

NAME: Jatto Fadeelah Onize

MATRIC No.: 19/MHS01/216

COLLEGE/DEPT: MHS/MBBS

COURSE CODE: GST 122

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

CORONAVIRUS: EFFECTS OF LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT ON NIGERIANS

Coronavirus disease (also known as COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. It has caused a worldwide pandemic. It is highly infectious and can be spread through the tiniest droplets. The symptoms of the disease do not show immediately one is infected. As a result, one might have infected a lot of people before showing symptoms. For this reason, most countries have decided to put its states on international and national lockdown. Nigeria of course is no different with the number of its cases rising each day. The country has been on lockdown for 3 weeks now. This has brought about many effects both positive and negative.

The lockdown has helped to reduce the number of daily cases recorded by the country as opposed to the number seen by other countries with large number of recorded cases. It has reduced person to person contact. Therefore, the probability of people coming in contact with an infected person not showing symptoms is low. This has helped to flatten the curve and minimise the spread of the disease.

The country's informal sector accounts for about 65% of its GDP. This means that most of the citizens in the working class earn on a daily basis. Some of these citizens engage in small scale businesses. These businesses provide daily wages for citizens who provide food for their families on the income they earn that day. So as a result of the lockdown most of the citizens who don't earn enough to save are left starving because of their source of income has been affected by the lockdown. This ultimately puts pressure on the economy.

The economy of the country is greatly affected by the pandemic. Crude oil which is the major source of income for the Nigerian economy has been greatly affected. The price of crude oil crashed as the demand for it reduced drastically. The lockdown of most countries that consume large amounts of crude oil on a daily basis and the reduction of major economic activities encouraged the crash. This could lead to the threatening of workers' salaries.

The lockdown has made a lot of citizens idle due to the closure of places of work. Most people will do just about anything to get money to feed their families. As a result of this, the rate of insecurity has increased. People have started attacking communities. The rate of armed robbery and stealing increases by the day. The streets are not safe. People are being kidnapped and will only be released after paying a ransom. This has made the citizens fearful especially those in vulnerable communities.

The government allowed small stores to be open so that people can have access to basic amenities like food stuffs, water etc. Most of the prices of the limited goods in these stores have risen to unreasonable amounts. Thereby, forcing people to buy in small quantity. The items that act as preventive measures like face masks, hand sanitizers etc. are now expensive and limited in supply because of their demand. Therefore, many vulnerable people are not able to get it and risk getting infected.

Despite many effects the country is still on lockdown. As there is no vaccine for the disease this is the only way to reduce the cases and stop the spread. Until there is a drastic reduction in active cases, the country is likely to continue the lockdown which will lead to further problems especially on the economy of the country.