



INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH JOURNAL ON ADVANCED SCIENCE HUB

e-ISSN : 2582 - 4376
Open Access

RSP SCIENCE HUB

(The Hub of Research Ideas)

Available online at www.rspsciencehub.com

Special Issue of First International Conference on Advancements in Research and Development Covid19 and Environment-A Theoretical Review from Higher Education Students Perspective

Ms Remya. S¹

Assistant Professor & Research Scholar, St Joseph's College, Irinjalakuda

Abstract

The economic rescue packages for dealing with the impact of coronavirus must also be green. The government has to spend large amount of money to sustain jobs and livelihood. This should be done keeping in view green concept. The year 2020 seems to be more remarkable and transformational in recent history. There have been demand and supply shocks across the global economy as a result of emergence of COVID 19. Many European economies faced dislocations as a result of virus spread. COVID 19 is an infectious disease caused by a newly invented coronavirus. They were first discovered in the late 1960s. The study covered the various ways in which coronavirus is bringing changes in the environment. Some of them are positive and the others have a negative impact on the environment. The impact of COVID 19 on International Environmental law was also examined. The environmental consequences of COVID 19 in various countries were also analysed. Italy and China were the countries selected for identifying environmental impact. The various ways in which virus is bringing changes in the environment are air quality improvement, greenhouse gas emission, waste, metro, airline emissions and climate. The interconnections between COVID 19 pandemic and international environmental law at three stages of crisis was made.

Keywords ; Corona Virus, Environment, Environmental Consequence, Students Perception

1. Introduction

Many oil companies have committed to new environmental targets and technologies from the beginning of this year. They have replaced from clean power to hydrogen fuel. Banks have withdrawn from coal financing. Automakers have introduced new electric cars on to the market. Renewable energy and storage will continue. The next decade is very crucial in the way the business defines its relationship with the environment and the steps to be taken by the government to secure the future against adverse impact of climate change and degradation of human capital. The fossil fuel companies have to manage new reputational risks. The company's entire

environmental performance coming under the scrutiny from both shareholders and customers. Companies have to justify the impact of their operations and supply chain. They should work out how to tackle with operational and reputational risks. It is very difficult for the companies to survive in the world of global emissions and environmental degradation and consumer demand. Environmental regulations are rolled back and it places a great responsibility on business to ensure that standards are met. If they are not followed, the company's creditworthiness and cost of disclosure and financial penalty will be more. Environmental issues are harmful consequences of human activity on the environment. Environmental protection is the art of protecting natural environment. Natural environment includes individuals, organisations

and government. Protection is done both for the benefit of environment and human beings. Environmentalism is a social and environmental movement. It addresses different environmental issues. The CO₂ equivalent of greenhouse gases has already exceeded 400 parts per million (Intergovernmental panel on climatic report). Climate disasters are increasing. Around 70 percent of disasters are climate related. In the last decade, around 2.4 billion people were affected by climate disasters. Sudden heavy rains, intense tropical storms, repeated flooding etc. are likely to increase. Environmental destruction caused by humans is a global ongoing problem. Environmental consequences are impact on the environment of various product releases. The severity of any environmental pollution is determined by the volume of oil dispersed in water and the local situations of the place. Climate change is causing environmental consequences which include increased temperature, extremes of precipitation, sea level rise, and extreme weather events. It is also causing direct consequences on public health, including health related disorders and respiratory and allergic disorders. It also causes food insecurity, stress migration and collective violence. All of these create adverse consequences on mental health of individuals, communities and entire nations. At the global level, countries with most greenhouse gas emissions suffer the least and those with the least emissions suffer the most. At the national level, it has adverse impact on poor people, minorities, women, children, older people and others. All sectors have responsibility for addressing climate change. [1-5] The environmental consequences of mining and processing activity have made restoration an issue of enormous importance for industrial regions. The recovery of sustainable forested ecosystem has led to recovery of regional lakes and provided a pleasant habitat to attract economic diversification. The main aim is to encourage and implement a community role in systematically improving the regional environment. This helps to solve the issues of fertility imbalance, organic matter shortage and indigenous species selection to produce crucial [6-9] Sustainable research. The biogas sector is also gaining more importance. There is large volume of thermal radiation across the globe. The main

consequences of environmental corrosion include the following

- Shutdowns
- Wastage of valuable resources
- Decreased efficiency
- High expense
- Compromised safety
- Compromised technology

1.1. Statement of the Problem

The pollution and greenhouse gas emissions have reduced as countries try to minimize the spread of coronavirus. Within a matter of months, the world has been transformed. Thousands of people died and hundreds of thousands have fallen ill. For those who have not caught the disease, their entire life style changed. So this global pandemic is also bringing about environmental change. When the travel has been reduced, the emissions will be reduced. But when the people are planning to take long trips later, the condition will be adverse. The demand for oil products steel and other metals has reduced. At the same time their stock has increased so it will help to pick production faster. Thus it can be seen that corona virus have a long term impact on sustainability. The efforts to contain the virus have a remarkable environmental impact. In addition to loss of lives, the virus had disrupted society and demobilized the global economy. The present study deals with the environmental consequences in the wake of COVID 19.

1.3. Objectives of the Study

- To study the ways in which Coronavirus is bringing changes to the environment
- To study the impact of COVID 19 on Environment
- To study the students perception on environmental consequences of COVID 19

1.4. Research Methodology

Research type: Descriptive Research

Data Base: The present study is based on both primary and secondary data. Primary data is collected from students of selected institutions. Secondary data is collected from Journals, magazines and websites. Sample size is 50. Method of sampling is Convenient sampling. Percentage analysis, ranking and Likert scale were used for the Study.

2. Findings

The Different Ways in which Coronavirus is changing the Environment The COVID 19 has a big impact on environment. Some are positive (drop in CO2 emissions as factories shutter) while others negative (growing of infected waste like tissues and old face masks). The following are the ways Virus is having an effect

1. Improvements in Air Quality

- Drop in air pollution when virus outbreak in December
- There was around 14 percent drop in rush hour traffic
- Due to reduction of air pollution, lives of persons could be saved
- European Commission limits on air pollution designed to protect people's health.

2. Greenhouse gas emissions

- Economic activity slowed down
- The countries order the close down of schools, shops and factories
- CO2 emissions fallen by around 25 percent
- Demand of oil reduced
- Global oil demand is expected to decline this year
- Energy markets also affected
- Demand for transport fuels fallen
- There has been a rise in internet traffic
- People go on spending a long time on internet searching information, playing games, what's app etc.

3. Mountains of Waste

- Coffee chain Starbucks decided to stop accepting reusable cups from customers
- Serve drinks in disposable single use cups
- Single use cups cannot be recycled
- Very difficult to dispose medical waste produced by hospitals including face masks
- Single use medical items in contact with infected patients should be burned to prevent further contamination.

4. More room on the metro

- Peak hour travel avoided . Working from home resulted in loss of service of cleaner forms of transport
- Riders were not allowed to take tickets on board to reduce the spread of virus

5. Stalled airline emissions

- Airlines cancelling increasing number of flights
- Countries introduce travel restrictions
- Airline industry lose up to \$113 billion
- There has been a dip in carbon emissions

6. Climate is no longer the crisis

- Meetings were cancelled
- Virus cannot be allowed to slow down actions to tackle climate and ecological Crisis.

Trade off Analysis of Covid 19

This analysis considers both positive and negative impacts of human interventions on nature.

Positive impacts

- Good air quality in 337 cities
- Decline in nitrogen dioxide
- Reduction in pollution

Negative impacts

- Society disruptions
- Demobilization of global economy
- Deforestation
- Biodiversity loss

Trade off analysis

This involves identifying the stakeholders in making specific choices and estimating potential gains or losses for various stakeholder groups. The role of private and public stakeholders is determined and the influence of outcomes on existing national and global governance structure is analysed.

Other findings

- The data was collected from 25 male students and 35 female students who were studying in colleges in Thrissur district.
- Around 93% of the respondents were extremely aware about the impact of Covid 19 on the environment and only 7% were moderately aware about the environmental consequences .
- The main positive impact of Covid 19 on environment according to them were reduction in air pollution, improvement in air quality, improvement in water quality, improved wild life, improved vegetation for plants, reduction in greenhouse gas emission, clean beaches, reduction in airline emissions.
- The main negative impact was increase in wastage, reduction in waste recycling etc.
- Around 93% of respondents strongly agree to the fact that there has been a considerable drop in air pollution as a result of Covid 19.
- They opined that the main reason for drop in air pollution was due to low traffic.
- Around 90% of respondents opined that economy has slowed down.
- Majority of the respondents agree to the fact that demand of oil has fallen.

- The demand for energy markets have been affected.
- Around 95% of respondents strongly agreed to the fact that demand for transport fuels has also fallen.
- 89% of the respondents strongly agreed that there has been considerable increase in waste as a result of outbreak of Covid 19.
- Working from home has resulted in loss of service of cleaner forms of transport .
- The main consequence of environmental erosion was wastage of valuable resources. The least consequence was compromised technology.
- The main measures adopted to reduce environmental imbalances were providing liquidity support to various sectors including agriculture, expand social safety nets and food grants, upscale investments in social and economic infra structure, setting up of health support fund, extending the payment of taxes etc

Conclusion

Covid 19 is upon every person. This too shall pass. All persons should remain careful and take precautionary measures. Covid 19 pandemic offers a plenty of lessons on personal, regional and planetary level. This crisis shows the urgency to promote necessary transformations for society to survive in the 21st century. It can be a good reminder that in any break down, there is always a chance for breakthrough. Community quarantine helped to value ingredients and materials produced locally by neighbors and friends. It is a sign that all persons unite their actions to solve global problems and respond quickly in spite of many obstacles. The virus has given a good lesson-If we reduce our impact on nature, she will return the favour with fresh air, clean water and bounteous eco system services.

References

Websites

- [1].<http://www.bbc.com>
- [2].<http://www.msn.com>
- [3].www.unenvironment.org
- [4].www.forbes.com
- [5].<http://www.voicesofyouth.org>
- [6].<http://opiniojuris.org/2020/03/30>
- [7].<https://www.politico.eu/article>

Books

- [8].Yong Bai, Quiang Bai, Subsea Engineering Handbook (second edition), 2019
- [9].B.S Levy, JA Patz Climate change, Encyclopedia of the Anthropocene, 2018
- 10.G.Koptsik, P.Beckett Environmental materials and waste 2016