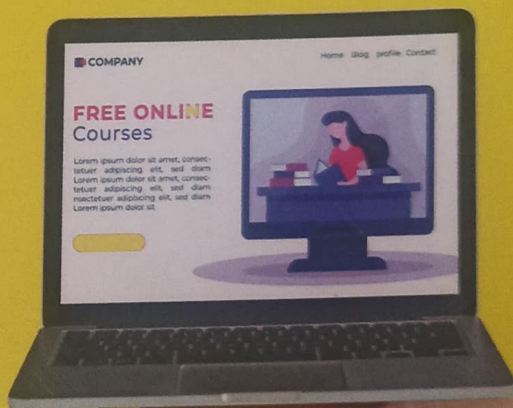


# CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

POST COVID-19



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## **The Challenges of Employment Generation In A Post Covid World**

*(Dr. Doa Naqvi & Ghanshyam Dos)*

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### **Abstract**

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**I**t is a widely known fact that India is one of the most densely populated nations in the world. Millions of migrant workers are working in cities other than their native places in this country. It is also a blatant truth that Indians are easily affected by any government decision –such as the slightest change in petroleum products –so one can well understand how they would react by the sudden decisions of the Government such as demonetization and more recently the national lockdown? Millions of citizens' patience are tested at this time of utter chaos and crisis. Citizens not only suffer from poverty, unemployment, infrastructural amenities but also are under constant threat of their existence by dangerous diseases i.e. AIDS, tuberculosis, and coronavirus Disease for 2019 (COVID-19), etc.

With this backdrop, the present paper aims to explore the life situations after the post-COVID outbreak and also how a citizen can cope with the current crisis situation, especially with respect of their employment opportunities.

This article divided into five sections, the first section deals with the introduction of the Corona outbreak in China as well as India and the migrant worker crisis in

India. The second section reviews literature, which is based on various secondary data sources. The third section talks about methods based on exploratory research. The fourth section presents two models to fight with the migrant crisis. The paper concludes with a future direction and conclusion.

**Key points:** COVID19, China, India, migrant workers, employment.

## Introduction

The medical world is filled with countless micro-organisms and viruses. Some of them are proved to be a boon for human civilization, some of them prove dangerous to their civilization i.e., Poliomyelitis (Polio), Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), and the Coronavirus Disease (COVID) family, etc. COVID virus family is very large, of which some continuously are attacking human civilization (World Health Organization (WHO), FAQ, and April 17th, 2020). The Coronavirus Disease-2019 (COVID-19) is an epidemic of 2020 that began with the death of a fifty-two years old man in Hubei Province, China. This was reported on November 17th, 2019 (The Guardian, March 13th, 2020). It was not the first time the coronavirus family attacked in China, the last attack was in 2002, which was also known as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome – Coronavirus (SARS-CoV). The first outbreak was in China's Guangdong province, where it was claimed that coronavirus spread to man through the animal (World Health Organization, International Travel, and Health, see reference No. -3). It may be noted that Guangdong China houses the

India. The second section reviews literature, which is based on various secondary data sources. The third section talks about methods based on exploratory research. The fourth section presents two models to fight with the migrant crisis. The paper concludes with a future direction and conclusion.

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## **Introduction**

The medical world is filled with countless micro-organisms and viruses. Some of them are proved to be a boon for human civilization, some of them prove dangerous to their civilization i.e., Poliomyelitis (Polio), Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), and the Coronavirus Disease (COVID) family, etc. COVID virus family is very large, of which some continuously are attacking human civilization (World Health Organization (WHO), FAQ, and April 17th, 2020). The Coronavirus Disease-2019 (COVID-19) is an epidemic of 2020 that began with the death of a fifty-two years old man in Hubei Province, China. This was reported on November 17th, 2019 (The Guardian, March 13th, 2020). It was not the first time the coronavirus family attacked in China, the last attack was in 2002, which was also known as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome – Coronavirus (SARS-CoV). The first outbreak was in China's Guangdong province, where it was claimed that coronavirus spread to man through the animal (World Health Organization, International Travel, and Health, see reference No. -3). It may be noted that Guangdong China houses the

Guangdong Institute of Applied Biological Resources (GIABR). In this institute, there are numerous biological researches going on, it may be a possibility that any subject (animal-bat) might have come out from the lab? Then it would come in contact with human beings (GIABR). And China informed about it to WHO approximate three months later to announce a global pandemic (WHO, Frequently Ask Question), during this period it spread out three times from different biological labs in the month of July 2003. According to the Congressional-Executive Commission on China (CECC), that the Chinese government discouraged to press to relearns about it. NikoliiFilatov, head of Moscow's epidemiological services, told to The Gazeta daily that he thought that Pneumonia (SARS CoV1) was man-made because "There is no vaccine for this virus, its make-up is unclear, it has not been very widespread and the population is not immune to it" and according to Academy of Medicine, Member, Sergei Kolesnikov, the virus is a cocktail of mumps and measles, whose mix could never appear in nature, "We can only get that in a laboratory" He told a conference in the Siberian city of Irkutsk, quoted by Russian (RIA) Novosti Newsagency (abc.net.nu).

And the same story has been created about SARS CoV2, the first time, it has been faced by Doctor Li Wengliang an ophthalmologist (eye expert) while he was treating a patient and who died with an unknown disease. He sent his medical report to his colleagues on December 30th, 2019(The BBC News, February 7th, 2020). After that, he was missing until the nation came to know that he died due to coronavirus in Wuhan on February 7th, 2020. Before his death, he said in an interview with the New

York Times that "if the officials had disclosed information about epidemic earlier I think it would have been a lot better. There should be more openness and transparency" (science.thewire.in). it shows that he must know something else about the virus, he was well-educated Master of Medicine, which is equal to India's Master of Science (MS), at this level a doctor gains sufficient knowledge to diagnose symptoms of illness, you all must say that he was first who come to contact with this virus how he can't notice that? According to Chinese media that the SARS CoV2's first seen at Hubei province in China found in an old person, and China provided first information to WHO as unknown viral fever(WHO, January 5th, 2020), When the virus took over 114 nations under own control, then on March 11th, 2020 WHO declared it a global Pandemic (WHO, March 11th, 2020).

And the same actions taken by the Chinese government as on SARS CoV-1, has been discouraged media from reporting on SARS CoV2 (the Hindu Opinion, February 17th,2020), this story tells us a different conclusion about the outbreak when we came to know that outbreak month of both SRAS on November month (SARS CoV1 November 16th, 2002. SARS CoV2 November 17th, 2019).

After the WHO announcement, many nations started to lock down on their economy.

**Lockdown in India:** In India, on Jan 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the first case of the corona virus-infected case came in media (CNBC, January 30,2020). Suddenly after 3 months on March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Indian Prime Minister announced Lockdown at 8 pm (The First Post, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020).

## **A brief on spreading coronavirus around the globe**

Till March 24th, 2020 over 80 nations under the coronavirus crisis, and WHO declared its global pandemic on March 11th, 2020 (WHO, March, 11th, 2020). According to the WHO report till March 15th, 2020 over 153517 cases and 5735 deaths were registered around the globe (WHO, COVID19, Situation Report - 55). But till then, the Indian government could not realize the magnitude of the crisis which is going to come.

**Namaste Trump:** In America, on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 the first case of the corona virus-infected case came in media and till February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 whole America in the caged-in coronavirus (WHO, Situation Report-39). Besides the American and Indian premier decided a huge gathering in India, which known as Namaste Trump organized in Ahmadabad's Motera stadium, over 1.5 lakh peoples across India as well as America gathered, After gathering both of them were visited Agra, Delhi, and so many places (The Hindu, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020).

**Government formation in Madhya Pradesh:** the ruling party of India formed a government in Madhya Pradesh on March 21st, 2020, with a huge gathering of ministers and party workers. (The Economic Times, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020). Here we do not blame the Indian government but want to say that they couldn't have the coronavirus infected people, till March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 India had more the 600 hundred patients of coronavirus (The Hindu, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020). According to BBC world report over 4 corers, migrant laborers were trapped across the nation without essentials (The BBC, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020). Now after 30 days of lockdown these migrants were totally broken



down, and start moving their cities, due to ill management of government they start moving on their feet to their home state. During the struggle of their above their limit to reach home, many migrant laborers died on the way. There are some quotation given by migration laborers

1. Yadav started a journey of nearly 1,000 kilometers from Delhi to Bihar on 29 April 2020. He told the media correspondent "I do not want to die in the city who despised me, it's better to die with hunger in the village than a city which turned us down". On further questioning, he told the correspondent "Hum Kasam Khate Hain Delhi nahi jaib noon roti khaib". (I will not go to Delhi again, will cultivate here, and live on salt"). And he loaded up his bicycle and luggage on the bus roof. (The Print, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020)
2. At the same spot, The Print's Media correspondent met with a 22- years-old Rahman, a Bihar's residents, reached thereafter four-day bone broken journey from Madhya Pradesh, and asked why he went home, then he replied "I had run out of money and had no food, so I decided to head home, I used to earn 350 rupees per day earlier doing construction work, but for the past month or so, there was no work at all. I will try and work at home and have decided I will never go to Madhya Pradesh " (The Print, May 6<sup>th</sup> , 2020)
3. At the same spot, the media correspondent met with an Uttar Pradesh official, who said "I salute the migrant populations who left on foot or cycled their way to Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. At least 1,000 migrant workers died while trying to return to their home towns. Those who have died are also warriors and they are bigger warriors than corona warriors and we should show our respect them too" (The Print, May 6th, 2020).

4. As per the save life foundation report The News18 said that 42 migrant workers died in road accidents while attempting to return home during the coronavirus lockdown (The News18, May 7th,2020)
5. As per The Hindu report over the 100 deaths were reported from nine states in India i.e. Delhi, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Assam, Kerala, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Punjab, and Tamil Nadu. (The Hindu, May 8th , 2020)
6. According to The BBC news, over 16 people died in a railway accident while taking rest at the railway track due tired after a long barefoot journey to their home by following railway track. (The BBC News, May 8th, 2020).
7. As per the Hindustan times, a migrant labor, who was going back to Uttar Pradesh from Maharashtra on a cycle, died midway in the Barwani city of Madhya Pradesh (The Hindustan Times, May 2nd, 2020).
8. According to the Gulf news article, a 12-year-old girl walks 100 kilometers, died just before 11 kilometers away from her home. (The Gulf News, April 21st, 2020).
9. While after 40 days of coronavirus lockdown, the Indian government starts run trains for the migrant workers, but the Karnataka state government stopped the trains to deport migrant workers.(The Economic Times, May 07th,2020).
10. As per the Economic Times, several states in India extended the working hours for industrial worker 8-12 hours in a day (The Economic Times, April 24th,2020)
11. As per the financial express news, the Indian government wants to change existing labor laws, it'll

seek by labor as their exploitation. (The Financial Express, May 8th, 2020)

12. According to the Centre for Monitoring the Indian economy, over 12.2 Crore people in India lost their jobs in the month of April, around 75% of them were small traders and wage laborers. (The Hindu, May 7th, 2020).

## **Research Methods**

This article based on the secondary data mainly based on reputed news articles and reports such as WHO, The Hindu, The BBC world, official websites of many organizations and some research articles.

## **Tackling Unemployment In The Current Scenario**

Unemployment seems to be a very big problem of the economy as well Indian society, to cope with it the central government and states governments have to focus to provide employment to migrant workers at their native places. Some progress is seen in several states i.e. Uttar Pradesh government decided to provide employment to these migrants through the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.

We further propose two models to provide employment to these rural as well as urban migrant laborers of the country-

- a. **A Model of Social Innovation:** This model works to help social innovators by taking over a government firm, they work from installing a plant to selling products into the market. Every department involves unskilled, semi-skilled, and experiences engineering

graduates. But we can include ITI and polytechnic diploma holders for better and cost-effective working. The firm will hire these people on contract for over one to two years and they will be work with every department in the cycle, from this they will be groomed and skilled to work any department of their respective field.

- b. **The nature highway:** According to the Indian Government over 12 superhighways are under construction in the country (Walk through India), if the Indian government adopts this conceptual framework to construct these highways which will be very beneficial during this corona crisis and also after it too. Let's take a look at the short description of this concept of the nature highway, as we know that these national, state and superhighway are the lifeline of the nation, and the rural people and migrant people are the souls of the nation. Without them, neither cities nor nation will sustain. So under this concept we suggest some additional elements such as recycled plastic, solar panel array above the tree's standard height, green belt both side highway, 5-8 kilometer there are highway houses with highway employees and flyover houses for the migrant workers so that they can live and work around these highways(G. Dos, S. H. Ali, and R.K. Chaturvedi, 2019)

### **Future Research Direction and Conclusion**

Whatever the cause of coronavirus, we leave this on the future medical research, but the problem of migrants that India is facing, is equally pressing. It will be faced by the whole nation but more severe in India and China because both nations have the most populist nations in the

world, and their citizen more affected by the coronavirus lockdown. In India, over 12.5 corers Indians are unemployed and most of them illiterate and unskilled, this manpower puts force on limited resources available in their native places. These two models will provide a chance to eradicate these problems. In the future, researchers will be able to do many researches in the case of migrant laborers, they may have the following research directions: - the impact of government schemes on migrant laborers after and before lockdown, the impact of migrant labor's psychological, financial, and personal after and before lockdown, the impact of coronavirus lockdown on the sector-wise migrant worker, the impact of MGNREGA on migrant laborers' livelihood, the impact of Indian labor laws amendment on labor perspective and migrant labor crisis on the Indian economy.

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