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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.

The Corona Virus is an infectious disease caused by the newly discovered Corona virus also known as COVID-19. The virus is reported to have originated in Wuhan, China and the World Health Organisation (WHO) has declared the new Coronavirus outbreak a pandemic.

As of 20th April 2020, the global death toll is ^{over} more 166,000 with more than 2.4 million confirmed cases. More than 611,000 people have recovered from this disease world wide, according to the data collected by the John Hopkins University in the United States.

Common signs of infection include fever, coughing and breathing difficulties. In severe cases it can cause pneumonia, multiple organ failure and death. The development period of COVID-19 is thought to be between one and 14 days. It is contagious before symptoms appear which is why many people get infected. Some infected patients do not display any symptoms despite having the virus in their systems.

Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. Older people and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness.

The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is to be well informed about the COVID-19 virus, the disease causes and how it spreads. We are all advised to protect ourselves and others from the infection by washing our hands regularly with soap and running water, frequently using an alcohol based hand sanitizer and most importantly, not touching our faces.

The COVID-19 virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected coughs or sneezes so it is important

that you also practice respiratory etiquette by coughing into your elbow or into a tissue that must be disposed properly and immediately and social distancing by keeping at least six feet between yourself and others. At this time, there are no specific vaccines or treatments for COVID-19. However, there are many ongoing clinical trials evaluating potential treatments.

Nigeria which is the most populous country in Africa with an estimated population of 200 million people has 621 confirmed cases of COVID-19 with 170 recoveries and 21 deaths. The Nigerian Center for Disease Control (NCDC) stated that as at 17th April 7153 tests have been carried out in a population of 200 million. As part of the efforts to curb the COVID-19 pandemic, the federal government ordered a lockdown on Lagos, Ogun and FCT Abuja, for an initial period of two weeks starting 30 March 2020 by 11:59 pm, now extended by another two weeks from 13th April 2020. Many other states are already applying the lockdown rule. The lockdown, however, prevents many Nigerians working in informal sectors from traveling to work or conducting their business. Local food vendors and traders have expressed fears over their ability to feed their families during the lockdown, with their daily earnings their only source of substance. An increase in food prices as a result of the lockdown also means that many cannot stock up on necessities.

When announcing the lockdown, President Buhari said that the most vulnerable in our society would receive conditional cash transfers for the next two months. Nigeria's Central Bank has announced a 50 billion Naira (US\$128.5 million) targeted credit facility to support households and micro, small and medium enterprises affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In conclusion, the federal and state government in Nigeria should provide more creative economy solutions until the World Health Organisation (WHO) approves a vaccine.