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**ASSIGNMENT**

Write a report, of not more than two pages, on the Corona virus pandemic and the effects of the lockdown and restriction of movement on Nigerians.

**ANSWERS**

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has been identified as the cause of an outbreak of respiratory illness in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China which began in December 2019. As of 31 January 2020, this epidemic had spread to 19 different countries with 11791 confirmed cases, including 213 deaths. The World Health Organization has declared it a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the new coronavirus outbreak, which originated from Wuhan, China, a pandemic. As of April 13, the global death toll surpassed 118,000 amid 1.9 million cases. More than 446,000 people have recovered from the disease world-wide, according to the data collected by the John Hopkins University in the United States. The Coronavirus family causes illnesses ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS-CoV-2) and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS), according to the WHO. They circulate in animals and some can be transmitted between animals and humans. Several coronaviruses are circulating in animals that have not yet infected humans. The new coronavirus, the seventh known to affect humans, has been named COVID-19. This disease known as ‘coronavirus’ also have certain symptoms. Common signs of infection include fever, cough and difficulty in breathing. In severe cases, it can cause pneumonia, multiple organ failure and possibly death. It is a very dangerous and deadly disease. The incubation period of the disease, ‘COVID-19’, is thought to be between one and 14 days. It is contagious before symptoms appear, which is why so many people get infected. Infected patients or victims of this disease can also asymptomatic, meaning that they do not display or show any symptom despite having the virus in their system. This disease did not start just like that. China alerted the WHO to cases of unusual pneumonia in Wuhan on December 31, 2019. Covid-19 is thought to have originated in a seafood market where wildlife was sold illegally. On February 7 2020, Chinese researchers said that the virus could have spread from an infected animal to humans through illegally trafficked pangolins, prized in Asia for food and medicine. Scientists have pointed to either bats or snakes as possible sources of the COVID-19. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the virus a pandemic on March 11 2020, and said it was “deeply concerned by the alarming levels of the spread and severity” of the outbreak. The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends basic hygiene such as washing your hands regularly with soap and water or use of hand sanitizers, covering your mouth with your elbows when coughing or sneezing, avoid touching your face, eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands, and maintain at least 1.8 meters approximately 6 feet between yourself and others especially if they are coughing or sneezing-known as social distancing. Also avoid unnecessary, unprotected contact with animals and be sure to thoroughly wash hands after contact. The COVID-19 is a feared disease. Most people do not survive it so this brings about the case of lockdown in Nigeria and other countries. Nigerian President, Muhammadu Buhari has announced a 14-day extension to a lockdown in Lagos, Abuja and Ogun states to combat the coronavirus pandemic. Initial 14-day lockdowns in the three areas began on March 30**.**"It is a matter of life and death," Buhari said of the nation's response. "The repercussions of any premature end to the lockdown action are unimaginable." Economic hardship is a serious problem under this lockdown. Nigeria, with 200 million people, is Africa's most populous nation. Some 20 million reside in the megacity of Lagos. Health experts have raised alarms over the impact of a major coronavirus outbreak, warning that the country's unprepared and underfunded healthcare system could quickly become overwhelmed. The extension of the lockdown is expected to add to the hardship of millions of Nigerians living hand-to-mouth, often on less than one dollar a day. Buhari said he was "fully aware of the great difficulties experienced especially by those who earn a daily wage". "But despite these realities, we must not change the restrictions," he added.

The government has pledged a series of support measures to ease the financial pain for the most vulnerable, but there have been widespread complaints that not enough is being done for those facing hunger. "The vast majority of Nigerians depend on daily wages, they have to go out to get money and buy food to put it on the table for their families," Al Jazeera's Ahmed Idris, reporting from the capital, Abuja, said. "For the next two weeks, they are going to stay at home with no work and no chance of getting money." Meanwhile, police said on Monday that they were bolstering forces in Lagos and Ogun after almost 200 suspects were arrested amid fears of a spike in crime during the lockdown. Buhari said compliance with the stay-at-home order and other restrictions introduced by state governors across the country had been "generally good". But he cautioned that "a large proportion of new infections are now occurring in our communities".

In conclusion, the lockdown brings fear to the citizen of Nigeria. Fear of being embarrassed on the road and fear of contacting the virus and that is why Nigerians are forced to stay at home, in other words, restriction of movements to Nigerians.