

“Environment Happiness”- During COVID-19 Lockdown

Dr. Neha (Pachori) Dubey

**Assistant Professor, Sagar Institute of Research &Technology-Excellence,
Bhopal**

Abstract :

As the world is facing the crisis due to lockdown of COVID 19. This is Pandemic situation for whole world. This situation is much dangerous than any other war because here the enemy is a very tiny non-living virus, and which is getting spread when that comes with the contact of living one that is human being. Various authenticate organizations are sharing the difference (in the terms of measuring values) in health of earth pollution, greenery and wild life during lockdown and before lockdown. “Is nature is rejuvenating herself or The God is protecting the Earth from us? Don’t know about it” But one thing is very much clear that if now the human being is not become serious for environmental health so the future will be more dangerous. Author used secondary data for studying and accomplishing the objectives such as various new channel reports, News Paper and official websites. We are racing for infrastructure such as smart cities at the cost of compromising forest and trees on roads but today we can see that a small virus kneels down the developing and developed countries both rather they have smart and best equipment’s, facilities and machineries etc. Rather that become a blind racer we should think smartly to move for development but not at the cost of nature. If today we ignore the importance of environment protection than in future the situation may become that much vulnerable which cannot sort be out. Now it’s the time to Rebuild India, by keeping our forest alive, our agriculture should need to more strong, Our medical facilities should be make strong. Cleaning and protection of water is necessary. In India Talent, skills and hard work is the key feature of mostly Indians, now it's time to sharpen it.

Key Words: Environmental health, Rebuild India, Pandemic, renewable energy

Corresponding Author: *Dr. Neha (Pachori) Dubey*, Assistant Professor, Sagar Institute of Research &Technology-Excellence, Bhopal email: *ndubeysgi12@gmail.com*

1. Introduction:

As the world is facing the crisis due to lockdown of COVID 19. This is Pandemic situation for whole world. This situation is much dangerous than any other war because here the enemy is a very tiny non-living virus, and which is getting spread when that comes with the contact of living one that is human being. I am not going to discuss about medical aspect of COVID 19. I am not belongs to this field, world's Researchers and Doctors are only capable regarding this. I am just want to share some positive aspects of lockdown because as I already told that this virus is very dangerous which forced the various countries to go for lockdown as a preventive measure, so obviously its negative aspects are may be uncountable in economy whether it related in monitor terms or in non-monetary terms .In negative surroundings we can share some positive thing also. I read many articles and watch in news channels about the healthy environment during lockdown.

Various authenticate organizations are sharing the difference (in the terms of measuring values) in health of earth pollution, greenery and wild life during lockdown and before lockdown. The nature is breathing while locking the humans in their homes, land is feel light because vehicle get stopped and humans are at one place, birds chirping can be heard easily because noises created by humans has been stopped, Fresh air breeze smoothly because industries are closed, Water in sea, rivers and lake is having natural colour which was given by God that is Blue in full shine, because poison mixing in the form of garbage, waste from industries and humans has been stopped, wild animal can move freely due world most dangerous animal that is Humans are in locked at home These all even more earth is feeling relax and lively during human lockdown.

“Is nature is rejuvenating herself or The God is protecting the Earth from us? Don't know about it.”

But one thing is very much clear that if now the human being is not become serious for environmental health so the future will be more dangerous.

2. Objective:

- I. The foremost objective to write this descriptive paper is to throw light on some positive affect of lockdown on environment.

- II. Secondly also want to discuss the opportunities for industries while taking care of environment.
- III. Thirdly the Challenges faced by industries for fulfilling the second objective.

3. ` **Review of literature:**

- Biswajit Bera et al. (July 2020) this study is to examine the status of air quality during and pre-COVID-19 lockdown and to recommend some long-term sustainable environmental management plan.
- Kumari Pratima & Toshniwal Durga (May 2020) in their article explain about the variation in air quality during and before lockdown by taking the data from three popular cities of India. Author also said the economy of India got suffered but air quality find very good during 1st lockdown.
- Shakil Mohammad Hassan et al. "COVID-19 and the environment: A critical review and research agenda" the research based on cluster base content analysis focusing on covid 19 and environmental degradation, air pollution, climate and temperature
- Shafali Arora, et al. "Coronavirus lockdown helped the environment to bounce back" (November 2020), discuss the effect of COVID -19 on the global environment and the research outcome says that coronavirus itself is a vaccine for earth and humans are the virus.

4. **Research Methodology:** Secondary data has been used for analysis such as News Channel article, Journals, Research Paper, Official Sites, News Paper etc.

5. **Impact on Environment:**

5.1 **Facts and figures based on various reports:**

As a precautionary measure of COVID-19, the Prime Minister of India announces the 21 days lockdown of 22 March 2020, this was the world's largest lockdown because India is the 2nd populated country in the world. The complete lockdown means all factories, markets, shops, and places of worship are now closed, most public transport suspended and construction work halted, as India asks its citizens to stay home and practice social distancing.

During this lockdown one very positive side has been noticed that the air quality improved in such a manner that many cities where a few meters is not

clearly visible now can see distant hills, Blue sky, Rivers and Sea beaches have its pure colour that is Blue and Green, wild life feel free to move outside of forest they feel noise free natural home where they can visit freely.



Source: firstpost.com

Data shows that the main cities are recording much lower levels of harmful microscopic particulate matter known as PM 2.5, and of nitrogen dioxide, which is released by vehicles and power plants. PM 2.5, which is smaller than 2.5 micrometres in diameter, is considered particularly dangerous as it can lodge deep into the lungs and pass into other organs and the bloodstream, causing serious health risks.

The sudden fall in pollutants and the subsequent blue skies signal a dramatic shift for India -- which has 21 of the world's 30 most polluted cities, according to *the IQ AirVisual's 2019 World Air Quality Report*.

In New Delhi, government data shows the average concentration of PM 2.5 plunged by 71% in the space of a week -- falling from 91 microgram per cubic meter on March 20, to 26 on March 27, after the lockdown began. The World Health Organization considers anything above 25 to be unsafe.

The data from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), part of India's Environment Ministry, was collated by the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA).

Nitrogen dioxide went from 52 per cubic meter to 15 in the same period -- also a 71% fall. Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Bangalore have also recorded a fall in these air pollutants.

"I have not seen such blue skies in Delhi for the past 10 years," said Jyoti Pande Lavakare, the co-founder of Indian environmental organization Care for Air, and author of upcoming book "Breathing Here is Injurious to Your Health."

"It is a silver lining in terms of this awful crisis that we can step outside and breathe."

5.2 Data on traffic pollution

During the first three weeks of March, the average nitrogen dioxide levels declined by 40-50% in the cities of Mumbai, Pune and Ahmedabad, compared with the same period in 2018 and 2019, said Gufran Beig, a scientist with the System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting And Research (SAFAR) under India's Ministry of Earth Sciences.

"The reduced fossil fuel emissions due to (the) transport sector and slowdown in other emissions-related activity is slowly reducing the air pollutants," Beig said.



Source: By [Rebecca Wright](#), CNN Updated 1056 GMT (1856 HKT) April 1, 2020

The nationwide curfew in India on March 22 also resulted in the lowest one-day traffic pollution levels on record, analysis from CREA said. Other dangerous pollutants, PM2.5 and the larger PM10, which are less than 10 micrometers in diameter, also dropped steeply, the report added.

"It is most likely that even the record of March 22 will be broken, and we are seeing more and more cleaner days as industries, transportation and energy generation and demand are reducing across the country," said Sunil Dahiya, an analyst based in New Delhi for CREA.

Taking in reference reports of CPCB, SAFAR,CREA etc. helps us the authentication in improvement noticed the environment, Now after controlling this Pandemic situation we specially the government, industrialist have to think about the permanent solution for the reduction of pollution, As Mr. Dahiya also suggested that we should switch from fossil fuel to renewable energy sources. Cleaning of Rivers, Sea beaches lakes etc. There should be strict rules for everyone to take care of our natural resources. Proper filtration should be developed for extracting chemicals and other hazardous things from industries waste before allow to mix in rivers etc.

We are racing for infrastructure such as smart cities at the cost of compromising forest and trees on roads but today we can see that a small virus kneels down the developing and developed countries both rather they have smart and best equipment's, facilities and machineries etc. Rather that become a blind racer we should think smartly to move for development but not at the cost of nature. If today we ignore the importance of environment protection than in future the situation may become that much vulnerable which cannot sort be out.

6. Opportunities for economy with healthy environment:

6.1 Switch to a renewable energy resources from fossil fuel:

Uses of Fossil fuel such as coal by industries produces very much pollution in the air which is dangerous for society, even for employees and workers of that industries, carbon particulate can cause various respiratory diseases to human simultaneously it will cause depletion of our natural resources, with the help of researches industries can switch to renewable resources of energy such as Solar energy, wind energy etc. India is the country having grace of God having enough sunlight and wind that can be uses so it cost also less than other energy sources. Government should make regulation for industries to strictly

follow that without any failure with optimum cost environment can be protected.

6.2 Filtration techniques:

There should be proper technique for filtering waste water treatment by industries. After proper treatment only that water can be allowed to pass in any water Resources. Even Government should strictly ban the use of soaps, detergents and other chemicals by public also during any festival in water resources. If water resources are free from chemicals so there is no use of RO water purifier system, we can get pure water with normal purifier and full of minerals naturally that can help in boosting immunity.

At this point is the chances to get critic like the business of RO system and jobs suffer but this can be exchanged with jobs of treatment of water plant of industries, jobs related to supervision of water resources and many more, but benefit are infinite for sure.

6.3 Restricted Privatization and Globalization: As we all know government is planning to enhancement in privatization, but now the government has to rethink about it because if the government hold major shares in some very important industries they don't have to dilute it because as per dynamic market situation there should be requirement of autocratic leadership style. In case of privatization it would not necessary that industrialist think about the public beneficial at the time of vulnerable situation like COVID 19 . if we take example for understanding that today government owned major shares in public sectors companies so for tackling this pandemic situation they can use their resources because they owned it, like from Railways they took trains and uses them as isolation centre if required, in government companies like BSNL providing continue services without recharging, RBI Cutting down Repo rate and many more, lets turn the situation if private parties denied to give their consent for their property to be used for such purpose so in this case only forcefully government actions helpful. Researcher not saying that privatization should not encouraged or the owner of private companies are not work for the beneficial of public. Here are many examples present like Mr. Ratan Tata, Celebrities, Mukesh Ambani and the list is unending. In Researcher opinion there should be strict restriction in rules for everyone. Government should have the power to control the things. One more cons of private sector that

during lockdown government appeal to employers that don't terminate any employee in this situation, but the ground reality is different, employees get terminated and salary also compromised whereas in government jobs this kind of job insecurity fear not comes in the mind of people so they can do their work from home with relax manner.

6.4 Motivation and investment in Agricultural sector: Agriculture is the largest sector of India where around 70% population of rural households depends on agriculture for their livelihood. In spite of various policies and yojna's farmers are the struggler in the economy due to various reasons such as uncertain calamities, unawareness about the policies, illiteracy, unawareness about market etc. but this covid pandemic realize us how healthy environment is required for healthier life of human being. Now urban cities of India are moving towards farming such as organic. People are understanding the truth with money everything can buy but for livelihood the basic food is necessary. The Indian food have the power of Ayurveda's which helps to increase immunity and stronger. Our agriculture sector has to be motivated. Foremost thing required is to make this sector in curriculum compulsorily so that every child can understand it and think to make carrier and innovation in this field. now a days many people are going for farming and starts their business it not provide profit to owner but also helps in employment generation, increase in GDP, boosting up the power of economy by Make in India concept. This sector has the immanence power to boost economy. If country having healthy and educated people they can build a prosperous nation. For improving this sector Government should provide the good irrigation facility, good quality seeds at reasonable price, open for Investment, marketing facilities, integrated supply chain and of course education.

7. Suggestion:

As we already discussed many about environment protection by government and industries but it will incomplete without our contribution, so here are some habits by following that we will also contribute for healthy environment forever not only in lockdown. I mentioned lockdown because now it will be the second chapter of our life or can say nature is giving second chance to relive, so here are the some steps in general terms for saving our nature:

- As we see during lockdown the mostly vehicles stopped so the air quality is found very improved, so we can start to shift towards walking,

cycling and public transport and car pool method for daily travelling. It will be beneficial economically as well as in terms of health.

- Water treatment: water conservation through rain water harvesting method and not wasting unnecessary can be possible. one important thing that in above mention report of Uttarakhand pollution control board the quality of river ganga is improved during lockdown of industries but it is not possible to close industries but what can be done is proper filtrations and extraction of hazardous chemicals before disposing of industrial water in to river.
- Say No to polythene, it is mandatory but still polythene is in circulation why? Because we are not carrying a bag (cloth) while shopping so we asked for polythene from shopkeeper. This can be stopped when we will not take polythene either given by shopkeeper or anyone.
- Go Green: not just planting a tree is sufficient but have to take care of that plant until it turned in to tree. Even to stop cutting of tree is also important.

8. **Conclusion:** In the end of paper I just want to request that everyone should think about the happiness and liveliness of environment. Why we are racing with various instruments blindly. I am not saying that development is not necessary it is necessary but not at the cost of environment. If by making some more effort we will able to convert our dependency from non-renewable resources to renewable one so it will be more profitable for industry as well as society. For this Government has to fix norms for industries and societies because by legal norms everyone is going to liable for this otherwise no one can follow it seriously.

Now it's the time to Rebuild India, by keeping our forest alive, our agriculture should need to more strong, Our medical facilities should be make strong. Cleaning and protection of water is necessary. In India Talent, skills and hard work is the key feature of mostly Indians, now its time to sharpen it. Even I would like to request to read our ancestral culture and try to keep deep rooted base in our mind and lifestyles. Then of course we have to move with dynamic world but our values are pure and healthy so definitely building of our life will be strong.

9. References

1. Bera, B., Bhattacharjee S., Shit, P., K., Sengupta N., and Saha, S. “Significant impacts of COVID-19 lockdown on urban air pollution in Kolkata (India) and amelioration of environmental health” Environ Dev Sustain. 2020 Jul 28 : 1–28. doi: [10.1007/s10668-020-00898-5](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10668-020-00898-5)]
2. Kumari, P. & Toshniwal, D., “Impact of lockdown measures during COVID-19 on air quality– A case study of India” Published online: 16 Jun 2020, <https://doi.org/10.1080/09603123.2020.1778646>
3. Shakil Mohammad Hassan Munim Ziaul Haque Tasnia Mashiyat³ Sarowar Shahin⁴ “COVID-19 and the environment: A critical review and research agenda” Science of Total Environment Elsevier. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.141022>
4. Shefali Arora,¹ Kanchan Deoli Bhaukhandi² Pankaj Kumar Mishra³ “Coronavirus lockdown helped the environment to bounce back” Science of The Total Environment, Elsevier Volume 742, 10 November 2020.
5. <https://www.investindia.gov.in/team-india-blogs/how-covid-19-impacting-environment-around-us>
6. <https://www.indiatoday.in/education-today/gk-current-affairs/story/covid-19-4-vital-environmental-changes-evidenced-in-india-since-lockdown-1673726-2020-05-02>
7. <https://edition.cnn.com/2020/03/31/asia/coronavirus-lockdown-impact-pollution-india-intl-hnk/index.html>
8. <https://www.firstpost.com/health/world-environment-day-2020-from-better-air-water-quality-to-wild-animal-sightings-in-cities-heres-how-covid-19-lockdown-affected-environment-8448261.html>