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Course Name: COMMUNICATION IN ENGLISH
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Assignment: Write a report, not more than two pages, on Corona virus pandemic and the effects of the lockdown and restriction of movement on Nigerians

CORONA VIRUS IN NIGERIA: EFFECTS OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENTS ON ITS CITIZENS.

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INTRODUCTION:

Origin of the Novel Corona virus in Nigeria

The coronavirus disease 19 (COVID-19), which first appeared in Wuhan, China and spread around the world, is a highly transmittable and pathogenic viral infection caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). Genetic analysis revealed that SARS-CoV-2 is genetically related to severe acute respiratory syndrome-like (SARS-like) bat viruses, therefore bats could be the possible primary source. The secondary source of origin and how it got transferred to humans is not known, however, the rapid human to human transfer has been confirmed widely. There is no clinically approved antiviral drug or vaccine available to be used against COVID-19.

The first case of Corona virus in Nigeria was Confirmed on the 27th of February, 2020. The patient was an Italian man who worked in Nigeria and came back from Italy on the 25th of January, 2020. He was confirmed by the Virology Laboratory of the Lagos University Teaching Hospital, part of the Laboratory Network of the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control.

Since then, the virus has spread across the country and now, according to Johns Hopkins University Whiting School of Engineering, there have been 442 confirmed coronavirus cases and 13 deaths in Nigeria, while 152 people in the country have recovered after contracting Covid-19.

Government action to Prevent further spread of the virus

In order to prevent the further spread of the virus in Nigeria, the government declared a 14 days lock down on various states in the country. This started on the 30th of March, 2020 and was further extended for another two weeks on the 13th of April, 2020. This is a good move on the part of the government, but the lockdown has many faults as citizens are allowed to go to the market twice a week for a certain amount of time. Therefore, Nigeria is not undergoing total lockdown as the virus is still very likely to infect a large number of people as they would over to the markets in crowds for those two free days and social distance would not be maintained.

In a country like Italy with high death rates, total lockdown was enforced on the 9th of March, 2020 as people were not allowed on the streets and roads. Those seen loitering on the streets were to be severely punished. Thus, reducing the rate of spread and deaths in the country.

Effects of the nationwide lockdown and restriction of movement on Nigerians

The restriction of movement of people in Nigeria has brought so many disadvantages to the citizens of the country. So many Nigerians gain under a dollar per day. They live and eat on the money they gain in a day, thus being forced to stay home means no money to feed themselves and their household.

Furthermore, due to the closing of public places like markets, shops and restriction from going to work, so many people have lost their jobs as they now have no job to put food on their tables, thus the unemployment rate in the country has increased drastically.

As a result of all these, the crime rate in the country has spiked due to the ever-increasing poverty situation. A lot of robberies have been reported and so have kidnapping. This is due to the fact that people are suffering from poverty in the worst way possible and as a result resorting to stealing what they can in order to survive.

To make things worse, the educational system of the country is suffering greatly as all educational activities have been put on hold and all educational institutions (primary schools, Secondary schools, Universities, polytechnics and so on) are shut down for the time being which means students can't learn what is needed to be taught by the teachers effectively.

Although, some schools have taken it upon themselves to provide online classes, it's not as effective as it should be as not everyone has the electronic devices to attend such classes and also due to the bad internet connection services in some areas of residence. This reduces the efficiency of the online classes.

On the positive side, the lockdown has prevented possible spread of the virus to more people in the country.

Thus, although Nigerians have suffered a great deal due to the lockdown, it has been advantageous in protecting them from spreading it as much as they would have if they were allowed freedom of movement and interaction.

References

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