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**A REPORT ON CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC AND THE EFFECT OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT ON NIGERIANS**

Coronavirus disease(COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered virus. This virus is zoonotic, meaning they are normally transmitted between animals and people. The virus can be transmitted from person to person usually after close contact with an infected patient. The new corona virus started in Whuan, China and the virus appears to cause mild respiratory symptoms like cough, fever, tiredness and breathing difficulties. People may be sick with the virus 1-14 days before developing the symptoms. From current evidence, it appears that death is a rare outcome, and occurs mostly with patients underlying this illness. There is no specific treatment for the disease yet but many of the symptoms can be treated based on the patient’s clinical condition.

The first case of the corona virus pandemic in Nigeria was announced on 27th February 2020, when an Italian citizen came into Nigeria and was tested positive for the virus. On 9th March the second case was reported a person who came in contact with the Italian citizen. The Federal Government assured citizens of the country of its readiness to strengthen surveillance at five international airports in the country to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The Nigeria Center for Disease Control(NCDC) also announced that they had already set up a corona virus and was ready to activate its incident system if any case emerged in Nigeria. Most people infected with COVID-19 will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment.

However, as at 16th April 2020, there have been 407 confirmed cases and 12 deaths while 128 people have recovered in Nigeria. Due to this, The President announced total lockdown in the three main affected states which are Lagos, Abuja and Ogun. The President also asked Nigerians to use the preventive measures by washing hands regularly with soap, covering the mouth and nose properly with a mask and to also avoid close contact with people so as to avoid the spread of the virus.

Although, the effect of the lockdown is causing some problems to Nigerians and also Nigeria’s economy. At this rate, workers salaries are threatened and this means additional financial pain for millions of workers who rely on their salaries. A lot of people are hungry and are calling out for aids from the government. The people of Lagos are even disturbed by touts and the little they have is being taken by the touts leaving people devastated.

Meanwhile, electricity remains a major challenge in the country. Most people rely on fuel to keep their generator running to power their homes. Now that there is no source of getting fuel the lock down has not been good for the citizens due to poor power supply.

Also, shutting down the country’s financial capital, Lagos is expected to further add to an impending economic crisis. Nigeria is already feeling the pinch with oil prices plunging which will also lead to economic crisis because 90% of the export earnings are tied to oil and this will also result to th4e close of borders around the world.

Nevertheless, The Federal Government and the Health Team have said to isolate every confirmed case and make isolation center available in every state. The Government has promised to give out food during the time of the lockdown and have asked citizens to adapt to the preventive measure.