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100 LEVEL

MEDICINE AND SURGERY

MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES

GST 122 – COMMUNICATION IN ENGLISH II

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 in Nigeria.

**A REPORT ON THE CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC AND THE EFFECTS OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT ON NIGERIANS**

It is no longer news that a virus known as the Corona Virus has been discovered to negatively affect the health of humans worldwide, causing the Corona Virus Disease; popularly called the COVID-19. It originated from Wuhan, China where it has been defeated to a standstill. More than 170,000 people have died, while some 2.4 million infections have been confirmed in about 185 countries and territories. More than 651,000 people have recovered to date. The most and fatal cases are in the United States of America, Spain, Italy and France. Nigeria has also been affected with 665 cases, 22 deaths and 188 recoveries as at 21st of April, 2020. In some areas, there is total lockdown and shutdown of normal activities.

With the increase in the number of cases daily in Nigeria, the Federal government ordered a lockdown, though it does not totally affect all areas but it is stricter in Lagos and Abuja with the most cases of the disease. The borders of some states have been indefinitely shutdown with very minimal local flights in some states and no international flights at all.

General activities have been reduced throughout the country. Schools were ordered to close before the 23rd of March, 2020; with the compliance of even tertiary institutions. Some schools have adopted the online class system which is very beneficial and will reduce work load when the lockdown is over. Also, religious activities have been drastically reduced in most areas. Several local, national and international events have been suspended indefinitely, which will obviously lead to a cluster of events in the aftermath of the lockdown. Previously the lockdown was said to end on the 4th of May, 2020; but with the turnout of events, an additional two weeks were put in place to avoid the disease from escalating. Where there is an event, social distancing is adhered to. There should not be more than 50 people gathered and a distance of about two meters should be kept between persons.

Just before the lockdown, individuals were advised to stay home, with their families and purchase as much items as can carry them for a while during the lockdown to avoid hunger. This led to panic buying, with the prices of goods doubling, making things even difficult for the less privileged. Goods were sold to the highest bidder. In some areas, there are closed banks, holding some people back from getting their money leaving them helpless at a time like this. Markets have also been shut down in some areas, affecting many traders who live off their daily sales and buyers who may not have much at home.

Transport vehicles and companies are at a loss, as no one travels or goes out much but those who do tend to, pay for a whole vehicle as they try to protect themselves from the virus. The normal number of people to be transported in a vehicle regularly has also been reduced to enhance social distancing. Many offices have been closed down, with few essential duties still at work. Some offices also have the online system provision, which will enable their workers to work from home.

There is a conflict arising between the virus and hunger in Nigeria, because Nigerians would find a way to go out to get what to eat, leaving the order of lockdown inefficient and putting their own lives in danger. For some other people who cannot work, there may be no food for them. So, to them, they would either die of the virus or die of hunger. This has led to theft and robbery attacks on individuals. In all of these, the government and some organizations have still tried to reach out in the way they can. Some donations from top individuals and organizations are being made and there has been fumigation of some areas and provision of items to people. Some money has been put into healthcare and Nigerians hope all of these would be efficient enough to defeat the virus.

With very minimal local and international trade, the economy of many nations, including Nigeria has dropped drastically and it is said that the world will face a massive recession when the lockdown is over. To this effect, some things are being put in place by the government to be able to control the issues that may arise when the pandemic is defeated.

The Nigerian Centre for Disease Control, NCDC, has taken a sole duty to frequently send messages to Nigerians to enlighten them on how to prevent the virus and what to when there is a suspected case, or an individual showing symptoms. This has been of great help and there is an obvious change in the lifestyle of several Nigerians. In all of these, Nigerians have remained hopeful.

**References**

<https://www.aljazeera.com>

[www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com)