



# Covid-19 And Support of Rural Economy in Economic Crisis

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**Abstract :-** COVID19, WHO announced a name for the new corona virus disease - COVID-19 on 11 February 2020 which was originated in the mid of November 2019 at Wuhan in China. India became part of the world wide pandemic COVID-19 caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome corona virus 2 (SARS-COV-2). The first case of COVID - 19 in India was reported on 30 January in Kerala which rose to three cases by 3 February. All were students who had returned from Wuhan, China. On 22 March 2020, India observed a -14 hour voluntary public curfews at the instance of the Prime minister Narendra modi after that four days lockdown happen till 31 May.

Lockdown paralyzed the migrant worker and rural economy of India. There are 80 % of return migrant labours which belongs from U. P. and Bihar have reached their native state. Rural economy status and impact of COVID19 on rural economy, role of migrant labours in rural economy. Possibility to enhance the rural economy have been examined.

**Keywords :-** SARS-COV-2, Public curfews, Lockdown, Rural economy, Migrant worker.

**Introduction :-** Corona virus disease detected in Wuhan, China, in the mid of November 2019, was first reported to the WHO office in China on 31 December. COVID19 pandemic outbreak was declared a public health emergency of International concern on 30 January 2020. On 11 February 2020, WHO announced a name for the new corona virus disease COVID19. The COVID19 pandemic in India is part of the world wide pandemic of corona virus disease 2019 (COVID19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome corona virus 2 (SARS-COV-2). The first case of COVID19 in India was reported on 30 January in Kerala which rose to three cases by 3 February. All were students who had returned from Wuhan, China. The outbreak has been declared an epidemic in more than a dozen States and Union territories, where provisions of the epidemic disease act 1897 have been invoked and educational and many commercial establishment have been shut down. India has suspended all tourist visas as a majority of the confirmed cases were linked to other countries. On 22 March 2020, India observed a -14 hour voluntary public curfews at the instance of the Prime minister Narendra modi. The government followed it up with lockdown in 75 districts where COVID19 cases had occurred as well as major cities. Further, on 24 march the Prime minister ordered a nationwide lockdown from 25 March for 21 days, affecting the entire 1.3 billion population of India on 14 April, the Prime minister extended the ongoing nationwide lockdown till 3 May. On 1 May, lockdown across the country was further

extended by two more weeks till 17 May. On 17 May, NDMA further extended the nationwide lockdown till 31 May.

**Objectives:-**

1. To study the Covid -19 as pandemic disease.
2. Its impact on rural economy .
3. How to assist the migrants and rural economy.

**Methodology**

Data for the study have been taken from various (Published and unpublished sources) Newspaper, websites and direct observations.

Analytical and synthetical approach have been taken.

**Study domain:-** Lockdown affected each and every person of the country but mostly affected the weaker section specially migrant labours. These are those people who built city, stand industrialization, enhance the agricultural activities, that is green revolution but due to COVID-19 shut down, labours lost their employment (Roji-roti). These labours does not live in hygienic condition even in peaceful situation. Due to hungriness, migrant workers started reverse migration from city to their native village.

Migrant workers return can be over loading in the rural economy but also may be a big challenge for metropolitan and city economy. There are 80% of return migrant labours which belongs from U.P. and Bihar have reached their native state.

**Rural economy :-** In Rural economy, economic activities and employment depend on agriculture and its related.

Despite of industrial and service sector comprehensive development, economy of India originally based on agriculture in nature. According to census 2011, 68.8% population of India belongs from rural area. Rural economy contribute 46% in national economy.

70% of rural population depend on agriculture and its related activities. Rural economy is very important for rural livelihood, employment and food security.

**Impact of COVID-19 on rural economy:-**

- ❖ Farmers are not getting of right price of their crops due to shut down of agriculture market ( krishi - mandi) or work on less potential.
- ❖ Due to hindering of supply chain and less demand, the price of milk is fallen.
- ❖ Due to shut down, shops of sweets and various ceremonies have closed, therefore the demand of agriculture product have declined.
- ❖ Lacking in transportation, Fruits -vegetables have to hard reach to market, that's why it don't provide the actual price of the foodstuffs and ultimately suffered by farmers.
- ❖ Income of producers have faced problem due to pressure on price and export - rice, cotton, onion, meat, rubber, tealeaf and other agricultural commodities.
- ❖ Spreading of rumor about corona virus in chicken and other meat production demands heavily decline. Various amount of chicken dumped into deep digging. Some state indirectly prohibit to sell its. Where else, It is selling, the rate of chicken face declining.

- ❖ Demand and export face a big challenge of meat - products, fish - products, sea -food and shrimp etc.
  - ❖ Due to hindering about supply and demand most of vegetables are throwing in the open place.
- Thus, there are so many bad impact come on rural economy due to COVID19.

Migrant labours in rural economy:-

- ❖ Informal sector of India developed naturally through rural population.  
Migrant workers enhance the income of not only of city but also send remittances to their respective family, through this enrich the village economy.  
Remittances of migrant workers provide livelihood to their family and also boost their agriculture inputs.
- ❖ Due to lockdown, migrant labours reversed migrate to their village. Thus, flow of capital investment into agriculture have blocked.

Therefore poverty of village also would be increased.

Possibilities:-

Possibilities about changes in the respect of nature and structure of economy have enhanced due to corona crisis.

- ❖ Unemployment of rural economy will be increased, if we not tackle right process to employ.
- ❖ Some states are telling about the skill mapping of labours are going on and job will provide near the village of workers. If actively implement then It will be healthy for the economy.
- ❖ State should proper land banking for providing set up a new industry. FDI, in this regard also will be supporting.
- ❖ In this contrast present scenario, we can get opportunities on the attention regarding rural sector.
- ❖ Commercial interest of people can induced about farming of flowers, fishing, apiculture, animal husbandry, agriculture etc.
- ❖ Potential increment of food processing and packaging's of foodstuffs should be increased through MSME and PPP.
- ❖ Through Reformation in the accessibility of cold storages, ware house, easy debt facilities, access to market etc. for boosting rural economy.
- ❖ Unskilled labours also have to employ through MGNREGA program and provide wages as regularly as can do like weekly or less than weekly. So that can use for their survival.
- ❖ It is necessary to provide facilities about selling of crops as grain market ( Anaj mandi), transport, storage , minimum support price strictly should imply.
- ❖ It should start facilities very soon for supply chain as whole potential.
- ❖ It should be given relax for one year to pay EMI and recovery of debt from farmers.
- ❖ It should be easy financial support for self help group and cooperative committee in rural region.
- ❖ Doubling of the budget for MGNREGA,
- ❖ Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Gramin Avas Yojana.
- ❖ It is require to serious attempt in the respect of overall development of agro- industry, food processing, cottage industry, handloom, handicrafts.
- ❖ Lastly, without willingness can't be achieved.

### **Conclusion**

India is a welfare state. The quality of welfare is inmate of our country because It believe in vasudhaiv kutumbakam (world is our family) Corona -19 Pandemic, influenced about every sector, rich and poor. Corona has unprecedented power, but mainly the poor who known as migrant labours have totally disrupted. Therefore we have to assist by any means, so that they live a meaningful life.

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