

Corona Virus Pandemic and Its Effects of Lockdown On Nigerians

The corona virus came into Nigeria in ~~March~~ ^{February}. The first official case ^{in Nigeria} was reported on the 27th of February in Lagos state.

Corona virus disease, also known as COVID-19, is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. It spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes. It is, therefore, important to stay safe by practicing social distancing, wearing a face mask when going out to public places and staying at home.

Staying at home is the easiest way to protect ourselves from the coronavirus pandemic. This is why the Federal Government has declared a total lockdown on almost all the states in Nigeria. Certain measures have been taken by the Government to ensure that citizens do not leave their respective homes except to buy when buying food or groceries. This new declaration or enforcement, however, has its downsides and consequences.

Marketers, traders and people who earned a living by selling goods ^(small scale traders) that are non-edible will starve to death as they do not have enough money to ~~buy~~ feed themselves and their families. During the lockdown, they are not allowed to sell their products because if the products are not food items and they end up being broke and hungry. This makes a lot of people roam around food stores to beg buyers for money. These people end up with little or no money after begging and may never be able to satisfy their needs. This makes them vulnerable to death from starvation and instead of death while trying to avoid getting infected with the coronavirus pandemic.

Given unreliable electricity supply, having citizens staying
amid a lockdown to curb the spread of coronavirus likely
means millions of electricity generators will be working
overtime to power homes, worsening pollution in residential
While Lagos' deserted highways and erstwhile bustling business
districts mean lower vehicular and industrial emissions, research
shows the increased use of generators likely means an
uptick in air and noise pollution. There are also thousands
of wealthier households with much larger diesel-based
generators which are even worse for the environment.

Nigeria's federal government should urgently develop a
plan to deliver social and economic assistance to the tens of
millions of people who will lose income due to covid-19
particularly informal workers who lack an adequate social
safety net.