COVID-19
Crisis and India

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COVID-19 Crisis and India

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Dedicated to

My most respected elder sister
Dr. Gaytri Singh
(Dean, Faculty of Arts, CSJM University, Kanpur)
(Principal, Armapore PG College, Kanpur)



Whose loving & inspirational guidance
Has always paved the life path of
All of us brothers and sisters.

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Foreword

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to a dramatic loss of human life worldwide and has impacted the very existence of every individual with severe and far reaching impacts on all walks of life. This deadly virus has created significant knock-on effects on the daily life of citizens. We human beings are helplessly staring into the crystal ball of the future and still wondering how this unexpected and unprecedented pandemic will influence our psychological and physical well-being and the scars it will leave on us, the lessons we and our future generations will learn from it.

This pandemic has apparently displayed significant psychological and social impacts on the population world -wide. The economic and social disruption caused by the pandemic is devastating. Jobs of millions of workers have been decimated and means of livelihood of millions is at stake. Ironically the millions of agricultural workers, waged or self - employed and who have been feeding the world are themselves currently on the verge of poverty, starvation, and poor health. This pandemic has taken its toll on children, college students and health workers who are most vulnerable in developing post- traumatic stress disorders, anxiety depression etc. The social distance and the security measures have affected the relationship among people and their perception of empathy towards others.

But as we have fought resiliently and continue fighting with this invisible enemy of mankind we also have slowly started treading the path of optimism by initiating positive measures in our lives which we had been ignoring since long.

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All of us are privy to the big leap that technology has taken in the past one year with the onset of a more digital economy from buying groceries to seeking online consultations with a doctor. The education sector has witnessed a complete paradigm shift from offline traditional classes to hybrid teaching learning. Parents everywhere have realised the value of schools and appreciated the hard work of teachers. The nature of office work has taken a gigantic leap and is being redefined with each passing day.

There has been a marked transformation in lifestyle changes, to better eating habits, and trying ways and means to keep oneself fit.

An even broader and a more optimistic picture is in the form of an individual to an institution to the entire nation that we are ready and prepared to anticipate and manage psychological and healthcare issues that might occur in the post COVID-19 world. This will be half the battle won because it will empower people to recover from the deleterious effects of this pandemic

We need to overcome the post pandemic effects with least possible losses and rebuild our lives together by adhering to the lessons learnt from this crisis and be resilient in facing future threats.

It gives me immense pleasure to introduce the book **"COVID-19 Crisis and India"** in which the contributors have touched all possible areas impacted by Noval CoronaVirus.

My sincere appreciation and commendation to Dr Dhiraj Singh who has compiled this book beautifully and along with the contributors provided a deep insight on such relevant and burning issues.

I am certain that this book will be extremely beneficial to its readers because the aftermath of COVID -19 and its far reaching impact will be felt by each one of us in some way or the other.

My best wishes to everyone associated with this book.



Dr. Meena Bhandari

Editorial

The story of the development of human civilization is a reflection of the human tendency to struggle, willingness to live, and the ability to have patience in adversity. Today human is seated on the highest peak of development. As a means of transportation, today human has created wind-powered bullet trains and a fleet of luxury cars and airplanes transporting him to any corner of the world within a few hours. Now he has many resources to see and interact with his family members and friends who are sitting thousands of miles away. In his pocket, there is now a smart phone with high speed internet, whose work efficiency and ability has given him the feeling of having the whole world in his grasp. His discoveries in the field of Science and technology have greatly facilitated and made his life easy. Human has also made unprecedented development in the medical field. Human beings are proud of their achievements.

His sense of pride inspired him to consider himself as the omnipotent. This struggle of development at the global level also gave rise to fierce competition. Human beings have exploited natural resources and nature endlessly to maximize development. Man's tendency to walk on the path of endless development has made him selfish, insensitive, absurd and blind.

In this competition of development, man forgot that natural resources cannot be rebuilt. If they are not used judiciously, they will end. Natural resources are not only for the mankind but also for all the beings. These are like heritage for all the beings. These resources should be constantly used lawfully and socially accepted way by protecting and securing them so that these resources can

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achieve by the next generations. But man has forgotten it in the insistence of living in the present. Indiscriminate exploitation of these resources also disturbed the natural balance, causing many problems from time to time. Problems are sometimes seen as natural disasters, sometimes as disease and sometimes as epidemics.

Today, the entire human civilization is facing an epidemic which has been named as Corona epidemic. The corona epidemic is a viral epidemic whose origin is believed to be the Wuhan city of China. The outbreak of the virus was first seen in Wuhan in December 2019. In India its transition was seen first time in January 2020. After China, widespread outbreaks of Covid-19 were seen in almost all the countries of the world including Europe, America, Brazil, Iran etc. The impact of Covid-19 in India started to appear from March 2020. The Government of India imposed all restrictions and stopped all international flights. All modes of public transport in the country were banned. On the evening of 24 March 2020, Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi announced the first lock-down for 21-day in the country, which was started from 25 March 2020 and continued till 14 April, 2020. The same was followed by the announcement of the lock-down in three other phases sequentially. There was unprecedented lockout across the country during the entire lock-down (from March 25, 2020 to May 31, 2020). The wheel of human life was stopped. After this, the unlocking process started from June 1, 2020 to take care of the deteriorating conditions of the country. Gradually, a successful attempt was made to bring the country's system back on track by eliminating restrictions. By January 2021, everyone had almost forgotten the corona epidemic. Life of Indians was becoming normal. The country's economic situation had recovered.

All the countrymen were overtaking the dark memories of Corona. The economy was on track. On the one hand, world famous Hindu Fest *Kumbh Mela* was being organized in *Haridwar* and on the other hand, the joyful festival of colours *Holi* was also celebrated with full enthusiasm and zeal on 29 March 2021. But at the same time the second wave of Corona was also knocking in the country. The Legislative Assembly elections of five states

were to be held. Especially on the assembly election of Bengal, attention of all over the nation was focused. From March 27, 2021 to April 29, 2021, Bengal assembly elections were held in eight phases. Simultaneously, the three-tier *Panchayat* elections of Uttar Pradesh were also to be completed. The annual examinations of the University and the Boards were also to be held. Some examinations were held but most of the examinations were not held.

In all these circumstances, the arrival of the second wave of Corona was a big misfortune for the whole country. The results of the Legislative Assembly elections were declared on May 2, 2021. After this the central government and the provincial governments came into action. But till then the situation had become very bad. The second wave of Corona was shaken whole the country. This period from March 2020 to May 2021, in which the outbreak of Corona shook the systems of the entire country, will be described as a dark period in Indian history. No one knows that when the time will be good again in the future? No one knows when the country will come out from this phase of public curfew and lock-down? From January 16, 2021 vaccination was started for the people of age 45+ years in the country and now from May 1, vaccination has started in the country for the people of age 18+ years.

But in the meantime the country has suffered a lot. Common citizens of the country had to face many such problems which cannot be imagined and explained. All the systems of the country have been badly affected. I hope the conditions will be normal in the future. This period of Corona and its impact will keep warning all Indians about the problems in the coming times and will also pave the way to deal with this kind of epidemic.

In this terrible period of Corona, a book entitled **"COVID-19 Crisis and India"** is being edited keeping in mind the effects of Covid-19 on Indian systems. In this book, various scholars, teachers and researchers shared their experiences of this Corona period through their research papers/articles. In this book, a total of 44 articles have been included received from different parts of the country. Thus, this book will be a collection of a total of 44 articles.

Thanks and gratitude to the scholars, faculty members and researchers for supporting by their research papers/articles. Thanks and gratitude to Adhyaya Publishers & Distributors, Delhi for converting these ideas expressed by different contributors about given topic in the form of book. With heartfelt gratitude to all the associates and kindred people who have directly and indirectly helped to form the proposed idea in a book form. Special loving gratitude to my wife Dr. Renu Singh and my sweet kids Adwait Singh and Atharv Singh.

Through this book, an attempt has been made to study the immediate and far-reaching effects on various Indian systems as a result of the Corona epidemic. This book will introduce the effects of the dark period of the corona epidemic to future generations. In future, this book will also be helpful in guiding the researchers working on this disaster. This book will be interesting and knowledgeable for the scholars of contemporary events as well. With this belief---

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