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COVID-19 PANDEMIC ITS IMPACT ON EARTH, ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT

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Abstract

The covid-19 had greatly affected the economy, environment and earth of all the countries as they have to introduce lockdown to minimize the covid spread. We all know that virus that cause covid-19 is mainly transmitted through sneezing and coughing or exhaling from a person who is severely infected from it, the saliva drops that came out of the infected person are too thick and they quickly fall on grounds. We all can be infected by breathing in the virus if you are within close proximity of someone who has covid-19 or by touching a contaminated surface and then your eyes, nose, or mouth. Owing to the severity and hazardous impact of covid-19, government in many countries across the globe had implemented lockdown to minimize the exposure of pandemic, due to which global trade has been severely hit. Among all the countries, India due to its huge population was severely affected. The day-to-day economic movements came to stand still. Those people, whose life and family depends upon daily earnings, like daily wage workers, labours, street food sellers, fruits and vegetable sellers were severely hampered, government offices were closed. Movement of trains and buses were curtailed. Many manual workers working in metro cities were removed and they have to relocate back to their villages. There was no mode of transportation for them as less trains were running, and minimum buses were running. The situation was pathetic, the manual workers along with their families including small children travelled by foot, making their lives more miserable. Many people died in their way and to make the situation worst most of them were carrying infections which they unknowingly spread it in their native lands and villages. India faces a severe decline in the GDP, which went down to almost 3.1 percentage as per the information received by Ministry of statistics. In particular India has also been experiencing a pre-pandemic slow down, and as far as World bank is concern it has declared the current pandemic with magnified pre-existing risks to India economic interpretation. [6,7]

Keywords: Covid-19, Economy, Environment, Lockdown, Workers, Severity.

Introduction

The covid-19 pandemic had great impact on world economy, environment and earth. The world faced a harsh reality when WHO declared covid-19 a pandemic on 11th of march 2020. Due to the implementation of lockdown and an impactful slowdown of social and economic activities, the quantity of air has markedly improved in most of the cities. The level of air pollution has significantly decreased. In India lockdown and others restrictions resulted in a 25 percent reduction in carbon emissions and 50 percent reduction in nitrogenous emissions, and as far as Earth systems is concern scientist estimated may have saved at least 77000 lives over two months.[6]

A study from march 2021 clearly states that there is a marked decrease in the road accident as the road kill data states that there is a 50% decline in the rate of accidental deaths as compared to the pre-pandemic years saving many human lives. This pandemic has indirectly benefitted various socioenvironmental cause as it stopped various activity of illegal cutting of plants and trees for construction of buildings and apartments. It has saved many birds who tends to die during aviation movements, no air movements have given them a new lease of life. The lockdown had a huge impact on fishing trade, as fishermen were to remain confined to their houses. Many factories and small-scale industries who tend to generate lots of smoke and drain out lot of contaminated fluids came to stand still. The people who cut the plants for fuel and other purpose were stopped which adds another advantage to socioenvironmental cause which helped in removing pollution from the environment. Another study declares that road accident rate is reduced by more than 40% during the first few weeks of the pandemic lockdown in countries like Spain, Israel, Estonia, and the Czech Republic. But still there is a different negative impact we faced due to this covid-19, which is of greater concern, that is declined economic status of many people in India. They daily wage workers, manual workers, street food sellers, vegetable and fruits sellers were severely affected which made their lives miserable. Many who are working in Metro cities had to leave their jobs or are removed from it, having no option to survive they all returned back to their homeland only to bring more infections which got spread in their villages. But there are many who seized this pandemic as opportunity to mint money. The medical shops utilized this adversity in making money, charging exorbitantly on various products such as oximeter, BP instrument, medicines etc. Rations were sold on more than their normal MRPs. Oxygen cylinders were sold on a very high prices, beds in hospital were not available for many patients [4,5]

The economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in India has been largely disruptive. India's growth in the fourth quarter of the fiscal year 2020 went down to 3.1% according to the Ministry of Statistics. The Chief Economic Adviser to the Government of India said that this drop is mainly due to the coronavirus pandemic effect on the Indian economy. Notably India had also been



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witnessing a pre-pandemic slowdown, and according to the World Bank, the current pandemic has "magnified pre-existing risks to India's economic outlook".

The people suffered severely on every front; this pandemic made the lives of many miserable. People faced what they have never expected in their wildest dreams. The economic stigma has robbed many of their lives. The condition in India is pathetic there is a severe dearth of oxygen. Many countries have lent their help in sending all the requirements required for Indian patients. Still, we can see a silver lining environmentally as we got relieved from dreadful pollution which was always a national issue. And the earth got more greener as there is no cutting of trees and plants. And last but not the least, we all have developed a habit of using our resources thoughtfully and economically [6.7]

Conclusion

As we all know that covid-19 is continually spreading across the globe and the outcome is unpredictable. It has markedly affected the spread trajectory in every aspect of human life. The impact could be easily seen on earth, environment and economy. The people like daily wage workers are greatly stuck by the economic consequences, the movement of vehicles are curtailed as only emergency services vehicles are allowed to move, due to which the level of pollution has markedly declined, which could be considered as blessings in disguise.

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