

Analysis of Human Condition & Social/Economical Problems arisen due to the spread of Corona Virus (COVID-19) and Negative role of Main stream Media in India.

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Abstract: This study will analyze preventive measure of the Government to stop the spread of the Corona virus, Misinterpretation of these advisories by the public, Escaping from reality by the 4th pillar of Indian Democracy i.e. main stream media, Human conditions during this Lockdown, Social and Economic problems of the people, arisen in Infected areas, in non-infected area, carelessness of the Government Offices/ Public Sector Undertakings/ Boards/ Nigam/ Corporations in India by the way of disobeying the Indian Government orders and orders of State Governments as well & carelessness of people for taking precautions/maintaining the advised social distancing or un-necessary gatherings in public places like Parks, gardens etc. In this study, I would like to explain and discuss almost all the aspects of and all the fake assertion of operational Planning Guidelines and Platform to support the citizens for preparedness and response against this virus in India:

- Lockdown imposing in India as a great Decision of the Indian Government.
- Negative image of media, away from the reality and responsibility.
- Reducing restrictions in Lockdown 4.0 as unsafe for citizen.
- Carelessness of responsible persons.
- Human conditions. (phobia, starvation, migration, unnatural deaths)
- Comparison of problems in both infected and non-infected areas.
- Disobeying the orders by the Government offices in staffing.
- Irresponsibility of society by the way of social gathering, non-maintaining the social distance & wasting of water.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Since the beginning of the year, 2020 there was a light discussion on the issue of a virus, originated in the Wuhan City of China and lots of videos and news were being seen by the people all over the world. Perhaps all the countries were thinking that this virus, named Novel Corona Virus will be cured & didn't even think that this will be a huge killer of human being, a hammer on the world economy & the countries like America and Italy, which are developed and fully independent in the field of medical services, having great hospitals in their jurisdictions/territories. The first case infected from COVID-19 was reported on 30th January, 2020 in the Kerala State and the person was travelled from Wuhan, China to India.

Till 25th May 2020, more than 138,845 are tested positive cases, 57,721 people have been recovered & more than 4,000 people infected from COVID-19 have been died in India, due to this, our country has become the 4th largest country having number of positive cases in Asia.

This infection of Novel Corona Virus (COVID-19) has been declared Pandemic all over the world and in India, to stop the further spread of this virus the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 & National Disaster Management Act, 2005 (NDMA) has been enforced during the lockdown.

Points may be discussed in this study:

- ✓ One day 'Janta Curfew'.
- ✓ Lockdown in India from stage 1.0 to 4.0 as a great Decision of the Indian Government.
- ✓ Irresponsible Role of Mainstream Media.
- ✓ Popularity of Social Media for showing the clear/real ground report of the society.
- ✓ Negligence of the Duties by the responsible persons.
- ✓ Human conditions. (phobia, starvation, migration, unnatural deaths, Comparison of problems in both infected and non-infected areas in villages in medical emergencies due to villagers)
- ✓ Disobeying the orders by the Government offices in staffing.

- ✓ Irresponsibility of society by the way of social gathering, non-maintaining the social distance & wasting of water.
- ✓ National Problems

II. DISCUSSION:

Point:1

▪ **One day 'Janta Curfew' un-understandable.**

In this regard, it is hereby discussed that after watching the negative affect & large number of deaths due to this virus infection in China, Italy & America, the Prime Minister of India, Sh. Narendra Modi called a one day 'Janta Curfew' from 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM on Sunday 22.03.2020 with a direction to stay home & stop all the daily routine activities of all human beings including travelling, Public Transport etc., as it was Sunday, so there was no offices, Schools/Colleges/Universities opened & most the Markets and shops were in the nation were closed on that day, all the citizens followed the orders & supported this step of the India Government, being in favour of the Nation. As per the further direction at 5 o'clock people came out of their houses & played more conch shells, rang the plate & bells, many played siren, with the thinking that all the viruses & diseases will be vanished by these practices of '*witch crafts*'. But, in reality it was not so easy because each and every country & even *World Health Organization* (WHO) knows the name of virus "COVID-19" but know nothing about its nature, cure of infected people from this virus, as no antidote, medicine or vaccination is available for this.

Point:2

▪ **Lockdown in India from stage 1.0 to 4.0 as a great Decision of the Indian Government.**

As I discussed above on 22 March 2020, a 22-hour *Janta curfew* on the appeal of Prime was imposed in India and ended playing the Bells, Siren & Plates. And then Indian Government ordered a nationwide *1st lockdown* for 21 days i.e. upto April 14, 2020, it controls the number of corona virus affected Confirmed cases at approximately 500 cases. By seeing the positive results of the complete lockdown, most of the States requested the Prime Minister to extend this lockdown, and the *2nd Lockdown* was further extended till 3rd May, 2020 by granting some relaxation after 20th April, 2020, in those areas, where the spread of corona virus was contained. In this process, on **1st May 2020**, our Indian Government, further extended this and imposed *3rd lockdown* by two weeks beyond May 4, 2020 i.e. upto 17th May, 2020 and Ministry of Home Affairs, on 1 May 2020, divided the nation into three zones — Red Zone, Orange Zone & Green Zone. The Government of India identified approximately 135, 280 & 320 Districts in Red, Orange & Green zones, respectively.

12 May 2020: Prime Minister of India announced relief package for Self-reliant India & imposed/announced the *4th Lockdown 4.0* till 31st May, 2020 with new guidelines and announcements, while extending the lockdown the MHA allowed the economic activities, stadia to open, barbershops, shopping complexes (excluding containment zones) from 18 May 2020, with particular timings. Also e-commerce of non-essential goods was allowed in red zones. However, Metro trails, Universities, colleges, schools, cinema halls, gyms, swimming pools & religious places like *temples/mosques/Gurudwaras* will remain shutting.

❖ After remaining forty days into lockdown, to stop the spread of Pandemic (COVID-19) on **04 May 2020**, government of India allowed liquor shops to open, request the people to follow the social distancing while purchasing the liquor. There were long queue outside these shops, which led to traffic jam, the crowd became un-manageable in some major cities like Delhi & Chandigarh, people gathered outside liquor shops early in the morning without masks, violating the social distancing guidelines & result of this was chaotic in the cities across the nation.

❖ Second thing which strikes everyone's mind is, when all the states were demanding to extend the lockdown, to control this Pandemic and the number of Corona virus infected cases in the country were approximately 35043 and the number of deaths were 1147, on the request of Telangana Government, a special train to ferry more than 1200 migrants/ workers amid nationwide lockdown was departed from Lingampalli to Hatia (Jharkhand) on 1st May, 2020. This act multiplied that number of infected case all over India.

Point: 3

• **Irresponsible Role & downfall of Mainstream Media.**

In population, India is the second biggest country in world, where Hindu, Muslim, Sikhs, Christian, Jains & Buddhists are its native people, but officially it is a secular country. Also India is a world's biggest democratic country. After getting independence, formation & implementation of the Great Constitution of India, there are three pillars in this country, who lead main roles in the social, economic & cultural growth of the natives and these are:- Legislature, Executive and Judiciary but an additional pillar is also considered very important, which is called 'Media'. If it is seen to the point of view of the society, it is very important, and in

our Constitution media plays a big role, whenever, any of the above said three institutions do injustice with anyone by making other people aware of this injustice.

During the lockdown, when it was the primary duty of the Indian Mainstream media to aware the society for preparedness to fight with this virus (COVID-19), but instead of doing this, they started another kind of game & played irresponsible role, which lead their downfall in the eyes of the Indian society. **The first example** of this was seen very first time, during the first lockdown when some 'Tablighi Jamaat workers' who attended the '*Nijamuddin Markaj*' found staying in Mosque at Delhi. But the mainstream media without inquiring the matter, knowing the facts of this *Markaj* started negative comments and created a atmosphere of Mob of Hindu-Muslim in India, and the participants of this *Jamaat* were called "*Corona Bom*". And the people having narrow thinking, even some politicians started criticizing the Greengrocer's & shopkeeper on the basis of their religion and the matter became so serious that people having bearded were getting beaten by the mob without knowing any details about them. But according to a report of MHA Government of India the *Tablighi Jamaatis* were started visiting *Nijammuddin Markaj* during the month of January, 2020 and they were staying in the '*Mosque*' situated at Delhi in the month of March, 2020, when the Prime Minister of India imposed one day '*Janta Curfew*' & further a complete lockdown, they only obeyed these order like other responsible citizen of India, but these news channels and reporters for the TRP of their channels spreaded the fake news of *Jamaatis* were hidden in Mosque, but in reality they were not hidden they were stayed. The second example of the same, was when a channel of media telecasted the **fake** report allover India that in *Firzobad* (UP) four person of '*Tablighi Jamaat*' were found positive and they threw stones on team of Doctors and Paramedical staff, who went there to take them to the hospital. But it was objected by the **Firozabad Police** and it was directed to the same channel that *fake and misleading news are been telecasted by your news channels regarding pelting stones on the Police and Medical staff by the 'Tablighi Jamaatis'*. Not only Firozabad Police, but **Barabanki Police** & even **Government of Utter Pradesh** vide their official twitter handle directed these main stream media reporter & channels as well, to spread these fake news. Apart from above, the DCP Noida, on the news of *Corona infected person who came in contact with Tablighi Jamaat*, also warned the ANI News channel "... There was no mention of Tablighi Jamaat. You are misquoting and spreading fake news." So, they are showing the fake news only, but telling/talking nothing about the reality or the ground report about the Human conditions, starving people, mass-migrants, dying poor people without getting food etc. However, they showed the big news like:- A famous Bollywood actress made '*Baingan Bhurta*'. And another famous former porn star travelled by air to her home with her three daughter during lockdown.

❖ So, the point is that media during lockdown only spread the fake news or created an un-healthy environment between Hindu-Muslim communities.

Point:4

- **Popularity of Social Media for showing the clear/real ground report of the society.**

According to my view, this thing happened due to the reasons discussed in above point. Where all the mainstream media & news channels were spreading fake news targeting a particular community & talking/showing nothing about the diseases and hardships of the poor workers, who were suffering amid Pandemic & lockdown then the reporters of the social media like; Mr. Sambhu Kumar Singh & others handled the front. They not only make aware the society towards this Virus, but also showed the original/ground reports each and every time. They visited the infected places, met the people there, to show the miserable condition of the poor/workers who were laid off from the work by the employers and they were forced to starve. In the same manner, they also aware the people about brotherhood, scandals behind the defaming the '*Tablighi Jamaat*'. They also talked about the anti nationals thinking person in their news instead of 'debates' of other reputed channels.

This institution (Social Media) played a big role to maintain a positive relation between Hindu-Muslim. People also came to know that the Muslim people are helping the migrants/poor workers, while they were walking & facing hardships, with food, clothes and medical aids, on the way, even when they were fasting in '*Ramzan*'.

In this way, the mainstream media have lost its respect, credibility by defaming a particular community & the Social Media of India became popular, by showing the reality, facts & ground report.

Point:5

- **Negligence of the Duties by the responsible persons.**

It is not a matter of doubt that Corona Virus is a Pandemic and dangerous for all the human beings, but it is also a bitter truth that when a responsible person start neglecting his duties for other beings. Same thing happened during this Pandemic. The Prime Minister of India, while interacting with the nation during the 1st & 2nd lockdown, advised the people who are landlord or house owner not to taunt for rent to any tenant during the lockdown on the humanitarian grounds & further requested to the industrialists, Contractors not to laid off the

workers & to pay the wages or dues to these workers for humanity for the month of April, 2020. But, all these person, who were landlord or house owner, industrialists & Contractors did not waive off the room rent and didn't pay the salaries for this period to the poor workers, as a result they have nothing to buy eatable for their families or to survive in these big cities. If any citizen tried to help them by the way of giving food or Provision, at one the Police started beating the both the giver and the taker & forced to 'Stay Home.' I personally have seen some responsible person of the society, who boasted off about helping these poor families by providing food to them, *but when his on tenant requested him to waive off his rent for the month of May, 2020 as he has not received the wages for this month from his employer, he got angry and rebuked him by saying that I don't know anything, I will not exempt you to pay the rent. If you are poor and I am rich this is not my fault. Why did you not studied? If you could not study, what I can do? You will have to pay the rent or leave the house.*

So, this kind of above said negligence committed by any responsible person is responsible in reducing the motive of the lockdown & in migration of the poor workers by walking on the roads, risking their lives.

Point:6.

- Human conditions during lockdown.

- **Phobia**

As above discussed, the virus and its infection is incurable as no medicine or vaccination is available in the market for the treatment of the infected person. So, people of India took it very seriously and developed a phobia in their mind, resulting it the suspected person instead of cooperating with the medical staff started escaping from them and even some tried to run away from the Hospitals/quarantine zones because of this phobia of death. Reason behind this kind of phobia is the telecast of information on news channels in wrong way by some sophisticated journalists, who knew nothing about this virus.

- **Starvation**

Due to lockdown/curfew, each and every service was restricted by the Government of India & Haryana with a direction to 'stay home stay safe' for the safety of the people & Police was deployed to maintain the law and orders in the state, not everyone, but some cops didn't allow any person to help the poor & needy, if they want to give them food or other eatables, if someone tried, the cops beat them both the give and the needy. As a result, the supply chain was stopped by this kind of act and the poor who were daily earner, unable to arrange the food for themselves or for their families. Lots of people are dying without food, not because of Corona virus. On 13.05.2020, a young man was so hungry that to kill his hunger, he took dead tree leaves and ate these leaves when he was asked for the reason why he was doing so, he didn't reply, but requested for food and this man saw food, he started crying on the 2nd instance is from Rajasthan, where a person due to hunger, started eating the dead dog, which was killed in an accident on the Delhi-Jaipur National Highway on 20.05.2020.

- **Migration & unnatural deaths**

India is a country of villages, more than 75% people here are belongs to these rural areas, as jobs/works are limited in these villages so in search of work they have to migrate in the Cities for earning the bread & butter for their families as here they are able to get a work in construction field as a labour, due to this there can be seen a huge slum areas in every metropolitan City like Delhi, the National Capital, Mumbai, where these poor people live in miserable conditions in lack of essential services like hospitals, schools etc. According to a report published in TOI due to lockdown/curfew all these people have lost their jobs and have no work to earn food, further, nearly eighty nine percent have no source of income & according to a research of Columbia University weekly income of more than 89.2% peoples' is less than zero. Due to unmanaged kind of lockdown their lively hood is over and to overcome this disaster their concern is to go back to their native villages/cities/states for this they walked/are walking hundreds and thousands of Kilometers in distress to go home because they don't have a single way to feed their starving families in these cities.

Their planning may be a solution for them only, but is it safe? The answer is 'NO', but there was no option for them except this, as the Govt. is advising to stay inside home, their families are fighting from hunger & if they try to go out of their Huts, Police beat them with sticks, so their decision may be right in this sense. Another instance is also from Rajasthan, where migrant workers of West Bangal working in a stone mine and their families, started walking for their home, were forcefully, put into lime sack laden truck and on the way in UP this truck met an accident in Auriya district, more than 26 migrant workers were died and more than 35 workers injured. One of these workers, who survived said that they were going by a bus, after reaching Bharatpur (Rajasthan) they were stopped by the Police by saying that they cannot go ahead with this bus, after requesting they were allowed to go ahead by stuffing them into this truck of lime sack laden by the Rajasthan Police. However, a case was registered on both the truck drivers & owners as well, but can these dead people will be alive by this case registration? No.

Apart from above, this migration due to mismanagement of the State Organizations, the conditions of the women and children also miserable. As other poor workers are walking for their native States & villages to go back to their homes, some pregnant women were also doing the same in this they must be provided a great medical cure and rest, but for the safety of their small children they didn't think once for them who are to be born and during this migration after walking 900 Kilometer a woman gave birth to a child. In other instance, another woman who was pregnant, she also gave birth to a child & immediately after this she have to walk more than 160 Kilometer on the same day and in the news, there is no such kind of emergencies, incidents are shown till now.

During the 4th lockdown, when it became very hard to earn any food for their families, some workers from Haryana decided to return their homes at Uttar Pradesh, for this they selected the way of water they risked their lives by using old, used even worn out rubber tubes for crossing the Yamuna River, to stay afloat them. In this they paid Rs. 200 to Rs. 350 to buy a rubber tube, which is bad in condition & can drown them. According to the local people who lives near the Yamuna river, for the past two weeks, more than 2500 (Two Thousands Five Hundred) migrants in the dark night with their children and women, every night crossing the Yamuna river for reaching into Uttar Pradesh from Haryana, by using the rubber tubes by taking a big risk of their lives. In this incident, Police arrested two or three people, who are providing these rubber tubes (weapon of suicide or killing) and earning the money of these poor people.

○ **Hurdles in Medical emergencies in both infected and Non-infected rural areas amid Pandemic.**

While discussing this point, I would like to discuss here again that in our country more than 75% population lives in villages, the rural area. All the hospitals and medical facilities are available in the Cities not in villages, so whenever, anyone feels any illness he will have to go to the city for his/her treatment by travelling the public transport or driving him or herself. When the news of the virus came to the notice of the villages, for the safety of their territory each village *Panchyat* deputed a group of villagers on '*Tikri Paira*' to stop the transporting on the roads crossing from their villages and in this situation, if any person from other village tried to reach the hospital in the city, he was not allowed by the most of the groups/villages in the night time, result of this can be seen by the fact that a number of women gave birth on the roads and even in the vehicle before reaching the hospital.

In some other cases, like in Karnal District, there was a rumor that a person has been found who is corona infected, whereas, after some time he was tested negative by the Kalpna Chawla Medical College, Karnal, but people of nearby villages each and every time stopped the other people of that villages even in extreme emergencies, so that they could not be get affected. Hurdles for the people of the infected villages was that they were detained/prohibited by the neighbor villagers in getting treatment of other illness & non-infected areas are facing the problems or tensions of getting infection, if the above people entered in their village or contacted with anyone in their village. So, these were the hurdles for the both areas.

III. RESULTS:

I would like to talk about here that, first of all we have no other option or medicine except the lockdown to break the chain of spread of the Corona Virus (COVID-19), so the decision of complete lockdown was a great decision by the Government. However, it might be imposed very early in the month of January, 2020, instead of 22 or 23 March, 2020 when the first case is tested positive in India. Second thing, the fake news spreaded by the media, created an unhealthy environment among the innocent people of both the communities: Hindu & Muslim in the name of Corona. The precious lives of the poor workers might be saved, if the State authorities would announce proper guidelines for welfare of them, the atrocities like eating of tree-leaves, eating dead dog's body by the man, walking hundreds of kilometer by the women before & just after giving birth to a child could be avoided.

And the main point that might be discussed, is that when the infected people were in a few in India the lockdown was very strict, no person was allowed to get married, someone was not allowed to attend the funeral of his own family members, all the public & personal mean of transport were prohibited by the Police & Administration, during the 1st or 2nd lockdown. And when the number of infected people from Corona virus reached in more than one lac, the Government (Union & State) allowed the Inter-district Bus Services, Railways & Airways for visiting the people. All these are the examples of the mismanagements of the local authorities.

Advisories of the Health Department of India advised the people to wash their hands again & again with water and soap, to kill the virus (COVID-19), but people accepted this advice, but while they could wash their hands with the help of water can, they washed hands with the open running tap upto one minute duration and if we calculate it, during the lockdown all these kind of people have wasted more than **six liters water** in one times' hand wash, whereas they could do it in one liter water. Imagine how many times they washed their hands in one hour, day & one month? In other words, a huge amount of water have been/is being wasted by the people recklessly, without caring or thinking to save this for their descendant.

IV. CONCLUSION:

- ❖ It is a matter of fact that announcing complete lockdown and imposing curfew was a great decision by the Government of India to stop the spread the Novel Corona Virus (COVID-19). But, it was announced/imposed very late.
- ❖ Local authorities did not provide any help to the poor workers, who earn daily basis and if *the Gurudwaras* are providing food to these affected & starving peoples, without any condition, the Police didn't allow them to do so, as a result these people are under the '*grip of hunger*' & unable to survive in their current residential places.
- ❖ People of India, in their lives only demanded for temples, fought for temples & even fought on the name of temples, but all the temples are closed during the whole lockdown. On the other hand, these people never demanded for any Hospital & never donate blood or money in any Hospital, but in this time *only Hospitals are open and doing their best* to protect these mentally sick people from this Pandemic.
- ❖ Daily wages workers are laid off by the Mill-owners, Industrialist & Contractors by saying because there is no more work for them to do and in Showrooms the salesmen were fired by saying them "*they didn't sell even a single car for months*".
- ❖ When, a leader from any political Party said that *all the money or gold under the trusts of the various temples should be given for the development of the India in this a kind of economic crises amid Pandemic*, he is criticized by the all *Religios Contractors*.

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