

Volume: 1 Issue: 1  
January 3, 2023



Quarterly Journal of the KMF Publishers

Volume: 1

January 3, 2023

Editor-in Chief

Dr Radhika R

Associate Editors:

Dr Sonia Rajoria

Dr Revati Sandeep Naik

Dr Olga Grabowska-Chenczke

Dr Arakhita Behera

Dr Anitha D

Dr Sajjad Ali

Sovik Mukherjee

Dr Kartini Harahap

Babitha N S

Mohit Kumar Shrivastav

Issue: 1

## Contents

1. **Experiences of Student Journalists During the Covid-19 Pandemic** 3-23  
**Authors**  
Rodel C. Pacit  
Dr John Erwin P. Pedroso
2. **Effect of Covid-19 Loan on Youth Empowerment in Chanchaga Local Government Area of Niger State** 24-31  
**Author**  
Mohammed Mohammed Ndagi  
Ibrahim Abdulrahman
3. **A Study of Vaccination Drive Towards Covid-19 in Sangli and Kolhapur District of Maharashtra, India** 32-40  
**Author**  
Dr Prakash Rajaram Chavan
4. **Transformation of the Regional Security Agenda in Northeast Asia in the Post-Covid Period: Non-Military Aspects** 41-45  
**Author**  
Prof. Evgenii Gamerman
5. **Changing Paradigm of Indian Politics after COVID-19** 46-50  
**Author**  
SK Barwar

@

**OPEN**

## Experiences of Student Journalists During the Covid-19 Pandemic

**Rodel C. Pacit<sup>1</sup> and Dr John Erwin P. Pedroso<sup>1</sup>**

The COVID-19 pandemic affected the human beings in the community. Student journalists are the ones who endured many challenges in their publication work. They acquired experiences that develop their capacity to cope from difficult situations. Hence, this study ascertained the experiences of student journalists during the COVID-19 pandemic. The qualitative-phenomenological approach of research design was employed using a researcher-made written interview form administered through messenger and email among five (5) purposively selected editors-in-chief from different universities and state colleges. The environmental, technological, and psychological experiences of the student journalists were revealed. There were six (6) meaningful categories taken from data transcripts. Student journalists were able to (1) manifest positive outlook in life and (2) render democratic community empowerment services as their environment-related experiences. Besides, their media technology-related experiences included (3) adjust to unprecedented working transition and (4) encounter misinformation and disinformation. Finally, they acquired psychology-related experiences such as (5) confront social communication disparity and (6) endure from self-efficacy enervation. Since student journalists facing many challenges, they still show their willingness to serve the school and the community during hard times. Thus, student journalists' roles and responsibilities are to deliver factual information and help the people in the society.

**Keywords:** Experiences, student journalists, challenges, school publication, COVID-19 pandemic

### Introduction

Student journalists embody various efforts to cover relevant development and issues amid the current global crisis. They use their vocal and physical power to deliver factual information and inspiring stories to the people. As agents of truth and consciousness, student journalists have crucial functions in spreading awareness in global

and online communities (Wu, 2020). However, the COVID-19 pandemic brings struggles to student journalists wherein they encountered certain difficulties in obtaining responses from interviewees, as well as working with the colleagues for school paper publication (Joung, 2020). The student journalists avoid

<sup>1</sup>West Visayas State University, Iloilo, Philippines E-mail: rodel.pacit@wvsu.edu.ph

**Copyright:** © 2023 by the authors. Licensee KMF Publishers ([www.kmf-publishers.com](http://www.kmf-publishers.com)). This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

physical conducting of interviews because they may be potentially exposing themselves to the virus. As a wise alternative, they come up with unique yet creative ways to interact with people in getting stories and salient pieces of information. As a result, student journalists do their job, even though they are confronted by the COVID-19 challenges (Mook, 2020).

In the past two years, there is 44% of teachers who reported a sudden rise in journalism class enrollment and more than 30% increase in students' interest who majored journalism in universities and colleges. Because of this, journalism students are encouraged by the academic curriculum to focus more on state and local news that can lead to a more productive dialogue inside the class. Thus, students acquire more opportunity to cover and influence community events (Jones, 2019). Several studies about student journalism have strictly concentrated on emphasizing the roles and significance of student journalism in the school curriculum and student skills development. Campus student journalism promotes life-long learning that enhanced both academics and life skills essential to the lives of the students. Nevertheless, campus journalists' expressions of ideas are censored by school administrators (Ortiz, 2017; Omay, 2020). This is pinpointed by some previous studies, wherein they concentrate on censorship concerns in college campus papers and examine the factors predicting student journalists' content decisions. One study has found out that censorship administration and students' individual willingness in censoring are not significant predictors of student comfort in publishing controversial materials, but student journalists' roles and perceived content reviewers are significant predictors of student comfort level in producing manipulated information. Consequently, the results recommend helping the student journalists to think at the margin of legal and ethical principles in making content decisions (LoMonte et al., 2013; Cogar, 2021). Despite the retrieved literatures and studies, existing knowledge about the experiences of student journalists

during the COVID-19 pandemic is relatively scarce. Acquiring information in relation to the student journalists' experiences can help people understand their participatory activities and civic engagement, strengthening foundations of developed knowledge and identity (Bobkowski & Miller, 2016; Vogts, 2018).

In this time of crisis, it is important to turn our attention to student journalists and identify the sources of their challenges and ways of survival as they continue their publication roles and responsibilities. Hence, this study seeks to answer the question, what are the experiences of student journalists during the emergence of the global pandemic? The findings of this study demonstrate the environmental, technological, and psychological experiences of student journalists. These will serve as revelation to the students, teachers, school curriculum, information agencies, broadcast centers, future researchers, and other social groups in the community about acquired experiences of student journalists, encompassing challenges to face and opportunities to cherish. The literature reviews and previous studies are key elements for the discussion of the topic, methods, and results. Finally, this study aims to recognize the contributions of student journalists in education, information, and communication.

## **Methodology**

### ***Purpose of the Study and Research Design***

This qualitative-phenomenological study described by Sandelowksi (2000) helped to ascertain the experiences of student journalists during the COVID-19 pandemic. It was anchored on a constructivist epistemology, which pursued to examine what is assumed a socially constructed dynamic reality through a precise description of the phenomenon under investigation (Pedroso et al., 2021). The experiences of student journalists were supported by John Dewey's Pragmatic Theory of Experience, in which acquisition of experiences is dependent on (1)

the relationship between the present experience, the past and future ones, (2) the tangible and social context of a person's situation, and (3) an individual's connection to the situation or environment (Stark, 2022).

### ***Respondents***

This study was participated by five Editors-in-Chief from different student publication of colleges and universities. The informants were chosen through purposive sampling which also treated as judgmental or selective sampling (Pedroso, 2021). The inclusion criteria of the informants were also employed: a) 18 to 22 years old during the conduct of this study; b) an editor-in-chief in the school publication; c) designated as a student journalist of a Tertiary Higher Education

Institution; and, d) with a minimum of 2 years of service as a student journalist.

Table 1 displays the informants' profiles. The five (5) college student journalists included one (1) male and four (4) female informants. Their age ranged from 18 to 22 years old. The informants had a minimum of two year-service as editors-in-chief. They came from two (2) private and three (3) public higher education institutions. Furthermore, one (1) of them came from the Province of Guimaras; one (1) from Sarangani; one (1) from Antique; and two (2) from Iloilo. The informants were assigned pseudonyms to maintain confidentiality.

Profile of the Informants

| College Student Journalist | Age | Sex    | Location  | Number of Years as a Student Journalist in College/ University Publication | Position        | Type of Tertiary Higher Education Institution |
|----------------------------|-----|--------|-----------|--|-----------------|---|
| Joy                        | 22  | Female | Guimaras  | 3  | Editor-in-chief | Private                                       |
| Ela                        | 21  | Female | Antique   | 3  | Editor-in-chief | Private                                       |
| May                        | 21  | Female | Iloilo    | 5  | Editor-in-chief | Public  |
| Lyn                        | 22  | Female | Iloilo    | 4  | Editor-in-chief | Public  |
| John                       | 18  | Male   | Sarangani | 2  | Editor-in-chief | Public  |

### ***Instrumentation***

The researcher-made written interview form was validated by the panel of experts which was used to gather responses and collect experiences of student journalists during the COVID-19 pandemic. The English language was utilized to organize the semi-structured question and other necessary information to fill out there in. The interview form is created through a Microsoft Word document. The letter for the informant was also attached and followed with the instructions in providing information on the given

template (Kendra, 2020; Pedroso et al., 2021). In addition, critical analysis of literatures, studies, and diagrams were applied to strengthen the foundations of the study's findings (Pedroso, 2021).

### ***Data Gathering Procedure***

After a letter of permission to conduct a study was approved by the Dean, data gathering started on January 30, 2022. The researchers were able to find eligible editors-in-chief from college and university publications through Facebook messenger for easy and

convenient communication. The Word document written interview form was sent among the identified informants through email. The informants were given one (1) week to accomplish and submit the written interview form. The researchers are the controllers of information with maintenance of data confidentiality and responsibility.

### ***Data Analysis Procedure***

Since the informants submitted their finished written interview forms during the set week of working and submission, the researchers were opted to electronically download and store the gathered documents for direct and fast access. Eventually, the data gathered underwent analysis, comparison, and interpretation using Wolcott's "Transforming Qualitative Data" which organize, categorize, and code the merged data from the informants (Pedroso, 2021). The collected transcripts were systematically organized using the data analysis matrix to identify the environment-related, media technology-related, and psychology-related experiences of the student journalists. The researchers initially concurred that the embedded statements and phrases of the informants would be highlighted and assigned with appropriate codes. Furthermore, the identified codes were classified also into various relevant categories based on the similarities and differences of thought. Meaningful categories were formulated by grouping relevant codes, while different categories were eliminated and grouped based on the different experiences of student journalists during the COVID-19 pandemic. The process of data analysis was finished for two (2) weeks. Lastly, the manuscripts were presented to the informants for data validation (Pedroso et al., 2021).

### ***Reliability***

The researchers undertook a thorough data gathering procedures and processes to ensure the reliability of this qualitative-phenomenological study. It also applied pertinent text descriptions, direct quotations

from collected transcripts, and validation of informants' profile (Pedroso et al., 2021). The research making and conducting activities were formally agreed by the researchers, in order to maintain coordination and track study's gradual progress. The results were the accurate interpretation of the participants' responses. Indeed, the integrated review of related literatures and studies to support the findings of the study were carefully included and cited to avoid plagiarism accusations.

### ***Ethical Considerations***

The researchers were guided in the ethical conduct of this study by Republic Act 10173, also known as the "Data Privacy Act of 2012". It is hereby stated in its Section 8 that publishers, editors, duly accredited reporters of any newspaper, magazine or periodical shall ensure always the value of confidentiality of any personal data that comes to its knowledge and possession. The Section 20 (a) of the said law also emphasized that personal information controller must implement reasonable and proper organizational, physical, and technical measures intended for the protection of personal information against any accidental or unlawful deterioration, modification, and disclosure, as well as against any other unlawful processing. In the succeeding paragraph of the same section, it is further elaborated that the information controller must determine the appropriate level of security by taking into account the nature of the personal information to be protected, the risks represented by the processing, the size of the organization and difficulty of its operations, data privacy practices, and the cost of security imposition (Philippine Government, 2012). The approved letter of information, waivers, and written consent forms were utilized to gather participants' voluntary participation in this study. The researchers maintained utmost anonymity and confidentiality throughout the data gathering process.

## Results And Discussion

### Results

The student journalists gained the environment-related, media technology-related and psychology-related experiences during the existence of the COVID-19 pandemic. There were six (6) important categories taken from the data transcripts. The student journalists acquired environment-related experiences such as (1) manifest positive outlook in life and (2) render democratic community empowerment services. They also obtained media-technology related experiences such as trying to (3) adjust to unprecedented working transition and (4) encounter misinformation and disinformation issues. Additionally, the global pandemic triggers the student journalists from different universities and colleges to draw psychology-related experiences wherein they (5) confront social communication disparity and (6) endure from self-efficacy enervation.

### Environment-related Experiences

The experiences of student journalists were drawn from their ability to respond and deal on prevailing current new normal community situation. There were two (2) examined categories that are relevant to environment-related experiences of the student journalists during the COVID-19 pandemic namely (1) manifest positive outlook in life and (2) render democratic community empowerment services.

#### *Manifest Positive Outlook in Life*

The emergence of the global pandemic brought destructive impact to the student journalists' adaptation to the new normal community condition, but they remained flexible and resilient to perform and thrive in their duties. This was divided into two (2) subcategories namely (1) display situational resilience and (2) exhibit constant decisiveness.

- **Display Situational Resilience**  
The COVID-19 pandemic challenged the capacity of student journalists to be flexible

and resilient, in spite of the current unpleasant community situation. They possessed positive abilities to cope and deal from encountered challenges.

*Joy: "As resilient student journalists, we're taught to see beauty in everything amidst difficulties."*

*May: "We experienced a lot of drawbacks but we became stronger in terms of internal and external operations."*

- **Exhibit Constant Decisiveness**

Student journalists were dedicated to continue their roles and responsibilities. They were also committed to show to the people that they are strong and capable to rise from various struggles.

*May: "With the lack of budget, coverage, travels, and other amenities we have during the face-to-face classes, this pandemic has been a test of passion and commitment to our craft in writing and reportage."*

#### *Render Democratic Community Empowerment Services*

The student journalists were proactive to extend their efforts and influences both inside the campus and in the community, helping the needy people in the society for social consciousness and development. This was divided into two (2) subcategories namely (1) organize educational election campaign and (2) initiate student leadership virtual training.

- **Organize Educational Election Campaign**  
The community restrictions and lockdowns were not seen by student journalists as hindrances, rather ways to extend their efforts to the community. They

were goal-driven to implement community activities to promote social awareness.

*John: “Meanwhile, as part of the annual Buwan ng Kabataang Sarangan celebration, we launched a month-long young voters’ education campaign last August 2021 to assist the youth in our community in making informed choices for the upcoming elections.”*

- **Initiate Student Leadership Virtual Training**

The work and stay at home scenarios were used by student journalists to propose virtual trainings and seminars. Their willingness to serve and desire to influence the social groups in their community produced beneficial outcomes.

*John: “With the rising trend of fake news, we organized a local campaign called Project Verified.”*

*John: “This month-long virtual training aims to equip student-leaders in our community with the mindset, skills, and techniques necessary to improve the information in our environment.”*

## Media Technology-related Experiences

The experiences of student journalists were anchored on the encountered media and technology struggles and challenges in times of the global outbreak. There were two (2) identified categories that are relevant to media technology-related experiences of student journalists during the COVID-19 pandemic namely (1) adjust to unprecedented working transition and (2) encounter misinformation and disinformation.

### **Adjust to Unprecedented Working Transition**

The big challenge on the part of campus student journalists was the unforeseen transition and migration

of the college or university publication to online community that greatly affected their culture of work. This was divided into two (2) subcategories namely (1) embrace online publication modality and (2) react on existing connectivity issues.

- **Embrace Online Publication Modality**

The global pandemic became the primary driver of sudden migration of student publication. The student journalists from different colleges and universities were adjusting from in school to virtual work.

*Lyn: “Due to the pandemic, the learning modality has shifted to the online set up which prompted the publication work to also migrate online.”*

*Ela: “Online publication is still a learning curve for me and I hope that the things that I have learned during my time as an EIC will help future writers in our publication.”*

- **React on Existing Connectivity Issues**

The transition to online modality of publication increased the demand for complete technology devices and internet connection. The lacks and difficulties were inevitable to experience, which student journalists endured while working and meeting online.

*Ela: “Connectivity issues have also been brought to my attention many times during meetings and I believe this has hindered some of the participation of our members.”*

### **Encounter Misinformation and Disinformation**

The world of cyberspace during the COVID-19 was grounded with a lot of misinformation and disinformation that mislead the citizens in the society. This was divided into two (2) subcategories namely (1) deliver impartial quality of information and (2) stand with strong personal convictions.

- ***Deliver Impartial Quality of Information***

The online community was dominated with many false information that was intensified during the COVID-19 pandemic. So, the student journalists were doing their utmost to combat the rampant spreading of misinformation and disinformation.

*Joy: "Social media is the only option we have and that's one of the biggest challenges, to deliver relevant, factual, and dignified quality student journalism through social media platforms that are dominated by the mainstream and international media where there is rampant use and threats of fake news."*

- ***Stand with Strong Personal Convictions***

The salience of truthful and dignified student journalism became important for college student journalists. With this, they ensured objective and factual delivery of news and information for public consciousness.

*Joy: "However, we ought to stand still with our convictions without prejudice, bias, and second thoughts."*

### **Psychology-related Experiences**

The experiences of student journalists were centered on their social, emotional, and mental conditions during the surge of the COVID-19 pandemic. There were two (2) identified categories that are relevant to psychology-related experiences of the student journalists during the COVID-19 pandemic namely (1) confront social communication disparity and (2) endure from self-efficacy enervation.

#### ***Confront Social Communication Disparity***

The student journalists observed the growing distinction of establishing tactful communication with their family, friends, and fellow staffers. This was

divided into two (2) subcategories namely (1) handle challenges on diplomatic relationship and (2) manage prevailing virtual interaction.

- ***Handle Challenges on Diplomatic Relationship***

Physical interaction and social gathering were prohibited in compliance to the implemented health protocols. The student journalists were working a little harder to communicate with their fellow staffers not only for publication matters, but also to establish a good relationship with them.

*Ela: "A lot of new members were hired for the new school year and I was really stressing out about how I can establish rapport and a good working relationship with the newbies."*

- ***Manage Prevailing Virtual Interaction***

With the imposed community limitations and health advisories, student journalists utilized the online social communication platforms. With the help of these, they maintained their connection, conduct meetings, and discuss important things about the publication.

*Lyn: "Furthermore, at the height of the pandemic, morale has also decreased. Zoom or online conferencing fatigue has started to kick in."*

#### ***Endure from Self- Efficacy Enervation***

The drastic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic designed a lot of negative psychological responses for the student journalists that weaken their function and mental health condition. This was divided into two (2) subcategories namely (1) suffer diminishing level of motivation and (2) balance mental health and responsibilities.

- **Suffer Diminishing Level of Motivation**

The absence of social and emotional attachment to other people decreased the motivation of the student journalists. They worked in an isolated and distanced mode, thus affected their interest and energy.

*Lyn: “Staffers were losing energy and motivation to work because of isolation.”*

- **Balance Mental Health and Responsibilities**

Stress, frustrations, and anxiety were the adverse effects of the global pandemic to the student journalists. They were struggling to balance their mental health and publication responsibilities as they confronted the impacts of the COVID-19.

*Lyn: “It took us a year to get the hand of everything and balance our mental health and responsibilities.”*

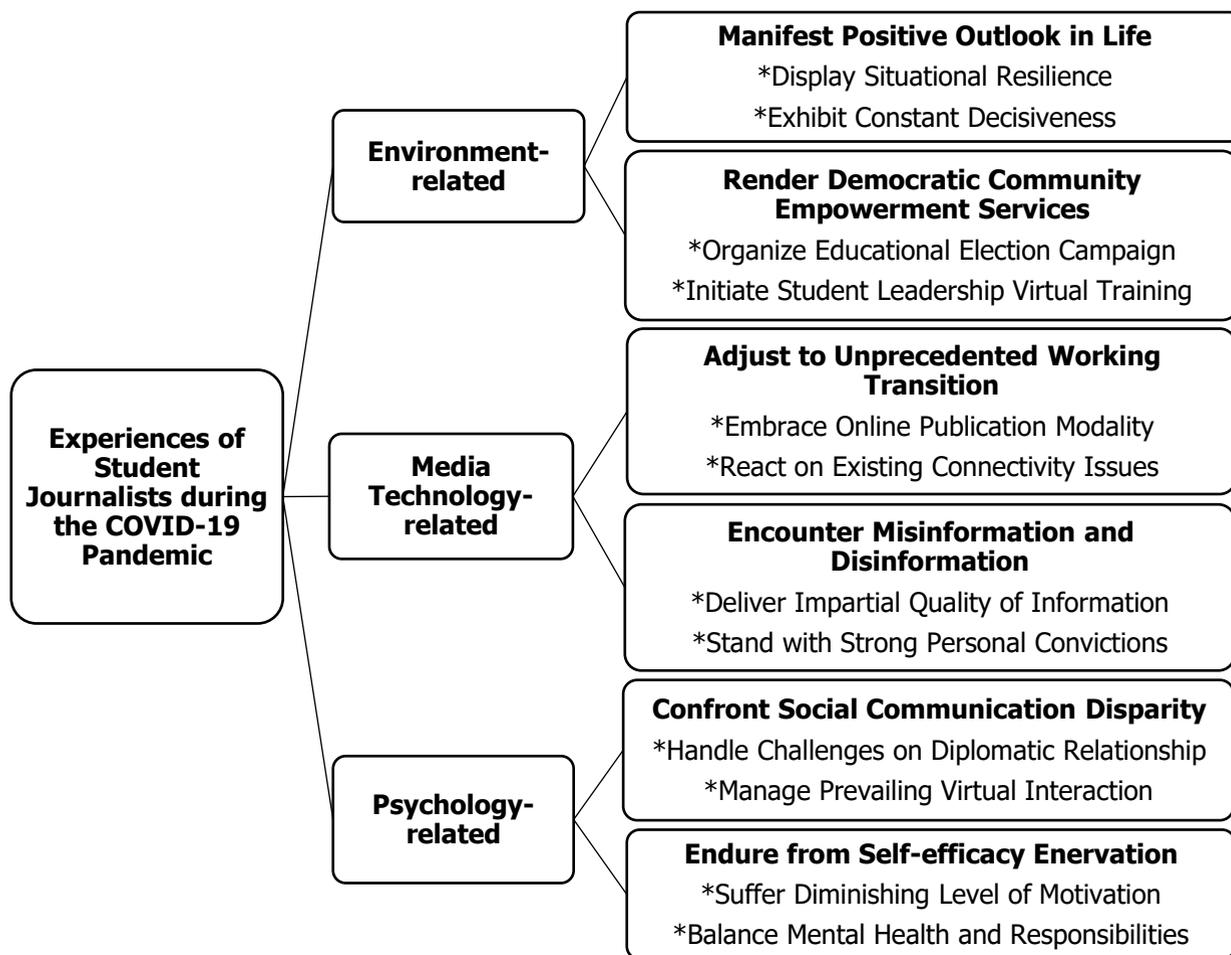


Figure 1. Demonstration of meaningful categories of the study

## Discussion

This qualitative-phenomenological study aims to examine the experiences of student journalists during the COVID-19 pandemic. Their experiences were elaborated by three (3) significant themes such as environment-related, media technology-related, and psychology-related. After the deep review of the interview transcripts, six (6) major categories were selected from the informants' responses. The researchers utilized a careful analysis to set the findings of this research in the context of related literatures and the results of previously relevant research studies.

The COVID-19 pandemic has modified the lives of various human races in the world (Wang et al., 2020; Serrano Sarmiento et al., 2021). The health guidelines and protocols in communities have affected the socio-economic, emotional, and educational situation of the entire nations (UNESCO, 2020; Serrano Sarmiento et al., 2021). However, in the research papers of Pavlik (2013) and Perreault (2021), it is noted that the environment with societal norms, protocols, and practices is not a hindrance to cope with the challenges. This perspective is in contrast to Smith et al. (2015) and Tandoc & Takahashi (2018) who have emphasized that journalists are involved in traumatic situations and difficult challenges that weaken their physical immunity. In like manner, it is justified in the study of Buchanan & Keats (2011), Ikizer et al. (2019), and Seely (2020) that they usually display feelings such as guilt, depression, fatigue, pressure, and many others. However, in the study of Moran et al. (2019) and Serrano Sarmiento et al. (2021), it has been mentioned that they have developed coping mechanisms that enable them to display resilience, decisiveness, and adaptability to the present environmental situation of the world. Correspondingly, they have established strategies such as daily exercise, appropriate sleep patterns, balanced diet, and adequate time for relaxation, which are

essential and beneficent to sustain work and individual life (Keats & Buchanan, 2012; Ogunyemi, 2021). These ideas are completely supported by Izquierdo (2021), who emphasized that although the COVID-19 pandemic has affected the roles and functions of student journalists, but they continue to work inside the publication and employ initiatives to participate and provide services to the people in the community. To follow, both the research articles of Brown (2018) and Pedroso et al. (2021) have suggested them to deal on the COVID-19 using their personal dispositions, so that they can definitely continue their work in times of the global pandemic. Their experiences make them competent, determined, and flexible individuals who can rise from difficult situations.

The social media and internet are technology trends, which serve as channels of the student journalists to ameliorate the awareness and engagement of youth in political concerns and issues (Bryant et al., 2020; Lancker & Parolin, 2020; Nicola et al., 2020; Patel et al., 2020; Kwan, 2021). They are similarly willing to influence and promote youth civic and political participation (Landman & Splendore, 2020; Kwan, 2021). In different tone, the study of Beech (2020) and Kwan (2021) confirmed that student journalists are interested to implement community activities but government authorities restrict physical contact. Even so, the research articles of Pollock (2020) and Pedroso et al. (2021) have asserted that they are extraordinary drivers and leaders in this time of crisis. This is agreed by Welton (2020) and Perreault (2021) who stated that student journalists are important to show their accountability as providers of public information. Student journalists are serving the large public with also large number of needs for mass awareness through proper education. They should strike a balance between personal safety and civic responsibility. With this, the study of Beech (2020), Tan (2020), and Kwan (2021) highlighted that they can manifest their community sensitivity by informing the youth of their right and duty as citizens of the nation to exercise their suffrage. On the other hand, Lyons et al. (2020) and

McKillop (2021) responds to their ideas that community actions and services can help student journalists to build closer relationships with their peers and other people in the society. In similar focus, many school publications have implemented virtual trainings and sessions that encouraged the youth involvement. They have learned to use instruments such as reflection and feedback in making experiences and understanding of leadership practices. Participants who have attended in particular leadership trainings conducted by the student journalists, exhibit engagement, and discernment of the leadership learning outcomes (Goucher, 2022). Thus, the student journalists are doing their best to construct links between the youth's efforts and people's situations. With their employed virtual leadership training, the students can increase their contributions for the development of their communities (Kiesh & Peter, 2017; McKillop, 2021).

The transition to online modality has occurred that presented challenges to the teachers, students, and campus journalists of the school publication. The online media and technology platforms required necessary digital literacy skills. Because of this, student journalists face hardship in collaborating with their fellow staffers and submitting finished articles (Burki, 2020; Burns et al., 2020). In agreement with this, there are created pressures to the publications, wherein they modify their work procedures and processes. It is undeniable that it also makes online education and videoconferencing affairs institutionally mandatory (Alfadda and Mahdi, 2021; Pedroso et al., 2021). However, the research papers of Link and Marz (2006) and Burns et al. (2020) have opposed to their conceptions and have affirmed that media, technology, and digital literacies are significant skills and abilities to exhibit by student journalists in order to accomplish their publication duties. To support, student publications reorganization of necessary tasks and responsibilities can strengthen their work system and virtual cooperation (Garcia-Aviles 2021; Quandt & Wahl-Jorgensen, 2021).

Nevertheless, barriers to publication learning and work are inevitable such as undeveloped technical skills, insufficient infrastructure, absence of strategies and support from the people (Last & McGrath, 2018; Ozudogru, 2021). It is also discussed in the research articles of Varma et al. (2021) and Barrero et al. (2021) that some working individuals experience internet access challenges in the midst of the crisis. This is parallel to the study of Balatayo et al. (2021), Baticulon et al. (2021), and Pedroso et al. (2021) who likewise recognize technology-related issues that affect the work of the people. As a result, their participation is impaired that affects the term of work accomplishment (Apriyanti, 2020; Ozudogru, 2021). Despite of these, the study of Mahmud (2010) and Ozudogru (2021) have declared that universities and colleges consider the scarcity of technology resources and internet connection both as challenges to overcome and opportunities to receive. Indeed, it is suggested that government should promote universal access to internet and technology tools, enabling work efficiency and capability (Barrero et al., 2021).

Misinformation and disinformation have been intensified across the different media platforms during the pandemic (Wang et al., 2019; Bastick, 2021; Greene & Murphy, 2021; Massarani et al., 2021). They circulated inside the different platforms of media that call the attention of the democratic citizens (Pickard, 2016; YarivTsfati, 2020). They both invalidate the accuracy and reliability of published or produced information (Madrigal, 2017; Benkler et al., 2018; YarivTsfati, 2020). In the same way, misinformation and disinformation mislead, deceive, and indirect the attention of the large audience that express personal and ideological motives (Jang & Kim, 2018; Cervi & Carrillo-Andrade, 2019; Tejedor et al., 2021). Additionally, they can also destruct and affect the perspectives and behaviors of the public. The absence of gatekeepers online creates a flourishing misinformation (MacDonald & Guirguis, 2015; Shin et al., 2018; Chen & Stoecker, 2020; Vai et al., 2020; Hameleers, 2021). In fact, in the modern era of news

consumption and production, student journalists are considered as frontliners who furnish optimal services to the public (Tandoc, 2017; Balod & Hameleers, 2021). However, the study of Reich & Barnoy (2019) and YarivTsfati (2020) has pinpointed that media and technology challenges become the measurements of student journalists' competence and proficiency to deliver truth in the wake of lies. This is in converse to the ideas of Godler & Reich (2017) who has expressed that journalists in academic and media institutions have obligations to combat such issues through compact verification of information in compliance to journalism principles. To concur, school journalism practices such as fact checking and verification are main strategies to eliminate misinformation and disinformation in the online community (O'Carroll, 2019; YarivTsfati, 2020; Patatt & Rocha, 2020; Brotas et al., 2021; Massarani, et al., 2021). It is further included in the study of Herrero-Diz et al. (2019), Mendiguren et al. (2020), and Tejedor et al. (2021) that journalism students are well-equipped to handle the prevailing media and information issues across the space of social media through definite identification and authentication. They are determined to maintain dignified and worthy journalism in the physical and virtual world. Research article authors Svensson (2017), Balod & Hameleers (2021), Perreault & Perreault (2021), and Massarani et al. (2021) stated that they should strengthen their roles in combating fake news through careful presentation of information. They need also to commit on the formation of democracy through dignified journalism.

Many nations enforce the sanctity of physical distancing which prohibits the world citizens to have minimum and restrictive distance of interaction. This has incremented their engagement and dependence on social media platforms to establish attachment and moment with important people in their life. In the context of the student journalism, it is difficult on the part of journalists to connect and communicate with their fellow staffers. They often use Facebook, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, and many other online platforms for

socialization. Although they can see each other on screen, but the emotional connection is not felt entirely (Pliushch, 2018; Vaskovskaya, 2018; Voronova et al., 2020; Olusanya, 2020; Wong, 2021). In like manner, the increasing use of videoconferencing in school and workplaces seems challenging to others who are new in the altered mode of social communication. Many global users complain regarding their experienced frustration from videoconferencing, most of the time is Zoom online platform (Fosslien & Duffy, 2020; Strassman, 2020; Karl et al., 2021). Their ideas are extended in the study of Greenfield (2018) and Greenfield et al. (2021) who have explained that the imposed stay-at-home orders in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic is the main reason of the shift on human values, societal activities, people's relationships, and learning environment. As a result, the student journalists reduced their contact with new and old publication staffers, as well as changes on modes of building relationships. Nevertheless, some journalists in academic learning institution and companies are trying to understand the encountered social dynamics in the present new normal situation. They accept the reality that they have to bridge the social and emotional gaps, in order to continue their work and responsibilities (Kuzminykh & Rintel, 2020; Karl et al., 2021). Additionally, the student journalists are embracing the virtual interaction during meetings, conferences, workshops, and more (Grigoriev et al., 2019; Voronova et al., 2020). Evers et al. (2021) and Greenfield et al. (2021) have mentioned that student journalists respond, in order to survive from the sudden alteration in social interaction. However, they have lost publication cultures that value freedom over constraining rules (Gelfand, 2020; Greenfield et al., 2021). This perspective is different from Aleksieienko-Lemovska (2019) and Voronova et al. (2020) who have compelled that virtual interaction offers advantage of work accomplishment; however, students experience heavy loads in which they became frustrated and pressured while working in the virtual space. So, the distance publication work and processes raise a lot of concerns that require immediate yet

feasible solutions (Tishchenko, 2020; Voronova et al., 2020).

The primary and secondary schools, colleges, and universities are forced to close at the onset of the global pandemic, affecting 98.5% of the world's student population (UNESCO, 2020; Qui et al., 2020; Wang et al., 2020; Salari et al., 2020; Mak, 2021). Consequently, this has reduced the motivation of the ordinary students and student journalists that is evident in developing countries (Parczewska, 2021; Mak, 2021; Zacher & Rudolph, 2021; Rahe & Jansen, 2021). This is coupled with the study of Büssing et al. (2020) and Rahe & Jansen (2021) who stated that the global pandemic has decreased the human satisfaction and physical function, so they are less inclined to work on their tasks and activities. To further support, it is also reported in the United States of America that there is a decline on student journalists' physical activity and work efficiency. The current dilemma can challenge them while balancing their academics, mental health and publication responsibilities (American College Health Association, 2019; Grubic et al., 2020; Mo et al., 2020; Stogner et al., 2020; Vagni et al., 2020; Spoorthy et al., 2020; Maelan et al., 2021; Maher et al., 2021; Rahe & Jansen, 2021). In spite of these, the research papers of Husky et al. (2020), Wang et al. (2020), Grubic et al. (2020), and Bourion-Bedes et al. (2021) have justified that the student journalists overcame severe anxiety and stress, despite home quarantines and community restrictions. On one hand, Wang et al. (2020) and Grubic et al. (2020) have discovered that there are research conducted that assess the mental health impact of the COVID-19, discussing public experiences such as anxiousness and depression. This is the same on the report of the YoungMinds (2020) and research articles of Torales et al. (2020) and Grubic et al. (2020) that many young people have said that the global pandemic worsens the psychological conditions of the people that devitalizes routine, social interaction, and societal activities. This is similarly agreed by the research studies of Osmann et al. (2020) and Osman et al.

(2021) who have revealed that student journalists acquired lack of social and emotional support from colleagues. Moreover, they find difficulties in balancing personal care, mental health condition, and publication responsibilities (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2020; Osman et al., 2021). Therefore, the Elevate Education (2020) together with Mak (2021) have advised the schools to implement appropriate measures to address decreasing motivation. Also, the study of Thorell et al. (2021) have expressed that the support of school teachers and parents are crucial on heightening the motivation of student journalists.

As with the related literatures and studies, this current research has many limitations that should be discerned and may be addressed by future studies. First, this study employed a qualitative-phenomenological approach to examine and describe the experiences of student journalists during the COVID-19 pandemic. Likewise, the findings are only anchored on the experiences of the college student journalists. Second, it is mainly conducted on student journalists from different universities and colleges, which the embedded applications of the findings and implications of the study to student journalism programs may be recognized. Future studies should impart further and extended information of their coping mechanisms and acquired opportunities aside from endured challenges. Finally, the researchers utilized written interview questions, thus there might be a possibility of distortion through self-report bias. Nevertheless, the stated limitations in this study have imparted sufficient data on experiences of student journalists during the COVID-19 pandemic that inform the future researchers about this topic.

The findings of the study have demonstrated the relevant experiences of student journalists in times of the global crisis, which has not been highlighted by the previous researchers. It would have huge contribution and embodiments to all academic fields of research. For other research enthusiasts and aspirants in pressing

issues related to the impacts of the COVID-19 on the lives of various social groups from different institutions, this study can embark significant pieces of understanding and awareness on the various experiences of the college student journalists, promoting resilient and empowered student journalism inside and outside of the school premises. The next challenge that they have to conquer is how to sustain environmental, technological, and psychological adaptations they have manifested to overcome the impacts of the COVID-19 on their roles and responsibilities. In this age of information and communication, student journalists should widen their influence and strengthen their work in covering human stories and news happening in different corners of the global communities. This is a realization for the current and future student journalists that their work as delivery agents of information is uneasy but full of publication's experiences that can amplify their inmost skills and abilities as 21st century citizens.

## Conclusion

The experiences of student journalists are reflections of the positive and negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. They have practically utilized their encountered hardships as weapons to continue to raise the torch of student journalism. They are committed to serve the academic learning institution and the people in the community, discounting vulnerability of infection. Indeed, student journalists are victims of the global crisis, as well as stewards of civic responsibility and participation. Their job as forefronts of mass information and communication does not end at the tip of a pen and a paper; rather they have extended their efforts to the living social groups in the democratic society. Therefore, the school's curriculum has crucial accountability to uplift the vitality of student journalism and render support and guidance services to maximize their capabilities to rise from any challenging situation.

## Acknowledgment

We say thank you to WVSU-College of Education, 3S (Social Science Students) Society, and to our Respondents and Teachers who made this research study possible.

-The Researchers

## References

- Aleksieienko-Lemovska, L. V. (2019). The activity approach as a basis for preschool teachers' methodological activities. *Humanitarian Balkan Research*, 4(6), 10-14. <https://doi.org/10.34671/SCH.HBR.2019.0304.0001>
- Alfadda, H. A. & Mahdi, H. S. (2021). Measuring students' use of zoom application in language course based on the technology acceptance model (TAM). *Journal of Psycholinguistic Research*, 50, 883-900. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10936-020-09752-1>
- American College Health Association. (2019). American college health association: national college health assessment ii: reference group executive summary spring 2019. *American College Health Association*, 3(2), 63-64. <https://doi.org/10.1080/24745332.2019.1620558>
- Balod, H. & Hameleers, M. (2021). Fighting for truth? The role perceptions of Filipino journalists in an era of mis- and disinformation. *SAGE Publications*, 22(9), 2368-2385. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1464884919865109>
- Barrero, J. M., Bloom, N., & Davis, S. J. (2021). Internet access and its implications for productivity, inequality, and resilience. <https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://wfhresearch.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Internet-Access-Barrero-Bloom-and-Davis-14-July-2021.pdf&ved=2ahUKEwjEhY7M-q32AhULk1YBHSJ2A904ChAWegQIDxA B&usg=AOvVaw0Icz36Enq3AHAITPnjJxJ0>

- Bastick, Z. (2021). Would you notice if fake news changed your behavior? An experiment on the unconscious effects of disinformation. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 116, 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2020.106633>
- Beech, H. (2020). In Singapore, an orderly election and a (somewhat) surprising result. *The New York Times*. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/10/world/asia/singapore-election-results.html>
- Benkler, Y., Faris, R., & Roberts, H. (2018). Network propaganda: manipulation, disinformation, and radicalization in American politics. *Oxford University Press*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780190923624.001.0001>
- Brown, C. H. (2019). Perceptions of school counselors surviving a school shooting. *Professional School Counseling*, 22(1), 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F2156759X19853250>
- Bryant, D. J., Oo, M., & Damian, A. J. (2020). The rise of adverse childhood experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy*, 12(1), 193-194. <https://doi.org/10.1037/tra0000711>
- Buchanan, M. & Keats, P. (2011). Coping with traumatic stress in journalism: a critical ethnographic study. *International Journal of Psychology*, 46(2), 127-135. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00207594.2010.532799>
- Burki, T. (2020). COVID-19: consequences for higher education. *Lancet Oncology*, 21(6), 758-760. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045\(20\)30287-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045(20)30287-4)
- Burns, D., Dagnall, N., & Holt, M. (2020). Assessing the impact of the covid-19 pandemic on student wellbeing at universities in the united kingdom: a conceptual analysis. *Frontier in Education*, 5(5), 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.3389/feduc.2020.582882>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2020). Older adults. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/older-adults.html>
- Cervi, L. & Carrillo-Andrade, A. (2019). Post-truth and disinformation: Using discourse analysis to understand the creation of emotional and rival narratives in Brexit. *ComHumanitas: Revista Científica de Comunicación*, 10(2), 125-149. <https://doi.org/10.31207/rch.v10i2.207>
- Chen, W. & Stoecker, C. (2020). Mass media coverage and influenza vaccine uptake. *Vaccine*, 38(2), 271-277. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.vaccine.2019.10.019>
- Cogar, M. (2021). Gatekeeping in scholastic journalism: examining factors that predict student content decisions. [https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://etd.ohiolink.edu/apexprod/rws\\_etd/send\\_file/send%3Faccession%3Dkent1627380228967214%26disposition%3Dinline&ved=2ahUKEwj\\_xuuKxcz1AhXEwosBHfbpBvwQFnoECAQQAQ&usq=AOvVaw0OeCj84ixvuzQojOPTeF52](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://etd.ohiolink.edu/apexprod/rws_etd/send_file/send%3Faccession%3Dkent1627380228967214%26disposition%3Dinline&ved=2ahUKEwj_xuuKxcz1AhXEwosBHfbpBvwQFnoECAQQAQ&usq=AOvVaw0OeCj84ixvuzQojOPTeF52)
- Elevate Education. (2020). A student perspective. <https://go.elevateeducation.com/l/891981/2020-11-09/cgz>
- Evers, N. F. G., Greenfield, P. M., & Evers, G. W. (2021). COVID-19 shifts mortality salience, activities, and values in the United States: Big data analysis of online adaptation. *Human Behavior and Emerging Technologies*, 3, 107-126. <https://doi.org/10.1002/hbe2.251>
- Fosslien, L., & Duffy, M. W. (2020). How to combat Zoom fatigue. *Harvard Business Review*. <https://hbr.org/2020/04/how-to-combat-zoom-fatigue>
- Garcia-Aviles, J. (2021). Journalism as usual? managing disruption in virtual newsrooms during the covid-19 crisis. *Digital*

- Journalism*, 9(9), 1239-1260.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/21670811.2021.1942112>
- Gelfand, M. (2020). To survive the coronavirus, the united states must tighten up. *boston globe*.  
<https://www.bostonglobe.com/2020/03/13/opinion/survive-coronavirus-united-states-must-tighten-up/>.
- Godler, Y. & Reich, Z. (2017). Journalistic evidence: Cross-verification as a constituent of mediated knowledge. *Journalism*, 18(5), 558–574.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/1464884915620268>
- Goldstein, S., MacDonald, N. E., & Guirguis, S. (2015). Health communication and vaccine hesitancy. *Vaccine*, 33(34), 4212–4214.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.vaccine.2015.04.042>
- Goucher College. (2022). Undergraduate - student leadership program: learning outcomes.  
<https://www.goucher.edu/learn/curriculum/student-learning-goals-and-outcomes/program-goals-and-outcomes/student-leadership-program>
- Greene, C. M. & Murphy, G. (2021). Quantifying the effects of fake news on behavior: Evidence from a study of COVID-19 misinformation. *Journal of Experimental Psychology*, 27(4), 773-784.  
<https://doi.org/10.1037/xap0000371>
- Greenfield, P. M. (2016). Social change, cultural revolution, and human development. *Current Psychology*, 8, 84–92.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.copsy.2015.10.012>
- Greenfield, P.M. (2018). Studying social change, culture, and human development: a theoretical framework and methodological guidelines. *Developmental Review*, 50, 16–30. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dr.2018.05.003>
- Greenfield, P., Brown, G., & Dua, H. (2021). Shifts in ecology, behavior, values, and relationships during the coronavirus pandemic: Survival threat, subsistence activities, conservation of resources, and interdependent families. *Current Research in Ecological and Social Psychology*, 2(2), 1-13.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cresp.2021.100017>
- Grigoriev, S. G., Shabunina, V. A., Tsarapkina, Y. M., & Dunaeva, N. V. (2019). Electronic library system as a means of self-development of students of digital generation Z (on the example of studying the course “Basics of the counselor activity”). *Scientific and Technical Libraries*, 7, 78-99.
- Grubic, N., Badovinac, S., & Johri, A. (2020). Student mental health in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic: A call for further research and immediate solutions. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*, 66(5), 517–518.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0020764020925108>
- Herrero-Diz, P., Conde-Jiménez, J., Tapia-Frade, A., & Varona-Aramburu, D. (2019). The credibility of online news: An evaluation of the information by university students. *Culture and Education*, 31(2), 407–435.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/11356405.2019.1601937>
- Ikizer, G., Karanci, A. N., & Kocaoglan, S. (2019). Working in the midst of trauma: exposure and coping in news camera operators. *Journal Of Loss And Trauma*, 24(4), 356-368.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/15325024.2019.1603006>
- Izquierdo, M. (2021). During pandemic, student journalists become essential workers.  
<https://www.newschoolfreepress.com/2020/05/16/during-pandemic-student-journalists-become-essential-workers>
- Jang, S. M. & Kim, J. K. (2018). Third person effects of fake news: Fake news regulation and media literacy interventions. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 80, 295–302.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2017.11.034>
- Jones, S. (2019). Student journalism classes going strong, poll finds.

- <https://www.edweek.org/leadership/student-journalism-classes-going-strong-poll-finds/2019/02>
- Joung, M. (2020). Student journalists on front lines of covid-19 coverage. [https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.voanews.com/amp/student-union\\_student-journalists-front-lines-covid-19-coverage/6198813.html](https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.voanews.com/amp/student-union_student-journalists-front-lines-covid-19-coverage/6198813.html)
- Karl, K. A., Peluchette, J. V., & Aghakhani, N. (2021). Virtual work meetings during the covid-19 pandemic: the good, bad, and ugly. *SAGE Publications*, 53(3), 1–23. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1046496421101528>
- Kendra, C. (2020). The situational theory of leadership. <https://www.verywellmind.com/what-is-the-situational-theory-of-leadership-2795321>
- Kiersch, C. & Peters, J. (2017). Leadership from the inside out: student leadership development within authentic leadership and servant leadership frameworks. *Journal of Leadership Education*, 16(1), 1-21. <https://doi.org/10.12806/V16/I1/T4>
- Kuzminykh, A. & Rintel, S. (2020). Classification of functional attention in video meetings [Conference session]. *CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*, 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3313831.3376546>
- Kwan, J. (2021). Democracy and active citizenship are not just about the elections: youth civic and political participation during and beyond singapore's nine-day pandemic election. *SAGE Publications*, 30(3), 1-18. <https://doi.org/10.1177/11033088211059595>
- LANCKER, W. V. & PAROLIN, Z. (2020). COVID-19, school closures, and child poverty: A social crisis in the making. *The Lancet Public Health*, 5(5), 243–244. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2468-2667\(20\)30084-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2468-2667(20)30084-0)
- Landman, T. & Splendore, L. D. G. (2020). Pandemic democracy: elections and covid-19. *Journal of Risk Research*, 23(7), 1–7. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13669877.2020.1765003>
- Link, T. M. & Marz, R. (2006). Computer literacy and attitudes towards e-learning among first year medical students. *BMC Medical Education*, 6(34), 1-8. <https://doi.org/10.1186/1472-6920-6-34>
- Lyons, L., Brasof, M., & Baron, C. (2020). Measuring mechanisms of student voice: development and validation of student leadership capacity building scales. *SAGE Publications*, 6(1), 1-15. <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F2332858420902066>
- Madrigal, A. C. (2017). What facebook did to american democracy. <http://www.cs.yale.edu/homes/jf/MadrigalFeb2018-2.pdf>
- Mælan, E. N., Gustavsen, A. M., Stranger-Johannessen, E., & Nordahl, T. (2021). Norwegian students' experiences of homeschooling during the covid-19 pandemic. *European Journal of Special Needs Education*, 36(1), 5–19. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08856257.2021.1872843>
- Mak, M. H. C. (2021). Children's motivation to learn at home during the covid-19 pandemic: insights from indian parents. *Frontiers in Education*, 6(7), 1-7. <https://doi.org/10.3389/educ.2021.744686>
- Massarani, L., Brotas, A., Costa, M. C. R., & Neves, L. F. F. (2021). Vacinas contra a COVID-19 e o combate à desinformação e cobertura da Folha de S. Paulo. *Fronteiras*, 23(2), 29–43. <https://doi.org/10.4013/fem.2021.232.03>
- Massarani, L., Neves, L. F. F., Entradas, M., Lougheed, T., & Bauer, M. W. (2021). Perceptions of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the work of science journalists:

- global perspectives. *Journal of Science and Communication*, 20(7), 1-22. <https://doi.org/10.22323/2.20070206>
- Massarani, L., Neves, L. F. F., & Silva, C. M. D. (2021). Excesso e altavelocidade das informações científicas'. *E-Compós*, 2(9), 1-22. <https://doi.org/10.30962/ec.2426>
- McKillop, D. J. (2021). Student leadership development: assessing the impact of the covid-19 pandemic. [https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://archives.granite.edu/bitstream/handle/20.500.12975/247/MSLD\\_McKillop\\_David\\_Capstone\\_Presentation.pdf%3Fsequence%3D2&ved=2ahUKEwiziYKigq72AhUIBN4KH9tC1wQFnoECAQQAQ&usg=AOvVaw0AeIMzS-FUCYp8D6VFJiFq](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://archives.granite.edu/bitstream/handle/20.500.12975/247/MSLD_McKillop_David_Capstone_Presentation.pdf%3Fsequence%3D2&ved=2ahUKEwiziYKigq72AhUIBN4KH9tC1wQFnoECAQQAQ&usg=AOvVaw0AeIMzS-FUCYp8D6VFJiFq)
- Mendiguren, T., Pérez Dasilva, J., & Meso-Ayerdi, K. (2020). Actitud ante las fake news: Estudio del caso de los estudiantes de la Universidad Del País Vasco [Facing fake news: The case of the students of the University of the Basque Country]. *Revista de Comunicación*, 19(1), 171-184. <https://doi.org/10.26441/RC19.1-2020-A10>
- Mo, Y., Deng, L., & Zhang, L. (2020). Work stress among Chinese nurses to support Wuhan infighting against COVID-19 epidemic. *SAGE Publications*, 53(3), 343-365. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2F10464964211015286>
- Mook, S. (2020). Student journalists make adjustments during pandemic. <https://www.grandforksherald.com/news/student-journalists-make-adjustments-during-pandemic>
- Morán, M. C., Finez, M. J., Anjos, E. M., Pérez-Lancho, M. C., Urchaga, J. D. & Vallejo, G. (2019). Estrategias de afrontamiento que predicen mayor resiliencia. *International Journal of Developmental and Educational Psychology*, 4(1), 183-190. <https://doi.org/10.17060/ijodaep.2019.n1.v4.1542>
- Nicola, M., Alsafi, Z., Sohrabi, C., Kerwan, A., Al-Jabir, A., Losifidis, C., Agha, M., & Agha, R. (2020). The socio-economic implications of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19): A review. *International Journal of Surgery*, 78, 185-193. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijssu.2020.04.018>
- O'Carroll, E. (2019). Can old-fashioned journalism combat fake news? *Christian Science Monitor*. <https://www.csmonitor.com/Technology/2019/0207/Can-old-fashioned-journalism-combat-fake-news>
- Ogunyemi, O. (2021). Should journalism curriculae include trauma resilience training? An evaluation of the evidence from a scoping literature review and findings from a pilot study. [https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://eprints.lincoln.ac.uk/44754/1/Final%2520-%2520Should%2520journalism%2520curriculae.pdf&ved=2ahUKEwjNwt2Sg6X2AhUuE6YKHRqfDwoQFnoECCIQAAQ&usg=AOvVaw3hL3vfk9YXWLzWj4Yn\\_WH3](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://eprints.lincoln.ac.uk/44754/1/Final%2520-%2520Should%2520journalism%2520curriculae.pdf&ved=2ahUKEwjNwt2Sg6X2AhUuE6YKHRqfDwoQFnoECCIQAAQ&usg=AOvVaw3hL3vfk9YXWLzWj4Yn_WH3)
- Olusanya, O., Day, J., & Kirk-Bayley, J. (2020). Medical education for critical care practitioners. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5606351/>
- Omay, F. (2020). The campus journalists of PLSNHS. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/341990012\\_The\\_Campus\\_Journalists\\_of\\_PLSNHS](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/341990012_The_Campus_Journalists_of_PLSNHS)
- Osmann, J., Dvorkin, J., & Inbar, Y. (2020). The emotional well-being of journalists exposed to traumatic events: a mapping review. *Media, War & Conflict*, 14(4), 476-502. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2F1750635219895998>

- Parczewska, T. (2020). Difficult situations and ways of coping with them in the experiences of parents homeschooling their children during the covid-19 pandemic in Poland. *Education*, 13(3), 889–900. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03004279.2020.1812689>
- Patatt, C. & Rocha, F. (2020). As fake news e o coronavírus: uma análise dos portais mais acessados de Brasil e Portugal. EdPortugal: Ria Editorial, 34–62.
- Patel, J. A., Nielsen, F. B. H., Badiani, A. A., Assi, S., Unadkat, V. A., Patel, B., Ravindrane, R., & Wardle, H. (2020). Poverty, inequality and COVID-19: The forgotten vulnerable. *Public Health*, 183, 110–111. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.puhe.2020.05.006>
- Pavlik, J. V. (2013). Innovation and the future of journalism. *Digital Journalism*, 1(2), 181–193. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21670811.2012.756666>
- Pedroso, J. E. P. (2021). Students' views from webinars: a qualitative study. *International Journal of Arts and Humanities Studies*, 1(1), 36–44. <https://doi.org/10.32996/ijahs.2021.1.1.6>
- Pedroso, J. E. P. (2020). Understanding casa mariquit as an ilonggo cultural heritage site: towards the development of a video documentary instructional material. *Journal for Sustainable Tourism Development*, 9(1), 39–51. <https://doi.org/10.51200/bimpeagajtsd.v9i1.3247>
- Pedroso, J. E. P. (2021). School on wheels and multimedia-aided instructions as mediators of students' local cultural heritage awareness. *International Journal of Arts and Humanities Studies*, 1(1), 63–69. <https://doi.org/10.32996/ijahs.2021.1.1.10>
- Pedroso, J. E. P., Oducado, R. M. F., Ocampo, A. R. S., Tan, V. S., & Tamdang, K. A. (2021). Factors influencing intention to use videoconferencing tools in online distance education among students in Philippine maritime schools. *Australian Journal of Maritime & Ocean Affairs*, 1–12. <https://doi.org/10.1080/18366503.2021.2014181>
- Pedroso, J. E. P., Tangco-Siason, A., Ortizo-Roces, C., & Magramo-Basbas, J. I. F. (2021). Implementation of guidance and counseling services during the covid-19 pandemic. *ISSRA Journal of Education, Linguistics and Literature*, 2(1), 1–12.
- Pedroso, J. E. P., Siason Jr, N. D., & Tangco-Siason, A. (2021). Principal's leadership practices during the covid 19 pandemic: an exploratory study. *International Journal of Arts and Humanities Studies*, 1(1), 76–87. <https://doi.org/10.32996/ijahs.2021.1.1.12>
- Perreault, M. & Perreault, G. (2021). Journalists on covid-19 journalism: communication ecology of pandemic reporting. *SAGE Publications*, 65(7), 976–991. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0002764221992813>
- Philippine Government. (2012). Republic Act 10173 – Data Privacy Act of 2012. <https://www.privacy.gov.ph/data-privacy-act/>
- Pickard, V. (2016). Media failures in the age of Trump. *The Political Economy of Communication*. <http://polecom.org/index.php/polecom/article/viewFile/74/264>
- Pliushch, V. M. (2018). Independent work of students as a factor of improving education quality. *Balkan Scientific Review*, 1, 69–71.
- Pollock, K. (2020). School leaders' work during the covid-19 pandemic: a two-pronged approach. *International Studies in Educational Administration*, 48(3), 38–44. <https://www.edu.uwo.ca/faculty-profiles/docs/other/pollock/School-Leaders-Work-During-the-COVID-19-Pandemic-A-Two-Pronged-Approach.pdf>

- Qiu, J., Shen, B., & Zhao, M. (2020). A nationwide survey of psychological distress among Chinese people in the COVID-19 epidemic: implications and policy recommendations. *General Psychiatry*, 33(10), 1-4. <https://doi.org/10.1136/>
- Reich, Z., & Barnoy, A. (2019). Disagreements as a form of knowledge: How journalists address day-to-day conflicts between sources. *Journalism Article*, 22(4), 882-900. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1464884918825007>
- Salari, N., Hosseinian-Far, A., & Jalali, R. (2020). Prevalence of stress, anxiety, depression among the general population during the COVID-19 pandemic: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Global Health*, 16(57), 1–11. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12992-020-00589-w>
- Serrano Sarmiento, Á., Sanz Ponce, R., & González Bertolín, A. (2021). Resilience and covid-19. an analysis in university students during confinement. *Education Sciences*, 11(9), 1–18. <https://doi.org/10.3390/educsci11090533>
- Shin, J., Jian, L., & Driscoll, K. (2018). The diffusion of misinformation on social media: Temporal pattern, message, and source. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 83, 278–287. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2018.02.008>
- Smith, R., Newman, E., Drevo, S., & Slaughter, A. (2015). Covering trauma: impact on journalists. *DART CENTRE for Journalism and Trauma*. <http://dartcenter.org/content/covering-trauma-impact-on-journalis>
- Spoorthy, M. S., Pratapa, S. K., & Mahant, S. (2020). Mental health problems faced by healthcare workers due to the COVID-19 pandemic-A review. *Asian Journal of Psychiatry*, 51, 1-4. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajp.2020.102119>
- Stark, J. (2020). Dewey's theory of experience: a theoretical tool for researching music teacher learning. *Action, Criticism, and Theory for Music Education*, 19(1), 1–35. <https://doi.org/10.22176/act19.1.118>
- Strassman, M. (2020). Strategies to eliminate zoom fatigue. Fast Company. <https://www.fastcompany.com/90543890/try-this-strategy-to-eliminate-zoom-fatigue-and-help-teams-collaborate>
- Stogner, J., Miller, B. L., & McLean, K. (2020). Police stress, mental health, and resiliency during the covid-19 pandemic. *American Journal of Criminal Justice*, 45, 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1007%2Fs12103-020-09548-y>
- Svensson, G. & Von Krogh, T. (2017). Media responses to media criticism. *Nordicom Review*, 38(1), 47–64. <https://doi.org/10.1515/nor-2016-0042>
- Tan, E. (2020). Despite ELD's lengthy statement on GE2020, some key questions remain unanswered. <https://www.todayonline.com/commentary/despite-elds-lengthy-statement-ge2020-some-key-questions-remain-unanswered>
- Tandoc Jr., E. C. (2017). Watching over the watchdogs: The problems that Filipino journalists face. *Journalism Studies*, 18(1), 102–117. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1461670X.2016.1218298>
- Tandoc Jr., D. C., & Takahashi, B. (2018). Journalists are humans, too: A phenomenology of covering the strongest storm on earth. *Journalism*, 19(7), 917–933. <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F1464884916657518>
- Tejedor, S., Portalés-Oliva, M., Carniel-Bugs, R., & Cervi, L. (2021). Journalism students and information consumption in the era of fake news. *Media and Communication*, 9(1), 338–350. <https://doi.org/10.17645/mac.v9i1.3516>
- Thorell, L. B., Skoglund, C., de la Peña, A. G., Baeyens, D., Fuermaier, A. B. M., & Groom, M. J., (2021). Parental experiences of

- homeschooling during the covid-19 pandemic: differences between seven european countries and between children with and without mental health conditions. *European Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, 31(7), 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00787-020-01706-1>
- Thorsten, Q. & Karin, W. (2021). The coronavirus pandemic as a critical moment for digital journalism. *Digital Journalism*, 9(9), 1199-1207. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21670811.2021.1996253>
- Tishchenko, A. S. (2020). Assessment of the losses of educational organizations from a reduction in the volume of additional educational services to the population during a pandemic. *Economic Development of Russia*, 27(6), 73-79.
- Torales, J., Higgins, M. O., Castaldelli-Maia, J. M., & Ventriglio, A. (2020). The outbreak of COVID-19 coronavirus and its impact on global mental health. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*, 66(4), 317-320. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0020764020915212>
- UNESCO. (2020). Education: from disruption to recovery UNESCO. <https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse>
- Vagni, M., Maiorano, T., & Giostra, V. (2020). Hardiness, stress and secondary trauma in Italian healthcare and emergency workers during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Sustainability*, 12(14), 1-16. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su12145592>
- Vai, B., Cazzetta, S., Ghiglino, D., Parenti, L., Saibene, G., Toti, M., Verga, C., Wykowska, A., & Benedetti, F. (2020). Risk perception and media in shaping protective behaviors: insights from the early phase of covid-19 Italian outbreak. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 11, 1-8. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2020.563426>
- Varma, P., Junge, M., Meaklim, H., & Jackson, M. (2021). Younger people are more vulnerable to stress, anxiety and depression during COVID-19 pandemic: A global cross-sectional survey. *Progress in Neuro-Psychopharmacology & Biological Psychiatry*, 109, 1-8. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pnpbp.2020.110236>
- Vaskovskaya, G. A. (2018). Features of implementation of pedagogical technologies of profile training. *Balkan Scientific Review*, 1, 76-79.
- Vogts, T. (2018). Effects of journalism education on student engagement: a case study of a small-town scholastic press program. <https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://mospace.umsystem.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/10355/66290/research.pdf%3Fsequence%3D1%26isAllowed%3Dy&ved=2ahUKEwjIvIqaxdP1AhXQZt4KHTJxB0gQFnoECA8QAQ&usq=AOvVaw06ha3uEOHXBdzUyG0pL4cW>
- Voronova, E., Lapshova, A., Bystrova, N., Smirnova, Z., & Bulaeva, M. (2020). Organization of virtual interaction in the context of the coronavirus pandemic. *Propósitos y Representaciones*, 9(1), 1-8. <http://doi.org/10.20511/pyr2021.v9nSPE1.820>
- Wang, C., Pan, R., & Wan, X. (2020). Immediate psychological responses and associated factors during the initial stage of the 2019 coronavirus disease (COVID-19) epidemic among the general population in China. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 17(5), 1-25. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph17051729>
- Wang, Y., McKee, M., Torbica, A., & Stuckler, D. (2019). Systematic literature review on the spread of health-related misinformation on social media. *Social Science and Medicine*, 240, 1-12.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2019.112552>

- Welton, C. (2020). In a moment of uncertainty, TIME is certain of its 97-year mission. <https://www.foliomag.com/time-certain-of-its-mission/>
- Wong, A., Ho, S., Olusanya, O. Antonini, M. V., & Lyness, D. (2021). The use of social media and online communications in times of pandemic COVID-19. *Journal of the Intensive Care Society*, 22(3), 255–260. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1751143720966280>
- Wu, V. (2020). Pandemic underscores importance of student journalism. <https://dailytrojan.com/2020/11/11/pandemic-underscores-importance-of-student-journalism/>
- YarivTsfati, H. G., Boomgaarden, J., Strömbäck, R., Vliegenthart, A., & Damstra, E. (2020). Causes and consequences of mainstream media dissemination of fake news: literature review and synthesis. *Annals of the International Communication Association*, 44(2), 157-173. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23808985.2020.1759443>
- YoungMinds. (2020). Coronavirus: impact on young people with mental health needs. [https://youngminds.org.uk/media/3708/coronavirus-report\\_march2020.pdf](https://youngminds.org.uk/media/3708/coronavirus-report_march2020.pdf)

OPEN

## Effect of Covid-19 Loan on Youth Empowerment in Chanchaga Local Government Area of Niger State

Mohammed Mohammed Ndagi<sup>1</sup> and Ibrahim Abdulrahman<sup>2</sup>

The study determines the effect of covid-19 loans on youth empowerment in the Chanchaga local government area of Niger state; A study of Niger State from 2020- 2022. The problem investigated revolves around the Global health emergency and its economic and social effects that have disrupted youths in the local government area. The study's objective is to examine the effect of covid-19 loans on youth empowerment in the Chanchaga local government. The data for the study were generated from primary (questionnaires and interviews) and secondary (reports and journals) sources. Questionnaires were distributed to a sample of 113 respondents selected from the 201,429 population of the study through simple random sampling. Data were analysed using descriptive, inferential and thematic statistical tools. Regression analysis tests result showed that covid-19 loan significantly negatively impacts youth empowerment. The result from the interview also indicated that the covid-19 loan has a significant negative impact on youth empowerment. It was recommended, among others, that financial institutions should approve the loan to the right complete business owner with a certificate of incorporation. This will help sustain the scheme's objective of empowering youths.

**Keywords:** Covid -19, Youth Empowerment, Loan

### Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic has become a significant global crisis that requires individuals, organisations and nations to take necessary steps to cope. To develop a comprehensive and systematic understanding of the effect of COVID-19 on every individual directly or indirectly affected by the pandemic. In most African countries, the pandemic's threats were not taken seriously early enough, so the response was weak. While other continents were seriously battling the pandemic, most African countries still went about daily socio-political and economic routines.

The first case of the pandemic was recorded in Africa on 14th February 2020, and the first confirmed case in sub-Saharan Africa was in Nigeria (BBC News, 28th February 2020). The possibility of Africa becoming the epicentre of the pandemic has become a significant concern to professionals and experts across the globe due to the fragile health systems characterised by inadequate funding, ineffective data management systems, inadequate training of healthcare workers and unavailability of modern medical equipment. Most West African states have recorded confirmed cases and deaths with some recoveries.

<sup>1</sup>Department of Public Administration Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria Corresponding author: [yankpakopa@gmail.com](mailto:yankpakopa@gmail.com)

<sup>2</sup>AL-ASAS College of Health Technology, Minna, Niger State, Nigeria

The covid 19 was announced in Nigeria in February 2020 most people ignored the disease. However, the menace was reported to have originated in the village of Wuhan in China in 2019 with alarming death rates. The index case reported in Nigeria was an Italian who visited Nigeria in February 2020. This man was said to have been to some other states in Nigeria before testing positive for COVID-19, with the possibility of infecting many people he came in contact with. This news sent waves of panic across Nigeria due to the level of unpreparedness of the country for the pandemic. To worsen the panic, the World Health Organisation (WHO) categorised Nigeria as one of the 13 high-risk African Countries to the spread of COVID-19. Nigeria is also among the vulnerable African Nations due to the weak state of the healthcare system. There are still communities without healthcare facilities in Nigeria, apart from the scarcity of health workers.

The first case of COVID-19 patient in Niger State, Nigeria, was announced by the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) on 10th April 2020. Since then, many cases have been confirmed in the state, and more cases are still reported. The number of cases in Niger State as of 30th April 2021 stands at 930, with 17 deaths and 913 recoveries. The pandemic has affected almost every sector of the economy in the state, which has increased youth unemployment in the state and the country at large.

The increasing number of cases of COVID-19 patients in Niger state and the country at large made the state government introduce a measure. These measures include lockdown, curfew, social distancing, contact tracing, massive sensitisation of citizens on the nature of the virus, isolation, frequent hand washing, inter-state restriction, inter-local government restriction and the use of face masks in public places. All these are put in place to make people adhere to the basic safety guidelines

Youth empowerment has been recognised as a catalyst for achieving pro-poor growth among Developing Countries. This led Sacerdoti (2005) to argue that faster economic growth would not be possible without the deepening of the financial system and, in particular, more support from the banking system. He further showed a strong association between access to bank credit and the overall economic development of a country. Access to finance can help poor youth to increase their income, build viable businesses, and reduce their vulnerability to external shocks. It can also be a powerful instrument for self-empowerment by enabling the poor, especially the youth, to become economic agents of change (Bashir, 2008).

Youth empowerment has, over the years, been a subject of concern to successive and present governments and has become one of the terms equated with development. The term empowerment links actions to needs. It is also a concept that does not merely concern personal identity but brings out a broader human and societal development. The absence of youth empowerment in Nigeria usually results in activities of miscreants such as militancy, like in the Niger Delta, communal crises, the deadly Boko Haram and in northern Nigeria, incessant farmers-herder violence, political thuggery, banditry, and trafficking; hence, upsetting the seemingly peaceful and stable socio-political situation (Aiyedogbon & Ohwofasa, 2012; Salami, 2013 Ayodeji, Salau & Adeniyi, 2014). Following the increase in the rate of poverty and unemployment due to COVID-19 in the country, the Federal Government of Nigeria established the Household Inequality Reduction Strategy in 2020 to tackle poverty, unemployment and hunger across the country. The capacity of the poor would be significantly enhanced through the provision of financial services, especially credit, to enable them to engage in economic activities and be more self-reliant, increase employment opportunities, and enhance household income, thereby leading to youth empowerment.

Despite the effort, the youth are still roaming the street of Niger state despite all the institutional mechanisms to support the youth empowerment programmes. The fundamental question now is; To find out the effect of the covid 19-loan on youth empowerment in the chanchaga local government. Therefore, this paper aims to examine the effect of covid-19 loans on youth empowerment in the Chanchaga local government. The paper hypothesises that *the covid-19 loan* has no significant effect on youth empowerment in Niger state.

## Literature Review and Theoretical Framework

### Concept of Covid -19

A pandemic is a large scale outbreak of infectious disease that has the capacity to increase mortality and morbidity over a wide geographic area, imprinting a significant socio-economic and political disruption (Madhav, N., Oppenheim, B., Gallivan, M., Mulembakani, P., Rubin, E., & Wolfe, N. 2018). It can also be defined as an epidemic that occurs over a wide geographic area, across international boundaries and borders usually affecting a large number of people. As the Corona virus disease continues to spread all over the world, business owners, entrepreneurs, their enterprises, employees and the entire societies are facing unprecedented challenges. The closure of schools and tertiary institutions has occasioned severe adverse consequences on students around the world especially as it “interrupts learning which results in students’ and youths being deprived of opportunities for growth and development” (UNESCO, 2020). The report also indicates that in Nigeria, 46 million students are at home as a direct impact of the pandemic. These closures as a result of the lockdown measures by governments around the world the curb the spread of the virus is causing a major shift from the traditional in-class learning to online learning.

### Concept of Youth Empowerment

Youth empowerment can be defined as a process whereby young people gain the knowledge, skills, and development which they acquire to earn a living. Ezeani (2012) added that youth empowerment is an attitudinal, structural, and cultural process whereby young people gain the ability, authority, and agency to make decisions and implement change in their own lives and the lives of other people including the youths and adults. Olajire and Komolafe (2013) stated that youths are empowered when they acknowledge that they have or can create choices of life, and are aware of the implications of these choices, make an informed decision, and accept responsibility for the consequences of those actions. Youth empowerment is an attitudinal, structural, and cultural process whereby young people gain the ability, authority, and agency to make decisions and implement change in their own lives (Obadan, 2017).

### Concept of Loan

A loan is a form of debt incurred by an individual or other entity. The lender usually a corporation, financial institution, or government advances a sum of money to the borrower. In return, the borrower agrees to a certain set of terms including any finance charges, interest, repayment date, and other conditions. In some cases, the lender may require collateral to secure the loan and ensure repayment. Loans may also take the form of bonds and certificates of deposit (CDs).

### Measures Taken by Nigerian Government

Unfortunately, Nigeria is battling the pandemic from a vulnerable economic disposition considering that crude oil, its economic mainstay had already taken a hit having crashed to less than \$30/barrel below the 2020 budget bench mark and consequently forcing the Federal Government to slice N1.5 trillion off its ambitious N10.6trillion projection. Part of President Muhammadu Buhari’s headache fighting the COVID-19 battle is the national debt overhang of over N24.7 trillion, a depleted external reserve of less than \$38

billion and Excess Crude Account of a paltry \$17 million; at a time, the World Health Organisation has asked African countries to prepare for worse days ahead. Already experts have warned that Nigeria risks slipping into another recession when indeed the economy is yet to fully overcome its shaky exit from the 2016 episode. On the monetary side, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Governor, Mr Godwin Emefiele, rolled out a number of intervention measures aimed at reducing the economic impact of the pandemic. The apex bank is also rolling out a bumper stimulus package of N3.5 trillion in support of local manufacturing and import substitution activities across all critical sectors of the economy. This is in addition to the N100 billion loans already earmarked in 2020, to support the health authorities to ensure laboratories, researchers and innovators work with global scientists to patent and or produce vaccines and test kits in Nigeria to prepare for future health challenges. There is also the reduction on interest rate on its N3 trillion multi-sector intervention package from 9 per cent to 5 per cent, while also extending its moratorium on various loans for one year, effective March 1, 2020, to guarantee easier repayment plan since the cash flow of most businesses has drastically reduced due to the coronavirus pandemic. It directed participating financial institutions to provide new amortization schedules for all beneficiaries. The apex bank also said it would increase the N50 billion earmarked for soft loans to small businesses by another N100 billion in loan this year to support the health authorities to ensure laboratories, researchers and innovators work with global scientists to patent and or produce vaccines and test kits In Nigeria to prepare for any major crises ahead. He further advised the banks to adhere strictly to the directives, advice, and notices from the Federal Ministry of Health, National Centre for Disease Control and other relevant government agencies on national response measures to COVID-19. But as welcome as these interventions may seem, experts say they are insufficient for a global pandemic that has literally forced Europe, Asia and the Americas to shutdown by forcibly disrupting supply

chains, crashing stock markets and suffocating the transportation infrastructures. They have also argued that not all responses to the crisis appear to be well targeted. For instance, so far only Lagos State has shown capacity to manage the crisis, just the Federal Government strategies have only focused on the international airports, while land borders have been left bare without necessary equipment and quarantine centres. Adeyemi Adeniji, an investment consultant lamented that the country does not seem to appreciate the enormity of the pandemic that has worsened the already vandalised economy. He called for a better synergy between the fiscal and monetary sides to fashion out policies that will strengthen the nation's economy. He said: —The economy is in bad shape. It was already in bad shape before the coronavirus outbreak. We depend solely on oil and have not really diversified the economy. —We need a policy that will synergise all agencies to deal with the issue, not a fire brigade approach. We should have short, medium to long term strategies. Some of the Federal Government policies are in silos and are not working. —The major problems we have lie with policy making and implementation. We do not have a strong economic policy. We really don't follow any rule. We're big on fire brigade measures, he said. Also commenting on the matter, Orji Udemezue, an economist said the COVID-19 pandemic was something the legislative, executive and other key stakeholders in Nigerian should escalate as number one threat to the country's survival. He said: —We need to understand that this is an emergency situation. Banks and other players in the economic space will be heavily impacted. —The CBN always does its best in emergencies like this but there should be a marriage of the fiscal and monetary side. What are we doing in the health sector? We need test kits and other materials to tackle this health emergency. How will the N100 billion be spent? We need to know the details of the fiscal spend. Do we have sufficient isolation centres nationwide? How can we really do social distancing? Isolation is very expensive for the average Nigerian. Many live in crowded areas and share many facilities like toilets and

kitchens, how can you achieve social distancing in such environments? If coronavirus hits such an area or a major market, how can it be tackled? We've millions of SMEs who rely on daily interactions to survive, how can you take care of them? These are things we want answers to. —The next 14 days is crucial to Nigeria. If this coronavirus spreads, government expenditure will crash, investment will be zero. Hotels, bars, restaurants, transportation and many others will be impacted. Are our hospitals ready to take in patients, especially those in the rural areas? Governors should collaborate with their philanthropists to create isolation centres that are fully equipped and manned by experts and with a hotline. Next 14 days are critical, he said. A director in one of the agencies under the Finance Ministry who pleaded anonymity expressed sadness over the Federal Government's initial foot-dragging in its response to the COVID-19 pandemic. —The government convinced itself that it can merely slow down the spread of the virus, rather than taking the steps needed to halt it in its entirety. The overcrowding in hospitals in many parts of the country has already exposed the folly of such complacency, he said. For also commenting on the government containment strategies, Mr Odilim Enwegbara, a developmental economist, said —this is the time for government to cut wastes. —Crude oil has crashed and it's because of coronavirus. Airlines and shipping companies and vehicles that consume petroleum products have drastically restricted their movements. So, demand is very low. Unfortunately in Nigeria, we've almost depleted our excess crude account. Our reserves have also reduced. So, the government should ensure workers salaries are paid regularly. We can suspend some capital projects at this time. This is not the time to travel all over the place spending heavily. Unfortunately again, our economy is not diversified. If not, we won't be vulnerable to these external shocks. It would have been a blessing in disguise. We would have sufficiently produced what we hitherto imported and saved the foreign exchange. It's quite a challenge but we can pull through with what I've said above, he said. Covid-19 virus. Crude

per barrel fell to single digit, first in the history of the World, a crisis that hits the oil-dependent nations most, Nigeria inclusive. The impact was felt as it adversely affected government revenues that were to be shared among the component states whose survival lies on the oil rent. Most of these states could not meet up with civil servants' monthly salaries; these had trickle-down effect on the purchasing power of average household and thereby affect patronage of Small and Medium Scale businesses. Despite Federal Government's windows of intervention to business entrepreneurs and household loans, many have not recovered from the shock of the pandemic.

### **Methodology**

This study used mixed methods and adopted concurrent embedded research design. The design allows for making quantitative and qualitative analysis of data generated through questionnaire and interview instruments. The primary data was generated through questionnaire and interview method. While, the secondary sources of data were generated from published materials. The population of this study consist of the beneficiaries in Chanchanga local government area. A sample size of 113 was drawn using Krejcie and Morgan (1970) table. Snowball sampling method was applied in selecting the respondents and Eight (8) management staff were interview for the study. Thematic and Simple linear regression was used in making the analysis and testing the hypotheses respectively.

### **Decision Rule**

The null hypothesis should be rejected if the P value is less than 0.05% level of significance and where the P value is greater than 5% level of significance, the null hypothesis should be accepted.

### **Simple Linear Regression Analysis and Test of Hypotheses**

To test for the hypothesis formulated in this research, simple linear regression was used to find out the Effect

of covid-19 loan on youth empowerment in Chanchaga local government area of Niger State. The results from Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) are presented below:

**Hypothesis:**

**H<sub>0</sub>: Covid-19 loan has no significant effect on youth empowerment in Chanchaga local government.**

Table 1.0: Model Summary of Regression Result Model Summary

| Model | R       | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate |
|-------|---------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 1     | -.873.a | .762     | .749              | 874.779                    |

Predictors (constant): Covid 19 Loan

From the findings in the table above R was -0.873 meaning that there was a strong negative relationship between dependent variable and the predictor. R<sup>2</sup> was 0.762 implying that only 76.21% of the dependent

variable variations could be explained by independent variables while only 28.1% of the variations were due to other factors. This implies that the regression model has very good explanatory and predictor as only 28.1% of the variations could not be explained.

Table 1.1: Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)

ANOVA

| Model |            | Sum of Squares | Df  | Mean Square | F       | Sig.              |
|-------|------------|----------------|-----|-------------|---------|-------------------|
| 1     | Regression | 630.777        | 1   | 630.777     | 623.174 | .000 <sup>a</sup> |
|       | Residual   | 349.221        | 112 | 1.0122      |         |                   |
|       | Total      | 980.001        | 113 |             |         |                   |

Predictors: (Constant), Covid 19 loan

Dependent Variable: Youth Empoerment

The table above shows the F statistics which stood at 623.174 having a P-value of 0.000 which is less than 0.05 (0.000<0.05) indicating significance at 95%

confidence level. Therefore, the overall regression model is statistically significant and can be used for prediction purposes at 5% significance level.

**Table 1.2:** Regression Standard Coefficient Results

Coefficients

| Model         | Unstandardized Coefficients |            | Standardized Coefficients |       |      |
|---------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|-------|------|
|               | B                           | Std. Error | Beta                      | T     | Sig  |
| (Constant)    |                             |            |                           |       |      |
| Covid-19 loan | 8286.78                     | 1852.25    |                           | 4.474 | .000 |
|               | -.564                       | .074       | -.873                     | 7.598 | .000 |

Dependent variable: Youth Empowerment

$$Y = 8387 - 0.564x + \varepsilon$$

The t and Sig (p) values give the indication of the impact of the predictor variable – a big absolute t-value and small P-value suggests that a predictor variable is having a large impact on the criterion variable.

Table shows the coefficient of the variables in the model. From the above model, the coefficient of Covid 19 loan stood at -0.564 which is negative. This implies that even if Covid 19 loan continues, it can't bring about youth empowerment. Conclusively from tables above, a Simple Linear Regression was computed for the effect of covid-19 loan on youth empowerment in Chanchaga Local Government Area of Niger State. A negative effect was found indicating that; covid-19 loan has negatively effect on youth empowerment. Furthermore, the beta value (-.873) in table means that covid 19 loan have strong negative effect on the dependent variable. Therefore, we do not reject the null hypothesis which state that, "Covid-19 loan has no significant effect on youth empowerment in Chanchaga local government area of Niger State". This gives the impulsion to conclude that, Covid-19 loan has no significant youth empowerment in Chanchaga local government area of Niger State.

### Qualitative data analysis

To complement the responses generated through questionnaire, interview was conducted to 8 people. The responses from the interviews were analyzed using thematic method of qualitative data analysis. This method involves getting familiar with the data,

coding, generating the themes, reviewing the themes, defining and naming themes as well as writing up the report.

### Result of Interview Responses Using Thematic Analysis

**Theme I: To find out the effect of Covid-19 loan on youth empowerment in Chanchaga local government.**

**Sub-theme 1a** To find out the effect of the covid 19-loan on youth empowerment in the chanchaga local government

There is unanimous agreement among the respondents by stating that: covid 19-loan has no effect on youth empowerment in Chanchaga local government because the aim of given out the loan was not realized as most of the beneficiary used the money to buy Motor cycle, Cars and Accessories. (R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub> and R<sub>8</sub>).

### Summary of Findings

The test of hypothesis shows that covid 19 loan has no significant effect on on youth empowerment. However, the results of the analysis indicated a strong negative relationship between covid 19 loan and youth empowerment. The findings from interview also corroborate with the questionnaire results as the respondent indicate that most of the beneficiaries had used the loan for other purposes other than what it is main for.

## Conclusion and Recommendation

In view of the data presented and analyzed as well as the hypothesis tested, the study concludes that the aim of giving out the loan which is to ease the burden that the pandemic of covid 19 brought about was not defeated as most of the the beneficiaries are not business oriented thus used the loan otherwise. Despite the negativity of the effect of the the loan on youth empowerment, there are still a few that were able to utilize the loan obtained from the government. It was recommended that financial institutions should approve the loan to the right complete business owner with a certificate of incorporation. This will help sustain the scheme's objective of empowering youths.

## References

- Ayodeji, A., Salau, O. P & Adeniyi, A. S. (2014). Operation, problems, and prospects of youth employment programmes in Oyo State, Nigeria. *Journal of Economics and Development Studies*, 2(3), 225-241.
- Bashir, U. (2008). Overview of Credit Delivery Channels in Nigeria. Bullion Publication of Central Bank Of Nigeria, Vol. 32, N0 1. Pp. 1-6.
- BBC News, (2020). Corona virus: Nigeria Confirm first case in Sub-Saharan Africa. Retrieved online on April 16th from <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-51671834>
- Ezeani, N. S (2012). Tackling unemployment through vocational education, science education development institute. *University of NigeriaNsukka*.
- Krejcie, R, V, & Morgan, D, W, 1970, Determining sample size for research activities. *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, 30(3), 607-610.
- Olajire, A. A. & Olufunke, C. O. (2013). Entrepreneurship education and youth empowerment in contemporary Nigeria. *Scholarly Journal of Education* 2(5), 52-57.

Retrieved from, <http://www.scholarlyjournals.com/SJE>

- Sacerdot, E. (2005). Access to Bank Credit in Sub-Saharan Africa: Key Issues and Reform Strategies. IMF Working Paper, WP/05/166. Pp3-22.
- W.H.O,(2020) Critical preparedness, readiness and response actions for COVID-19
- World Bank,(2020). The global economic outlook during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A changed world. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2020/06/08/the-global-economic-outlook-during-the-covid-19-pandemic-a-changed-world>. Retrieved on 4 Nov. 2020

OPEN

## A Study of Vaccination Drive Towards Covid-19 in Sangli and Kolhapur District of Maharashtra, India

<sup>1</sup>Dr Prakash Rajaram Chavan

Vaccination is administration of vaccine to help the immune system develop protection from diseases. The ongoing Covid-19 pandemic has been unstoppable across the globe and pandemic. Arrival of vaccine on horizon has raised hopes of termination of pandemic in near future. India from June 21, every citizen above 18 years will be vaccinated free of cost. However, this can be available only at vaccination centers run by State and Centre government. Vaccination database uses the most recent official number from Government and The Health Ministries worldwide 26% of world population has received 3.7 billion doses of vaccine has been administered 31.14 million are now administered each day. The aim of this paper is to analyse statistically the total vaccination Age- wise vaccination, preference of vaccine in Kolhapur and Sangli district of Maharashtra state, India.

**Keywords:** Statistical analysis, Covid-19, Vaccination

### Introduction

In early December 2020, WHO has started the mass vaccination programme and they also administered the number of vaccination doses on a daily basis. To protect people against harmful diseases, vaccination is a simple, effective and safe way. They make your immune system stronger and use your body's natural defenses to build resistance to specific infection [1]. In India Oxford–AstraZeneca vaccine (manufactured under license by Serum Institute of India under the trade name Covishield) and Covaxin (a vaccine developed locally by Bharat Biotech) initially approved by Indian Government.

One of the studies conducted by William Joe, Assistant Professor at the Population Research Centre at the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi suggested that

in Indian women who contract COVID-19 are at a higher risk of dying than men, a recent study of cases until May 20, 2020 and they found that 3.3% of infected women died of the disease compared to 2.9% of men. It suggests that the overall risk of mortality among women is slightly higher than men [2]. One of the study conducted by Cathleen O'Grady said that "COVID-19 affects men and women differently. So why don't clinical trials report gender data?" They further said that COVID-19 doesn't strike the sexes equally. Globally, for every 10 COVID-19 intensive care unit admissions among women, there are 18 for men; for every 10 women who die of COVID-19, 15 men die [3]. However, no such studies were conducted to analyze the gender disparities towards COVID-19 Vaccination

<sup>1</sup>Head & Assistant Professor, Department of Statistics, Smt. Kasturbai Walchand College, Sangli, (Maharashtra), India. Correspondence Author, prchavan83@gmail.com

**Copyright:** © 2023 by the authors. Licensee KMF Publishers ([www.kmf-publishers.com](http://www.kmf-publishers.com)). This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

in Maharashtra State, India. Our study focuses on identifying significant relationship between gender and vaccination efforts took place at Maharashtra.

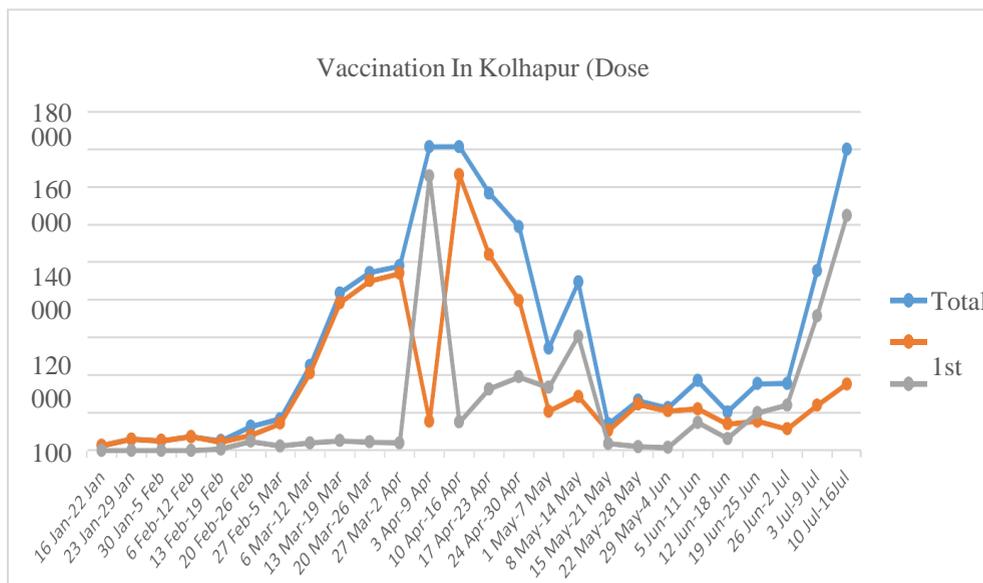
## Aim and Objective

- To analyse the total vaccination in Kolhapur and Sangli district.
- To find out the trend of vaccination in Sangli and Kolhapur district.
- To test whether Covaxin and Covishield vaccine preference in Sangli and Kolhapur district.
- To analysis the age wise vaccination in Sangli and Kolhapur district.

- To compare **1st** and **2nd** dose completion in Sangli and Kolhapur district by Graphical Method.
- To test the Proportion of mean vaccination of Kolhapur and Sangli District
- To estimate the correlation coefficient between Kolhapur and Sangli district for total vaccination.

## Method of data collection

We used the secondary data for survey. Aarogya Setu app and other government websites is our data collection platform.

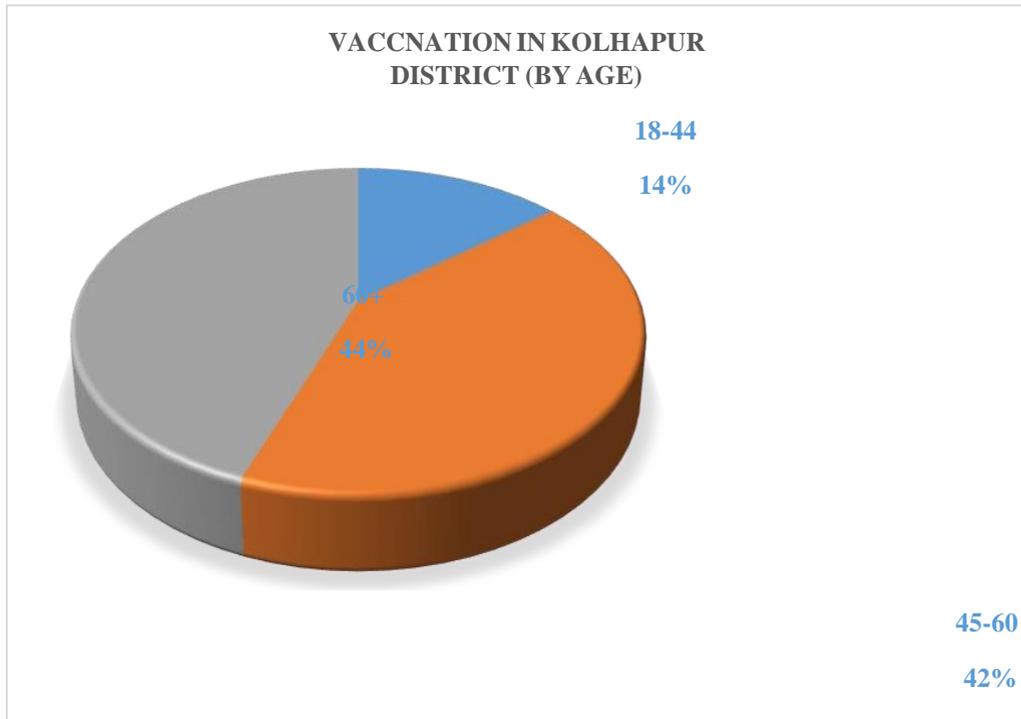


It suddenly increases from 2 July. Frist and second dose trend is approximately same as total dose trend.

## Conclusion by graph:

From above graph the number of total dose increases upto second week of April then it is decreases and again increases upto 14 may then it gradually decrease.

## Vaccination By Age

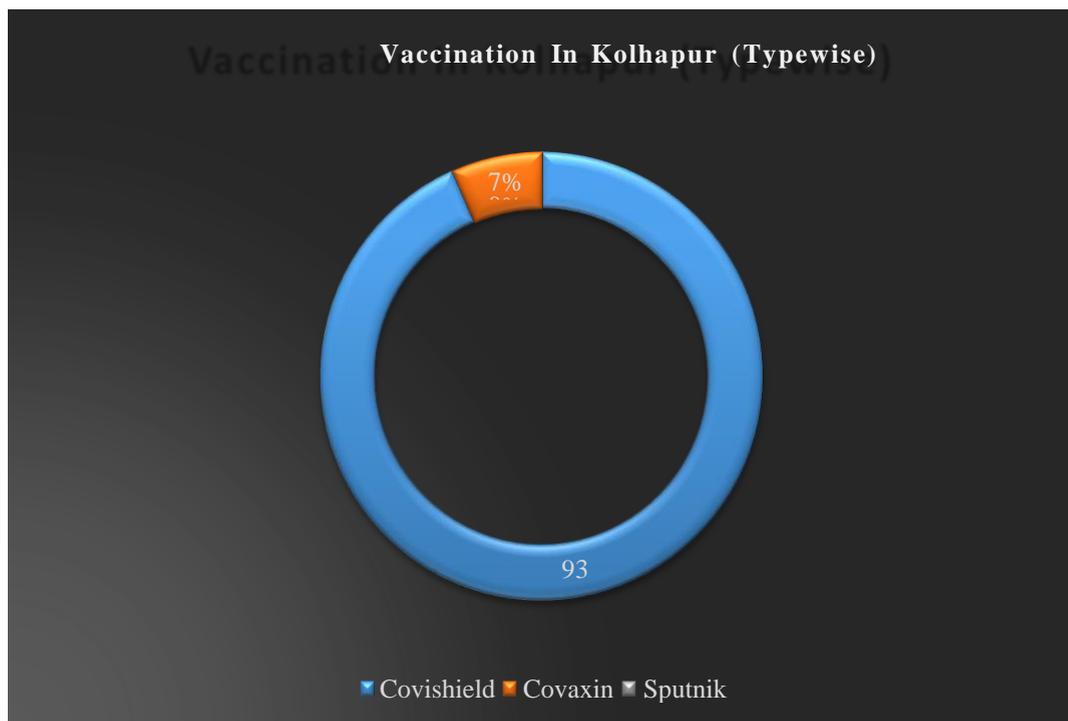


vaccinated in difference of 2% it means they are nearly in same stage.

Conclusion by graph:

From the above pie chart, we can observe that the above 60+ and above 45+ age people are get

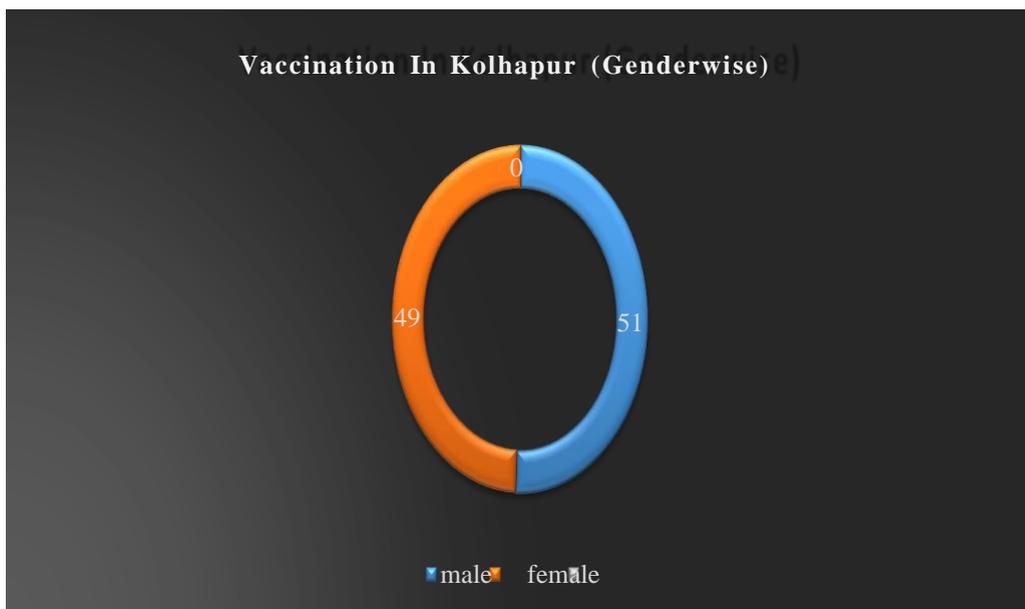
**Type Wise:**



**Conclusion By Graph:**

According to this survey preference of people towards the Covishild vaccine is much more than Covaxin and Sputink-V vaccine.

**Gender Wise:**

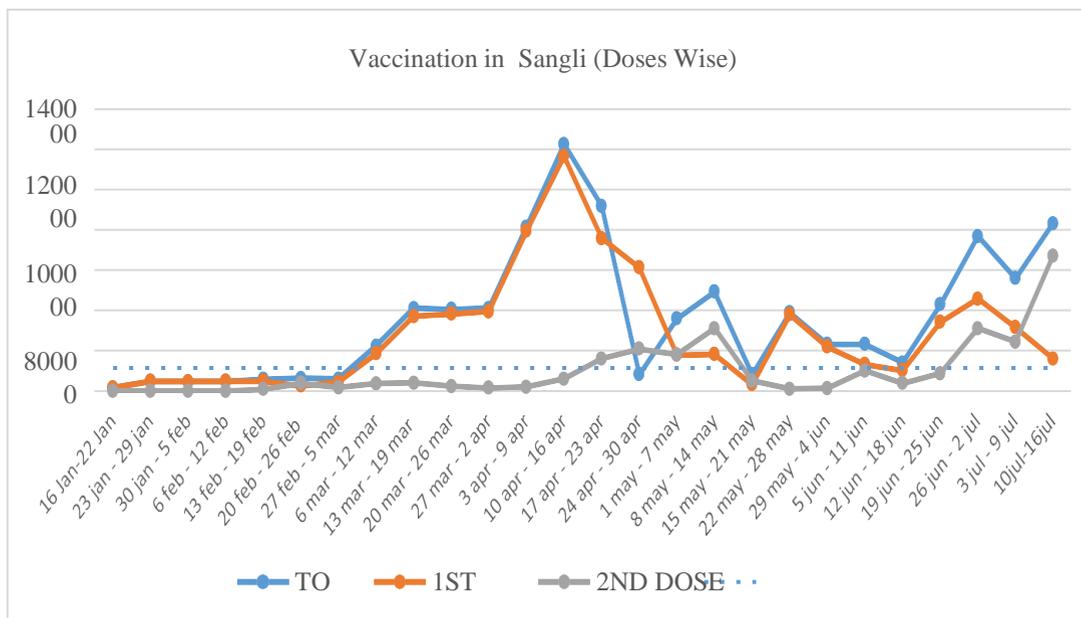


**Conclusion By Graph:**

Above graph clearly shows that In Kolhapur district both Male and Female almost get vaccinated at the same level.

**Vaccination in Sangli District**

Doses wise (Total Doses, 1stDoses, 2ndDoses)

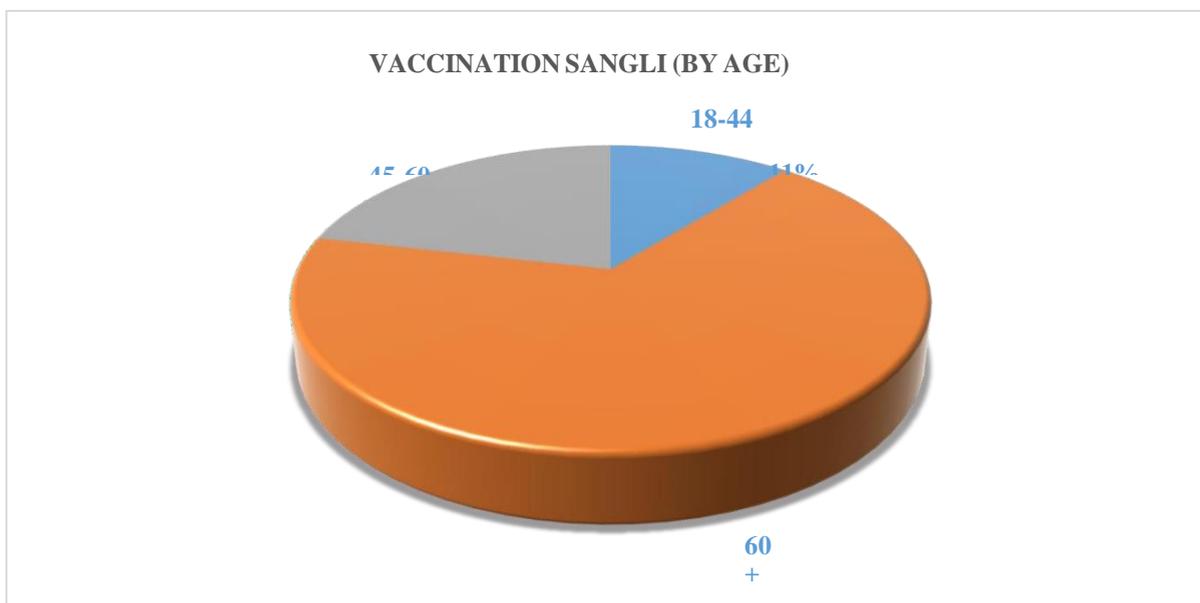


**Conclusion By Graph:**

From the above graph the number of total dose increases upto 2 week of April then it decreases and again increases upto 14 may then it decreases and goes on slowly increases.

Frist and second dose trend is approximately same as total does trend.

**Vaccination By Age:**

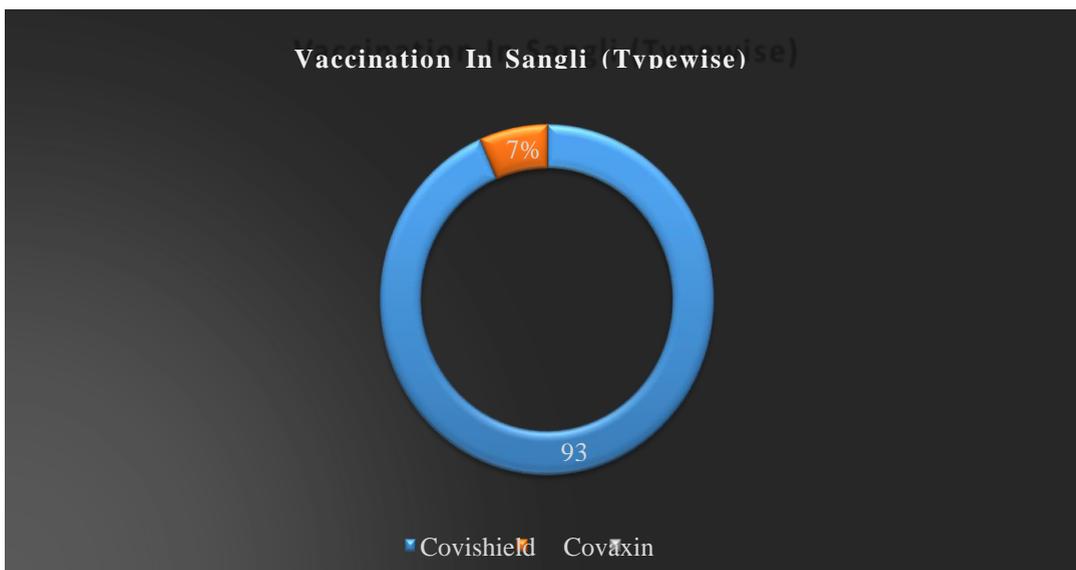


**Conclusion By Graph:**

From above Pie chart we can say that people of above 60+ old get more vaccinated that the age below 60 years.

Beacuse to the risk of severe illness from Covid - 19 increases with age so they get more vaccinated.

**Type Wise:**

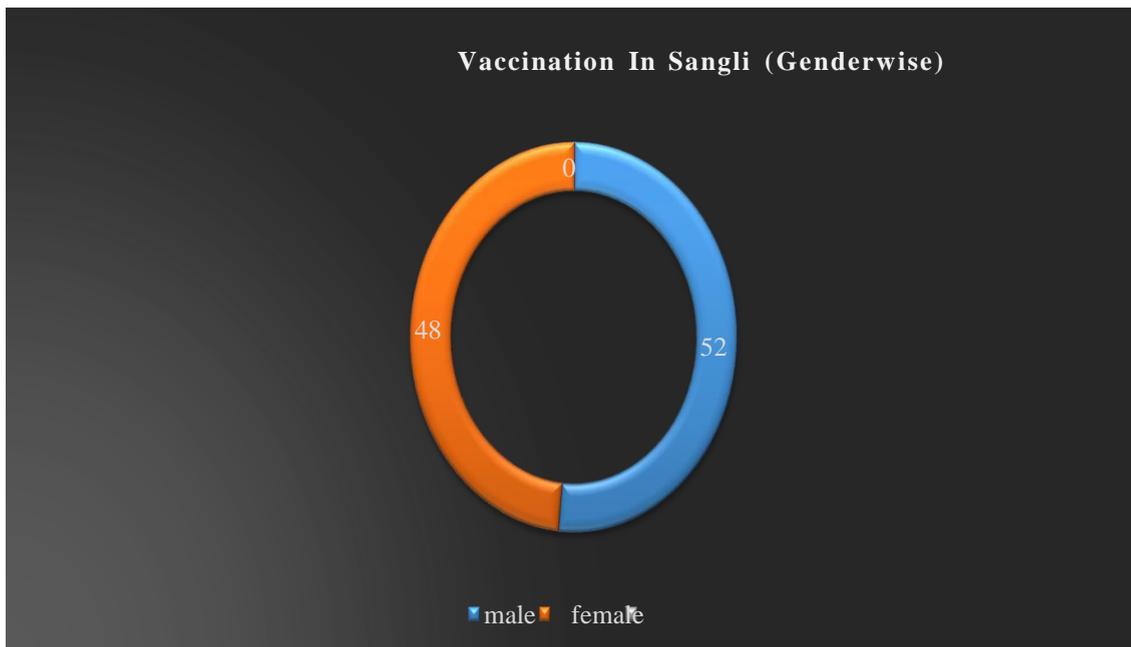


**Conclusion By Graph:**

From above pie chart we observe that the use of Covishield vaccine is more as compared to Covaxin and Sputink-V because the Covishield is mostly

available on all the vaccination centre and the effectiveness of this vaccine is nearly 90% as per globe.

**Gender Wise:**



Conclusion By Graph: Given data and graph shows that the in Sangli district number of vaccinated males is more than females.

calculation:-

$r_{xy}$

$$= \frac{\sum(x_1-x)(y_1-y)}{\sqrt{\sum(x_1-x)^2\sum(y_1-y)^2}}$$

$$= \frac{4.834*1010}{\sqrt{(7.7370*1010)*(3.040*1010)}}$$

$$= \frac{4.834}{4.85}$$

$$= 0.9966$$

Here  $r_{xy}=0.9966 \geq 0$  that means the total

vaccination in Kolhapur and Sangli district are positively correlated. Whenever total vaccination in Kolhapur is increases there in Sangli district Government supply equality vaccine in this two district.

Proportion Test :-

Total population Kolhapur district

$$N_1 = 3,876,000$$

$A_1$  = Total number of people have got at least 1st of vaccination

= Total Vaccination

$$= 1546877$$

$A'$  = Total number of people not get vaccination  
= 2329123

$P$  = Proportion of people got Vaccine in Kolhapur district

$$P_1$$

$$= \frac{A_1}{N_1}$$

$$= \frac{1546877}{3876000}$$

$$= 0.399091$$

### Overall Conclusion

- In Kolhapur and Sangli district first and second dose trend is approximately same.
- According to data, we conclude that in Kolhapur district above 60 and above 45 people are vaccinated more but Sangli district more vaccinated people are above 60.
- According to survey, we conclude that people get vaccinated more by Covishield as compared Covaxin and Sputink V.
- From the survey we conclude that by gender wise Kolhapur district has same ratio of male

and female. And Sangli district males are vaccinated than females.

- By using proportion test we conclude that in Kolhapur district 39.90% of people got vaccine and 60.09% are remaining. In Sangli district 35.16% people got vaccine and 64.23% are remaining.
- Kolhapur district got more vaccinated as compare to Sangli district.

## References

- 1.WHO Coronavirus disease (COVID-19): vaccines. 2021. [https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/coronavirus-disease-\(covid-19\)-vaccines](https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/coronavirus-disease-(covid-19)-vaccines) Retrieved August 2021, from World Health Organization:
- 2.Shetty D. Indian women more likely to die of COVID-19 than men, but more data needed to know why. 2021.<https://www.indiaspend.com/indian-women-more-likely-to-die-of-covid-19-than-men-but-more-data-needed-to-know-why/> Retrieved August 2021, from IndiaSpend:
- 3.Science A.A. Science. 2021. <https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2021/07/covid-19-affects-men-and-women-differently-so-why-don-t-clinical-trials-report-gender> Retrieved August 2021, from sciencemag:
- 4.news18com As India crosses 22-crore mark, gender gap in vaccine remains worse than country's sex ratio. 2020.<https://www.news18.com/> Retrieved August 2021, from News18:
- 5.Zaiontz C. Effect size chi square. 2021. <https://www.real-statistics.com> Retrieved August 2021, from REAL STATISTICS USING EXCEL:

## OPEN

## Transformation of the Regional Security Agenda in Northeast Asia in the Post-Covid Period: Non-Military Aspects

Evgenii Gamerman<sup>1</sup>

The global pandemic of Covid-19 has made very serious adjustments to the development of both international and regional and national processes. Significant progress has been made in almost all areas. Northeast Asia is no exception. Rather, on the contrary, the region again distinguished itself by its "dissimilarity" to other regions of the world. Let's start with China. This country, which is one of the two largest economies in the world, is still demonstrating its own approach to the issue of the pandemic. The approach is very tough, with the use of lockdowns even when only 1 case is detected. The country's borders are still locked up, which leads to very serious economic, social, and trade consequences, both within the country and for neighboring countries, for the entire Northeast Asia region. It must be assumed that China, when it opens (when it happens) will already be a completely different country than it was before 2020. Serious political and technological transformations are underway in the country. And this, of course, will affect the further development of the entire region. In the meantime, these processes have had a very strong impact on migration issues. Thus, in the Russian Far East, there is a severe shortage of workers (the shortage of which was made up for by China, as well as partly by North Korea). Japan (despite its closed nature) is also experiencing a shortage of skilled labor. South Korea and Taiwan are experiencing a shortage of, on the contrary, unskilled labor, but the pace of migration has also slowed down significantly. In China itself, there is also an acute shortage of labor reserves, and the number of foreigners in the country during the pandemic has fallen several times. And this is just one of the problems. Significant growth in transport services, deterioration in logistics and delivery times, crisis in the construction industry and much more.

**Keywords:** Northeast Asia, covid-19 pandemic, regional security, transformation, threats, economic security

### Introduction

2020 and 2021 have become truly unpredictable for the entire international agenda. The coronavirus pandemic has made very serious adjustments to all processes in world politics and the economy, making this year the most unusual and strange in all 75 years after the Second World War. Never before in all these decades have almost all borders been closed, air traffic has not stopped, such strict lockdowns have not been

introduced, and such mass hysteria has begun with or without it. By the end of 2020, the economies of most countries began to experience a severe recession, national governments began to provide unprecedented social support to the population, as well as small and medium-sized businesses. In addition, the number of cases and deaths from a new disease has become unprecedented.

<sup>1</sup>Professor, Institute for Comprehensive Analysis of Regional Problems of the Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia. Email: [egamerman@mail.ru](mailto:egamerman@mail.ru)

**Copyright:** © 2023 by the authors. Licensee KMF Publishers ([www.kmf-publishers.com](http://www.kmf-publishers.com)). This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

There have been changes and transformations in the Russian-Chinese border area. For the first time since 1987, since the normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations, the opening of borders and the start of bilateral exchanges, the Russian-Chinese border was closed. Passenger traffic has been completely stopped, and trade has significantly decreased.

The situation with the pandemic has led not only to the actualization of threats in the field of epidemiological and bacteriological safety (on the regional and global agenda). The closure of borders, a decrease in the level of migration flows, as well as trade turnover, led to a number of threats to economic security.

So, in the Amur region, and in a number of other neighboring Far Eastern regions (Khabarovsk Territory, Primorsky Territory), they very quickly and acutely felt the shortage of Chinese labor. The number of labor migrants from the Middle Kingdom dropped to almost zero, and this led to a crisis in the construction industry. As it turned out, there is simply no one to replace Chinese workers at most construction sites in the Amur region. Migrants from the countries of Central Asia have very low qualifications and are not suitable for all types of work, and Russians do not want to work. And during 2020 and 2021, there was a shortage of a number of construction specialties, in particular masons (whose wages have increased several times). This led to an increase in construction time, not a single object was commissioned on time (including social ones, such as a school). In addition, this was one of the factors (the second factor was the Far Eastern mortgage) of a significant increase in housing prices in the Amur Region, which grew by 80-90% over the year. In 2020, the outflow of population from the region was significantly reduced due to the pandemic. However, given that the factors contributing to migration processes have not gone away, and housing prices have increased significantly, we can assume a significant increase in the number of internal migrants leaving the Amur Region after the end of the pandemic

(housing can be sold for more and bought in any western region with more larger area).

In general, the pandemic has shown the dependence of the economic development of the macroregion on migrants, on the number of work permits issued. A clear state policy is needed in relation to migrants, primarily labor migrants, with possible privileges in this matter for the Far East. After the opening of the borders, this issue will become even more acute.

There are a number of threats to economic security, which together or individually very seriously lead to an imbalance in the entire region, increasing the level of instability, maximizing potential and turning them into real threats to regional security.

First of all, we are talking about the energy sector, the threats to energy security. In this area, the region can also be called "the most-most ..." in several areas at once. It is North-East Asia that demonstrates the highest growth rates of energy consumption, the highest demand for hydrocarbon raw materials, moreover, it is NEA that is the main locomotive in the world for the development and implementation of renewable energy sources.

Energy security in Northeast Asia largely depends on the intensification of cooperation between the countries of the region, that is, on security through cooperation. And, above all, from the interaction of the East Asian states with Russia.

It is NEA that can become a "cradle" for a number of global trends:

1. The transformation of natural gas into the main energy resource of the planet (with the displacement of oil from the podium).
2. Reducing the share of coal in the energy sector of China, Taiwan, Japan, and then other countries.
3. It is the countries of Northeast Asia, and, above all, Japan and the Republic of Korea, that can become a bridge, a platform for dialogue, economic interaction and the resumption of strategic relations between Russia and Western countries (in the medium term).

Thus, energy security, both at the country level and at the regional level, is one of the most problematic areas with a high level of potential threats. The sub-region of Northeast Asia is one of the most dynamically developing, having the most technologically advanced economies, with a high level of potential. And if during the beginning of the pandemic, there was a certain reduction in the pace of the economic, now we can observe reverse processes. And in this regard, absolutely all countries of the region (with the exception of the regions of the Russian Far East) are energy-deficient states, while with a constant, and sometimes rapid, growth in consumption.

For quite a long time, the point of view prevailed that the most acceptable for the countries of the region (and not only for Northeast Asia) was the development of nuclear energy. However, the accident at the Fukushima-1 nuclear power plant in 2011 in Japan cast doubt on this axiom. A more intensive (it was carried out earlier) development of renewable energy sources began.

One of the key problems of China's energy security is the very high share of coal energy consumption (and, consequently, very serious environmental problems) - more than 60%, as well as a serious dependence on suppliers and communications. In this regard, China is very zealously developing a system of renewable energy sources. The Chinese leadership announced the start of building an "ecological civilization" and plans to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030 (which became a kind of sensation).

After the accident at the nuclear power plant, there are certain difficulties with ensuring energy security in Japan. Not only does the country live in the almost complete absence of natural resources, its own energy resources, but after 2011, the operation of nuclear power plants ceased. The country was forced to turn again to fossil energy resources, investing heavily in the development of coal deposits around the world. Za is heavily criticized. And only in 2022, the Japanese

leadership announced plans to stop this process and invest in the development of new technologies in the field of renewable energy sources.

It has a high potential for the development of renewable energy sources. However, there is still a lot to be done on this path, and hydrocarbon neutrality is rather a long-term perspective, not for the next 20-30 years. Therefore, it is necessary to build the foundations of national and regional security in Northeast Asia based on modern realities, building up interaction between the countries of the region in a variety of areas.

The problems of migration have also become very relevant for the states of Northeast Asia in recent years. They carry both a security threat and an opportunity for further development. None of the countries in the region has escaped manifestations of at least some aspects of migration processes. Each has its own characteristics, which certainly affect the overall state of regional security. On the territory of the Russian Far East, the outflow of the population within the framework of internal Russian migration prevails. The entire modern period, the Far East demonstrates a positive balance in the framework of international migration. Most of the migrants by country of origin are citizens of the former Soviet republics. One of the most pressing issues is the level of crime, which exceeds such indicators in the western regions of Russia by 30 percent or more. At the same time, migrant crime also contributes to these indicators. However, the shortage of labor resources in the Far East also needs to be filled. And the only way is to attract migrants from the countries of Southeast Asia, India, North Korea. An urgent review of political and legal institutions in the field of migration is needed.

China today also faced a number of problems and threats in the field of demography and migration. The aging of the population, the need for economic growth and short-sighted population policies have led to the fact that in the past few years, China has begun to

struggle for highly skilled migrants. Beijing will experience an acute shortage of the able-bodied population, and it is not yet possible to reverse the negative demographic trends within the country. In the near future, China will attract new migrants and integrate them into its new social system, with ratings and penalties.

The Republic of Korea, as well as Taiwan, and Japan are faced with the problems of most developed countries - the aging of the population, as well as the reluctance of the local population due to the relatively high standard of living, to engage in non-prestigious work. Japan and the Republic of Korea have been characterized by depopulation in recent years. At the same time, they solve this problem in different ways. The influx of migrants leads to an increase in crime (which is so not wanted in Japan), the rights of migrants themselves in the field of labor and social legislation are often violated (Taiwan). Taiwan is the most adapted to migration processes, due to the fact that society itself is a migrant society, the Republic of Korea is attracting more and more low-skilled labor. And Japan, starting from 2023, risks becoming a new center of attraction for migrants from all over the world, due to upcoming changes and relaxations in migration legislation.

It should be noted that, despite the existing stereotypes, or the reluctance to attract migrants in the previous period (Japan), or the seeming lack of need for them (China), absolutely all countries of the region have become involved in regional and international migration processes. At the same time, trying to solve their economic and social problems, and, if possible, minimizing the risks and security threats emanating from migration.

The deterioration of the environmental situation almost always occurred in parallel with the rapid economic growth in certain countries or regions of the planet. Therefore, all known "growth points" of the second half of the 20th century, one way or another,

were accompanied by serious environmental problems. Japan was the first to face very acute, most complex threats to environmental security, and a little later, the Republic of Korea and Taiwan.

In the recent past, China, Mongolia, as well as the Eastern regions of Russia faced the most acute environmental crisis.

In Japan and the Republic of Korea, the situation has somewhat normalized in recent years. But at the same time, due to the accident at the Fukushima nuclear power plant, the Land of the Rising Sun took a significant step back, again switching to fossil energy resources, primarily coal. Giant sums were invested in the development of deposits around the world. However, since 2020-2021 there has been a tendency to improve the situation, the government of the country began to invest heavily in the development of innovative renewable energy sources and set plans to achieve a significant share of the latter in the country's overall energy balance. The Republic of Korea, which until 2022 stubbornly announced plans to abandon nuclear power plants (due to the same accident in Japan), since the spring of 2022, with the coming to power of the new President, has radically changed its point of view. And Seoul officially announced plans to develop nuclear energy, the possibility of building new nuclear power plants not only in its own country, but in other states and regions. What is also important for improving the environmental situation, minimizing threats to environmental security in Northeast Asia.

The rapid economic development of China, its environmental problems, as well as similar problems in Taiwan, Russia, Mongolia, make the threats to environmental security in Northeast Asia extremely relevant and bring them almost to the first place among non-military security threats that threaten the existence of not only citizens of countries region, but for the whole of humanity.

In this regard, it is extremely important to establish a multilateral, regional dialogue in this direction with concrete practical solutions. It is necessary to come to the realization of the priority of ecology over the economy, most energy projects should also carry a powerful environmental component.

In addition to threats, the existing problems of environmental security also provide a number of potential opportunities, provide a kind of roadmap for the development of interaction and cooperation between countries that can mutually enrich and complement each other in this area. In the context of mutual political confrontation, the sanctions of Japan and South Korea against Russia, the presence of a huge number of territorial disputes between the powers, the growth of military budgets, the rearmament of the armed forces, military exercises of various scales, directions, and the number of participating countries, it is environmental policy that can become the foundation of a dialogue , cooperation and interaction.

OPEN

## Changing Paradigm of Indian Politics after COVID-19

SK Barwar<sup>1</sup>

This dreadful disease not only affected India but the world economically, socially, geographically and politically. India took a historic national deal to deal with COVID-19, in which lockdown, public curfew etc. are prominent. The past successes and their successful management gave inspirational guidance to the nation. The Prime Minister was repeatedly interacted with the State and the Union Territory online. During this pandemic, Opposition also talked about dealing with mutual cooperation and all the politicians addressed the public through digital platforms. The epidemic has changed the way of education not only in India but also in the education of people all over the world. There has been no change in power, but Indian politics has not been good in terms of behaviour. India, for the first time, has come forward in solidarity against infection after the WHO declared it a global pandemic. India's moral support in South Asia rests on things like political dominance versus historical ties.

**Keywords:** pandemic, public, management, digital platforms, politicians, State and the Union Territory

### Introduction

Corona became associated with people's lives in the form of an epidemic in such a way that it continues to feel every aspect of life even today. The Novel Corona virus, which originated from the city of Wuhan in China, is an example of a virus of this group, whose infection is rapidly emerging as an outbreak of the virus in 2019-20. In India, all unnecessary work has been stopped for its prevention, and people have been instructed to stay in their homes. Prevention is the only solution, in view of this; the government has announced a lockdown in the entire country till May 17. Was given, which was increased to 31 May, even after this the lockdown continued till 31 July with some relaxation. Whether it is a matter of getting the vaccine today or is it on curry that more and more vaccines have been done, in two of us some people have lost their lives, still people are in shock or every area has been affected. The Greats of the Past and their Deep Impact and Lasting Socio-Political Effects Present History.

We all want to forget the havoc of Corona like a nightmare, but despite the arrival of the vaccine, the COVID-19 pandemic is increasing its outbreak like the mouth of Sursa. Any pandemic is usually a health crisis, but the COVID-19 pandemic caused by the corona virus is going far beyond that severely affecting all aspects of our democracy, society, culture and life. Bihar assembly elections were held in October-November last year. A section of the Indian media is also running a campaign like Muslims being behind the spread of corona infection. Because a third of India's total corona infection cases have been found in Muslims who attended an Islamic religious event in New Delhi in March. IS Doran JP Nadda appealed to the party leaders not to give a communal colour to the issue of spreading infection? In many states, including the assembly elections in Bengal, the trumpet for panchayat elections was sounded, in which masks, sanitizers and physical distance are not being followed. The overwhelming

<sup>1</sup>Assistant Professor, Political Science, Jupiter College, Kuchaman City, India. Email: barwarsuresh@gmail.com

**Copyright:** © 2023 by the authors. Licensee KMF Publishers ([www.kmf-publishers.com](http://www.kmf-publishers.com)). This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

turnout is an indicator that the passion of our democracy is bent on neutralizing the onslaught of Corona, no matter what the cost, but the price is terrible.

At Glance World Level- India's role has been decided at the global level in times of crisis, the country's stature has also increased. From the very beginning, China has been evasive about the comprehensive investigation of the corona infection and the Trump administration also made some efforts to curb the increasing dominance of China's stature and the Corona crisis has also exposed many international institutions. Among them, the name of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) will come at the top. This institution could not even pass a resolution against this calamity which has created a furore in the whole world. WHO remained directionless during this period? Other global institutions also seemed to be losing their meaning. Keeping this in mind, Prime Minister Modi in his address to the United Nations General Assembly strongly advocated for the reform of these institutions. His arguments were supported by many global leaders.

In the post-Corona world, these institutions will have to change their attitude; otherwise they will become more irrelevant India's vaccine diplomacy was booming in the world, before the onset of the crisis, India's position in the production and availability of masks, PPE kits and other items was not good. Undoubtedly the political leadership of India Or it is the result of coordinated efforts that respect for him has increased all over the world. From the President of Brazil to the head of the World Health Organization, they are engaged in praise. Balancing life and livelihood in times of pandemic or side politics is a difficult task.

Due to the confrontation between superpowers like America and China due to the Corona crisis, there is a possibility of serious impact on global politics. Formed a special working group in collaboration with

neighbouring countries and regional organizations like SAARC and BIMSTEC to prevent the spread of corona virus directly or indirectly in India. Will write a new chapter in changing global politics. An unprecedented crisis has arisen before the world in the form of corona virus and the speed with which it is spreading makes it all the more worrying. India has also sent the medicine to countries like Myanmar, Brazil and Indonesia, including the US, Seychelles and Mauritius.

Indian polity in Crisis Era-The Prime Minister assured full cooperation for the education of the children who lost their parents due to the COVID pandemic. Appealed to make PM Cares scheme a success or encourage children to make yoga or fitness a part of their daily routine. Elections in the five states of the country, West Bengal, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Pondicherry were announced at the end of February. The first COVID protocol was made by the Election Commission. It was started during the elections to the Bihar Legislative Assembly. Bihar was the first state in India where elections were held during the Corona pandemic. A maximum of 1000 voters will be able to vote at the polling station. All measures have been taken to prevent infection by wearing a mask. Voting will be held from 7 am to 6 pm. Nothing has been said in the guidelines regarding virtual rally and digital campaign. To implement the instructions under the Disaster Management Act 2005, it is the responsibility of the state governments to follow the guidelines related to COVID in election public meetings. During the epidemic, South Korea was a great example, which also conducted elections during the epidemic.

The Covid-19 disaster has knocked over a changing world order, where efforts are being made to build a global image through a politics of generosity in the midst of accusations and post-corona through politics of power. The COVID-19 Epidemic Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a pandemic and called on all countries to take immediate and prompt action against this public health crisis. As of

11 September 2020, 215 countries and territories worldwide have been affected by this pandemic. According to the WHO, there are more than 279 million confirmed cases worldwide with over 9.5 million deaths. The mortality rate in corona cases is 3.2 percent. The Government of India has challenged COVID-19 with the highest level of political commitment. The nationwide lockdown was a bold decision by the government, beginning with a self-imposed Janata Curfew by a large crowd at the call of the Prime Minister. India, the world's largest vaccine producer, is at the centre of the global vaccine diplomacy game. How will the second wave of COVID-19 affect India's international position in 2021. The failure of those in power deepens the tragedy. Election Commission asks political parties to strictly follow the COVID-19 guidelines issued by it. Images and videos of huge crowds at rallies show signs of rapid spread of infection. It is very easy to put all the blame on political parties and governments. And indeed politicians and their regimes have much to answer for. It is equally important to ask whether governments alone are to blame. The increasing number of cases and deaths are largely due to the careless behaviour of the public.

He also informed everyone about all the steps taken by India. As India started screening people coming from abroad from January itself. PM Modi suggested the COVID-19 Emergency Fund and contributed \$10 million to it on behalf of India. It also helped in the evacuation of citizens of neighbouring countries from the COVID-19 affected countries. This shows that even in times of crisis, India followed the policy of 'neighbourhood first'. India along with its citizens helped in the evacuation of people from Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Nepal. To reach the goal of vaccinating one billion people against the pandemic, the biggest challenge is not the hesitation associated with vaccinating, but delivering it to the people. Reaching 200 million doses may be even more challenging than reaching the first 100 million doses.

Indian Politics Impacts- Central and state governments are working on a war footing to deal with it. People are locked in their homes. Its impact is being discussed on every field. Even on politics. Because in some way or other it is associated with the activities of every region. If other areas are affected then it will also be. But the sooner Corona's impact is visible on the health sector and the economy, the sooner the politics is going to fall. In India, earlier this kind of epidemic has had an impact on politics. Such epidemics and politics cannot be seen separately. In such a situation, it has to be understood that how the politics of India can be affected due to Corona virus. For the country, the COVID-19 is the biggest challenge so far. The conduct of elections during the COVID-19 pandemic required enormous efforts on the part of the Election Commission and the electoral administration. The Election Commission has put in place detailed guidelines and a comprehensive framework to ensure free and secure elections. State election commissions implement their own strategies by suggesting sub-national variations.

The Central Government and the State Governments are seen trying to deal with this with mutual coordination. If there is a further spread of corona in India and the damage from it increases considerably, then in that case, in the days after gaining control over the spread of corona, cooperative federalism can be seen in Indian politics. National parties, such as the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Congress Party, are speaking through Twitter and periodically spokespersons and leaders of the parties are also holding press conferences. While the Bharatiya Janata Party is active on social media to spread the contribution of leaders and workers during the COVID-19, governments are also using it fiercely. Due to this virus, there has been some change in the traditional ways of politics in a big country like India. Assembly elections are to be held in six different states in India. In which Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Assam, West Bengal, Kerala and Pondicherry and about twenty five core voters will go to the polling booth in these

elections. Due to the lockdown, many states had to postpone the local elections. Since the lockdown, several states have conducted elections to local bodies.

The constitutional deadline for the conduct of state assembly elections:-

| STATE       | ELECTION date    | ASSEMBLY Seats |
|-------------|------------------|----------------|
| Assam       | March April 2021 | 126            |
| Bihar       | October Nov 2020 | 243            |
| Kerala      | 1 June 2021      | 140            |
| Pondicherry | 6 April 2021     | 30             |
| Tamil Nadu  | 6 April 2021     | 234            |
| West Bengal | March April 2021 | 294            |

**Bihar assembly election-**While the assembly elections were held in Bihar during the Corona crisis itself, the year started with the Delhi assembly elections. The NDA alliance managed to form the government with 125 seats in the assembly elections held on 243 seats in Bihar amid the unsanitary conditions of the pandemic. Nitish Kumar has become the Chief Minister of Bihar for the seventh time.

**West Bengal assembly election-**In view of the elections, this year there was a close fight between the BJP and the Trinomial Congress. Many strong leaders decided to leave the party and go with the BJP.

**Fall of Government in Madhya Pradesh-**After the rebellion with the Congress, 22 supporters of Jyotiraditya Scandia, the milkman Kamal Nath government were toppled. Once again in 2020, under the leadership of Shivraj Singh Chouhan, managed to form the government in Madhya Pradesh.

**Congress crisis in Rajasthan-**Political conflict between Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot. Rhetoric at its peak, Sachin Pilot was removed from the cabinet and removed from the post of state president.

**Crisis in the central team of Congress-**The Congress leadership is facing a crisis; this government has fallen in Madhya Pradesh. The political crisis of Rajasthan weakened the party and Rahul Gandhi, who is

constantly demanding elections for the party president, resigned from the post of party president Rahul Gandhi party Resigned from the post of chairman.

Harsimrat Kaur Badal, who was included in the Modi cabinet on behalf of the Akali Dal in protest against the agricultural laws, tendered her resignation on 17 September 2020. BJP Shiromani Akali Dal splits from alliance. Manipur also witnessed political upheaval, angry with Chief Minister N Biren Singh, MLAs of ally NPP withdrew their support to the government.

## Conclusion

These changes will have such a wide scope in the future, which will affect both society and politics. A positive change is also showing in the country politics during the war with Corona. Political parties who criticize each other 365 days of the year are acting with restraint this time. Even in the crisis of COVID-19, when she is in power at the Centre and in many states of the country, she is facing today's crisis through governance and administration in those places. Daniel Kahneman, Nobel laureate and behavioural science expert, said that we think of the future in terms of anticipatory memories—we imagine what we would remember in a normal situation. Ultimately what the future might hold, what the normalcy might look like, is a mystery. Our lack of preparedness against COVID-19 is a vision of how one ideology has supported important people and profiteers for decades.

This ideology has also made irrelevant the science which is made for social welfare by innovations. Important role in implementing lockdown in all parts of the country, especially for the first time the state often tries to defend the police by downplaying the seriousness of the crime. Oral Abuse, confiscation of vehicles and other assets, assaults and arrests common during the pandemic.

## References

- 1.The COVID-19 Pandemic, India and the World - Rajib Bhattacharyya, Ananya Ghosh Dastidar , Soumyen Sikdar.
- 2.AmarUjala, News Paper.
- 3.Jansta, News paper.
4. Corona virus Politics: The Comparative Politics and Policy of COVID-19- Scott L. Greer Elizabeth J. King Andre Peralta-Santos
- 5.COVID-19 Pandemic, Public Policy, and Institutions in India.
- 6.India's Fight against the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- 7.The Politics of the COVID-19 Pandemic in India.
8. BBC News Hindi.
9. Covid-19: A year later, how politics changed and did not change-Hindustan Times.
10. India's Covid-19 Crisis: Assessing the Political Impact.
- 11.Prabhasakshi.com
- 12.pib.gov.in