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SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SCENARIO IN PRE AND POST COVID-19

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In the pandemic caused by corona virus, not only the global health crisis has intensified but, people are compelled to do things in a different way; new habits begin to take birth. Students in different parts of the world has started reading and learning at home through the app. Artificial intelligence will prove to be an ideal partner in the development of medicine. The robots are not prone to virus infection. Therefore, they can be used in activities ranging from delivering groceries to carrying out important tasks in the healthcare system and running a factory. Robots can play an important role in the post-Covid-19 world and during a future epidemic. Lockdown is the new living order.. The global economy will take a trillion dollar shock in 2020. Another aspect of life that has been badly affected by this outbreak is culture, especially religion. The places of worship associated with religions were closed. Festivals and pilgrimages related activities are banned. Today's top priority is to save lives. The Wuhan virus has caused a lot of distress to the society; despite it some positive changes can also be felt. Crime has decreased, road accidents have registered a decline, at the top, pollution of environment and exploitation of natural resources has been stopped. On the other hand, however, socio-economic challenges are waiting for us.

Keywords: COVID-19, Environment, Social order, lockdown, pollution, economy, loan moratorium, online education.

SOCIAL ASPECTS OF COVID -19

1. **Decrease in the pollution Level in air as well in water:** Universal spread of COVID-19 in such a short span of time has left the entire world unanswered and thus introduced a dramatic decrease in industrial activities. Restricted human interface with nature in time of crisis not only appeared as a boon for nature by recording improvement in the air and water quality but blooming in wildlife as well. Being a pollution hub, India has improved quite a lot as evident from air quality index (AQI) of the leading pollutant cities. After implementation of lockdown, air quality has improved along with supplementary ecological factors like water quality in rivers [1]. Researchers trust the self-cleansing action of river Ganga recover water quality by 35–45% in lockdown [3]. They also alleged remarkable upgrading of quality up to drinking standards at Haridwar Ghats [3]. A significant decrease in the concentration of pollution indicator $PM_{2.5}$, PM_{10} , NO_2 , and CO has also been observed in this period of lockdown. Infact some of the environmentalists advocate for the compulsory lockdown for a

certain period of time every year. Currently, whole world is under pressure to come out of Covid-19 devastation, the implementation of lockdown undoubtedly shown a way but absolute win is still too far.

2. **Time for self & quality time for family:** Sometimes, it makes us anxious & panicky and compels us to feel, what we may not believe correct in normal conditions. Lockdown is not just about to prevent ourselves and others from spread of infection, but can also be viewed as in a positive aspect to have quality time for self and family. Staying at house may be quite nice for a period of time, but could also be tedious and limiting. By adopting some of these ways, we can make ourselves constructive and joyful.

- (a) Have a schedule of your work and be busy in that.
- (b) Provide a helping hand to your wife/mother in household activities.
- (c) Sidetrack yourself from pessimistic and negative thoughts by spending time to listen music, reading books or watching an entertainment program.
- (d) It's time to rediscover your hobbies. One can develop hobbies resembling painting or gardening.
- (e) One has to stick with the known advice on hand hygiene and by maintaining an order of physical distance [4].

3. **Simplification of the Marriage System and reduction in money spent in marriages:** Months before we heard about COVID-19, a number of marriages end with a big fat wedding that is now shrunk to minimum number of invited guests. Having a low attendance of guests has direct relation with the amount of money spent in the marriage. Both of families cooperate for the success of the event with minimum gesture and spending. Due to pandemic COVID-19 devastation, the entire wedding ceremony has changed. People only circulate a small write-up explaining the state of affairs. And dramatically, overall social response is positive about this revolutionary concept. For some people, there is no other alternative but to delay the wedding. A few days ago, Kerala CM P Vijayan had urged public either to postpone or choose straightforward weddings with lesser number of guests in sight of the existing pandemic condition. Some of the people are happy with such painless marriage system that restricts all the tension and crowd, while others are finding it tough to admit and blame COVID-19 for the wastage of all their efforts [5].

4. **Decrease in the amount of liquor consumption:** Ethyl alcohol/ethanol is the key ingredient in alcoholic beverages (Liquor). In the period of lockdown, government imposed ban on production and sale of liquor. This step has introduced black-marketing of liquor and finally Haryana government has to set up a Special Investigation cell for the liquor scam taken place

in district Sonapat. Decrease in the consumption of liquor however beneficial to society in terms of quarrel reduction, but at the same time stoppage of its sale proved to be a major setback for government and our economy. Without liquor, the financial situation of the country seems to be so poor that many states demand central govt. to allow them to start the sale of liquor before unlock – 1. It's very difficult to say whether decrease in alcohol consumption is beneficial for country or harmful. But surely, some hard facts become viral that consumption of alcohol does not kill virus, but adversely increases the health risks if someone is being infected by virus [6].

5. **Social Harmony:** Social harmony is the fundamental foundation of economic development of any country but for now it's under peril. Be short of investment signify, lack of jobs and also the incomes, which, in turn, represent lack of consumption and hence the lack of demand in the economy. A deficit of demand would promote suppression in the investments especially by private companies. It's a nasty sequence that our economy is stuck in. The government must either take out or amend the Citizenship Amendment Act in this pandemic time to end the noxious social atmosphere in the country and to put jointly a detailed and thorough plan to increase consumption demand to stimulate the economy. In the crisis of 1991, when the country faced economic brake due to rise in balance of payments and the increasing oil prices by reason of the Gulf war [7]

6. **Online mode of Education:** Many institutions and schools/colleges have transformed their foundation of education to virtual platforms of online classes. Therefore, taking care of educational needs from pre-primary to university level. Online education system has come out as a choice to the face to face education. Consequently, educational stakeholders: government and private associations are annoying their best to patch up with society by using existing online platforms and applications. They are also providing training to teachers about the use these applications. Moreover, efforts are made by almost all to support the online mode of education in the school system for smooth conversion to the virtual world of teaching. By improving teaching skills and motivating them this transition can be made smooth. Our government has launched the PM e-VIDYA platform, with 12 additional DTH channels, one for each class in order to ensure that no one would be deprived of teaching material in era of pandemic [8].

7. **Promoting the University Students by cancelling university examinations:** "COVID has not only harmed people but also affects students in schools, colleges and universities to suffer. In this pandemic situation, IITs and some other institutions have cancelled end semester exams and have promoted students to next classed, but there is still confusion in the college/institutions/universities under UGC. Many students, their parents and student

organizations are in court against decision of UGC. Many national leaders making appeal to UGC that It is awfully unfair to conduct examinations in the COVID-19 pandemic and UGC have to listen to the students and academicians thus to cancel the examinations by promoting students the basis of previous performance[9].

ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF COVID -19

- 1. Slow down of wheels of economy:** Punch of Covid-19 slump down our economy, followed by lockdown and social distancing. Thus, industry and production are facing chief impacts, no matter how strong is their establishment, now after lockdown they are re-locate their roots in managing and operating their trade and commerce. It's now challenging for most of them to keep their monetary wheels spinning in lockdown phase. The undulate effect of industrial shutdown has key impact on economy, as all industrial sectors get exaggerated resulting to low revenue creation due to halt/slump on the trade of their products. It is anticipated that our growth rate in FY 2020-21 would decline to 2% from a range of 4.7%-5.2% from earlier prediction by the agency ICRA. Therefore, startup entrepreneurs should adapt to novel rules and o alleviate risks and to survive after the lockdown caused by the impact of COVID-19 [10].
- 2. Decrease in the amount of fuel (Petrol/Diesel) consumption:** In this ongoing action to hold the spreading of Covid-19, a severe decrease in the consumption of fuel in the country is observed. The rise in utilization of petroleum goods falls to an terrible 0.21 per cent to 213,686 thousand tonne in year 2019-20. The increase in petroleum demand in the previous fiscal year is lowest in the decade (data analysed by *ETEnergyWorld* up to 2009-2010) showed.
In March 2020 alone consumption fell 18 per cent to 16,083 TMT as compared to the same month in previous year, evident from new data released by oil ministry.
Petrol pump dealers and decision-makers of the marketing companies of petroleum products had told *ETEnergy World* about the requirement of petrol, diesel in country is severely affected because the economic activities and community movement restricted to near a standstill due lockdown [11].
- 3. Difficult time for Labor class:** In current situation, migrant labours induces a crises all across the nation, thus proving the failure of state machinery to offer instant relief to the labour class, but thanks to the NGO's and urban middle class that has shown its philanthropic side. In the forced migration of this class, administration and society failed to promise them food and security in the crisis. The rising global crisis allowed the working classes to give a reflection of brutal face of capitalist economic/monetary structure and the passive politics which remain failed in protecting fundamental interests of labour class. Hope that we would

learn from our mistakes in the future and assemble the harassed poor people to secure guard the substantive impartiality [12].

4. **Rise in the rate of unemployment:** In the post COVID scenario, unemployment is a major issue. Prior to this pandemic, only 1.6% of labor workforce claims that they could not get a job on search. At peak of this crisis huge segment of people of the labor workforce. Looks unemployed. In recently shown survey, ironically Haryana tops the states in unemployment with almost 32%. These results spot to a strange increase in the decline of labor force contribution during this lockdown period. It is still very premature on in the covid-19 crisis, but preliminary indicators spot a catastrophic turn down in employment. Surveys provide supplementary facts on decrease in employment, pointing 20 mn in terms of number. Most conspicuously, we find less increase in unemployment. Optimistically, this reflects a fleeting characteristic of individuals face and fewer labor opportunities. [13-14].
5. **Border enemies take this period as an opportunity:** Chinese foreign policy is set to turn into more self-assured in the upcoming time, but presently it may be hasty to see the current influence flexing by the People's Liberation Army (PLA) in the Himalayas as a signal of China's fresh & forceful policy. Essential thing is not to outlook every combat as the commencement of a new war. But our border friend/enemy took this time of pandemic as an opportunity to grab land of no man's zone. In this situation, China doesn't wish to destroy US-led international order, but it now wants to acquire the existing system to rule. Unwanted and perhaps useless aggression at borders converts friend to enemy and china is the example. Not only China, Even Nepal whose economy is totally dependent on tourists from India and India consider their citizens as equivalent to Indian citizens also consider this pandemic situation as chance. We have a long way ahead for changed role of US global economy in a post-Covid era [15].
6. **Moratorium on Bank Loan:** In time of COVID 19, RBI the regulatory body announced package in form of Moratorium on Bank Loan on 27.03.2020. Along with SBI, all other banks initiated steps to postpone the installments & interest/EMIs on loans from 01.03.2020 to 31.05.2020. In its further notification, subsequent to RBI's directions dated 23.05.2020 to extend the benefit of moratorium for another three months from 01.06.2020 to 31.08.2020 on expenses of every installment in respect of loans, the moratorium time of all entitled Term Loan account is extended by bank further for three months. Consequently, a total moratorium period of six months is granted in all appropriate loan account. The banks have further make things easier for processing of EMI stoppage by sending a SMS to all entitled clients [16].

Conclusion: All over the world, the COVID period creates very panicky situations those we are not used to. Change is every aspect of life is observed whether its job profile, education, living style, worship, social ceremonies. And lastly, our researchers agreed with a point that all of us have to live face to face with SARS-COV-2. Not all the phase is negative, however on economic and financial fronts, SARS-COV-2 drilled more than our expectations. But, life

can't be lived with negative thoughts in the mind. Best way is to consider the features of COVID era and learn from our mistakes in past because learning is a lifelong process.

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