

Geographical analysis of the effects of the Corona epidemic on the environment and nature

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Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact on the environment, with changes in human activity leading to temporary changes in air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions and water quality. As the pandemic became a global health crisis in early 2020, various national responses including lockdowns and travel restrictions caused substantial disruption to society, travel, energy usage and economic activity, sometimes referred to as the "anthropause". As public health measures were lifted later in the pandemic, its impact has sometimes been discussed in terms of effects on implementing renewable energy transition and climate change mitigation. With the onset of the pandemic, some positive effects on the environment as a result of human inactivity were observed. In 2020, carbon dioxide emissions fell by 6.4% or 2.3 billion tonnes globally. In April 2020, NOx emissions fell by up to 30%. [3] In China, lockdowns and other measures resulted in a 26% decrease in coal consumption, and a 50% reduction in nitrogen oxide emissions. Greenhouse gas emissions rebounded later in the pandemic as many countries began lifting restrictions, with the direct impact of pandemic policies having a negligible long-term impact on climate change.

Keywords:- Impact of Corona epidemic on the environment & Nature , Impact in India Covid 19 and conclusion.

I. Introduction :-

With the global health crisis deepening due to the corona virus pandemic and lockdown becoming the new 'rule' for many, there is a growing perception that by the time the corona virus is over, the world will be safe. Appearance will change forever. A few cases of Novel Corona virus infection first appeared in China and after a few months, it took the form of a global epidemic. Due to this pandemic, the tightly interconnected systems of the globalized world have completely changed. In an effort to control the outbreak of this virus, governments of different countries have imposed restrictions on movement and social interaction, due to which more than one-third of the world's population of 7.8 billion is currently affected by this epidemic. Due to this, in a way, they are forced to remain locked in their homes. There is general consensus today that the world will likely continue to grapple with the immediate threat of COVID-19 in some way or the other for the next one and a half to two years, and that even after that, reconstruction and its lasting effects will undoubtedly continue to be felt for many years. . In many parts of the world, borders are closed, airports, hotels and businesses are closed, and educational institutions are closed. These unprecedented measures are tearing apart the social fabric of some societies and disrupting many economies, resulting in mass job losses and widespread hunger. Currently, many people It is not known in what form this crisis will unfold. Today's top priority is to save lives (if there is life, there is life). And this purpose of saving lives is the future success. But to be successful in the future, countries around the world must plan for it. This pandemic is different from any war but we need to work together to overcome it. When people realize what collective action can accomplish, it can change how we relate to each other and result in a greater sense of community. We have to ensure that the changes that result from this pandemic are for the better and not for the worse. The Covid-19 pandemic has changed the world to a great extent. As its spread increases every day, how it has changed the world. When we get over this, we will surely be different people in a different world.

Objective :-

1. To study the effect of corona pandemic on the environment , nature and Human.

Hypothesis :-

1. Corona pandemic is having adverse and favorable effects on the environment and Human Activities.

Sources of data :-

Primary and secondary information has been used in the present research paper. Primary information has been obtained through personal contact, questionnaire and schedule. Secondary information has been collected from newspapers, magazines, books, government and non-government published and unpublished reports.

Impact of Corona epidemic on the environment and Nature :-

As the COVID-19 pandemic increased exponentially across the globe threatening lives and uprooting the economy of cities and nations, it also had a major impact on the environment. In a matter of a few months, the world has transformed its way of living. As Work from Home becomes the new norm, 23% of carbon emissions have dropped globally just because of a decrease in transportation. But that's not all! Here are few other positive as well as negative impacts the COVID-19 pandemic has brought to the environment. While on one hand Covid-19 has created many formidable challenges across the world, on the other hand amazing and vibrant scenes of natural beauty are also being seen. History is witness to the fact that whenever such terrible epidemics have occurred in the past, the environment has taken a positive turn. Certainly, this form of nature may be a momentary relief for human life during the Corona infection period, but when the threat of infection is completely eliminated, will the same condition of the environment be maintained? When it will not only be necessary for all countries to accelerate the pace of development, but will also be a compulsion, then will such steps be taken which can lead to sustainable development without harming nature.

Understand nature's warning

This short-term fix of an environmental problem is neither a permanent solution nor a desirable outcome. However, the present situation should be understood as a warning given by nature which provides an opportunity to change the lifestyle and development process of human beings. History is replete with such examples which prove that pandemics have had a deep impact on the environment, but immediately after the pandemic, natural resources have also been exploited on a large scale to boost the pace of economic growth. In such a situation, there is no need to be too happy with the short-term environmental improvements resulting from the Corona epidemic, but there is a need to redefine the interrelationships of humans, nature and economic development.

Many environmentalists believe that this virus is a side effect of the natural imbalance created between man and nature. Scientists say that factors like excessive meat production, antimicrobial resistance and rising global temperatures are playing an important role in the spread of wild-borne viruses to humans and taking catastrophic forms. Besides, the climate crisis is also reducing our immunity to fight viral diseases. In fact, the ecological changes taking place in the last few decades, unabated economic development and rampant exploitation of natural resources have increased the unfair and unbalanced use of the ecosystem.

Mineral wealth decreased on a large scale

Increasing population has expanded urbanization and industrialization, due to which mineral wealth has decreased on a large scale and the scope of forest produce has been limited. This has created a situation of biological and natural imbalance. World Meteorological Organisation's report 'The State of the Global Climate', revealing environmental anomalies, states that several records of temperature rise have been broken due to global warming in recent years. While 2019 was the warmest year, the decade 2010-2019 was the warmest on record.

Environmental damage does not only harm the bio-diversity, but also brings the human life in worse condition. The report states that 820 million people in the world were on the verge of starvation in 2018 due to natural disasters and about 6.7 million people were displaced. These facts force us to think that what has happened in the last few decades that this degradation of nature has happened. Certainly, in this period of crisis, the question has been raised on the mindset of man to consider hyper-materialism, productionism and consumerism as synonymous with development. The glare of modernity has increased the tendency of individualism and hedonism in people. These things sound good for human upliftment, but the attitude of controlling the ecosystem by new scientific techniques has given birth to environmental anomaly.

helpless economic powers

The United Nations Environment Program has also confirmed in one of its reports that a new infectious disease appears in humans every four months. About 75 percent of these diseases come from animals. Despite this, man is forgetting how dangerous it can be to hurt bio-diversity. Today, all the economic powers that boast of modernity and scientificity are helpless in front of this disease. It may be late, but the medicine for this infection will also be discovered, but by then a lot would have been destroyed. Therefore, if we really want to maintain a sense of coexistence between economic growth and sustainability, consumption and lifestyles have to be designed in a way that does not negatively impact nature.

Impact in India Covid 19 :-

With over 697 000 confirmed cases and 19 700 deaths as of July 6, 2020, India accounts for around 6% of global COVID-19 infections and 3.5% of COVID-19-attributable mortality, and is ranked third worldwide in terms of the number of infections. Although the proportion of the total population infected is low compared with other countries—0.05% versus 0.87% in USA, 0.73% in Brazil, 0.46% in Russia, and 0.4% in Italy —India has a high risk of community transmission because of crowded living conditions, congested cities, a large slum-dwelling population, poor health-care facilities, low educational attainment, and high levels of poverty. Deaths attributable to COVID-19 are largely premature, with around half of deaths occurring in people aged 40–64 years. A relatively young age structure (less than 5% of the population is older than 70 years), high levels of comorbidities, and poor health-care facilities are leading to high premature mortality due to COVID-19 in India. 3 The disease has begun to spread from large cities to smaller towns and rural areas, and if the disease spreads in proportions similar to in Mumbai or Delhi, the adverse health effects are likely to be severe for poorer people and those living in poorer regions of the country.

In this context, Rajib Acharya and Akash Porwal report a timely and policy-relevant Article in *The Lancet Global Health*, concerning the development of a vulnerability index for managing and responding to COVID-19 in India. The authors used available data from reliable sources and extended the concept of vulnerability to microregions (districts) in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. They adopted the methodology of social vulnerability indices that has been previously used in related literature. Acharya and Porwal's study makes three important contributions. First, the study identified five key domains and 15 indicators to measure spatial vulnerability to the COVID-19 epidemic in India. The five domains—social, demographic, economic, health, and epidemiological—are unique and represent multiple facets of vulnerability that can be replicated in low-income and middle-income countries. Second, the study found a high association between housing and hygiene and the availability of health care with overall vulnerability at state and district levels. Third, the study documented large variations in the vulnerability index across the 640 districts of India

Whether a vulnerability index can be a good predictor of COVID-19 infection in microregions (districts) remains unclear. Although the authors noted a reasonable association between the vulnerability index and infections at the state level, they did not find a clear association at the district level. Besides, the causal association of the vulnerability index with outcome variables (case-fatality ratio or similar variable) requires further investigation.

Research on the COVID-19 epidemic in India has focused more on estimation, projection, and clinical management, and less on vulnerability and health systems. To our knowledge, Acharya and Porwal present the first attempt to investigate vulnerability as a consequence of COVID-19 infection with reasonable precision. Programmatically, the central and state Indian Governments have used various outcome variables, including the number of infected cases, case-fatality ratio, and recovery rate in managing and controlling the epidemic. Vulnerable districts within each state might be prioritised for programmatic intervention.

The vulnerability index has been prescribed as a risk of consequences of COVID-19 infection across geographies in India. The higher the index value, the higher the impact of COVID-19 on mortality, morbidity, and potentially catastrophic health spending in the region. Control and allocation of resources from central and state governments is often difficult for policy makers. Based on the findings of this study, it might be appropriate to allocate resources for control and mitigation of the COVID-19 pandemic in districts of India. The findings further suggest that public investment in health to improve health facilities should be augmented and private health centres should be involved with care of patients with COVID-19. Many highly vulnerable districts in India are in poor states that have a high vulnerability index value for non-availability of health care. Public health investment in health

infrastructure, manpower, and testing facilities could save patients who are critically ill in such districts. Furthermore, making the public aware of, through mass media, the importance of social distancing, hygienic practices, and careful care of older people and those with comorbidities could help reduce infections and fatalities.

Although Acharya and Porwal outlined the limitations of computing subdistrict level estimates and data periodicity, I believe their estimates for the epidemiological and health care domain were underestimated. For example, in the epidemiological domain, there are 37 districts with less than 30 cases for men aged 40–54 years, which might have affected the estimates. Such an exercise at a state or regional (group of districts) level could be undertaken using data from National Sample Survey or the Longitudinal Ageing Study in India. The predictions that poorer and more crowded regions will have larger adverse consequences from COVID-19 need further validation with data from the poorer districts of the worst affected states. Finally, in addition to ranking districts across the country, districts within each state should also be ranked to help the state government in resource allocation and management.

II. Conclusion:-

Today, to overcome epidemics and environmental anomalies like Corona, fundamental structural changes will have to be brought at the economic level. Corona has given us the opportunity to redefine economics and environmental politics on the lines of ecological respect and justice at the local and global level. There is also talk of promoting localization as opposed to globalization, but we should not forget that like this disease, the environmental problem is also global, hence along with promoting local services and employment, there is need for cooperation and investment in global institutions. also needs to be strengthened. Not only there is a need to promote green economy and eco-renovation programs, but ecological management and conservation should also be encouraged at the individual, legal and managerial levels. With the help of all these efforts, innovations, transparency, accountability and strong political will, we can be successful in overcoming this crisis.

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