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Rise and growth of Covid-19 pandemic in India (2019-2020)

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Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic, which is originated in the city of Wuhan (China), has rapidly spread to various countries, with many cases having been reported worldwide. India's first coronavirus infection confirmed in Kerala with a student, who was studying in Wuhan University and had travelled to India, testing positive for the virus. As of May 8th, 2020, in India, 56,342 positive cases have been reported. The ministry of health and family welfare of India has raised about the recent outbreak and has taken necessary actions to control the spread of COVID-19. The central and state governments are taking several measures and formulating several wartime

protocols to achieve this goal. Moreover, the Indian government implemented 55 days lockdown throughout the country that started from March 25th, 2020, to reduce transmission of the virus. The attitude towards COVID-19 showed peoples willingness to follow government guidelines on quarantine and social distancing. This outbreak is inextricably linked to the economy of the nation, as it has dramatically impeded industrial sectors because peoples worldwide are currently cautious about engaging in business in the affected regions.

Keywords: COVID-19, India, Economy, Workers, China, Virus, Health

Introduction: Development of COVID-19 in India

As of May 8th, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) had documented 3,759,967 positive COVID-19 cases, and the death toll attributed to COVID-19 had reached 259,474 worldwide. So far, more than 212 countries and territories have confirmed cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection. On January 30th, 2020, the WHO declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. The first SARS-CoV-2 positive case in India was reported in the state of Kerala on January 30th, 2020. Subsequently, the number of cases drastically rose. According to the press release by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) on May 8th, 2020, a total of 14,37,788 suspected samples had been sent to the National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune, and a related testing laboratory. Among them, 56,342 cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2. A state-wise distribution of positive cases until May 8th, 2020, is listed in, and the cases have been depicted on an Indian map. Nearly 197,192 Indians have recently been repatriated from affected regions, and more than 1,393,301 passengers have been screened for SARS-CoV-2 at Indian airports, with 111 positive cases observed among foreign nationals. As of May 8th, 2020, Maharashtra, Delhi, and Gujarat states were reported to be hotspots for COVID-19 with 17,974, 5,980, and 7,012 confirmed cases, respectively. To date, 16,540 patients have recovered, and 1,886 deaths have been reported in India. To impose social distancing, the "Janata curfew" (14-h lockdown) was ordered on March 22nd, 2020. A further lockdown was initiated for 21 days, starting on March 25th, 2020, and the same was extended until May 3rd, 2020, but, owing to an increasing number of positive cases, the lockdown has been extended for the third time until May 17th, 2020. Currently, out of 32 states and eight union territories in India, 26 states and six union territories have reported COVID-19 cases. Additionally, the health ministry has identified 130 districts as hotspot zones or red zones, 284 as orange zones (with few SARS-CoV-2 infections), and 319 as green zones (no SARS-CoV-2 infection) as of May 4th, 2020. These hotspot districts have been identified to report more than 80% of the cases across the nation. Nineteen districts in Uttar Pradesh are identified as hotspot districts, and this was followed by 14 and 12 districts in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu, respectively. The complete lockdown was implemented in these containment zones to stop/limit community transmission. As of May 8th, 2020, 310 government laboratories and 111 private laboratories across the country were involved in SARS-CoV-2 testing.

Impact of COVID-19 on Indian Society

If you analyse the act of social-distancing historically isn't it a new form of untouchability? Of course yes, as earlier in the Indian society after the Vedic period, people of the upper caste used to maintain social-distancing with untouchables so that they don't impure the people of upper caste.

On the same pattern, in the contemporary society due to Covid-19 all the constitutional norms eliminating untouchability and promoting integration seems to be failed as people are asked to maintain social-distancing. Impact of Covid-19 has been multiple and not only limited to society at large. From the perspective of the economy both rural and urban have been impacted adversely. Everyone has been the issues being faced by migrant workers, will they be the same when Covid-19 ends? Of course not. The migrant workers depend on daily earnings, they barely have savings which they could spend during any emergency. Many of them have already abandoned this world beautiful? Those who didn't have many resources left with them have started to move to their villages because of the unavailability of jobs and money in the cities. Walking thousands of miles barefoot with their child, pregnant wife, can we feel that pain? No, never, we can't the pain because only those can feel it who bear it. Apart from migrant workers, gig workers have been gone through a similar issue though it has not got much attention in the news. This workers e.g., delivery boys, cab driver etc. Because of Covid-19, the world came to stagnant position, so the online platform which leads to the economic hardship of this section of the urban economy. Moving from the economy, the impact of Covid-19 on education has been cruel and its repercussions will be seen in the upcoming future. As per the report of World Bank titled "Beaten or broken: Informality and Covid-19", West Bengal has warned that there will be the lifelong impact of school closures on the productivity of this generation of students. Children being out of school for about eight months might forget some facts as well as impact their learning capacity. So, what is the benefit of nearly 100% enrolment ratio at primary level education? Despite one of the greatest achievements in enrolling the students at primary level Covid-19 is stopping us to reap its benefits in the coming future.

Impact of Lockdown on Indian education system

These nationwide closures are affecting over 91% of the universes' pupil populace. A number of different international locations have applied localized closures affecting an enormous variety of further learners. UNESCO is supporting international locations of their efforts to mitigate the quick impact of faculty closures, particularly for extra weak and deprived communities, and to facilitate the coherence of training for all via distant studying. The UNESCO report estimates that the Covid-19 pandemic will adversely have an effect on over 290 million college students throughout 22 international locations. The UNESCO estimates that round 32 crores college students are affected in India, incorporating these in faculties and faculties.

Therefore, the government has provide you with e-learning program. Quite a few ed-tech companies have tried to leverage the occasion by providing free on-line lessons or engaging limits on e-learning modules. These measures have been met with overwhelming response by college students with some new companies witnessing as excessive as 25% uptick in e-learning. Distant studying appears a viable reply for college kids throughout this time as they provide handy, on – the-go and reasonably priced entry to classes. E-learning additionally comes as an attention-grabbing and interactive various as in comparison with classroom educating. An entire revolution within the method we be taught at the moment has been achieved by Know-how. Every pupil will get involved with an elite training, which is not straightforward to bestow

by the traditional white chalk and chalkboard method of teaching. This new studying is extra attention-grabbing, customized and pleasant. A large open on-line course (MOOC) is an internet course aimed toward limitless curiosity and open entry by way of the net. India is taken into account to be the largest marketplace for MOOCs on the planet after the USA. For the reason that variety of inhabitants in India is large, huge open on-line course (MOOC) is alleged to open gateways for a ton of Indians when it comes to bringing an academic revolution. On-line eliminated studying packages give an awesome event to revenue wonderful studying with the assistance of web connectivity. Digital learning has quite a few benefits in itself like digital learning has no physical boundaries, it has more learning engagement expertise relatively than the traditional studying, additionally it is savvy and college students get to be taught within the confines of their normal vary of familiarity. However, digital learning is not without its restrictions and challenges, since face-to-face interplay is mostly perceived as the perfect sort of correspondence as in comparison with the relatively impersonalized nature of remote learning. Around the globe, on-line training has met with some success. On account of India, we even have far to go earlier than digital studying is seen as mainstream training, as a result of college students residing in metropolitan space have the amenities to resolve on digital training, nevertheless, rustic space college students do not have the required infrastructure nor are monetarily strong to profit the sources required for digital training. The construction of the digital education infrastructure by the Government of India presently seems to be troublesome as a consequence of absence of price range. Additional, even when the digital infrastructure is fabricated, making ready have to be given to the lecturers to make use of the digital system to offer genuine and correct, uninterrupted and seamless training to the scholars. Remote learning more and more depends on the dependable energy flexibly and common Web connectivity which can be a fantastical factor for Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities in India.

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