

India vs covid-19: The Real Pandemic Challenge

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Abstract -India, which has the second-largest population globally, is suffering severely from COVID-19 disease. Social distancing and lockdown rules were employed in India, which impacted the economy, human living, and the environment. A negative impact was observed for the economy and human life; the environment got a positive one. How India dealt and can potentially deal with these three factors during and post COVID-19 situation has been discussed here.

Keywords: *India, COVID-19, Economy, Environment, Lockdown, Social distance*

Introduction

The spread of Covic-19 has taken a pandemic situation over affecting more than 100 countries worldwide, showing a total of 36,46,265 confirmed cases of which 12,00,282 cases have recovered. A death rate of 2,52,420.¹ Although the effect has covid-19 reduced to 90% in the Wuhan province of China, but it still is in response in the others parts of the world which has created a pandemic situation within every nation of deaths and even practising measures for prevention by using of sanitisers, N-95 mask and social distancing. India, the 3rd largest economy globally, has been affected by the virus and got its first covid-19 case on 30th January 2020, which showed the virus origin was from China.² Due to the covid-19 effect, the country is facing a pandemic situation towards controlling the public to avoid the virus's spread vigorously. It has been reported that the number of confirmed cases has crossed from more than 100 cases as on 15th March, 2020 to 30,000 cases as on 29th April, 2020.³⁻⁴ The number of patients infected since 30th February 2020 in India which showed a close exponential rise in the covid-19 scale which created a panic situation within the nation. Care units were established in every metro and other states to handle the spread with setting up of more than 4000 beds for creating isolation wards for the patients equipped with ventilators and other respiratory-related equipment placed in every bed for the need of the

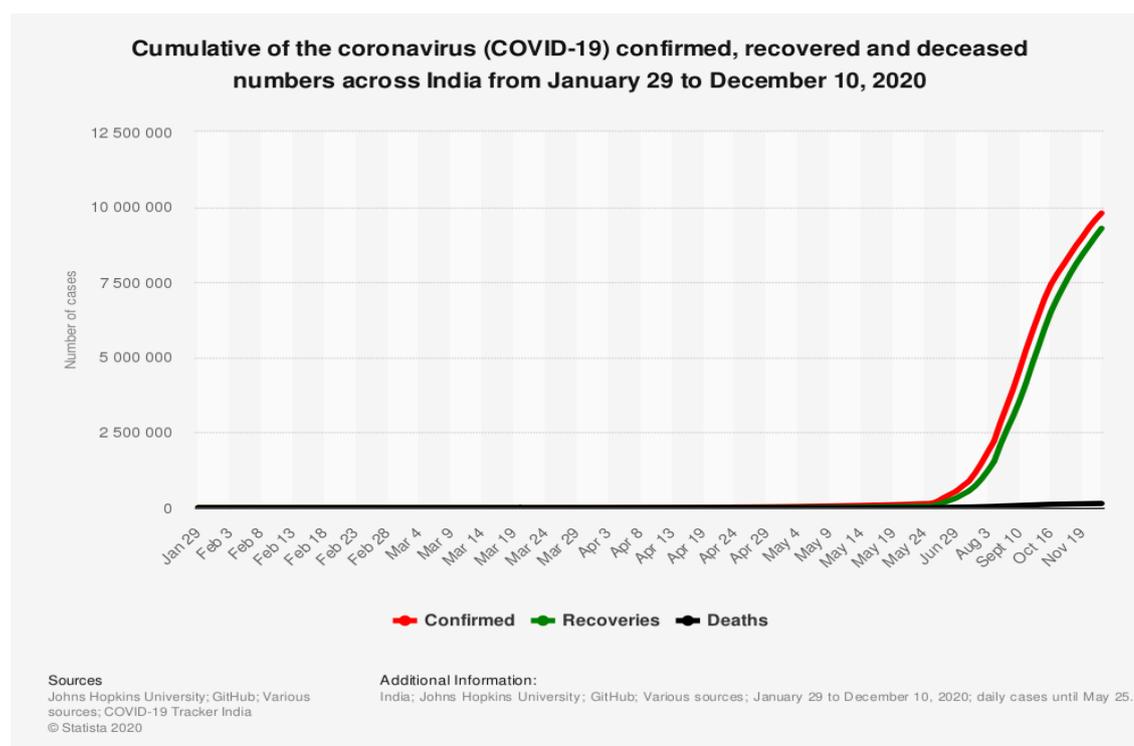
affected patient. The political leaders were provided and analysed information by the health authorities, i.e. ICMR and other health official departments for the resources that included bed equipped with intensive care facilities, PPE and testing kits, masks and other items they require to manage the situation in these few weeks.⁵ If China would have controlled the spread and stopped its transport services early like India, then the spread would have decreased and would have got controlled initially, where they lacked behind.

According to WHO, the spread of covid-19 will create an epidemiological situation within all the nation which will be declared a pandemic situation where it will affect more than 1,00,000 people worldwide.⁶ Although India has been fortunate to control its situation at a very early stage by locking down its transport services first internationally and then closing its domestic communication which resulted in less exposure of the disease which taught other countries like Italy, Spain and even the United States to follow this kind of valuable situations during the pandemic situation which will help the nations in implementing measures for prevention from the contamination. Seeing to the initial stage of spread in India, the Indian government took specific measures to implement specific precaution to reduce the covid-19 spread which was: initiation of lockdown, closing of educational and industrial institutions, market complex, liquor shops, transport services & and services like e-commerce, food delivery, etc. which were made mandatory during the lockdown phase. Moreover, the government official suggested that the public stay at home and follow the online payment mode for daily essentials for their household need.⁷ This showed the nation a positive aspect towards reducing the covid-19 effect through initiating function of the health services at a breakneck pace to provide immediate prevention treatments for which doctors and nurses worked day and night for weeks. Initially, there were only beds allotted for only critical cases, but due to the increase in the number of cases, the hospitals started to equip themselves with ventilators and increase their beds capacity. The Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) established the first corona dedicated hospital that equipped special quarantine facilities and importing test kits and increased the production of face mask up to 1,00,000 units per day.⁸

Effect of lockdown

The Indian government handled the situation entirely by executing the lockdown at a significantly earlier stage. The implementation of lockdown was into 3 phases that were done to break the nation's spread of covid-19 chain.⁹ The government formulated a few rules and policies during the lockdown, which was further made mandatory for the public to follow during the lockdown. The policies included the

suspension of all international visas, shutting down all educational and industrial institutions, commercial markets, mall, cinema theatres, and other non-essential shops.¹⁰ The government initially made a statement that if any traveller has reached India from any foreign country, then he/she should be quarantined for 14 days.¹¹ Each state government advised its public to follow the lockdown procedure & maintain social distancing by staying at home and only to step out in case of emergency. The government schools in villages were made quarantine centre for those who travelled to the village from different locations and provided essential items to the needy.¹²



Arrangements and Preventive Measures in India

A simple approach to diminish SARS-CoV-2 disease rates is to maintain a strategic distance from infection presentation. Individuals from India should try not to go to countries that are exceptionally afflicted by the disease, practice good cleanliness, and try not to eat food that is not home-cooked. Necessary preventive steps include wearing a veil, regular hand washing, and eradiation, for example. The individuals, who went from China, or different nations, and showed indications, including fever, trouble in breathing, sore throat, hack, and windedness, were approached to visit the closest medical clinic for a wellbeing registration. Authorities from seven unique air terminals, including Chennai,

Cochin, New Delhi, Kolkata, Hyderabad, and Bengaluru, have been requested to screen and screen Indian voyagers from China and other influenced nations.

Moreover, a tourism warning was delivered to demand the suspension of movement to influenced nations, and anybody with a movement history that has included China since 15th January 2020, would be isolated. The Delhi government has set up a unified control room at the Directorate General of Health Services, and 11 different regions have done likewise. India has executed COVID-19 tourism warning for intra-and between traveller aeroplane limitations. More data on extra tourism warning can be gotten to with the gave interface (<https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/Traveladvisory.pdf>).

India is known for its conventional meds as AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy). The polyhedral powder NilavembuKudineer demonstrated promising impacts against dengue and chikungunya fevers before. With the episode of COVID-19, the service of AYUSH has delivered a press note "Warning for Coronavirus," referencing helpful drugs to improve the insusceptibility of the people. Right now, as indicated by the ICMR rules, specialists endorse a mix of Lopinavir and Ritonavir for extreme COVID-19 cases and hydroxychloroquine for prophylaxis of SARS-CoV-2 contamination. As a team with the WHO, ICMR will lead a restorative preliminary for COVID-19 in India (3). The ICMR suggests utilising the US-FDA-endorsed shut constant RT-PCR frameworks, for example, GeneXpert and Roche COBAS-6800/8800, which are utilised to analyse ongoing myeloid leukaemia and melanoma, individually. All specific outcomes acquired on this stage require to be affirmed by corroborative tests for SARS-CoV-2. All adverse outcomes do not need further testing. Neutraliser based quick tests were approved at NIV, Pune, and discovered to be palatable; the fast test packs are as per the following: (I) SARS-CoV-2 Antibody test (Lateral stream strategy): Guangzhou Wondfo Biotech, Mylan Laboratories Limited (CE-IVD); (ii) COVID-19 IgM&IgG Rapid Test: BioMedomics (CE-IVD); (iii) COVID-19 IgM/IgG Antibody Rapid Test: Zhuhai Livzon Diagnostics (CEIVD); (iv) New (COVID-19) IgG/IgM Rapid Test: Voxtur Bio Ltd, India; (v) COVID-19 IgM/IgG immunise recognition card test: VANGUARD Diagnostics, India; (vi) MakesureCOVID-19 Rapid test: HLL Lifecare Limited, India; and (vii) YHLO SARS-CoV-2 IgM and IgG discovery unit (extra hardware required): CPC, Diagnostics. As above and beyond, on the mechanical angle, the Union Health Ministry has dispatched a portable application called "AarogyaSetu" that works both on android and iOS cell phones. This application builds a client information base for setting up a mindfulness network that can alarm individuals and governments about conceivable COVID-19 casualties.

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