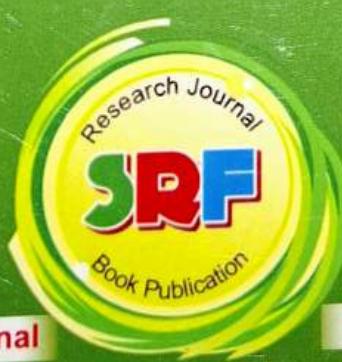


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Impact of Covid on the Various Sectors of Indian Economy

Ms. Smridhi Vohra

Department of Economics, Guru Nanak Girls College, Yamuna Nagar

Abstract :- The COVID-19 pandemic had a very negative and unpredictable impact on the various sectors of the Indian Economy. Starting from the Lockdown period, in March 2020, till now Covid-19 had its widespread consequences. These effects have caused a downturn in the Indian economy to such an extent that some sectors have not been recovered till date. The Government has also implemented various schemes and strategies to bring out the Economy from the shackles of covid-19. In this research, I have put forward a theoretical and detailed analysis of various sectors such as Travel & Tourism, Service sector, Education which are severely affected by this deadly disease.

Keywords :- Covid-19, Sustained Growth, Triggered down.

1. Introduction :- Corona virus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease which is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. To prevent the spread of this disease, government had applied several bans under social restrictions. The nationwide Lockdown is at the frontline of these restrictions. The aim of this study is to analyze how badly covid-19 and lockdown era impacted some sectors of the Indian Economy. The various effects of Covid-19 have caused a downturn in the Indian economy to such an extent that some sectors have not been recovered till date.

This study includes three sections. The first section deals with the literature review and introduction of the main theme. The second part gives detailed information about the methodology of the study and also provides a detailed analysis of the sectors impacted by Covid-19. In the next section, conclusion about the study has been provided.

In this study, I have taken into account the three sectors of the Economy viz. Hotel and Tourism, Service Sector, Education. The COVID-19 pandemic has probably been the most worst of financial and social crisis of recent times, which lead to total suspension of almost all economic activity and hence forcing a country wide lockdown. The Indian tourism industry which employs around 8.75 crore people such as people from the hospitality industry, tour operators, travel agents, home stay owners etc faced a serious setback. The education was significantly disrupted by this deadly disease and its instances are visible till now. As schools and colleges were closed down due to which students were forced to put aside the practical aspects of their study. The Indian service sector faced a serious shut down due to covid-19. More than 50% of GDP of India comes from service sector and a majority of the workforce is engaged in this sector. But Covid-19 rendered this majority leading to widespread job losses and financial hardship.

2. Literature Review :- After World War II, the COVID-19 pandemic is largely considered the worst crisis that the world has faced in the history. It had an acute impact on healthcare systems around the world, the global economy, and the society as a whole. Much like in response to combat, the nations of the world, on the call of the WHO and UN Secretary General, have moved rapidly toward fighting this pandemic, and the public service has been placed as the vanguard in this situation. Public service departments maintaining social distancing to keep the public safety have limited their operations. However, they also provide public services through IT infrastructure both online and remotely. COVID-19 is the first epidemic in human history in which technology and social media are used to shield people while being physically isolated. The

departments that have been impacted in public services are transportation, the health industry, the media industry, etc. Some cultural events, airports, and other services that involve large public gatherings are suspended till further notice. In such settings, the IT infrastructure is the only solution to provide updated information, surveillance, and jobs that are currently impossible to execute. Examples of this include working remotely from home and tracking people's movements to contain the virus.

Following the unprecedented lockdown that had to be imposed to curb the spread of COVID-19 throughout the world, an economic downturn led to job losses and imposed economic hardships on the majority of the people. Tourism and hospitality industry was hit in particular not only because of the movement restrictions (administrative/political reason) but also due to shrinking travel budget of households (economic reason). The dual effects of loss in travel volume and loss in travel budget led to a severe fall in tourism revenue in almost every country. Even with easing of restrictions and countries opening up, the effects can persist for a long time depending on how severely they impact the structural elements in the tourism system.

Education is the progression of erudition or getting of knowledge, skills, values, and habits of essential needs of life (Bhattacharya). Education normally takes place under the instruction of an educator but not necessarily under one formal system, one can also adopt self-learning (Arora et al. ; Welsen et al.). Thus, education can be formal or informal, but the predominant objective should be developmental effect on the way one thinks and feels, or action is regarded as education (Ali). The educational landscape is complex and multi-faceted which includes colleges, students, academic contents, teachers, and extracurricular activities (Lawrence et al.). India is the land of opportunities; many multinational companies want Indian caliber to operate for them not only because Indians are assiduous but have the skill

exactitude in them (Tilak). India is the second largest education system in the world, and it has significant history. The Indian educational environment's journey right from Gurukuls to IITs has faced many ebbs and flows. "Right to education Act" has played a predominant role in the educational environment of India, and it has expanded the number of enrollments in higher education in India (Fallatah). The number of universities has also increased in the last 50 years, from 20 universities in 1950 to 875 in 2017. As the number of universities increased and diversified in terms of course offered by colleges, the society is more concerned about the quality of programs, internal rankings, and public evaluations. This process focuses attention towards research-oriented evaluation, but if it fails to measure the quality of educational environment, then it is inevitable because measuring the quality of educational environment is a complex process (Lawrence et al. ; Srimathi and Krishnamoorthy). The success of Indian educational environment depends on the contributors of education structure such as administration, students, and teachers. Moreover, the perception of students towards all these aspects is also quintessential (Balhara et al.). Therefore, research is undertaken to analyze the perception of students towards major components of college education environment.

3. Research Methodology :-

3.1. Educational Sector :- For Educational Sector, this study used a qualitative research approach, specifically phenomenological research, to explore perceptions of the students as if how their study is affected by covid. Qualitative methods are well-suited for in-depth analysis (Creswell, 2013). The phenomenological research describes the experience of the individual as it appears to consciousness, in order to seek actual information and avoid any preconceptions or assumptions.

3.1.1. Participants :- The study used subjective sampling, also known as judgmental, purposeful,

strategic sampling. The non-probability method relies on researchers' discretion to select participants. The researchers identified five target groups comprising 40 individuals to gather insights on the impact of Covid on Education. The groups are as follows:

- **Academics:** Eight experts in educational sciences.
- **Teachers:** Eight educators from public and private schools.
- **Professors:** Eight lecturers employed in universities and colleges.
- **School Going Students:** Eight school going students of 8-12 classes.
- **College Going Students:** Eight college going students of Bachelor and Masters

3.1.2. Data Collection and Analysis :- The study utilized semi-structured interviews for data collection. Participants were initially provided with an online questionnaire containing 5 questions each in order to know about their perspectives on Education after Covid comprising both positive and negative aspects. In this format the participants were allowed to articulate their thoughts in writing. Subsequently, face-to-face interviews were conducted to clarify and expand on the written responses. The researcher pre-assumed that participants would express themselves more freely in writing and used the in-person sessions to search deeper into enigmatic points.

Data analysis followed the content analysis method, progressing from individual codes to broader themes. This iterative process examined all participant responses line by line to generate codes and themes that aligned with existing literature. Detailed explanations of key themes, such as individualized instruction, were provided in the findings section. Participants' views were analyzed within the context of their current experiences and envisioned scenarios

involving Covid-19's impact on education.

3.1.3. Findings :- After analyzing the questionnaire and in depth discussion of all the five groups, it was found that covid has impacted the education and future of the students to a great extent. As schools were shut across India during the Covid-19 pandemic, the country's dropout rate more - from 1.8 percent in 2008 to a staggering 5.3 percent in 2020. This primarily impacted children hailing from marginalised communities exacerbating existing inequalities. There was a great decline in the thinking & learning ability among the students of 8-12 grades. Also, the college going students were not been able to apply their knowledge in the real world for the quite long time. Moreover, the mental health of the students was severely affected, which further caused harmful lifestyle changes like increasing unhealthy habits, sleeping disorders, lack of physical exercise etc. However, several positive impacts were also noticed due to online education.

3.1.4. Positive Impact :-

- Online education started because of covid-19 opened the gates of AI in India.
- From learning through power point presentations to submitting assignments online, covid indirectly changed the system of education to a smarter platform against the traditional one.
- Students found flexibility in their study with respect to time & place.
- Through online teaching, students exposed themselves to the technology in an effective & efficient manner.

3.1.5. Negative Impact :-

- It was noticed that there was a great decline in the thinking & learning ability among the students of 8-12 grades.
- College going students were not been able to apply their knowledge in the real world for the

quite long time.

- The student's dropout rate was staggered more than tripled across the country from 1.8% in 2018 from 5.3% in 2020.
- There was adverse impact on the mental health of the students of all grades which caused harmful lifestyle changes like increasing unhealthy habits, sleeping disorders, lack of physical exercise etc.
- Both the students and the teachers faced a great difficulty in adapting themselves to the online mode of education and thus, using advance technology.
- Students from financially weak families faced a serious set back as they were not able to afford such gadgets so as to pursue online learning.

3.2. Travel & Tourism Sector :- For travel & tourism sector, this study used secondary data from the various relevant sources and reports. A thorough and detailed analysis of the reports was undertaken. The reports include Travel and Tourism Market Consulting and Research Reports, WTTC's Economic Impact Report, Report of trade statistics and analysis.

3.2.1 Findings :- After the detailed analysis of the various studies, it was acknowledged that hotel and tourism industry was severely affected by Covid- 19. As the Report says that "The Total Numbers of FTA's in India during 2019 from all source countries were 10930355 which reduced to 2744766 during Covid-19 pandemic Era in 2020; a massive decline by 8185589 numbers of tourists and 25.11 percent compared to pre-pandemic era of 2019". . (2022). The virus forced lockdown that resulted in closure of all hotels, resorts, tourists places as well as ships, cruises, flights were been halted to check the spread of the pandemic which resulted in the revenue loss of 1.25 trillion rupees for the Indian tourism Industry by 2020. Furthermore, compared to 2019, the share of travel & tourism Industry to India's GDP fell by 36.2% and to total employment declined by 20.8%. Maiti, A. (2023). Thus it can be concluded that

there was a huge loss of revenue in the Indian Hotel, Travel & Tourism Industry.

3.3. Service Sector :- As far as the service sector is concerned, this study utilized secondary data. An in-depth and comprehensive analysis was done of the various articles and reports so as to find out how Service sector is affected by corona virus. After analyzing all such reports, the essential findings were made, which are as under.

3.3.1. Findings :- On the basis of the various reports and articles studied, it can be concluded that corona virus also impacted service sector in a negative manner. The reports reveal that during the first half of the financial year 2020-21, service sector declined by almost 16 percent. As per the estimates of Indian Budget, Gross Value Added (GVA) of the service sector was estimated to contract by 8.8 percent in 2020-21. The sub sectors including communication, broadcasting services, trade, hotels, transport, financial, real estate, and professional services & public administration, defence services and others were contracted by 21.41 percent, 3.68 percent and 0.82 percent respectively. However, overall the contraction of service sector narrowed to 11.4 percent in the second quarter (Q2) of FY2020-21. The contribution of the various sub areas of the service sector to India's GVA is highlighted in the following table.

Sector	Share in GVA (per cent)		Growth (per cent YoY)				
	2020-21 (AE)	2018-19 (1st RE)	2019-20 (PE)	2020-21 (AE)	2020-21 (H1)	2020-21 Q1	2020-21 Q2
Total Services (Excluding construction)	54.3	7.7	5.5	-8.8	-15.9	-20.6	-11.4
Trade, hotels, transport, communication & services related to broadcasting	15.4	7.7	3.6	-21.41	-31.5	-47.0	-15.6
Financial, real estate & professional services	22.2	6.8	4.6	-0.82	-6.8	-5.3	-8.1
Public administration, defence & other services	16.7	9.4	10.0	-3.68	-11.3	-10.3	-12.2

Table 1: Contribution of Service Sector to India's GVA

Source: Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

Note: Shares are in current prices and growth in constant 2011-12 prices;

RE: Revised Estimates. PE: Provisional Estimates. AE: Advance Estimates

4. Conclusion :- From the above analysis, it can be concluded that the spread of corona virus forced the Government to impose strict lockdown, due to which all industries, companies, schools and colleges were shut off. There was no economic activity taking place in the whole country. The closure of all such activities deeply impacted the various sectors of the economy like travel & tourism, education, service sector etc. The current study deeply covered these three sectors and highlighted that covid-19 severely affected the education of all the students, unemployment rate jumped very high in the travel and tourism industry. This acute disease also rendered many employees unemployed in the service sector. Thus, the limitation of this research is that it only covered the three sectors.

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