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GST 122

A REPORT ON CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) AND ITS EFFECT ON THE LOCKDOWN

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The disease was first identified in December 2019 in Wuhan, the capital of China's Hubei province, and has since spread globally, resulting in the ongoing 2019–20 coronavirus pandemic. First confirmed case of what was then an unknown coronavirus was traced back to November 2019 in Hubei province. Common symptoms include fever, cough and shortness of breath. Other symptoms may include fatigue, muscle pain, diarrhoea, sore throat, loss of smell and abdominal pain. The time from exposure to onset of symptoms is typically around five days but may range from two to fourteen days. While the majority of cases result in mild symptoms, some progress to viral pneumonia and multi-organ failure. As at the 19th of April, 2020 Nigeria has recorded 621 (six hundred and twenty seven) cases in its country.

Covid-19 can be spread between people during close contact, often via small droplets produced by coughing, sneezing or talking. While these droplets are produced when breathing out, they usually fall to the ground or unto surfaces rather than remain in the air over long distances.

People may also get infected by touching a contaminated surface and then touching their eyes, nose or mouth. The virus can survive on surfaces up to 72 hours. It is most contagious during the first three days after the onset of symptoms,

although spread may be possible before symptoms appear and in later stages of the disease. The standard method of diagnosis is by real-time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) from a nasopharyngeal swab.

Some measures carried out to prevent infection include frequent hand washing, maintaining physical distance from others (especially from those with symptoms), covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue or inner elbow and keeping unwashed hands away from the face. The use of masks is recommended for those who suspect they have the virus and their caregivers.

The corona virus disease lockdown is having a negative effect on the economy and driving the Nation's economy into recession. On the path of the country's citizen the lockdown has affected some people's income as some individuals depend solely on a daily income and are unable to achieve this due to the lockdown. The lockdown has also affected the educational system of the country as school (both public and private) has been indefinitely shut down thereby causing a halt in the session's calendar.

In conclusion, the Covid-19 lockdown is having a negative effect and also a positive effect by preventing the spread of the disease. Covid-19 is a deadly disease and no respecter of age, size, status and even race.