**CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC IN NIGERIA**

Coronavirus can be defined as any group of RNA viruses that cause a variety of diseases in humans and animals. The major symptoms include:

* Fever
* Shortness of breath
* Coughing
* Pneumonia

The first confirmed case of the pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019 in Nigeria was announced on 27 February 2020, when an Italian citizen in Lagos tested positive for the virus, caused by SARS-CoV-2. On 9 March 2020, a second case of the virus was reported in Ewekoro, Ogun State, a Nigerian citizen who had contact with the Italian citizen.

Early March, the minister of health in Nigeria, Osagie Ehanire, announced that 60 persons who had contact with the index Italian patient were under isolation, 40 persons in Ogun State and 20 in Lagos State.

On 1 March, four Chinese citizens were quarantined in Plateau State, they all tested negative the following day.

On 3 March, the governor of Lagos State, Babajide Sanwo-Olu disclosed that two foreign Nationals from an unnamed Asian country has tested negative to the virus.

On 6 March, the Anambra State government announced that five Chinese citizens tested negative for the virus.The Nigeria Centre for Disease Control reported that a total of 219 primary and secondary contacts of the index case had been identified and were being actively monitored.

On 9 March, the President Muhammadu Buhari established a Presidential Task Force for the control of the virus in the country.

On 10 March, Turkish Airlines cancelled all their flights to Nigeria due to the virus outbreak.

On 15 March, a woman in Enugu State displayed the symptoms of coronavirus, she tested negative the following day.

On 17 March 2020, Nigeria postponed the 20th national sports festival that was supposed to hold in Benin City, Edo State from 22 March to 1 April. Between the 18th to 31st of March , states have stopped religious gatherings, shut down schools (both public and private). Various states have also called for a total lockdown , enforced travel bans and shut down businesses. Only essential workers can be out all day ( nurses, doctors amongst others )

Between the 1st to 17th of April, some states have removed the lockdown enforced while some have relaxed the restriction. Examples of such states include Bauchi state and Niger state , precisely on the 2nd and 5th of April respectively.Other states have called for a lockdown while others have extended the lockdown previously enforced. So far, in Nigeria, there have been 627 confirmed cases , 170 recoveries and 21 deaths .

**EFFECTS**

1. Increase of hunger: some people rely on their daily income to feed themselves and their family. Now that a total lockdown has been enforced in some states, people would find it hard to feed themselves and their family . Therefore, increasing the rate of hunger.
2. Increase in robbery rate: people that no longer have a constant source of income might decide to start robbing people in their various homes in order to cater for themselves. This could even lead to an increase in deaths .
3. Frustration and Depression: some individuals have mental health issues and various problems. The only way out for some of them is to go out with friends or on their own to forget their problems. Enforcing the lockdown is for their own benefit but at the same time may worsen their mental health issues.