

Covid 19 Lockdown and its Impact on Kashmir Society: A Micro Level Analysis

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Abstract

The Novel Coronavirus that hit the China in December 2019 and since it widely spread across the globe carried out its serious economic repercussions. Like other countries of the world, India has also faced same health and economic challenge. Jammu and Kashmir a newly carved union territory of India has also high chunk of Covid 19 patients. On 21st of March 2020, India has imposed 21 days nationwide lockdown. But the Jammu and Kashmir has imposed the lockdown and curfew like restrictions before 10 days of it. Jammu and Kashmir economy in general and Kashmir economy in particular has faced very hardships since 1990s. Lockdown, curfews, hartal and strikes are new normal in Kashmir. From 2008 to 2020, Kashmir has witnessed five worst lockdowns and blockades, which lasted on an average for a period of four months a year. These lockdowns and curfews hampered the Kashmir economy very badly and make the lives of people from bad to worse; however Covid 19 lockdown has some serious concerns than other lockdowns that Kashmir has witnessed during whole political turmoil. This paper is based on primary survey. 50 respondents had been drawn from different economic groups. It is revealed that maximum of the respondents experienced that the consequences of Covid 19 lockdown more serious on poor and marginalized sections of the society than on the rich and middle income groups.

Key Words: Covid 19, Lockdown, Food Security,

1. Introduction

On 11th March 2020, World Health Organization (WHO) declared Covid 19 a global emergency, given its impact on the entire population and economy. Covid 19 has paralyzed the global transportation, aviation, tourism, industries and all other sectors. It impacts on both demand and supply side of the economy. It has been projected that

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