

PREDICTING BACK TO NORMALITY

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Abstract

Humanity is facing a huge calamity after World War 2. The outbreak of COVID 19 is threatening the whole world. This Pandemic result in the death of millions of people and lost of livelihoods and still the numbers are in increasing every day. The global economy collapsed. Decades of negligence have left public health system with a very week arsenal to fight against this contagious disease. Although, due to this crisis, we faced irretrievable damage but also changed our frame of mind toward a normal life. History witnessed some unforgettable pandemics which changed the order of world completely, this is also one of them. There are many new changes waiting for us in the future. After months a lot of places are unlocking India and a lot of them are not. As the lockdowns are easing with new safety guidelines this led to us assume that the pandemic is ending, and we will return to our normal life, but in fact this is not the case, there is a long journey. Until there is only a single person left with this virus, we are not safe as it can outbreak any time and caused deadly situation. From this edge of crisis we should have to come out of our bubble of this so-called, 'Normality.' Due to this illusion, we could put ours and many other's lives in danger. Things will return to their places eventually, but some may not. In this paper, we are going to discuss how this crisis will replace our old definition of "Normality" to a "New Normal." We must accept reality and learn to live with the mysterious microbe until there is a reliable vaccines present. By taking lessons from this unprecedented emergency, there is an urgent need to make improvement in different sectors as Health and hygiene, Education, Technology, and research There is no guarantee that this the last disaster, humanity is facing. Improvement in vaccine and quick response pandemic units will make our response stronger in future and will help to shape our new normal.

Keywords: COVID 19, contagious disease, Vaccine, unprecedented emergency, Normality.

INTRODUCTION :

Due to this COVID-19 pandemic our lives are changed in such an unexpected way that we could not possibly have imagined. The world of 2019 no longer exist.

India reported the first confirmed case of the corona virus infection on 30th January in the Kerala state. The affected had a travel history from Wuhan.

Covid 19 has affected day to day life an is slowing down the global economy. This pandemics affected millions of people who are either sick or are being killed due to spread of this disease. The most common symptoms of this viral infection are fever, cold , cough, bone pain and breathing problems, the ultimately leading to pneumonia. (Abid Haleem and Mohd Javaid ; March-April, 2020).

Special Issue on COVID 19

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OUR LIVES IN PANDEMIC

In to the midst of pandemic several countries across the world resorted to lockdowns to “flatten the curve” of the infection. These lockdown meant confining variant citizens to their homes, shutting down businesses and ceasing most economic activity. per the International fund (IMF), the world economy is predicted to shrink by over 3% in 2020-the steepest slowdown since the nice depression of 1930s. (Source- Indian express.com)

On 24th March,2020 our government announced a complete lockdown in the country to protect our people from this fatal virus. Due to this lockdown economy faced a great fall. After shutting down local industries many have faced unemployment.

Due to the fall in travel, global industrial activity has been affected. In the month of March there was seen a great fall in Oil prices as transportation section which deal with a high demand of oil approximately 60% , was affected severely because of the lockdown.

In brief there will be a huge damage to businesses that rely on people coming together in large numbers such as restaurant, cafes, gyms, hotels, theaters, cinemas, art galleries, shopping malls, fairs, museum and sporting events (Gideon Lichfield; March 17,2020).

According to the economic times a survey that was conducted by the Indian Society of Labor Economics (ISLE) on 520 ISLE members in the last week of May which showed the employment was considered as the most severe impact of the crisis while lower economic growth and rise in inequality were long term impact.

Postponement and cancellation of exams produce an undue stress among students.

Many people went in depression due to this uncertain situation .

This pandemic has restricted our lives for example : our experience of space, our mobility has become confined- reduced to walk a few kilometers around our house.

The most important feature of our experience of time during crisis is what anthropologist Jane Guyer termed “enforces presentism” : a feeling of being stuck in the present, combined with the inability to plan ahead. Currently we don’t know what to do next and when we will be able to return to work , schools , on holiday . In the middle of this crisis it is hard to imagine a future that looks different than the present.(Felix Ringel, May 28,2020).

THE BEGINNING OF NEW NORMALERA

In this lockdown people got frustrated and now there is only hope in their mind return to pre lockdown normal life. But there is an important question which need to be answered, “were our lives really normal before lockdown?. ‘Normality’ is that right word ? Many of us already had many complaints to that pre-lockdown world and thought it as dysfunctional place now they refer to that period as a time of normality.

Now in our country lockdowns are being opened in different phases with some rules of unlock. A vast majority thrive to get back to normal but they don’t even realize that we are heading into a period of waves of restrictions once again because there is a possibility of second wave of this virus and the scientists don’t even know how much fatal it could be. In a newspaper editorial Gleb Tsipursky (CEO of Disaster Avoidance Experts) predicted- we will be facing rolling waves of restrictions and shutdowns until we have a vaccine and need to focus much more on virtual interactions. To avoid the trap of normalcy, we need to understand the parallel between what’s going on and what happened at the start of the pandemic

CHANGES SHOWS GLIMPSE OF FUTURE

Our Home – a new office

Work from home is a new crash course for us which teaches us how we can come together to do our jobs while we are physically distant. This experience is giving us a glimpse of the work life of future ,which may be one of the positive developments to emerge from this trauma.

During the lockdown Indian IT industry presented their Work From Home(WHF) model , according to this model they made their employee work from home. The success of this WHF model surprised business leaders as well as customers. Now some business leaders believe in permanent implementation of this model. One large company announced to shift their 100/100 working model to 25/25. It means only 25% of employee will work at office at a certain time and overall their 25% of time will be spend in the office.

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REVOLUTION IN HEALTH AND MEDICINE

The global covid 19 coronavirus crisis is showing the globe that the trail we were on wrong route with respect to health crisis. Moreover several reliable therapeutic algorithms failed to work with COVID-19 patients. The most important examples are two old familiar drugs- chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine were first recommended but later their high doses resulted in the death of patients probably associated with their adverse side effects.

Time to develop new antivirals as well as new ways of treatments to so we will be able to make this health crisis less severe. Vaccination area required meaningful advances. COVID 19 has given the opportunity for health and Medicine to regain public trust.

NEW HABITS OF HYGIENE

Along with the changes in our lifestyles the rules for hygiene have also changed . The good thing is it has increased awareness among people. A study conducted under guidance of Mr Puneet Srivastava from 23-26 April included 211 people from different states showed significance changes in habits of hygiene which included hand washing, using sanitizer.(Prashansa Gupta , June 22, 2020).

There will be additional rule of Hygiene as hand washing , keep social distance, avoid touching unnecessary things. In order to ensure our safety we have to include these new habits of hygiene as a common part of our lives.

EMPHASIS ON E- LEARNING

In term of education , online learning also comes with some advantages. For an extended time, school and colleges have resisted online instructions and institutions that are considered inferior. However with a rapidly spreading virus a campus stuffed with people in close contact, school don't have any choice but to show to online classes as an alternate .

"I believe that the integration of information technology in education will be further accelerated and that online education will eventually become an integral part of school education," says Wang Tao, Vice President of Tencent Cloud and Vice President of Tencent Education.

CONCLUSION:

"History is dynamic and travel changes all the time".

- Yuval Ben-Ami

The subjects of normalcy changes with time and place. There is a new normal, and staying at home and maintaining social distance are also part of it .As the shutdowns are reopening , many of us want return the things same as it was before lockdown.

We have only two options : one is to accept this new normal or risk our lives onto the old definition of normal. Some things will get return with time and some may not. But the disruption to many businesses and livelihoods will be impossible to control.

So how we will be able survive in this new era? – the answer is ' hopefully'- with better health Care system, with pandemic response quickly to outbreaks and stop them from spreading, and capacity to build up medical equipments. These will help in facing future pandemics.

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