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Coronavirus pandemic and the effects of the lockdown and restriction of movement on Nigerians.

On the 27th of February 2020, the Federal Ministry of Health confirmed the first case of the Coronavirus disease [Covid 19] in Lagos State, Nigeria. This is the first to be reported since the beginning of the outbreak in China. The first case was brought to Nigeria by an Italian citizen who works in Nigeria and returned from Milan, Italy to Lagos, Nigeria on the 25th of February, 2020. He was confirmed by the Virology Laboratory of the Lagos University Teaching Hospital, part of the laboratory Network of the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control. The patient was clinically stable, with no serious symptoms, and was being managed at the Infectious Diseases Hospital in Yaba, Lagos.

Coronavirus disease [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. Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness; ~~but recover with dry cough, tiredness, fever, aches and pains.~~ On the average of 5-6 days from when someone is infected with the virus for symptoms to show however, it takes up to 14 days.

The rapid increase ^{in the spread} of the virus has ~~made~~ the government to decree an absolute lockdown in most areas like Lagos, Abuja, Kano, Katsina, Oyo, Ogun, Osun, Edo, Akwa Ibom, Delta, Borno, Enugu, Anambra, Kwara, Ekiti, Niger, Bauchi and some other states where victims ~~were~~ ^{were} bound. However, the Government of Nigeria, through the Federal Ministry of Health has been strengthening measures to ensure the outbreak of the disease in Nigeria is controlled and contained quickly. The multi-sectoral Coronavirus preparedness group led by the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) immediately activated its national Emergency Operations Centre and will work closely with Lagos State Health authorities to respond to this case and implement firm control measures.

The government and ministry of health advised Nigerians to take care of their health and maintain hand respiratory hygiene to protect themselves and others, including their own families with ~~some~~ precautions like regularly and thorough washing of the hands with soap and water, use of alcohol based hand sanitizer, maintaining of at least 1 and half metres (5 feet) distance between yourself and anyone who is coughing or sneezing, stay home if you feel unwell with symptoms like fever, cough and difficulty in breathing and finally stay informed on the latest development ~~about~~ the virus through official channels on TV and Radio.

As more than 25 million people are placed on a two weeks or more lockdown in some of the ~~infected~~ ~~states~~ Covid 19 infected states in Nigeria in a bid to curtail the spread of coronavirus, poor people in congested neighbourhoods are worried about how they will cope because this lockdown brings a lot of economic and societal worries to the citizens. The lockdown has led to the shutting down of many business organizations and as such workers are not been paid. People who hitherto on the road ~~to~~ help themselves survive cannot do that anymore and this has led to the starvation of most people. ~~The~~ ^{so therefore the} lockdown has increased the number of hungry people in the society. Also, there is ~~an~~ an increase in crime rate as people try to scam others in order to have money to survive. All non-essential travel have been banned in most states and many workers, including the civil servants, have been told to work from home. But with a lack of reliable electricity supply and poor internet connections, it is hard to see how most people will get any work done.

In conclusion, the government should make effort to provide constant power supply to enable people do their work from home and also encourage people to stay at home as they can keep themselves busy with ^{the} electricity. Government should ~~be~~ be able to provide face masks and hand sanitizers at every strategic point as many people do not have money to afford ~~such~~. Lastly, Government should distribute food stuff to areas where they are needed especially to the needy.