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**Question:**

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

**Answer**

**CORONA VIRUS AND ITS EFFECTS**

Novel Corona virus 2019; popularly referred to as ‘Corona Virus’ or ‘Covid -19’ is not the first pandemic to hit the globe and will not be the last, but that does not take away the fact that it has imprints, effects and consequences on the world at large especially Africa – a struggling continent. The effects of the pandemic range from commercial, to social, mental, physical and political. The Giant of Africa (Nigeria) has been greatly hit by this pandemic and there seems no sign of putting it under control as the numbers of affected people are increasing.

 The World Health Organization (W.H.O) recently listed Nigeria among the countries to be affected severely during this testing time. The deadly virus has urgently turned out to be one of the deadliest virus ever experienced in the history of humanity. The Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) announced the presence of the novel corona virus 2019 (hence Covid – 19) on 27th February, 2020 when an Italian Citizen tested positive in Lagos at the Reddington Hospital. The virus spread from the Italian citizen to a Nigerian citizen who had contact with him. Since that moment covid – 19 has become a thorn in the flesh of this country.

However, the massive spread of corona virus in the major parts of the country has led to the declaration of total lockdown in some states and curfew has also been implemented. It is no doubt that the government is trying to curtail, if possible eradicate the spread of the fatal disease, and ensure that the country is safe for all once again. This step by the government has awakened various opinions and effects both positively and negatively. N the 27th of March,2020 he President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria declared a 14-day lockdown in Lagos, Ogun and Abuja. Some other states fell in line with the action of the presidency. However, the course of this decision has led to different outcomes from economical, to political, to social and physical effects

Also, during this testing period some parts of Ogun, Oyo and Lagos states have been in the shadows of armed robbery, looting, raping, and other social vices. Specifically, Lagos and Ogun state have been in trembling mood while other states are counting their loses. According to Lagos state government, some of the well-known notorious gangs in Lagos have taken to the creation of the envious creation of panic amidst the pandemic. Some of the well-known gangs in Lagos and Ogun includes the Awawa Boys in Agege and Ifo Area, the One million boy in Ajangbadi and Agbado environs. The EFCC Boys in Shomolu and Ojo Areas, the Felling boys in Banga, the Skippo Boys in Ebute – Meta and many more.

In addition, these gangs attacked policemen from the onset, the police are still in curtailing activities. The current restive situation has prompted many residents to become vigilant of themselves. The mental trauma of the absorbing danger and loss of life pandemic, living with fear of loss of lives and properties is totally unbearable for Nigerians. Some people that could not get to become a part of the armed robbery committed suicide and thrown their family members in moments of gnashing teeth and pain.

Moreover, part of the major concerns surrounding the ongoing covid- 19 lockdown in Nigeria is the impact on economic activities. Imagine the detriment this lockdown would cost a country which is recession, it will definitely be massive. As the lockdown in two Nigerian states and the Federal Capital Territory means a significant reduction in economic activities, leading to an increase in unemployment as well as causing hunger for the citizens in the country, then it is clear that the country is on the brink of its collapse if not collapsed already.

In sum, the lockdown has done more harm than good to the nation in all ramifications. States affected at this time are vulnerable to long term economic breakdown and disruption of orderliness. Residents of New York, one of the most populous and richest states in America were seen engaging in gun purchases just before the lockdown in their state; residents in Lagos and Ogun are currently experiencing and displaying similar elements of self – protectionism against home invasions and robbery attack, therefore leading to more bloodshed and anarchy.

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