, electronics components, computer hardware and industrial machinery for dairy and organic chemicals were the highest five items imported by India accounting for 46% of the imports from China. The pandemic is also affected India 's trade with China.

## V. MEASURES TAKEN BY INDIAN GOVERNMENT DURING THE PANDEMIC

Country wide lockdown - India 's prime minister Narendra Modi has appealed to Indians to avoid mass gatherings. He requested all citizens to observe a nation wide curfew or janta curfew on 22 march from 7am to 9pm. People were urged to not leave the home on that day unless emergencies. Lockdown in India has been extended to enter its phase 4 because world fights with the pandemic.

### PHASES OF LOCKDOWN

PHASE	PERIOD
Lockdown 1.0	25 March 2020 to 14 April 2020
Lockdown 2.0	15 April 2020 to 3 May 2020
Lockdown 3.0	4 May 2020 to 17 May 2020
Lockdown 4.0	18 May 2020 to 31 May 2020
Lockdown 5.0 (only for containment zones)	1 June 2020 to 30 June 2020

In these lockdown period all factories, schools, colleges, universities, hotel services, salons, transportation services, and office have been closed. But essential services like pharmacies and supermarkets remain open.

Restrictions on travelling from affected countries- India announced the cancellation of existing e-visas issued to all foreign nationals of China, on 5<sup>th</sup> February and advised Indians to avoid travelling to China. The government said all Indians or foreigners who came China, Italy, Spain, Germany, France will be quarantined for a minimum period of 14 days and who have visited these countries will also be quarantined. The government also said that any foreigner who wants to travel to India for any compelling reason should contact the nearest Indian mission.

Availability of coronavirus drugs in India- The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority and Drugs Controller General of India have been instructed to ensure an adequate supply of active pharmaceutical ingredient (APIs) and check black marketing. The organizations have also been asked to

monitor the availability of active pharmaceutical ingredient and drugs.

Government announces the relief measures- The government of India announced the 24 March 2020 certain relief measures in view of covid-19 outbreak. India Inc welcomed the Rs 1.70 lakh crore relief package for the poor and most vulnerable sections, government take it to ease pain of distressed businesses hit by the coronavirus outbreak.

- The Centre's economic package involves free food grains and cooking gas to the poor for the subsequent three months, one-time doles to women and poor senior citizens, higher wages to workers and measures to boost liquidity of employees as the Centre looks to contain the impact of unprecedented nationwide lockdown.
- With businesses closed during the lockdown, the government will contribute employees as well as employers contribution to the provident fund for subsequent three months of companies with up to 100 employees with 90 per cent earning not more than Rs 15,000. The contribution will be a total of 24 per cent of eligible wages.
- The Finance Minister has announced medical insurance cover of Rs 5 million per healthcare worker. About 2 million health services and ancillary workers will benefit from such insurance scheme.
- Relief measures announced by Reserve bank of India on 27 March and 17 April 2020.
  - I. Reduction of policy repo rate by 5.15% to 4.40%
  - II. CRR of all banks to be reduced by 100 basis points to 3% beginning March 28, for one year. This will release liquidity of Rs 1,37,000 crore across the banking industry MSF raised from 2% of SLR to 3% with immediate effect.
  - III. Liquidity coverage ratio for banks reduced from 100% to 80% likely to release liquidity.
- Relief for Micro , Small , Medium Enterprises
  - I. New definition of MSMEs –investment limit revised upwards, additional criteria of turnover introduced.
  - II. Rs. Three lakh crore collateral free loan with 100% credit guarantee.
  - III. E- market linkage to be promoted as replacement of trade fairs and exhibitions
  - IV. MSME dues to be cleared within 45 days
- Rupees 90,000 crore liquidity infusion DISCOMs against receivables guaranteed by State government for exclusive

purpose of discharging liabilities to power generating organizations.

- Financial services relief
  - I. Debit cardholders can withdraw cash from any bank ATM for free of charge
  - II. Bank charges for digital trade transactions will be reduced for all trade finance.

Government announces economic stimulus package- The prime minister Narendra Modi announced stimulus package of 20 lakh crore on 12th May 2020 includes previously announced measures to save the lockdown battered economy and focuses on tax breaks for small businesses and incentives for domestic manufacturing. This package is estimates of 10% of GDP. The prime minister says that this package would focus on land, labour, laws and liquidity and deal with cottage industries , MSMEs , the working class , middle class industry . Also focus on empowering the poor, laboures, migrant workers both in the organized and unorganized sectors . PM Modi said that the self- reliant strategy will depend on five pilers – growing a new economy, creating a state of the art infrastructure, setting up a technology based delivery system, leveraging the young demography and by exploiting domestic demand.

PM CARES funds- The PM CARES Fund was created on 28 March 2020. The Prime Ministers Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund is a public charitable trust which will provide relief to those who affected by covid-19.

## VI. CONCLUSION

It is concluded that Covid - 19 effect the different sector of economy of the India. The Indian government take many measures in handling the effect of coronavirus diseases. The effect of coronavirus on Indian economy, trade and industries and other business areas has become a vast subject for discussion today and to put a limitation on the issue concerning is not possible and hence a few related matters are touched very briefly without touching statistical data. The educationalist institutions should be modernizing for virtual learning.

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