

Tourism Heritage and Cultural Studies

Volume: 1 Issue: 1
December 16, 2021
(ISSN: 2791-2620)



Tourism Heritage and Cultural Studies

(ISSN: 2791-2620)

Quarterly Journal of the KMF Publishers

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Covid 19 Pandemic & Tourism in H.P

Dr Monika Panchani

Associate Professor, Department of Zoology, SVP Cluster University Mandi, India

ABSTRACT

It's almost one and half years the corona virus pandemic has affected human life. Every sector is facing the problem of survival. The pandemic has not only affected the health, education, industries and other sectors but also affected various regional developments, job opportunities, thereby disrupting the local communities as a whole. The pandemic affected economically as well as and socially. Tourism is a major source of revenue and employment in many countries. It is a generator for employment for unemployed youth, women and local people. It also helps in tax collections and foreign exchange earnings. Due to Covid-19, tourism is highly affected sector triggering a global economic crisis. More over with the implementation of certain measures like social distancing, lockdowns, work from home, stay at home, self- quarantine, no gathering and travelling etc. the tourism activities almost come to end. Himachal Pradesh is small hilly state with natural beauty which makes it popular destination for tourist activities and tourism is the main source of income for local people. State also provides employment to people of other regions. Due to the adverse impact of Covid-19 pandemic the tourism sector has contracted by over 81 per cent in the current financial year (2020-21). The other sectors associated with tourism like transport, laundry, catering, household, agriculture and construction sectors are also affected. About 3.7% drop is expected in per capita income. 9.2% contraction likely in hotel/ restaurant sector and 3.1% decrease is expected in agriculture sector. Hence, in this scenario, it is necessary to take some strategic measures and manage tourism activities so that economy may improve. We can plan to support tourism by adopting some innovative actions like for healthy tourism with yoga sessions and fitness camp can be arranged, slow tourism where people can stay for longer period at one place and learn and ecotourism stay in natural habitat. Home stay and small sector tourism with proper Covid standard operating procedures (SOP) like use of mask, maintaining distance, sanitization and avoiding crowding can be operated.

Keywords: Pandemic, Corona virus, Tourism, Health Tourism, Slow tourism and Ecotourism

INTRODUCTION

The Covid-19 pandemic has become the biggest threat to human life. Today the globe is facing health, social, and economic crises. The pandemic has not only affected the health, education, industries and other sectors but also

affected various regional developments, job opportunities, thereby disrupting the local communities as a whole. Tourism sector is also affected in many countries in these years after Covid 19. International tourist arrivals fell by 72 percent in January-December

Correspondence to: Dr Monika Panchani Email: monaharipanchani@gmail.com

Received: October 15, 2021; **Accepted:** November 28, 2021; **Published:** December 16, 2021

Citation: Panchani, M. (2021). Covid 19 Pandemic & Tourism in H.P. *Tourism Heritage and Cultural Studies*, 1(1), 3-9. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5801394>

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Tourism in Himachal Pradesh is a major contributor to the state's economy and growth. But in present scenario the state is also facing the same problem and without tourism activities the social and economy of state is greatly affected. There is great loss in other sectors related to tourism like travelling, trade, woollen shawl industry, retail sector, local agriculture, laundry, housekeeping etc. As most of the people are engaged in these so they have lost their livelihood. Governments is also taking actions to restore the tourism sector by adopting some innovative methods for improving the economy. New forms of tourism would be more prevalent in post-Covid 19, including (1) slow tourism, which emphasizes local destinations and longer lengths of stay, and (2) SMART tourism, which uses data analytics to improve tourist's experiences (Wen, J.; Kozak, M.; Yang, S.; Liu, F., 2020). Many countries are developing various measures for sustainable tourism economy in post Covid 19. Domestic tourism can help in economy to some extent. In this review article the challenges and new strategies for sustainable tourism has been discussed.

AIM

- To review the impact of pandemic on tourism.
- To document some innovative ideas for implementation by the Government for increasing the economy through tourism.
- To create awareness among people to adopt new methods of tourism.

METHODOLOGY

For this paper secondary data has been obtained through the internet, books, online news, reports, and published research articles. Different papers on Covid 19 and it's impact on tourism have been searched and many journals are accessed. Keyword like Covid 19, tourism, economy, social factors are used.

DISCUSSION

Covid-19

Covid-19, a new strain of SARS (SARS-CoV-2), has grown into a global pandemic and spreading across many countries. This is a transmissible respiratory disease, Covid-19 spreads through contact with other infected individuals, with symptoms such as fever, cough, and breathing problems (Yang, Y.; Zhang, H.; Chen, X., 2020). Transmission can also occur from asymptomatic individuals, with up to 40% of infected persons remaining asymptomatic (Oron, D.P.; Topol, E.J. Scripps, 2020).

Tourism in India

India offers geographical diversity, attractive beaches, 30 World Heritage and biogeographic zones for tourist activities to flourish. It is a major destination for many international tourists, creating several employment opportunities and generating enormous taxes (Ahmed & Krohn, 1992). India ranked 10th among 185 countries in terms of travel & tourism's total contribution to GDP in 2019. During 2019, contribution of travel & tourism to GDP was 6.8% of the total economy, about Rs. 13,68,100 crores (WTTC). Before Covid 19 it was expected that In India, the sector's direct contribution to GDP will grow by 7.1% per annum during 2018-28. For sustainable economic development the hospitality and tourism sector play very important role and help in poverty alleviation and human development. Contribution of tourism is 6.8 % of total GDP and 8 % of the total employment in 2019 (The Times of India, 2020; World Travel & Tourism Council, 2019).

The Indian tourism industry has generated about 87.5 million jobs by providing 12.75% of total employment and contributing INR 194 billion to India's GDP (WTTC, 2018). Almost 20 million people are now working in the India's tourism industry. India was ranked 34th in the Travel & Tourism published in Competitiveness Report 2019 by the World Economic Forum and contributes ~US\$ 200 billion to the

country's GDP. It is the third-largest foreign exchange earner for the country. In WTTC's Economic Impact 2019 report, India's Travel & Tourism GDP contribution grew by 4.9%, third-highest after China and The Tourism & hospitality sector's direct contribution to GDP is expected to reach Rs. 12.68 trillion (US\$ 194.69 billion) in 2028. Through tourism we can increase our foreign exchange earnings. In India tourism activities are now focusing on developing medical, religious tourism adding more destinations and introducing foreign languages in tourist destinations to attract more tourists.

The Ministry of Tourism is promoting Buddhist Circuit to increase India's share in global tourism market. While improving the economy tourism helps in preservation of several historical important places and restoring heritage sites. It also improves the infrastructure that benefits the host community, like health care facilities, and sports centres, transport facilities in addition to the hotels and restaurants. Through tourism activities cultural exchange is also possible. It raises the living conditions of the citizens of the country. It will be helpful in raising the GDP of country and provide self employment to people. The Ministry of Tourism has framed a policy for development and promotion of caravan and caravan camping parks. Government is also assisting by providing free loans to deal with the crisis and revive the economy (DPIIT, ICE 360 Survey 2016).

Tourism in Himachal Pradesh

Himachal is in the western Himalayas situated between 30°22'N and 33°12'N latitude and 75°47'E and 79°04'E longitude with area of 55,673 square kilometres (21,495 sq mi), (Statistical Facts,2006). Tourism in Himachal Pradesh is a major contributor to the state's economy and growth. Shimla, Kullu-Manali, Dharamshala, Chamba, Dalhousie, Khajjiar and Kasauli are popular hill stations for both domestic and foreign tourists (The Economic Times, 2018). The state received 31,70,714 domestic and 42,665 foreign tourists in 2020 compared to 1,68,29,231 domestic and 3,82,876 foreign tourists

in 2019, a drop of 81.6 per cent and 88.86 per cent respectively. 18,500 tourists have been visiting Himachal Pradesh per day, whereas 7,500 tourists have been visiting the tourist hotspot Atal Tunnel Rohtang (ATR). Himachal records a foot fall of 18,500 tourists daily; 7,500 for Rohtang Tunnel (Times of India, 2021).

Himachal is also known for its adventure tourism activities like ice skating in Shimla, paragliding in Bir Billing and Solang valley, rafting in Kullu, skiing in Manali, boating in Bilaspur and trekking, horse riding and fishing in different parts in the state. Himachal Pradesh is likely to register a negative growth of 6.2 per cent in the current financial year 2020-21 (Economic Survey 2020-21). The per capita income at the current price is estimated to drop by 3.7 per cent to Rs 1,83,286 from previous year's Rs 1,90,407. The other badly hit sectors include transport, mining and quarrying, forestry and construction. The agriculture sector is set to register a contraction of 3.1 per cent due to a decrease of 43 per cent in horticulture production. Fiscal deficit is estimated to be 4.65 per cent of the GSDP in 2020-21(TNS, 2021). Covid impact on tourism of Himachal has been observed in many ways as there is 3.7% drop expected in per capita income, 9.2% contraction likely in hotel/ restaurant sector, 3.1% decrease expected in agriculture sector and 4.65% of the GSDP will be the state's fiscal deficit.

Challenges & Strategies

Challenges:

- The first case of the Covid-19 pandemic in India was reported on 30th January 2020, originating from China. The virus spread to various states and union territories including the state of Himachal Pradesh. The first case was recorded in the Himachal on 20th March 2020.
- Lockdown in all over India resulted in abrupt fall in all activities of hospitality. Closure of offices, banks, schools and work from home also closes the door to outside world.

- No transportation facilities in all over the country in the initial stage of pandemic blocked everything. Major challenges were the implementation of certain measures and campaigns like social distancing, community lockdowns, work from home, stay at home and self-quarantine, etc.
- Loss of jobs in various sectors connected to tourism major loss of jobs in tourism and hospitality has been estimated to be about 70 % of the sector workforce (Radhakrishna, 2020).
- Development of effective vaccine as well as the distribution of vaccines on such a large population (1.3 billion). Fear of disease and approach of medical facilities.
- Safety and hygiene for tourism activities. People are likely to prefer private vehicles while travelling, avoiding big gatherings. Requirement of structural change in tourism supply for the ecosystem.
- Due to demand of digitalisation in tourism services, use of automation, contact-less payments and services, virtual experiences, real-time information provision have to be adopted.
- Prior to the pandemic, the Indian travel and tourism industry was showed annual growth rate of 6.9% during 2019-2028 to reach US\$ 460 billion, which would be equal to ~9.9% of India's GDP in 2028.
- In 2019, arrivals through e-Tourist Visa increased by 23.6% YoY to 2.9 million. The Government is working to achieve 1% share in world's international tourist arrivals by 2020 and 2% share by 2025.
- In year 2019 the growth of 3.2% was recorded from 2018, with 10.8 million in India with a foreign exchange earning of USD 29.9 billion. But there was decline of 66.4% in year 2020 in overseas tourists' arrivals in India compared to last year (TAN, 2020).
- In 2020, FTAs decreased by 75.5% YoY to 2.68 million and arrivals through e-Tourist Visa (Jan-Nov) decreased by 67.2% YoY to 0.84 million. The Covid 19 pandemic has greatly disrupted the Tourism industry.
- While the pandemic brought the tourism industry to a halt, the government is now trying to begin with reviving domestic tourism. In November end, India introduced a graded relaxation of its visa and travel restrictions for more categories of foreign nationals and Indian nationals.

Strategies:

- To overcome the loss of tourism in the pandemic we can make use of this crisis as opportunity to promote different forms of tourism like medical tourism, adventure tourism, slow tourism, domestic tourism, ecotourism and wedding tourism.
- Medical tourism also known as health tourism has emerged as one of the important segments of the tourism industry. Travelers can be provided services such as healthcare and quarantine facilities.
- Wellness tourism for maintaining good health and a sense of well-being can be projected in this pandemic time. With the knowledge of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy customers can be provided such facilities to improve their health and boost up immunity. It needs publicity and promotional activities.
- For youth to channelise their energy adventure tourism activities include mountaineering, trekking, jumping, mountain biking, river rafting, and rock climbing could be provided.
- We can connect tourism with cultural heritage. Means visiting historical or industrial sites, religious travel or pilgrimages. There are various temples, majestic forts, pleasure gardens, religious monuments, museums, art galleries and urban and rural sites which are

citadels of civilization. All these structures form the products of heritage tourism.

- Rural tourism supports rural life, art, culture and heritage of rural locations, benefitting the local community economically and socially. India's rural, geographical and cultural diversity enables to offer a wide range of tourism products and experience.
- Eco tourism is travel to natural areas to appreciate the cultural and natural history of the environment, while not disturbing the integrity of the ecosystem and creating economic opportunities that make conservation and protection of natural resources advantageous to local people. It involves travel to destinations where flora, fauna and cultural heritage are primary attractions.
- Wildlife tourism involves travel to different locations to experience wild life in natural settings. India is endowed with various forms of flora and fauna and it has numerous species of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and plants and animals. To tap the potential of wildlife tourism, the government has launched some wildlife packages for travellers. Wildlife Tourism in India includes wildlife photography, bird watching, jungle safari, elephant safari, jeep safari, jungle camping, ecotourism etc. The country offers immense opportunities for wildlife tourism.
- MICE tourism MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions) tourism is also one of the fastest growing in the global tourism industry. It largely caters to business travellers, mostly corporate. It caters to various forms of business meetings, international conferences and conventions, events and exhibitions. Covid 19 may significantly change destination marketing services, as well.
- Due to social distance, luxury hotels and luxury travel will still take some time to revive. At this time, domestic boutique hotels,

accommodations, and homestays can maintain their social distance and reduce viruses' risk.

PROPOSALS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

The hospitality and tourism sector is endangering the employment of large numbers of people as the Covid 19 pandemic is negatively affecting India's economy. Some remedies need to be recommended to India's central and provincial governments for the sector to overcome the crisis (FICCI, 2020b). Government has taken actions to speed up tourism so that it could minimise job losses and recovery in 2021. Key policy priorities include:

- Restoring traveller confidence
- Supporting tourism businesses to adapt and survive
- Promoting domestic tourism and supporting safe return of international tourism
- Strengthening co-operation within and between countries
- Building more resilient, sustainable tourism
- Co-ordinated action across governments at all levels and the private sector is essential.
- Governments need to consider the longer-term implications of the crisis, while capitalising on digitalisation, supporting the low carbon transition, and promoting the structural transformation needed to build a stronger, more sustainable and resilient tourism economy (OECD).
- Domestic tourism can boost sustainable tourism destinations and businesses, and will continue to be a key driver of recovery in the short term. There has been some pick up in domestic tourism activities since the middle of the year, due in part to displacement effects of international travel restrictions.
- Many factors contributed in domestic tourism as complete vaccination, lifting of travel restrictions, as well as the survival and

readiness of businesses throughout the tourism ecosystem to meeting demand.

CONCLUSION

In this pandemic period for improving the economy of country the tourism sector needs to adopt some innovative plans. Governments is also serious in taking actions to restore and re-activate the sector and protecting jobs and businesses. In Himachal Pradesh there is ample scope for medical tourism, ecotourism, adventurous tourism and slow tourism. Now a days people are also encouraged for wedding tourism in Himachal. In all the activities of tourism proper covid standard operating procedures (SOP) like use of mask, maintaining distance, sanitization and avoiding crowding should be followed. Domestic tourism has restarted and is helping in the economy. Appropriate behaviour of the tourists to the Covid 19 must be maintained while travelling and lodging. However, real recovery will only be possible when international tourism returns. Tourism policy will need to be more flexible and able to adapt according to the crisis or situations like Covid 19 pandemic. Crisis management, Safety and health policy issues should be included in policy making. Covid 19 has created the new opportunities for innovation and replan for more sustainable and resilient models of tourism.

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Impact of Covid-19 on Tourism Economy

Dr Shalini Singh and Ms. Anugya Dubey

JIMS Engineering Management Technical Campus, Greater Noida, India

ABSTRACT

The COVID-19 Pandemic in India is a part of the worldwide pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-COV-2) (contributors, 2021.). The first case of COVID-19 in India was reported in Kerala on 30th January 2020. This pandemic has had economic consequences beyond the spread of the disease itself and attempt to quarantine it. It is one of the kind of humanitarian disasters which has affected people, business and all the sectors worldwide, causing recession with more than a one third of the Indian population at the time being placed on lockdown (Sanjita Jaipuria, 29 Nov 2020.). Tourism is one the sectors most affected by the pandemic; indeed 60% of tourism jobs were lost during the first wave of COVID-19. The tourism economy has been massively affected by the spread of coronavirus due to the imposed travel restrictions and slump in demand among travelers. Tourism industry plays crucial role in India's economic development contributing larger share in the employment generation augmenting country's foreign exchange earnings (FEE). Rich social and normal legacy, verifiable and strict spots draws in worldwide traveler appearances (ITAs) towards India. This paper would analyze the impact of pandemic on tourism in five most tourist attracted places in India (namely: Agra, Goa, Amritsar, Shimla, Jaipur). The study is based on secondary data and studies the shift of tourism during the pandemic, its impacts, declining GDP contribution, resulting FEE. The research study also aims at providing the ways to revive the tourism sector.

Keywords : COVID-19 , SARS-COV-2, ITA, FEE

INTRODUCTION

Beginning of the 20th century marked the people into the mobile world and made them assume to maintain the status quo in mobility until the COVID 19 arrived (Baum, 2020). In only the initial start of few weeks, Coronavirus has altogether Ely changed the lives of people , giving rise to tremendous human suffering and challenging the most

basic foundations of societal well being. Beyond the immediate impacts on health and incomes ; the pandemic has also severely impacted all the sectors of the economy with the short and medium term impacts of COVID-19 . This pandemic has threaten millions of lives and lifestyles of people worldwide; as a consequence of which most of the countries declared

Correspondence to: Dr Shalini Singhi, Assistant Professor, JIMS Engineering Management Technical Campus, Greater Noida, India. Email: shalinisingh.gn@jagannath.org

Received: October 15, 2021; **Accepted:** November 28, 2021; **Published:** December 16, 2021

Citation: Panchani, M. (2021). Covid 19 Pandemic & Tourism in H.P. Tourism Heritage and Cultural Studies, 1(1), 10-26. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5801398>

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lockdowns as a preventive measure for social distancing in order to cater for the spread of COVID-19(Khan et al.,2021).



Figure 1

GENESIS OF THE PANDEMIC (COVID-19)

Covid pandemic otherwise called the COVID-19 PANDEMIC is the continuous worldwide pandemic of a Covid illness ; which is brought about by extreme intense respiratory condition Covid 2 (SARS-COV-2) (Wikipedia, 2021). Although the origin of this virus is unknown but the identification of this virus was first

marked in WUHAN, China , in December 2019 ; which was declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on 30th January 2020 and a pandemic on 11th March 2020 ; by World Health Organization (WHO) (Wikipedia, 2021). As of the newfangled data , variants of the virus have emerged and become dominant in many countries, with the Delta , Alpha and Beta variants being the most virulent: since 2021 (Wikipedia, 2021).

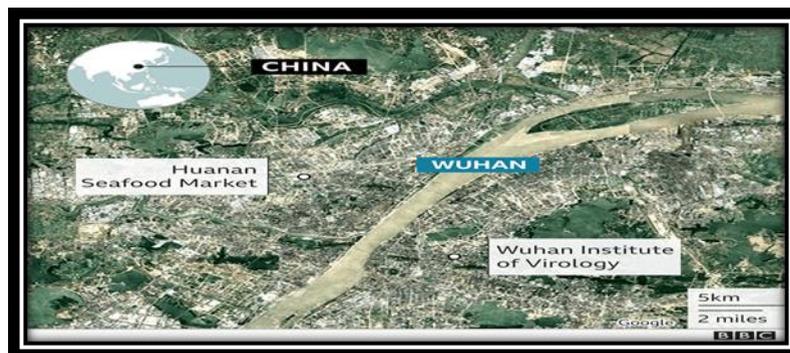


Figure 2

PANDEMIC IN INDIA

2020

On twelfth January 2020, the WHO affirmed that a novel Covid was the reason for a respiratory disease in a bunch of individuals languishing. On 30th January 2020, India announced its first instance of COVID-19 in Thrissur, Kerala ; which rose to 3 cases by third February 2020 which incorporated the understudies getting back from Wuhan, China. No gradual cases were accounted for in February however by the beginning of March, 22 new cases were accounted for , along with 14 tainted individuals from an Italian Tourist bunch . A few group with go history to the influenced nations and get together with the COVID positive individuals prompted the abrupt expansion in the quantity of Covid patients in the country. A Sikh minister, who had a movement narrative to Italy and Germany turned into a very spreader of this dangerous infection by going to a Sikh celebration in Anandpur Sahib during March. On 31st March, a Tablighi Jamaat assemblage occasion in Delhi, which had occurred in March , arose as a COVID-19 area of interest. A considerable lot of the explorers who got back from Hazur Sahib from Nanded tried positive along with 27 transport drivers and conductors who were the piece of the vehicle plan. In July 2020, it was assessed that essentially 57% of the occupants of Mumbai's ghettos may have been tainted dependent on the counter acting agent tests. An administration board on COVID-19 expressed in October 2020 that the pandemic had crested in India, and could go under control by February 2021. This forecast depended on a numerical reenactment alluded to as the "Indian Supermodel", accepting that India arrives at group insusceptibility. That month, another SARS-CoV-2 variation, Lineage B.1.617, was recognized in the country (Wikipedia, 2021).

2021

India started its inoculation drive program on sixteenth January 2021. Precisely following one year of first revealed case in the country; on nineteenth January 2021 Lakshadweep turned out to be last locale of India

to report its case. By February 2021, fall in the everyday cases were noticed, roughly lessening to 9,000 cases each day. In any case, by early April 2021 a significant second influx of diseases grabbed hold over the country with ruinous outcomes; on ninth April, India outperformed 1 million dynamic cases, and by twelfth April, India overwhelmed Brazil to have the second-most COVID-19 cases around the world. By late April, India passed 2.5 million dynamic cases and was announcing a normal of 300,000 new cases and 2,000 passings for every day. On 30th April, India revealed more than 400,000 new cases or more 3,500 passings in a single day (Wikipedia, 2021).

Because of appeal, the immunization program started to hit with request supply issues; commodities of the Oxford–AstraZeneca antibody were suspended to satisfy homegrown need, there have been deficiencies of the natural substances needed to fabricate immunizations locally, while reluctance and an absence of information among less fortunate, country networks has additionally affected the program (Wikipedia, 2021).

The subsequent wave had set a significant strain on the medical care framework, including a deficiency of fluid clinical oxygen because of disregarded admonitions which started in the primary wave itself, strategic issues, and an absence of cryogenic big haulers. Because of which an enormous number of new oxygen plants were declared; the establishment trouble was being imparted by the middle, coordination to outside nations concerning oxygen plants got as a type of help, and DRDO. Numerous nations sent crisis help to India as oxygen supplies, drugs, unrefined substance for immunizations and ventilators. This mirrored a strategy shift in India; similar guide offers had been dismissed during the most recent sixteen years' (Wikipedia, 2021).

The quantity of new cases had started to consistent drop by late-May; on 25 May, the nation detailed 195,994 new number of cases—its least day by day increment since thirteenth April. Notwithstanding, the death rate has stayed high; by 24th May, India recorded more than

300,000 number of passings credited to COVID-19. Around 100,000 passings had happened in the beyond 26 days, and 50,000 in the beyond 12 days. In May

2021, WHO announced that two variations first found in Quite a while will be alluded to as 'Delta' and 'Kappa' (Wikipedia, 2021).

Figure 3

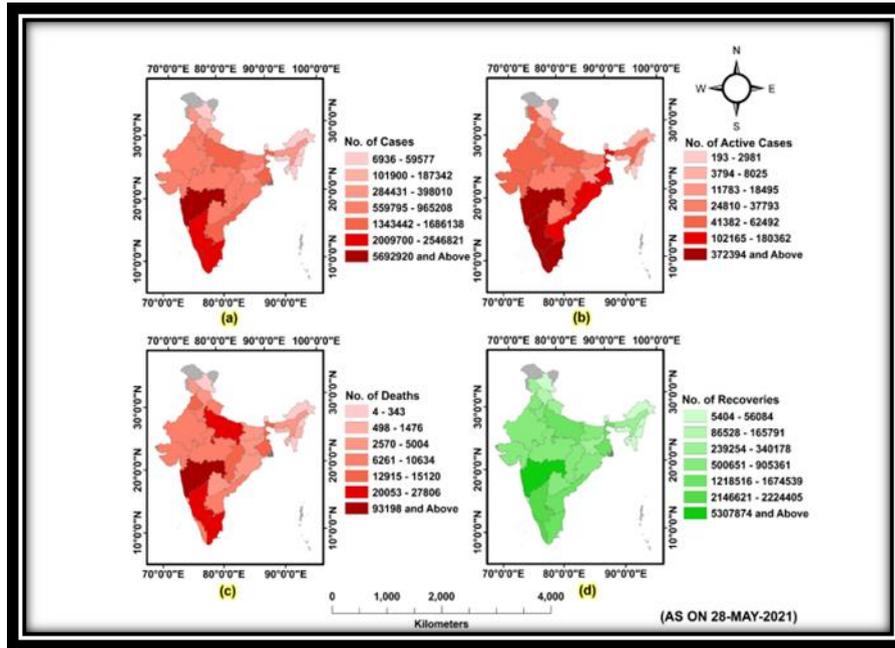
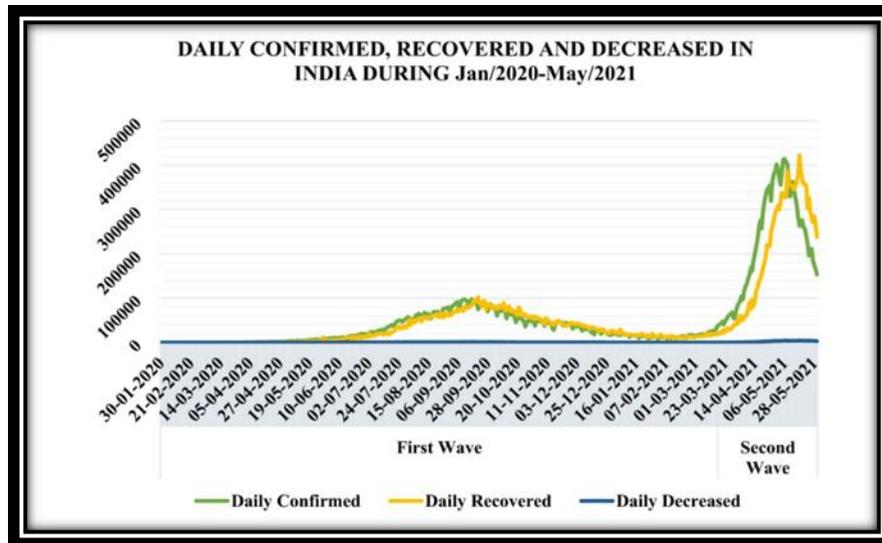


Figure 4



Source: (Chandel, 2021)

Multiple factors behind the second wave are analyzed as:

- Lineage of Corona virus,
- a lack of preparations as temporary hospitals were often dismantled after cases started to decline after the first wave,
- lack of new facilities,
- health and wellbeing safeguards being ineffectively executed or authorized during weddings, celebrations (like Holi on 29 March, and the Haridwar Kumbh Mela which was connected to somewhere around 1,700 positive cases somewhere in the range of 10 and 14 April remembering cases for Hindu diviners), games (like IPL), state and nearby decisions in which government officials and activists have held in a few states, and openly puts.
- A financial lull put squeeze on the public authority to lift limitations, and there had been a sensation of transcendence dependent on the expectation that India's young populace and youth vaccination plan would dull the effect of the infection. Models might have disparaged projected cases and passings because of the under-revealing of cases in the country (htt).

QUARANTINE: CHRONICLE OF LOCKDOWN

One year after the declaration of complete lockdown in March 2020, the results of India's severe COVID-19 lockdown measures and inadequate strategy reactions keep on being felt, be it as far as occupation misfortune and financial slump or expanded minimization of weak segments of society.

- Migrant Crisis - The countrywide lockdown to contain the spread of COVID-19 pushed the work transients towards a lamentable circumstance set apart by vagrancy, hunger and unexpected human torments (SWAN 2020). A new overview among transient

specialists led in April 2020 uncovered that 90% of them were not paid their wages in different states, 96% didn't get proportions from the public authority outlets, and 70% didn't get prepared food during lockdown 1.0 (Hindu, 2020).

- Impact on livelihoods and economic slowdown - Many studies examining the COVID-19 effect on weak laborers, including our own, have shown that around 60%-80% of laborers (independently employed, relaxed just as salaried specialists without employer stability) lost work during the lockdown in April and May 2020. the CMIE information show a breakdown in profit during the initial a half year of the pandemic (March 2020 to August 2020), with a normal family having 17% lower pay in ostensible terms comparative with that very months in 2019. The economy has contracted by 15.7% in the primary portion of the year, and areas with social separating prerequisites keep on being under limitations and a few states are seeing an upsurge in new cases. The bank credit to business area keeps on being stifled and private venture keeps on being low even after the staged unwinding of the limitations.
- Impact on tourism sector - A review on the effect of Covid on the travel industry led by the National Council of Applied Economic Research has announced that the pandemic caused "huge" paid positions misfortunes in the travel industry area after the lockdown was executed (COVID-19: Examining the Impact of Lockdown in India after One Year, 2021).

How Covid-19 hits Tourism sector

The travel industry is one of the quickest developing monetary areas and is a significant driver of financial development and improvement. In 2018 there were 1,407 million global vacationer appearances, a six percent increment on the past year.⁴ Tourism receipts added up to \$1,480 billion, an expansion by 4.4.

percent, higher than worldwide GDP development as in the past 8 years. Traveler transport merits another \$250 billion. The travel industry sends out represent seven percent of worldwide exchange labor and products, or \$1.7 trillion. The travel industry is a significant wellspring of business around the world. The work market makes them recognize highlights. The business is work concentrated in nature. A high extent of the positions are embraced by ladies, 54%, altogether higher than in most different areas, and youthful representatives, which means the business is viewed as comprehensive.

Nonetheless, ladies are bound to be business visionaries in the travel industry than in different areas and most ladies hold low talented positions in the travel industry area, making them defenseless against shocks. There is additionally a lot of backhanded work in development and framework advancement, in addition to providing food and drink and gifts to sightseers. Moreover, numerous representatives have direct contact with sightseers in travel services, carriers, ships, inns, eateries, malls and different vacation spots. Coronavirus is a wellbeing and monetary emergency on a worldwide scale. While little is known as of now about numerous parts of the illness (like asymptomatic transmission, protection measures, potential medicines, the probability of an antibody and long haul impacts), it is by and large concurred that the infection is effectively contagious and that the casualty rate is low when contrasted with past pandemics like SARS. Fatalities are vigorously slanted towards more seasoned individuals and those with existing infirmities.

To slow the spread of the infection, numerous nations have supported or ordered the utilization of clean practices, for example, hand washing, social (spatial) removing and seclusion. Government have presented a large number of strategy estimates like designated testing and following, lockdown measures, updating general wellbeing offices and conclusion of boundaries. The actions have affected numerous enterprises and the conveyance of individual administrations, bringing about request and supply side shocks. Worldwide the

travel industry is among the monetary areas generally affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The United Nations World Tourism Organization (UN WTO) gauges a deficiency of 850 million to 1.1 billion worldwide vacationer appearances, \$910 million to \$1.1 trillion in trade incomes and 100-120 million positions, contingent upon whether the lines are opened in July, September or December. Most objections were completely shut in April and May 2020, opening just in certain districts gradually for the northern summer. UN WTO projections reflect impressive vulnerability about the span of the pandemic, notwithstanding the public authority reaction to help financial movement (Badri Narayanan Gopalakrishnan, 2020).

CONTRIBUTION OF TOURISM TO INDIAN ECONOMY

Before The Pandemic

The travel industry in India is significant for the nation's economy and has developed quickly. The World Travel and Tourism Council determined that travel industry produced ₹16.91 lakh crore (US\$240 billion) or 9.2% of India's GDP in 2018 and upheld 42.673 million positions, 8.1% of its all out business. The area is anticipated to develop at a yearly pace of 6.9% to ₹32.05 lakh crore (US\$450 billion) by 2028 (9.9% of GDP). In October 2015, India's clinical the travel industry area was assessed to be worth US\$3 billion, and it is projected to develop to US\$7-8 billion by 2020. In 2014, 184,298 unfamiliar patients headed out to India to look for clinical treatment.

Over 10.93 million unfamiliar vacationers showed up in India in 2019 contrasted with 10.56 million of every 2018, addressing a development of 3.5%. Homegrown vacationer visits to all states and association regions numbered 1,036.35 million of every 2012, an expansion of 16.5% from 2011. In 2014, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh were the most famous states for vacationers. Agra, Goa, Amritsar, Shimla and Jaipur were the five most visited urban areas of India by unfamiliar travelers during the year 2015. The Travel

and Tourism Competitiveness Report 2019 positioned India 34th out of 140 nations in general. India worked on its positioning by 6 puts over the 2017 report which was the best improvement among the top 25% of nations positioned. The report positions the value intensity of India's travel industry area thirteenth out of 140 nations. It specifies that India has very great air transport framework (positioned 33rd), especially given the nation's phase of improvement, and sensible ground and port foundation (positioned 28th).

The nation additionally scores high on normal assets (positioned fourteenth), and social assets and business travel (positioned eighth). Nonetheless, some different parts of its travel industry foundation remain to some degree immature. The country has numerous lodgings per capita by worldwide examination and low ATM

entrance. The World Tourism Organization detailed that India's receipts from the travel industry during 2012 positioned sixteenth on the planet, and seventh among Asian and Pacific nations.

The Ministry of Tourism plans public arrangements for the turn of events and advancement of the travel industry. All the while, the Ministry counsels and works together with different partners in the area including different focal services/offices, state legislatures, association regions and private area agents. Purposeful endeavors are being made to advance specialty the travel industry items, for example, country, voyage, clinical and eco-the travel industry. The Ministry of Tourism keeps up with the Incredible India crusade zeroed in on advancing the travel industry in India (Wikipedia, 2021).

Table 1: International Tourists Arrivals (ITA) AND Foreign Exchange Earnings (FEE)

YEAR	ITA (MILLIONS)	%change in ITA'S	FEE (RS.CROR ES)	%change in FEE
1997	2.37	3.8	10,511	4.6
1998	2.36	-0.7	12,150	15.6
1999	2.48	5.2	12,951	6.6
2000	2.65	6.7	15,626	20.7
2001	2.54	-4.2	15,083	-3.5
2002	2.38	-6.0	15,064	-0.1
2003	2.73	14.3	20,729	37.6
2004	3.46	26.8	27944	34.8
2005	3.92	13.3	33123	18.5
2006	4.45	13.5	39025	17.8
2007	5.08	14.3	44362	13.7
2008	5.28	4.0	51294	15.6
2009	5.7	-2.2	3754	4.8
2010	5.78	1.8	66172	23.1
2011	6.31	9.2	83036	25.
2012	6.58	4.3	95067	15.1
2013	6.97	5.9	107563	12.5
2014	7.68	10.2	120367	11.9
2015	8.03	4.5	134844	12
2016	8.80	9.7	154146	14.3
2017	10.04	14.0	177874	15.4
2018	10.56	5.2	194881	9.6
2019	10.93	3.5	211661	8.6

Source: (Wikipedia, 2021)

AFTER THE PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the travel industry because of the subsequent travel limitations just as drop popular among explorers. The travel industry has been hugely influenced by the spread of Covid, as numerous nations have presented travel limitations trying to contain its spread. The United Nations World Tourism Organization assessed that worldwide global vacationer appearances may diminish by 58% to 78% in 2020, prompting a likely deficiency of US\$0.9-1.2 trillion in worldwide the travel industry receipts (Wikipedia, 2021).

In a significant number of the world's urban communities, arranged travel went somewhere around 80-90%. Clashing and one-sided travel limitations happened provincially and numerous vacation destinations all throughout the planet, like exhibition halls, carnivals, and sports settings shut. UNWTO revealed a 65% drop in worldwide vacationer

appearances in the initial a half year of 2020. Air traveler travel showed a comparative decay. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development delivered a report in June 2021 expressing that the worldwide economy could lose over US\$4 trillion because of the pandemic (Wikipedia, 2021).

In Indian setting the travel industry area has been seriously influenced because of COVID-19. The travel industry area is most income producing area yet due pandemic impact it goes in bad figures. As off now the Indian government expects asset to battle against COVID-19 Pandemic. For that reason, they have extremely restricted assets for acquiring. Among every one of the assets the travel industry is one of them, so this review investigate the area at a huge scope to see what the COVID-19 circumstance meaning for the travel industry area for that Agra, Shimla, Jaipur, Amritsar and Goa are picked as a review region, since they are most favored objective for the travel industry movement.

Table 3: Monthly differences between 2019 and 2020

Month	2019	2020	Difference	Percentage Loss
April	774651	470	774181	99.94
May	615136	1329	613807	99.78
June	726446	4480	721966	99.38
July	818125	6503	811622	99.21
August	800837	11619	789218	98.55
September	751513	18469	733044	97.54
October	945017	30917	914100	96.73
November	1092440	60156	1032284	94.49
December	1226398	79910	1146488	93.48

Source: (Chandel, 2021)

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Srivastava (2011) in the research paper Economic potential of tourism: A case study of Agra identifies the areas to be improved for tourism, and examined tourism as a growing industry in terms of earning

revenue, foreign exchange and providing employment opportunities in Agra. Mishra (2018) in research paper growth of tourism and its impact on gdp and foreign exchange earnings studied the impact of tourism on GDP of India and also analysed the relationship between foreign tourist arrival (FTA) and foreign

exchange earnings (FEE). Marinko et al. (2021) in their pioneering study on potential effects of Covid-19 pandemic on the tourism industry estimated the impact of the pandemic crisis on the tourism industry worldwide and concluded that recovery of the tourism industry would take more time than the average expected recovery period of 10 months.

Stefan et al. (2020) in their paper compared the impacts of COVID-19 to previous epidemic/pandemics and other types of global crises and explored how the pandemic might change society, the economy, and tourism. As International and interior portability was confined, incomes created by movement and the travel industry would negatively affect the GDP development rate. Chaudhary et al. (2020) in their study assessed the impact of Covid-19 on affected sectors such as aviation, tourism, retail, capital markets, MSMEs, and oil. As International and inward versatility was confined, incomes produced by movement and the travel industry would negatively affect the GDP development rate.

Kumar (2020) in his study analysed how the Covid outbreak broke the backbone of the tourism industry across the country causing a massive loss in employment to 38 million people associated with the industry. The concentrate likewise featured industry affiliation endeavors to seek after a progression of reliefs from the focal government, for example, expanding the credit reimbursement proposition by the RBI by 90 days to a half year and complete exception in GST for one year for the travel industry, travel, and neighborliness areas. Abirami (2020) in her study attempted to discover whether tourism marketing was effective to customers after covid-19 in Kerala and whether customers were willing to go to tourist places after covid-19 and the concentrate likewise endeavored to dissect whether the travel industry advertising arrived at the clients through web-based media just as checked whether clients were ready to go after Coronavirus.

Hrout and Mohamed (2015) carry out research on nature and characteristics of employees working in the tourism and hospitality industry in Pulau Pinang,

Malaysia. The nature and conduct of the representatives have been examined through investigation of records. Hinch and Higham (2001) carry out a study on how sport tourism activities has gone up due to the availability of various sports. Game the travel industry's commitment in varying backgrounds is some way or another there. Exploration centers around different parts of game that go about as an instrument of traveler. Advitot (2015) carry out a research on the existing tourist destinations in and around Solapur. The review mirrors the inflow of traveler to Solapur contrast with Maharashtra state is most noteworthy in the long stretch of September. Though unfamiliar travelers inflow is truly insignificant.

Kakkar and Sapna (2012) this study generally focus on impact of tourism on Indian economy and they mainly focus on how India is emerging as a global tourist centre because of innovation and creating value for tourist. The contribution of travel and tourism to country's GDP will grow after passing of time as expected to grow from 4.5% in 2011 to 4.9% in 2021. Simultaneously the contribution of travel and tourism towards employment will grow from 7.5% in 2011 to 8.17% by 2021. Dawn and Pal (2011) this research article gives information of various scopes of medical tourism and its strengths and weaknesses in India. They likewise distinguish the primary issues and openings moved by Indian clinical the travel industry area which can defeat homegrown and worldwide troubles on overhauling its clinical benefits.

Goyal (2014) analyses whether India is ready for raising medical tourism or not? She mainly focuses on the health care industry and increasing medical tourism in India. She likewise talks about the accessibility of possible field in Indian conditions and regardless of whether India is completely ready to deal with such enormous inflow of sightseers from different regions of the planet. The review calls attention to different potential regions should have been improved. Sikiru and Salisu (2021) explain that the lockdown and mobility ban due to the COVID-19 pandemic negatively influence the hospitality sector with regard to

the travel and tourism stock fluctuations. The examination likewise analyzes the effect of long-standing supporting of gold on movement and the travel industry stock and presumes that the consideration of gold for the differentiated portfolio lessens the danger on returns during the emergency stage.

Kumudumali (2020) in the research paper *Impact of COVID-19 on Tourism Industry: A review* illustrated the adverse effects of COVID-19 on the tourism industry with data available. The discoveries assisted with confronting difficulties in the travel industry, and systems to beat viral diseases in what's to come are suggested. Bakar and Rosbi (2020) study the correlation between the COVID-19 epidemic and the job losses in the world's tourism industry. To measure the economic downfall of the tourism industry, the study employed the demand and supply curve analysis. The outcomes demonstrate that the COVID-19 dread has dropped the interest for going and the travel industry because of the lockdown and portability limitations. Accordingly, the travel industry area's income continues to decay with the lessening sought after according to the interest and supply hypothesis and market balance.

Chen et al. (2020) studied the post-pandemic effects of the COVID-19 on the tourism industry of china due to the published contents such as newspaper articles. The review utilizes a mechanized substance investigation approach and welcomes further examinations covering enthusiastic elements identified with a wellbeing emergency, methodologies to control the scourge, and the promoting content of the travel industry items use after the pandemic for wellbeing security. This drive advances the SEM undertakings' travel industry rehearses under wellbeing and social specialists'

encounters and builds the future maintainability of the travel industry business in China.

OBJECTIVE

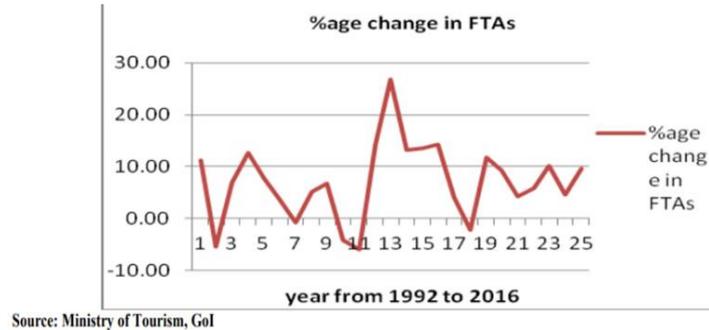
- Trend of tourism during the pandemic in most visited tourist places of India (Agra, Shimla, Amritsar, Goa and Jaipur)
- Declining GDP due to less tourism
- Effect on International tourist arrival and Foreign exchange earnings.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This paper has been examined the patterns, openings, difficulties and future possibilities of the travel industry in India. It has concentrated on the effect of GDP on the travel industry and the travel industry commitment in GDP of India and furthermore analyzed the effect of the travel industry. The examination depends on optional information. Information and data introduced in current review are gathered from different reports ready by public and global offices on COVID-19 pandemic. Data are gathered from different true sites. A few diaries and e-substance identifying with effect of COVID-19 on the travel industry area are alluded.

This paper has utilized explorative strategy to draw deductions based on past writings and furthermore done patterns examination, to show the present moment just as long haul varieties exists in the factors taken for the review reason. The time-frame for the review has been taken from 1997 to 2021.

DATA INTERPRETATION



Source: (Mishra, 2018)

India is a huge country with special social, extraordinary otherworldly legacy and moral qualities alongside unmistakable customs. This selective sui generis draw in homegrown and unfamiliar explorers. Our moral worth says that "Athithi Devo Bhava", invites and satisfies the unfamiliar appearances. Our rich profound qualities including example of bhakti-sadhna, yoga, reflection, Indian way of thinking charmed unfamiliar vacationers. The verifiable and compositional destinations, painstaking work, games uniquely different association matches and competition, instructive offices, IT ventures, comprehensive developments, celebrations, fairs untamed life asylums, explorer focuses, strongholds, colleges, repositories, sea shores, sanctuaries, public parks, and so on in the Country invited by people groups all throughout the planet.

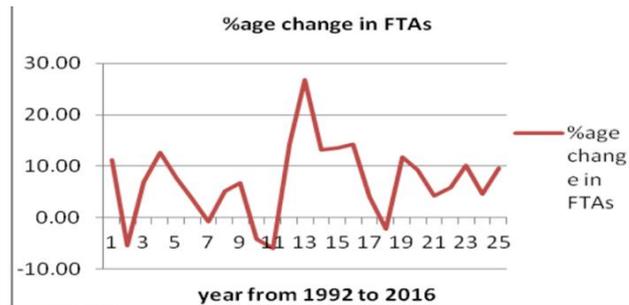
As above diagram shows that there are direct vertical patterns with steep incline implies quick expanding in unfamiliar traveler appearances (FTAs) throughout entry of the time. In 2001, all out FTAs were increments to 25,37,282 from 16,77,508 out of 1991. Anyway rate change of FTAs recorded - 4.2% in 2001, trailed by - 6.0 % in 2002. All together, it accounted - 2.2% in 2009 subsequent to accomplishing most elevated development ever in 2008 by 26.8%. The complete FTAs increment untouched high in 2016 to 8.8 mn in entire number alongside 9.7% development of the area. Unfamiliar Exchange Earnings (FEEs) straightforwardly identified with FTAs, improve unfamiliar trade hold.

Charges comes from installments made by outsiders on labor and products, needed to buy homegrown cash. Business visit is the principle wellspring of FEEs. Unfamiliar trade income are relies upon similar swapping scale between objective nation and a country from where a vacationer has a place with. In the event that conversion standard deteriorates (or downgrading happens), homegrown money would less expensive than unfamiliar cash (or dollar). Devaluation in INR initiates unfamiliar vacationer appearances. It very well may be seen in 1996, FEEs was 10046 crore tumbles from most elevated 84300 (1995) crore in INR terms, despite the fact that it in expansions in rate from 18.2% to 19.2. While in dollar profit increment to USD 2832mn in (9.6%) 1996 from 2583mn (13.7%) in 1995. In rate it is opposite in contrast with INR. This is occurred because of progress in unfamiliar swapping scale (Mishra, 2018).

The COVID-19 flare-up made basic difficulties for the worldwide the travel industry area. In this way, UNWTO gauges that worldwide global traveler appearances could decrease between 20% to 30 percent with a deficiency of US\$ 30 to 50 billion. The accessible information in UNWTO has brought up a 22% abatement in global traveler appearances in the principal quarter of 2020, with a 57% decrease of vacationer appearances in March. This addresses a deficiency of 67 million global sections in the principal quarter of 2020 contrasted with a similar period last year. On account of the locales, Asia and the Pacific

area, the primary district to experience the effect of COVID-19, encountered a 35% abatement in traveler appearances in the main quarter of 2020. With a 19%

decrease in traveler appearances, Europe was the second-most influenced district in the travel industry.



Source: Ministry of Tourism, Gol

Global Tourist Inflow to India March 2020 coming up next are the significant features in regards to FTAs and FTAs on e-Tourist Visa during the long stretch of March, 2020: Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs):

- FTAs in March 2020 were 3,28,462 when contrasted with 9,78,236 in March 2019 enlisting a development of -66.4%.
- FTAs during the period January-March 2020 were 24,62,244 when contrasted with 31,79,792 in January-March 2019 enrolling a development of -22.6%.
- The rate portion of Foreign Tourist Arrivals in India during March 2020 among the best 15 source nations was most elevated from Bangladesh (26.07%) trailed by UK (10.63%), USA (10.03%), Russian Fed (5.12%), Canada (4.12%), Sri Lanka (3.98%), Malaysia (3.14%), Australia (2.64%), France (2.50%), Germany (2.31%), Nepal (2.24%), Thailand (1.95%), Afghanistan (1.66%), Myanmar (1.56%) and Singapore (1.49%).
- The rate portion of Foreign Tourist Arrivals in India during March 2020 among the best 15 ports was most elevated at Delhi Airport (28.39%) trailed by Mumbai Airport (11.57%), Haridaspur Land Check Post (11.56%), Chennai Airport (6.32%), Goa Airport (5.56%), Kolkata Airport (4.24%), Bengaluru Airport (3.64), Gede Rail Land Check Post (2.95%),

Ghojadanga Land Check Post (2.67%), Sonauli Land Check Post (2.45%), Hyderabad Airport (2.11%), Cochin Airport (1.95), Amritsar Airport (1.92%), Ahmedabad Airport (1.72%) and Trichy Airport (1.29%)(htt1).

Trend of tourism during the pandemic in most visited tourist places of India (Agra, Shimla, Amritsar, Goa and Jaipur)

AGRA- Pandemic struck the travel industry of Agra hurled a murmur of help after its opening. Presently those associated with the travel Industry are expecting an inversion in the fortunes, which were hit with an incredible drop of 84% in vacationer footfall in UP 2020. In Agra the footfall plunged by 75% as the three world legacy locales stayed shut enemy very nearly 9 months. In 2019, 1.08 crore travelers including 16.80 lakh outsiders visited Agra; the numbers boiled down to 26.97 lakh, remembering 4.47 lakh outsiders for 2020. Agra alone has seen a deficiency of over Rs. 800 Crore in income between the two lockdowns and more than 5500 individuals have lost their positions in the friendliness area alone (Jaiswal, 2021).



SHIMLA- Hit by the Covid pandemic and lockdowns, the travel industry area in Himachal saw an uncommon fall of 81.4 % in traveler appearances during 2020 when contrasted with the earlier year (2019). The state got 31,70,714 homegrown and 42,665 unfamiliar sightseers in 2020 contrasted with 1,68,29,231 homegrown and 3,82,876 unfamiliar vacationers in 2019, a drop of 81.6 % and 88.86 % separately. The traveler appearance was least include in the pinnacle vacationer season from April to June and the entirety of homegrown and unfamiliar sightseers was 197 and 60. The relative numerics were 53,62,378 and 1,25,399 out of 2019. The effect of the lockdown can be measured from the way that out of absolute 31,70,714 homegrown and 42,665 unfamiliar sightseers who visited the state during 2020, the pre-lockdown long stretches of January, February and March represented 21,63,634 homegrown and 31,648 outsiders. The numerics infer that main 10,07,080 homegrown and 11,017 outsiders visited the state from April to December. The greatest number of 21,111 unfamiliar sightseers visited Shimla locale while Kangra, Kullu and Solan areas got just 9,921, 7,080 and 3,228 unfamiliar visitors.

Indeed, even after the lockdown and relaxations in Covid pandemic limitations, just 9,26,444 vacationers visited the state in October, November and December against 24,97,715 in the comparing a very long time in 2019. The the travel industry affiliations fault choices like night check in time and shutting markets for helpless inflow of sightseers. The travel industry and partnered industry has experienced a deficiency of Rs 2,500 crore (approx) in 2020, said president, Manali Hoteliers Association, Anup Thakur. Misfortunes among March and October were over 95%, said president, Federation of Himachal Hotels and Restaurant Associations, Ashwani Bamba. According to the information with the Tourism Department, the state penetrated the one crore mark in 2009 with 1,14,37,155 sightseers visiting the state while the biggest number of 1,96,01,533 travelers visited the state in 2017. There was a continuous expansion in traveler inflow from 2009 excepting 2013 and 2018 when a negative pattern was seen, yet 2020 was the most noticeably terrible. In any case, the measurements don't mirror the specific number of vacationers as travelers visiting more than one spot are counted independently while the quantity of sightseers remaining in illicit lodgings and different facilities are not represented (Lohumi, 2021).

VISITORS' INFLOW IN PAST 12 YEARS		
Year	Total inflow	Foreign tourists
2009	1,14,37,155	4,00,583
2010	1,32,65,602	4,53,616
2011	1,50,89,401	4,84,518
2012	1,61,46,332	5,00,284
2013	1,51,29,835	4,14,249
2014	1,63,14,400	3,89,699
2015	1,75,31,153	4,06,108
2016	1,84,50,520	4,52,770
2017	1,96,01,533	4,70,992
2018	1,64,50,503	3,56,568
2019	1,68,29,231	3,82,876
2020	32,13,379	42,665

GOA- Goa Tourism Development Corporation directed a state wide study through KPMG to evaluate the effect of Covid-19 on Goa Tourism. According to the study, the business misfortune during lockdown has been assessed at ₹2,062 crore. Expected misfortune for the 2020-21 season has been fixed at ₹7,239 crore and the potential occupation slices were to the tune of 1.22 lakh (58%).Goa's travel industry area straightforwardly contributes 16.43% towards the state's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and furthermore gives work to almost 35% of the state's populace that is reliant upon the area, as per official appraisals (Souza, 2021).

JAIPUR- the vacationer convergence since March in the desert state has been extensively low. The information on vacationer appearances from the Rajasthan the travel industry division, imparted to The Wire, shows that in 2020, the state has seen a fall of 69.3% in Indian traveller appearances. Last year, 3,96,85,822 Indian sightseers had visited different places in Rajasthan while this year, the number remained at 1,21,75,524. Essentially, this year, the unfamiliar vacationer appearances additionally dropped by 59.54%, when contrasted with 2019. Last year, 10,92,724 outsiders had visited the state while just 4,42,011 outsiders could show up this year, that too before the public lockdown was forced in March. Among January and March this year, Indian traveler appearances remained at 1,14,26,296 (93.84%) out of

the 1,21,75,524 total Indian vacationer appearances till September in 2020. The unfamiliar traveler appearances during this period remained at 4,39,689 (99.47%) out of the 4,42,011 all out unfamiliar vacationer appearances till September this year (Can't Even Pay Our Staff: Rajasthan Sees 69% Drop in Tourist Arrivals This Year, 2020).

AMRITSAR- The travel industry and friendliness industry in Amritsar is gazing at a square future in the wake of the lockdown forced because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Prior to the lockdown, the region had a normal footfall of almost 1 lakh homegrown and global vacationers on non-weekend days, and 1.5 lakh on ends of the week, as per the Punjab the travel industry office (htt1).

SUGGESTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Term measures are the moment activities needed to revive the travel industry by pulling it from monetary sand trap. Somewhat, these endeavors will protect the travel industry area from the new issues made by COVID-19:

All sub-areas of the travel industry are searching for their base endurance and are trusting that break alleviation will pay rates, Equated Monthly Installment

(EMI), premium, and so on. The banks have effectively proclaimed that all banks and Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) are qualified to permit a ban to the tune of 90 days on advances. Nonetheless, the Indian Confederation of Commerce (ICC) proposed that, given the measure of harm, the public authority ought to stretch out this to no less than six additional months;

Moreover, the ICC encouraged that there ought to be a six to multi month ban, on all head and interest installments as well as on charge installments. There ought to likewise be a suspension of advances and overdrafts; An unmistakable idea additionally presented by the ICC was that a total Goods and Service Tax (GST) occasion for a time of a year to be given to the travel industry for its endurance;

On their part, the public authority of India declared 1.7 lakh crore (Indian Rupee) as a unique bundle for the areas that were seriously influenced by COVID-19. In any case, specialists and business societies proposed that the Indian government should build the help add up to 2.5 lakh crore;

In the wake of the Coronavirus episode, the ICC requested the Reserve Bank from India (RBI) to facilitate the functioning capital smash of India's travel industry. Furthermore, ICC recommended that, for the Indian the travel industry, the banks should clear the credits quicker, especially to help the movement and cordiality fragments ;

Specialists in the travel industry area recommended an aid on term credits and advances presented for the sake of working capital, or the loan cost ought to be diminished; Moreover, the ICC firmly proposed an extract exception (especially for alcohol), the expulsion of charges for grant reestablishment of any impending licenses only in the travel industry of India; Further, the specialists recommended the exchange of assets from the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme to the travel industry to oversee exceptional compensations.

The public authority of India should help the medical care accreditation offices in created and agricultural nations to offer wellness declarations for visa purposes; this will urge unfamiliar vacationers to visit India's traveler regions. Each vacationer ought to get a testament from their nation of origin and produce it at the hour of migration; this will make a mutually advantageous arrangement; The public authority of India and the travel industry specialists ought to guarantee an extraordinary degree of wellbeing and safety efforts at all levels for both homegrown and unfamiliar sightseers. Ideally, those specialists should target homegrown travelers first and afterward leisurely spotlight on global sightseers; this is on the grounds that worldwide organizations will require some investment to visit India (Patel, 2020).

CONCLUSION

This review centers around the effect of the COVID-19 flare-up on the India's travel industry . The episode of COVID-19 is an original pandemic that seriously affected the way of life of most of individuals across the globe. The basic monetary shock to each individual and each industry in many nations is the normal component of the Covid infection. Coronavirus altogether affects financial development worldwide and which makes a monetary downturn due to isolating, travel limitations, and social separating. The United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) detailed that the 100% travel limitations on worldwide objections in 2020 had the hardest hit on the travel industry, contrasted with different exchanges. Past researchers additionally assessed the adverse consequence of an infection flare-up on the travel industry. The inaccessibility of adequate information in regards to the flare-up of COVID-19 is more difficult to bring up a particular effect on the travel industry. The review found the decrease of International traveler appearances and FEE on the planet and locales on the planet in 2020. It additionally further assessed an abrupt diminishing noticeable all around movement industry, lodging industry, and business.

The consequence of our review uncovered that COVID-19 has brutally affected the worldwide economy. The travel industry is one of the areas that has been seriously influenced by the spread of the infection. In creating provinces, yet in addition in created nations, the travel industry area is battling for its endurance because of the COVID-19 pandemic. In India, because of the fast spread of the clever infection, both homegrown and unfamiliar travelers dropped their arranged excursions. Subsequently, the majority of flights were dropped, lodgings and eateries were shut, and residencies were unfilled. A sizable number of individuals, who are straightforwardly and by implication reliant upon the travel industry area, have lost their positions and again came into the endless loop of neediness. Altogether, the increase of COVID-19 has contrarily affected the Indian economy at a bigger degree and presented both short-and long haul difficulties.

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Impact of COVID-19 on Hotel and Tourism Industry in India: Challenges and Opportunities

Ms. Pinki

Department of Commerce, Bhagat Phool Singh Mahila Vishwavidyalaya, Khanpur Kalan, Sonipat (Haryana), India

ABSTRACT

India is known worldwide due to its incredible heritage and natural attraction with a beautiful culture engaged with different languages and traditions. Tourism is an industry as a channel of exchange of different culture among the people of a country and between the people of different parts of the world. Hotel and tourism is the one of the largest contributing sector for the economic development of a nation, but the COVID-19 crisis is putting restrictions, challenging their survival, and limiting their growth. The purpose of this paper is to address the impact of COVID on the hotel and tourism sector as well as challenges and opportunities for continue successful survival of hotel & tourism industry in India. Finally, major problems are identified and recommendations are given to enhancing the sustainable improvement of the hotel and tourism industry in India to overcome from this pandemic crisis. The paper recommended that the entire related stakeholder including Government, policy makers, business owner and staff of the tourism industry, visitors, and academicians should take collective actions to enhancing the sustainable improvement of the hotel and tourism sector.

Keywords: Hospitality, Hotel and Tourism industry, COVID-19, Post pandemic

INTRODUCTION

Hotel and Tourism is the one of the important and rapidly growing industry at global level. Tourism is a vast term rather than doing only travelling. It is the collection of activities and industries relating to all services including transportations, accommodations, eating and drinking apart from travelling. It includes the attractions, entertainment, business and other hospitality services provided to a person or groups of person travelling away from home. It has a great potential to influence the people and community towards the change as it is capable

medium of exchange of different language and tradition and culture among people. As it is a rapidly growing industry at global level, it is most important and contributing factor to the economy. As a developing country in India hotel and tourism industry provides many opportunities in the form of increased employment, economic development, source of foreign capital and a channel of unity among the people of different culture. It is found from a research study that in the field of tourism, India is the second largest

Correspondence to: Ms. Pinki, Research Scholar, Department of Commerce, Bhagat Phool Singh Mahila Vishwavidyalaya, Khanpur Kalan, Sonipat (Haryana), India. Email: pskatiwal@gmail.com

Received: October 14, 2021; **Accepted:** November 27, 2021; **Published:** December 16, 2021

Citation: Pinki, M. (2021). Impact of COVID-19 on Hotel and Tourism Industry in India: Challenges and Opportunities. *Tourism Heritage and Cultural Studies*, 1(1), 27-31. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5801409>

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employment generator (as cited by Aynalem et al., 2016). As the data available, France is at the top to maintain the number of international tourists whereas Spain and USA consolidate the second and third position as showed by World Tourism Organization. Even smaller countries including Thailand, Singapore and Indonesia are doing much better business from tourism than India.

The emergence of Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) and lockdown in India by 24th March 2020 for 21 days and temporary lockdown at time to time banned the domestic and international arrival and departure; highly affect the hotel and tourism industry. This worst crisis hit the hotel and tourism sector adversely due to which stopping in booking of hotels, cancellation of events, cancellation of flights and travelling going on and this cause to the reduction of revenue and raising the operating cost for this industry. Without the help of Government and related stakeholders it will be difficult to overcome this situation by hotel and tourism industry.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

In the light of the issues discussed earlier and the available literature relating to challenges and opportunities in hotel and tourism industry the following specific objectives are framed:

- To highlight the opportunities and challenges faced by the hotel and tourism industry in India.
- To recognized the impact of COVID-19 on hotel and tourism industry in India.
- To recommend some suggestions to overcome the impact of COVID-19.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research type: - Descriptive Research

The type of data/data source used: Secondary data/source. The present study is based on secondary data. Basically, the required information has been derived from: Article from newspaper, Magazines and

Journals. Various related web-sites which deals directly or indirectly with the topic related to hotel and tourism industry. After searching the important web-sites, relevant information was downloaded and analyzed to address the objectives of the present study.

Hotel and Tourism as an Opportunity

Employment opportunities: As tourism is extensively labour intensive, it create a job opportunities in different areas like transportation, attractions, entertainment and accommodations units. Growing tourism and hospitality sector support the increment in the employment directly and indirectly also. As indirect employment it creates job and a source of income for restaurant suppliers, aircraft manufacturers, various handicrafts producers, marketing agencies, accounting services construction companies that build and maintain of tourist facilities, as well as necessary infrastructure (Aynalem et al., 2016). It was found from a research study that there is positive impact of tourism on employment and market services (Eva, 2011).

Economic Developments: The economic growth of any country is widely depends on the hotel and tourism sector of that country. As it affects the income status of an individual, investment, employment and the balance of payment of a country with other countries, it contributed to the economy with a high GDP and recognized any nation at globally. In India small and medium size hospitality enterprises (SMHEs) are an important factor for the socio-economic development in terms of GDP and employment creation (Chand et al., 2010). Tourism is not only developing the economy but also it improves quality of transport, internal environment, goods, hotel etc. (Srivastava, 2010).

Foreign Capital: Tourism is popular all over the world. It creates an opportunity to a country to gain the foreign capital which is a need of an hour for a country to run at international market. It provides a source of foreign capital through the services deliver by hotel and tourism sector top the foreign visitors.

Cultural Exchange: Tourism is one of the best way to familiar with the different cultures. It provides an opportunity to know the various language, cultures and living standards of different geographical areas. It is the medium of exchange cultures through which different barriers can remove between people of different parts of a country and the world. With the above opportunities hotel and tourism industry continue suffering from various challenges related to poor working conditions with inappropriate management style, low occupancy rate, increasing transportation cost in terms of fuel shortage, low education and training of staff, increasing competition, discrimination, unequal treatment, rigid corporate culture, low profitability, seasonality and political instability which reduce the number of visitors towards the tourism.

CHALLENGES FACED BY HOTEL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY

Competition: As hotel and tourism is worldwide by nature, it has to face a lot of competition in the form of price range, freedom afforded, attracting infrastructure, accommodation facility and the opportunity of cultural exchange at international level.

Inappropriate Management Style: it is a big problem of inappropriate management style in the form of rigid leadership style, unplanned recruitment and inadequate trainings due to which staff turnover has increased.

Technology: Changing technology also has a big influence on the inner operations of a hotel and tourism industry as visitors have a belief on the services of the tourism industry. So it is the need of an hour to step forward according to the need and requirement of visitors, and providing facility to save money and time of the visitors.

Turnover of Staff: To compete at global level recruitment of skilled and trained staff and retention of that staff a major challenge before the hotel and tourism industry. Unequal treatment, poor pay and working

condition with inappropriate working time are the major issues for the turnover of employees.

Sustainability: It is necessary for a hotel and tourism industry to follow a general rule of “Go with Green” to survive or run with the changing environment at global level as the visitors prefer the green products and services. So it is a big issue to maintain the product and service according to the preference of the visitors.

Increasing Cost: increment in cost in the form of transportation cost, pay scale of staff, costly technology, high rate of taxes are the major challenges for the hotel and tourism industry.

Apart from these challenges in front of hotel and tourism industry; spread of Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) brought trade and business into halt and highly affected hotel and tourism sector across the globe. The pandemic led to the beginning of the recession and depression in the hotel and tourism industry in India too. It has been estimated that the travel industry, which includes airlines, hotels and restaurants, shrink by 50% in 2020, which would mean a significant loss of jobs and revenue. Consequently this emergence of COVID in India affected this industry in the form of reducing in the booking of hotels, cancellation of events, cancellation of tickets and flights, reduction of staff, loss of employment, loss of revenue, reduction in demand, and raising the operative cost etc.

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON HOTEL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY

Loss of job and employment: Tourism is a major source of employment in many countries. But due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the employment loss of travel and tourism industry is predicted to be 100.08 Million worldwide (Statista, 2020). The Indian tourism industry has created about 87.5 million jobs, with 12.75% of total employment, thereby contributing INR 194 billion to India’s GDP (WTTC, 2018). It has been

estimated that due to pandemic there will be about 40 million direct and indirect job losses in India (Sanjita et al. 2021)

Loss of Revenue: Hotel and Tourism is also a major source of revenue in the country. But the COVID-19 pandemic seeking a transformational change in society and made people to stay indoors and work from home, keeping social distancing, community lockdowns, self- or mandatory-quarantine, inhibits on crowding, etc., pressure has halted the business of hotel and tourism industry. It has been estimated that revenue from the foreign exchange earning has fall by 66.32% due to the arrival of foreign tourists in India from different parts of the world has reduced by 68% in March 2020 as comparison to the previous month (Statista, 2020).

Less utilization of resources: The pandemic reduces the proper utilization of resources due to reduction in the demand. Worldwide Closure of border, cancellation of international flights, and a series of lockdowns highly affected the arrival of foreign as well domestic tourists across the India. Most of the airlines are undergrounded and many of the hotels closed or turning into quarantine facilities due to which the resources of hotel and tourism industry could not utilized properly.

Increase in the cost: Operating cost of the hotel and travel industry has been increased during the period of Covid pandemic because of adding the various hygiene, and sanitation-related costs, social distancing etc. Therefore, sustaining during this crisis is a challenging task for the hotel and tourism industry.

Low Price Chart: Due to Covid pandemic it seems difficult to maintain the prices of rooms in hotels and transportation fees in travel industry. They were compelled to maintain a low price chart to survive in the market. In the post pandemic period it will be very difficult to this sector to uplift the prices.

SUGGESTION TO OVERCOME THE IMPACT OF COVID-19

- Government and related stakeholders should offer some financial aid to the hotel and tourism industry to operate their businesses and to overcome from the losses of COVID-19.
- Hotel and Tourism industry should maintain a price chart throughout the pandemic period so that they can maintain their prices and revenue as well.
- Hotel and tourism staff should be provided online training in this pandemic period, so that they can work with more efficiency in future. Educated and professionally trained employee can treat very well with a visitor which will help in raising the earning capacity of the industry and employees as well.
- Government should give some relaxation in imposing tax or low tax rate should be imposed on hotel and tourism sector. It would be helpful recover the losses of lockdown period.
- Management should be appropriately deciding the price chart which could well applicable during the crises so that they can avoid some loss due to any crises.
- Good working condition with a good salary package should be provided to the staff to retain and to reduce the employee turnover ratio.
- To compete at global level, it is necessary to run with technology and changing environment.
- All the stakeholders including Government, policy makers, business owner and staff of the tourism industry, visitors, and academicians should take collective action for enhancing the sustainability of the hotel & tourism sector.

CONCLUSION

From the above discussion it is concluded that hospitality industry is growing at fast pace but facing various problems too. Due to spread of Corona Virus Disease COVID-19 and lockdown in India, threaten the people to go outside which results the cancellation of reservation and adversely affect the hotel business and likely to face revenue loss in 2020 and the parallel negative impact can be seen on job, employment as well as on revenue of this sector. To overcome these crises hotel and tourism industry can utilized this pandemic time by conducting online training and development programs for their staff which will helps in improvement their hospitality skill and they will able to do work with more efficiency. This will helps in earning in long term also. On the other hand Government should also provide some financial assistance or soft loans at low interest rate to this sector. Without the initiative of Government and related stakeholders it will be very difficult to overcome this situation. Therefore, Government should takes significant steps for the development of industry like improve accessibility, promotional measures, low taxes, etc. then the situation will significantly improve and this will lead to the increase in number of tourists in India which in turn increase the number of hotels and also improve the quality of services provided by the hotels.

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The impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on International Trade, Economy, Tourism, Peace & Security with a special reference to India

Rituraj Basumatary

Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Guwahati, India

ABSTRACT

At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic's first wave in the mid-2020, we were living the first phase of the COVID-19 virus. It was a relatively new virus and a public health crisis which left governments scrambling to lockdown and the public sector in different countries of the world largely failed. At present, the vaccines for the COVID-19 are out and we are in the second phase of the pandemic. Vaccines for the coronavirus, some using innovative mRNA techniques and developed by international teams have begun rolling out which we had never seen before. The death rates has decreased to a certain extent and new and cheaper tests are being developed each month. As we have entered the second phase of the crisis, which will be led by the dynamism, innovation and competence of the private sector. There are still challenges of distribution of the vaccine due to the huge overcrowded population in our country. But on the horizon, a true post-pandemic world is now in sight. The private sector has delivered the vaccines, but we should not forget the indispensable role that the state played in funding vaccine research and development at a fast speed. Only in East Asia and a few other countries of the world, we have seen an effective public and private sector response. With the exception of a stressed financial sector, India went into the coronavirus crisis with sound economic fundamentals. The lockdown in response to the threat of the virus created unprecedented friction in transactions between buyers and sellers of goods and services as well as of inputs. The lockdown has created a lot of difficulties specially for the backward classes people.

Keywords: Micro-economic, Impacts, COVID-19, Pandemic, Coronavirus.

INTRODUCTION

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-COV-2). The disease was first identified in 2019 in Wuhan, the capital of China's Hubei province, and has since spread globally, resulting in the 2019-2020 coronavirus pandemic. Common symptoms

include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Other symptoms may include muscle pain, sputum production, diarrhoea, sore throat, abdominal pain, and loss of smell or taste (Yi-Chia et al, 2020). While the majority of cases result in mild symptoms, some progress to pneumonia and multi-organ failure. As of

Correspondence to: Rituraj Basumatary, India. Email: riturajbasumatary80@gmail.com

Received: October 13, 2021; **Accepted:** November 26, 2021; **Published:** December 16, 2021

Citation: Basumatary, R. (2021). The impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on International Trade, Economy, Tourism, Peace & Security with a special reference to India. *Tourism Heritage and Cultural Studies*, 1(1), 32-37.
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5801417>

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March 25, 2020, the overall rate of deaths per number of diagnosed cases is 4.5 percent; ranging from 0.2 percent to 15 percent according to age group and other health problems. The virus is mainly spread during close contact and via respiratory droplets produced when people cough or sneeze. Respiratory droplets may be produced during breathing but the virus is not considered airborne. People may also catch COVID-19 by touching a contaminated surface and then their face. It is more contagious when people are symptomatic, although spread may be possible before symptoms appear (WHO, 2020). The virus can live on surfaces up to 72 hours. Time from exposure to onset of symptoms is generally between two and fourteen days, with an average of five days (Meyerowitz et al, 2021). The standard method of diagnosis is by five days. The standard method of diagnosis is by reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (rRTPCR) from a nasopharyngeal swab. The infection can also be diagnosed from a combination of symptoms, risk factors and a chest CT scan showing features of pneumonia (Haseli et al 2020).

Recommended measures to prevent infection include frequent hand washing, social distancing (maintaining physical distance from others, especially from those with symptoms), covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue or inner elbow, and keeping unwashed hands away from the face. The use of masks is recommended by some national health authorities for those who suspect they have the virus and their caregivers, but not for the general public, although simple cloth masks may be used by those who desire them. There is no vaccine or specific antiviral treatment for COVID-19. Management involves treatment of symptoms, supportive care, isolation and experimental measures (Cascella et al, 2021).

The World Health Organisation (WHO) declared the 2019-2020 coronavirus outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) on 30 January 2020 and a pandemic on 11 March 2020. Local transmission of the disease has been recorded in many

countries across all six WHO regions (WHO, 2021). Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. Older people, and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness.

The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is to be well informed about the COVID-19 virus, the disease it causes and how it spreads. Protect yourself and others from infection by washing your hands or using an alcohol based rub frequently and not touching your face (Cascella et al, 2021). The COVID-19 virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes, so it's important that you also practice respiratory etiquette (for example, by coughing into a flexed elbow). At this time, there are no specific vaccines or treatments for COVID-19. However, there are many ongoing clinical trials evaluating potential treatments. WHO will continue to provide updated information as soon as clinical findings become available.

COVID-19 is thought to have originated in a seafood market where wildlife was sold illegally. On February 7, 2020, Chinese researchers said the virus could have spread from an infected animal to humans through illegally trafficked pangolins, prized in Asia for food and medicine. Scientists have pointed to either bats or snakes as possible sources.

Impacts of COVID-19 on Global Trade Besides its worrying effects on human life, the novel strain of coronavirus has the potential to significantly slow down the global economy. Several industries have been adversely impacted due to the spread of COVID-19 globally. It is evident that the global economy is grinding to a halt. As business closes to help prevent transmission of COVID-19, financial concerns and job losses are one of the first human impacts of the virus.

We have seen the significant economic impact of the coronavirus on financial markets and vulnerable industries such as manufacturing, tourism, hospitality and travel. Travel and tourism account for 10 % of the global GDP and 50 million jobs are at risk worldwide. Global tourism, travel and hospitality companies closing down affects SMEs globally.

Responding to the crisis requires global cooperation among governments, international organisations and the business community, which is at the centre of the World Economic Forum's mission as the International Organization for Public-

PRIVATE COOPERATION

The Forum has created the COVID Action Platform, a global platform to convene the business community for collective action, protect people's livelihoods and facilitate business continuity, and mobilize support for the COVID-19 response. The platform is created with the support of the World Health Organisation and is open to all businesses and industry groups, as well as other stakeholders, aiming to integrate and inform joint action.

As an organisation, the Forum has a track record of supporting efforts to contain epidemics.

IMPACTS OF COVID-19 ON GLOBAL EDUCATION

Over a billion students worldwide are unable to go to school or university, due to measures to stop the spread of COVID-19. The pandemic is expected to have a huge impact on global education. According to UNESCO monitoring, over 100 countries have implemented nationwide closures, impacting nearly 90 % of the world's student population. School closures impact not only students, teachers and families, but have far reaching economic and societal consequences. School closures in response to COVID-19 have shed light on various social and economic issues, including student debt, digital learning, food insecurity, and homelessness, as well as access to child care, health care, housing, internet and disability services.

Efforts to stem the spread of COVID-19 through non-pharmaceutical interventions and preventive measures such as social-distancing and self-isolation have prompted the widespread closure of primary, secondary, and tertiary schooling in over 100 countries.

IMPACTS OF COVID-19 ON WORLD TOURISM

The World Travel and Tourism Council has warned the COVID-19 pandemic could cut 50 million jobs worldwide in the travel and tourism industry. Asia is expected to be the worst affected continent and once the outbreak is over, it could take up to 10 months for the industry to recover. The tourism industry currently accounts for about 10 % of global GDP. The coronavirus epidemic is putting up to 50 million jobs in the global travel and tourism sector at risk, with travel likely to slump by a quarter this year. This impact would depend on how long the epidemic lasts and could still be exacerbated by recent restrictive measures; such as those taken by the U.S. administration on travel to Europe.

Around 850,000 people travel each month from Europe to the United States, equivalent to a \$ 3.4 billion monthly contribution to the U.S. economy. Of the 50 million jobs that could be lost, it is expected that around 30 million would be in Asia, seven million in Europe, five million in the Americas and the rest in other continents.

COVID-19 AS A THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

Security generally means freedom from threats. There are two notions of Security:- (I) Traditional and (II) non-Traditional notions of Security. Traditional conceptions of security are generally concerned with the use, threat of use, or of military force. In the traditional conception of security, the greatest danger to a country is from military threats.

Non-Traditional notions of security go beyond military threat to cover a big range of threats endanger affected the conditions of human existence. Non-Traditional views of security have been termed ‘human-security’ or ‘global-security’.

In the broad concept of human security, the threat agenda should cover hunger, poverty, natural disasters, hence, these kill for more people than war. In its broadest formulation, the very human activity index accompanied human securities and threats of human dignity. The very idea of Global Security emerged in the 1990’s in response to the global nature of threats i.e. global warming, health epidemic etc. Since the very problems are global in nature, hence, international co-operation is necessary.

The rapid spread of COVID-19 and actions to contain the virus have understandably drawn parallels with previous outbreaks, in particular that of Ebola in 2014 and of the outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in 2003 which also arose in China but affected Hong Kong more severely. While the SARS outbreak went largely unnoticed (at least not formally) by the Security Council, in 2014, it designated the Ebola outbreak in West Africa as a threat to international peace and security. Resolution 2177(2014) was the first time the Security Council had considered and subsequently determined a public health issue a threat to international peace and security in line with Article 39 of the UN Charter. This post examines briefly the Security Council’s response to the Ebola outbreak and considers whether a comparable response may result towards the currently COVID-19 outbreak. First, it assesses factors for the Security Council’s designation of the Ebola outbreak as a threat to peace and security are comparable to the current coronavirus outbreak. And third, it highlights some legal aspects pertaining to such a designation, including potential effects of that designation.

The COVID-19 has affected more than 200 countries and territories around the world and 2 international conveyances: the Diamond Princess Cruise Ship

harboured in Yokohama, Japan, and the Holland America’s Cruise Ship.

COVID-19 AND INDIA

Though India has done well in containing the spread of the virus, the vulnerability that India faces is still high. As currently, nearly more than 100 cases have been reported all across India. COVID-19 is spread via airborne droplets (sneeze or cough) or contact with the surface. It is possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching their own nose, eyes or mouth.

India is highly vulnerable due to the large population constantly travelling and working in urban agglomerations like Delhi-NCR and Mumbai. Public hygiene in India is poor despite the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Movements).

As we grapple with the global COVID-19 anxiety and fear, unfortunately, people tend to rely on social media platforms where rumours spread faster than the virus. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), said the virus outbreak could cost the global economy up to \$ 2 trillion this year and that the pandemic could cause a recession in some countries causing global economic growth to clock in between 2.5 % .

The Indian government is facing the twin challenge of containing the virus when the economy is already in the slowdown.

On 24 March 2020, the government of India under Prime Minister Narendra Modi ordered a nationwide lockdown for 21 days, limiting movement of the entire 1.3 billion population of India as a preventive measure towards the 2020 coronavirus pandemic in India. It was ordered after a 14 hour voluntary public curfew on 22nd March 2020, followed by enforcement of a series of regulations in the country’s COVID-19 affected regions.

The lockdown restricts people from stepping out of their homes. All transport services – road, air and rail

were suspended with exceptions for transportation of essential goods, fire, police and emergency services. Educational institutions, industrial establishments and hospitality services were also suspended. Services such as food shops, banks and ATMs, petrol pumps, other essentials and their manufacturing are exempted. The Home Ministry said that anyone who fails to follow the restrictions can face up to a year in jail.

As soon as the announcement of lockdown was made, people across the country resorted to panic buying to stock essentials despite Prime Minister's assurance of their supply. Amazon India and Flipkart temporarily suspended their services after the lockdown. Food delivery schemes were banned by several state governments despite central government's approval. Thousands of people emigrated out of major Indian cities, as they became jobless after the lockdown.

Henk Bekedam, WHO representative to India praised the response describing it as "timely, comprehensive and robust." WHO executive director, Mike Ryan said that lockdowns alone will not eliminate coronavirus. He said that India must take necessary measures to prevent the second and third wave of infections.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Research by the scientists from the United States, Europe, China, Japan and the World Health Organisation (WHO) show no certain origin of the coronavirus (COVID-19) despite Wuhan first reported the outbreak. Although Wuhan first reported the COVID-19 outbreak, there is no evidence that China is the source of the virus. Chinese people are also victims of the virus. Because this is a new virus, there are still things that we do not know, like how severe the illness can be, how well it spreads between people and other features of the virus. There is currently no vaccine to prevent the COVID-19 infection during the initial years of the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic as of 2019-20.

Basic protective measures against the new coronavirus (COVID-19) are:-

- **Washing hands frequently:** Regularly and thoroughly cleaning our hands with an alcohol based hand rub or washing them with soap and water kills the viruses that may be in our hands.
- **Maintain social distancing:** Maintaining at least 1 metre or 3 feet distance between a person and another who is coughing or sneezing. When someone coughs or sneezes they spray small liquid droplets from their nose or mouth which may contain virus. If a person is too close, he can breathe in the droplets, including the COVID-19 virus if the person coughing has the disease.
- **Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth:** Hands touch many surfaces and can pick up viruses. Once contaminated, hands can transfer the virus to our eyes, nose or mouth. From there, the virus can enter our body and can make us sick.
- **Practice respiratory hygiene:** This means covering our mouth and nose with our bent elbow or tissue when we cough or sneeze. Then dispose of the used tissue immediately. Droplets spread virus. Following good respiratory hygiene will protect the people from viruses such as cold, flu and COVID-19.
- **Seek early medical care in case of fever, cough and difficulty in breathing:** Calling medical care in advance will allow health care provider to quickly direct us to the right health facility. This will also protect us and help prevent spread of viruses and other infections.

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Microeconomic Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic: Nigeria Experience

Dr Fogbonjaiye, Seun Samuel

Department of Economics, Southwestern University Nigeria

ABSTRACT

The economic and psychological needs of household unit witness changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Parents and children's need for quality access to health care, nutrition and wellbeing was hampered due to lock down policies and restrictions in movement. The world order changed completely leaving healthy people fearful of contacting COVID-19 while sick ones hoped for care and healing. Globally, health and wealth was challenged and economic activities altered with much online and swift migration to a digital economy where production is completed with less human contact. This study focuses on the microeconomic burden of COVID-19 pandemic in Nigeria. The financial and economic cost of COVID-19 attack on households was huge and tends towards mortality. Data on cases collected through secondary sources shows the pandemic is spreading. Information was collected on each household's expenditure to prevent COVID-19 attack, the cost of protection and time lost due to the illness for those who tested positive. The findings showed that despite government subsidy on vaccine, the direct cost of treatment, direct protection cost and indirect cost is huge and unbearable for individual household. The total cost of illness per episode revealed that each individual needs to have a budget since an average of 14 days is lost per episode due to quarantine. Thus, COVID-19 has huge economic burden. Though, the government health policy and program have been put in place to curtail the spread and impact on the economy, it should also intensify its effort through the implementation of a domestically inclined, efficient and effective prevention and control program to further reduce the burden on the households in Nigeria.

Keywords: COVID-19, Economic Burden, Microeconomic Impact, Nigeria

INTRODUCTION

Good health is of great importance to labour, as labour is a major factor of production. In the presence of proper health, productivity and output increases, but ill health causes man-hour loss on output. Covid-19 is one of the most serious health problems facing the world today. It is not only endemic in Asia and tropical Africa, it has spread

to become a pandemic distorting economic activity globally.

The economic and psychological needs of household unit witness changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Parents and children's need for quality access to health

Correspondence to: Dr Fogbonjaiye, Seun Samuel, Department of Economics, Southwestern University Nigeria. Email: 4gbonjayeseun@gmail.com

Received: October 12, 2021; **Accepted:** November 24, 2021; **Published:** December 16, 2021

Citation: Fogbonjaiye, S. S. (2021). Microeconomic Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic: Nigeria Experience. *Tourism Heritage and Cultural Studies*, 1(1), 38-46. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5801425>

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care, nutrition and wellbeing was hampered due to lock down policies and restrictions in movement. The world order changed completely leaving healthy people fearful of contacting COVID-19 while sick ones hoped for care and healing. Globally, health and wealth was challenged and economic activities altered with much online and swift migration to a digital economy where production is completed with less human contact.

The December 2019 report of certain strange cluster of pneumonia cases from an unknown virus surfaced in Wuhan, China. Based on initial laboratory findings, the disease named Corona virus disease 2019 (abbreviated as COVID-19), was described as an infectious disease that is caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (Al-Samarrai et al, 2019). The outbreak is in recent times one of the most disrupting human tragedy that affected billions of people across the globe. The resonance effects are now seen on industries, corporations and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and general supply and demand chains. Consequently, household units are more impacted with the disruption caused by the virus. A lot of things changed; lifestyle, worklife, global economic order, mental stress due to anxiety or loss of a loved one amongst other variables of impact. The outcome has devastated all facet of life with attendant effect of sluggish growth due to the downward slope of economic activity momentum subsequently without specific ending date (Segal & Gerstel, 2020).

Covid-19 posed a serious demographic consequence for the globe and specially the continent of Africa and specifically for Nigeria. The total incidence and deaths occurring there are majorly the adults, particularly amongst pregnant women and children. Good health care does not only contribute to better quality of life, it is absolutely essential for a healthy and virile labour force required at the national level to meet a nation's potential human capital requirements hence, the creation and maintenance of a nation's wealth through the promotion of an effective labour force cannot be achieved without the role of the health sector.

In view of the above; it is expected and desirable that modern healthcare be readily accessible to all and sundry irrespective of geographical location as this is a major objective of the Sustainable Development Goals SDGs. The dawn of the new millennium has brought with it remarkable advances that promote health and longevity, at least in the developed world where effective modern health care is generally accessible to the majority as focused on by millennium development goals (MDGs) . However, Covid-19 remains a major threat to good health around the world, Nigeria inclusive.

There are a number of existing studies quantifying the economic burden of Covid-19. Since these studies were concluded, a number of prevention and control programmes have been implemented by the government. If these programmes are effective, the effect economic burden would have been significantly reduced from their previous levels. The prime concern of this research work is to outline the microeconomic impact of Covid-19 in Nigeria by focusing on the cost on the economy (i.e. Prevention cost, treatment cost, loss in output cost etc.)

The objectives of the study are to determine the microeconomic impact of COVID-19 pandemic in Nigeria, and to determine the effectiveness of various government control programmes in reducing the impact on Nigerians. Following the introductory section, section two presents a review of literature on the extent of covid19 in Nigeria; the next is devoted to methods of data gathering and data analysis techniques used in the study. Empirical results and policy implications were presented in following the earlier section and the final section consist of the conclusion and recommendations.

LITERATURE REVIEW

From a microeconomic perspective, the significant effect of Covid-19 pandemic may be morbidity or mortality. Therefore, the effects of Covid-19 morbidity or mortality on the economy can be justified in the

following ways. In a morbid state, the victim may have to seek treatment, which is in no way free thereby incurring health care cost. Also, normal economic activities of the victim may be discontinued either by reducing his total work time or cut down in work hours, these also reduce productivity and efficiency at work. Covid-19 victims suffer physical and psychological pains in the morbid state. Based on this phenomenon, people under-take preventive expenditures and modify their lifestyles to escape from Covid-19. Premature mortality resulting from Covid-19 illness leads to total loss of human capital investment in the victim as well as the associated potential future outputs that are foregone. Furthermore, relations of such victims are sometimes traumatized and experience emotional break.

Covid-19 transmission can be traced to Wuhan, China and since the outbreak the virus has mostly spread through person-to-person contact. Though endemically different but seems to have resemblance to Ebola stains found in Bat, the virus is easily transmitted through close contact with already infected person. Coughs droplets, sneezing among other contact with infected person can spread the virus. The World Health Organization declared Covid-19 a pandemic on the 11th of March 2020 and warns that touching of mouth, eyes and nose should be avoided. Hands must be washed and sanitized frequently.

The expected impact of Covid-19 on Africa, Nigeria inclusive was over estimated as mortality was still within occurrence curve. This does not rule out the fact that it impacted on the lifestyles of each household, business and micro units of the economy. Knowledge based misconceptions and what was tagged conspiracy theory played a little distraction for Nigerians. The media despite efforts to promote the course and show evidences why the virus should be combatted, so many gave a parallel report claiming it is a lab-grown biological weapon to destroy the world (Olapegba et al, 2020). In a similar research work on 'Fighting a Global War Using a Local Strategy': Contextualism in COVID-19 response in Africa by Chinwe Lucia Ochu C.L., Akande O.W., Oyebanji O., Aderinola O., Ogundode

O., Atteh R., Okwor T., Oguanuo E., Ojumu T., Ofoegbunam C., Ebhodaghe B., Joseph G., Ibekwe P. and Ihekweazu C. (2021) found that despite the fragile health system, high poverty rate and geometrically increasing population density, most African countries were able to manage the Covid-19 pandemic, may be partly to their experiences of handling infectious diseases outbreak in the past like Cholera, Ebola and Lassa Fever. They recommended that huge investment should be made in the health sector to rampage future disease outbreak and manage daily health challenges. It is however necessary to intensify evidence-based campaign liberate the minds of Nigerians in particular about the misconceptions and promote precautionary measures.

Disease burdens have different measures ranging from medical evaluation to economic quantification. Some of these approaches include the production function approach, the cost of illness approach or the willingness to pay approach among other measures. In a study Asante and Okeyere (2003) they explained the following approaches thus. The production function approach (PF) measures output in relation to labour contribution (in terms of effective man-hours) while the Cost of illness approach (COI) measures in accounting sense the direct cost, indirect cost and intangible cost. These require two components which mellow down on the micro to data involving the cost of illness to individuals/household and on the macro data involving cost pertaining to disease control and institutional cost and the third approach, the willingness to pay approach (WTP) uses the contingent valuation method through a household survey. From the list of methods of quantifying disease burden, it is clear that different approaches are used to measure the burden. It is therefore in the interest of the researcher to choose from the available method which one will suit his objective having in mind that all the method has their attached limitations.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The cost of illness approach is the method adopted by this study. Since it lacks the tool for quantifying the intangible costs, this implies the study focuses on the measure of cost incurred by the households. In this chapter, we examine in details the method of this study.

The method used in this study was implemented by making random selection of some households as the sample unit. The responses of the respondents were collected via a structured pre-tested questionnaire. This study selected each household and screened it to determine their perception, financial and economic cost related to COVID-19. This includes information on each household's expenditure to prevent COVID-19 attack, the cost of protection and time lost due to the illness.

On the other hand, publication of the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) on the update of covid-19 outbreak was used to check the trend on how the pandemic is spreading in Nigeria.

The responses of the respondents were analyzed using descriptive statistics of frequency tables and means. The total cost of malaria illness was calculated by adding the private direct cost (PDC) with private indirect cost (PIC). This is stated as:-

$$COI = PDC + PIC \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

Calculation includes the average total cost spent during the lockdown policy compared to average monthly spending. The total costs for the studied population were estimated as well as for Nigeria. This was obtained by multiplying the cost per capita by the population size and the morbidity rate. The output lost is measured using worker-population ratio by estimating the proportion of lost time that has consequences for

(reduced) output. These calculations were done using a combination of SPSS and Microsoft Excel Spreadsheets.

This study requires data on the socio-economic characteristics of the household, the demographic characteristic, the choice of health care provider, choice of treatment, cost of prevention/prevention against malaria, self-assessment to deduce their economic worth, household income among others. This data requirement also included the financial and economic costs of surviving the lockdown. A copy of the questionnaire used to quantify the impact can be requested. A total of 1900 respondent was targeted for the questionnaires.

EMPIRICAL RESULTS, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

The summary of the findings based on the administered questionnaire shows results comprising the demographic characteristics of the respondent from each sampled households, and the estimated associated costs of Covid-19 on each household's resources, which includes output lost, remote work, working from home, cost of internet subscription, time lost, lost school days by student victims and absenteeism from work by workers if infected and the caretaker, number of days spent in quarantine for entry points from abroad.

The table below presents the distribution of respondents that had similar symptoms of Covid-19 cases among the studied households. It shows that about 81.4 percent of the households recorded at least one episode within the reference period of Covid-19 symptoms while about 13.6 percent recorded 2 cases within the period. The minimum number of cases is one while the maximum is six per household per month giving us an overall average of a case of malaria attack per household per month.

Table 1: Some Descriptive Statistics of Number of Covid-19 Cases

	Minimum	Maximum	Sum	mean
Number of cases (Covid-19 Prevalence)	1.00	6.00	134.7186	.87590
Covid-19 Morbidity Rate	.09	2.00		.4801

Source: Computed in this Study

Table 2: Frequency Distribution of Number of Covid-19 Symptom Cases

Number of Occurrence	Percentage	Cumulative percentage
1	81.4	81.4
2	13.6	94.9
3	.8	95.8
4	.8	96.6
5	2.5	99.2
6	.8	100.0
Total	100.0	
Others		

SOURCE: Computed in this study

Demographic Variables	Proportion of the Total Population (%)
Household highest level of education	1.7
• Primary	17.4
• Secondary	62.0
• Tertiary	19.0
• Others	
Household (Dominant) Occupation	
Primary Occupation	16.0
• Clerical	13.4
• Non-clerical	19.3
• Students/apprentices/ pupil	9.2
• Artisan	30.3
• Teaching	5.0
• Unemployed	5.9
• Pre-school	0.8
• Others	
Respondent's Marital Status	
Married	34.7
Never married	53.7
Separated	1.7
Divorced	2.5
Under age	7.4
Respondent's Religion	
Christianity	93.4
Islam	5.8
Others	0.8

To protect and prevent households from covid-19, this study found out the percentage of what household used. Face mask (40.5%), hand sanitizer (26.3%), sprays/formication (18.4%) and incense/ coils (3.5%). On average it shows that majority of the household opt for self-medication with (51.8%), clinic/hospital (32.5%) and a visit to the faith-based healers/spiritualist (7.9%). From the administered questionnaire; some respondent clearly stated; 'by faith they are healed and there is no need for medication', though some use prayer, anointing oil, candle and water, but all these are

to some extent not scientifically quantifiable, since there is no explanation for the process. The visit to the spiritualist is backed up by the high percentage of Christians in the studied area with (93.4%), Islam (5.8%), fetish (0.8%). No household is left out, which reflects that the individual households are very religious. Visiting herbalist (1.8%) is not as rampant as there is a common conception that it is a local way and due to the enlightenment and education level in the area which on average is at least a secondary school (2.4%), the household do not go for herbs except in extreme

cases when orthodox medicine may prove not effective as expected or cases where the respondent are extremely poor and cut off from modern basic health lifestyle.

It shows that the reasons for choices are informed by the cheapest (46.2%), effectiveness (26.4%), availability (13.2%), convenience (8.5%) and absence of side effect (3.8%). Though most choose self-medication (51.8%) as the first option during a covid-19 related symptoms especially when the individual involved find it difficult to breathe with extreme dry cough. On the other hand

the quarantine procedure was not well effective as some leverage on it to satisfy their hunger and other high net-worth individuals did not use the quarantine locations provided. The choice above reflects the self-assessment of the households. On average the economic worth of the household lies on (53.5%), while 34.2% are still struggling, 7.9% are above average and 4.4% are poor. These information are presented in Tables below.

Face mask (40.4%), hand sanitizer (26.3%), sprays/formication (18.4%), incense/ coils (3.5%) and Stay indoor (1.8%).

Table 4: Method of Prevention

Prevention methods	Percentage	Cumulative percentage
Nothing	5.3	5.3
Use Hand Sanitizer	26.3	31.6
Use Face Mask	40.4	71.9
Use Spray/formication	18.4	90.4
Use Incense/coil	3.5	93.9
Stay Indoor	1.8	95.6
Prayed	3.5	99.1
Others	0.9	100.0

SOURCE: Computed in this study.

Table 5: Method of Protection

Protection methods	Percentage	Cumulative percentage
Nothing	3.7	3.7
Use Hand Sanitizer	32.1	35.8
Use Face Mask	34.9	70.6
Use Spray/formication	16.5	87.2
Use Incense/coil	7.3	94.5
Stay Indoor	2.8	97.2
Prayed	0.9	98.2
Others	1.8	100.0

SOURCE: Computed in this study

Table 6: Choice of Health Care Provider

Choices	Percentage	Cumulative percentage
Nothing	6.1	6.1
Self medicate	51.8	57.9
Visit Spiritualist	7.9	65.8
Visit herbalist	1.8	67.5
Visit clinic/hospital	32.5	100.0

SOURCE: Computed in this study

Table 7: Reason for Choice of Protection

Choices	Percentage	Cumulative percentage
Availability	13.2	13.2
Cheaper	46.2	59.4
Very effective	26.4	85.8
Convenient	8.5	94.3
No side effect	3.8	98.1
Others	1.9	100.0

SOURCE: Computed in this study

Table 8: Self Assessment (Economic Worth).

Status	Percentage	Cumulative percentage
Above average	7.9	7.9
Average	53.5	61.4
Struggling	34.2	95.6
Poor	4.4	100.0

SOURCE: Computed in this study

Other cost of incurred during the covid-19 lockdown period on household are the total direct cost spent living an altered lifestyle. Direct cost of treatment which is covered by government through evacuation of sick person to be quarantine and feed for the period, vaccination by choice of treatment and the extra cost of access to treatment, telephone calls, internet subscription. An estimated mean value of 2 dollars per day is not feasible for this group of household. Self-medication, visiting a herbalist/spiritualist and visit to Clinic/hospital when admission is involved or without admission this comes to about N31,930.00. From the

above, it is more evident that most people use self-medication based on its cost and not for any other reason. Since the income level in the representative area is barely low and most are still struggling (34.2%). There presumed average economic worthiness (53.5%) can be traced to the to external factors like hike in cost of living and the level of economic activity in the area due to restriction. Given, a broader view, approximately (72%) will be considered poor (below average) due to covid-19 pandemic.

The table also shows the average time lost and distance covered in seeking treatment from major health care providers. An average of 4hr, 7hr and 2hrs are lost respectively when treatment is being provided by self-medication, herbalist/spiritualist and clinic/hospital respectively. Some don't get evacuated immediate when you call the health helpline, even when they present Covid-19 related symptoms. This is slightly due to the limited number trained frontline caregiver and the available space for quarantine. About 20 days are lost by respondents who choose treatment by clinic and hospital, 8days by herbalist and 6days by self-medication.

CONCLUSION AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

The evidence in this study suggests that the burden of covid-19 pandemic in Nigeria may be worsening if proper attention is not paid to it. It was estimated that more than 50% of the respondent incurred heavy cost due to malaria illness. The total cost of illness per episode revealed that each individual needs to have a budget since an average of 14 days is lost per episode due to quarantine. Thus, COVID-19 has huge economic burden. Though, the government health policy and program have been put in place to curtail the spread and impact on the economy, it should also intensify its effort through the implementation of a domestically inclined, efficient and effective prevention and control program to further reduce the burden on the households in Nigeria. Without missing words; if the above recommendation is adhered to, it will not only contribute positively to reducing the negative impact of Covid-19 on households, but we lead the economic to apt development, since all productive hands are occupied either remotely or openly. This in effect will improve the quality of health, life and economic performance.

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