

Survey Paper on “Is India ready to reopen?”

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Abstract: As “Unlock” by the government was just around the corner, we all had one question in our minds, “Is India ready to reopen?” even when COVID19 still prevails. So, we took a survey of around 31 questions related to what people observed and experienced during lockdown. The data is analysed, and trends are being generated.

Index Terms: COVID19, Lockdown, Unlock

I. Introduction

COVID19 is a contagious disease which mostly spreads through drops of saliva or discharge of the nose when an infected person sneezes or coughs. Most people who are infected with COVID19 virus show symptoms like fever, headache, mild to moderate respiratory illness. The effective way to prevent and slow down transmission of the virus is be well informed about it, the symptoms it causes and how it spreads.^[1]

The government of India has taken many steps which are helping the citizens in these troublesome times-

1. Introduction of Arogya Setu app.
2. Setting up “Suraksha Stores” across India to provide daily essentials
3. Free LPG refills under the Ujjawala scheme
4. Rs 18,000 crore in tax refunds to individuals and businesses
5. Rs 13,855 crore gone towards payment of the first instalment of PM-KISAN scheme

And many more.^[2]

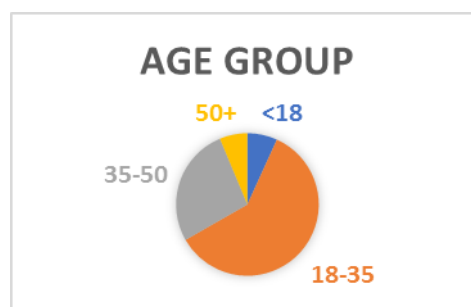
II. Executive Summary-

On 5th June 2020, just at the brim of time when India was ready to “Unlock” after almost 2 and a half months of “Lockdown”. The survey was taken to know the preparedness and the attitude towards COVID19 of the citizens of India. It was predicted that in the months of June-July, COVID19 cases will peak in India^[3], but keeping mind the economic crisis faced by the people, the government has decided to reopen India in a few phases^[4]. It is important to know what happened during lockdown to see if the country is really ready to reopen again.

Our survey scratches the surface of what happened during the lockdown in India, what people observed about treating and tackling the pros and cons of the lockdown. We asked a series of questions which are divided into 5 sections-

1. Seriousness of safety measures among people
2. Condition of containment zones
3. Fulfilment of basic duties by the government
4. Social work done by people
5. General questions about their time in lockdown

Our major focus was on the point of containment zones and how it affected people of different occupation, age group and gender. There nearly 170 hotspots in India. Hotspots are the biggest contributors of the rise of COVID19 cases in India, which is nearly 80%.^[5] Because if we know the conditions of the containment zones in the hotspots then, we can conclude the need of opening the country.



People from different occupations like daily wage worker to students, from the age variations ranging from less than 18 to above 50 took our survey and gave their perspectives and observations of what was happening around them. Our respondents do not only confide from one city but are from different cities and religious backgrounds too. Our target audience were the citizens of India, which in one way or another were affected by this pandemic.

Our survey can be used for conducting many more surveys on the same topic, as we did not go too deep into political and economic effect of COVID19 on Indians. Our main goal was to discover the mindset of people and how ready they are for this phase of the pandemic.

Our survey roughly concludes that India is ready to reopen, only and only if people are willing to follow various safety measures like wearing masks while going out, washing hands with a soap after every 20 mins or using a sanitizer, maintaining social distancing etc and also have a healthy lifestyle which can help in boosting their immunity systems, so that even if they get COVID19 they can fight it easily.

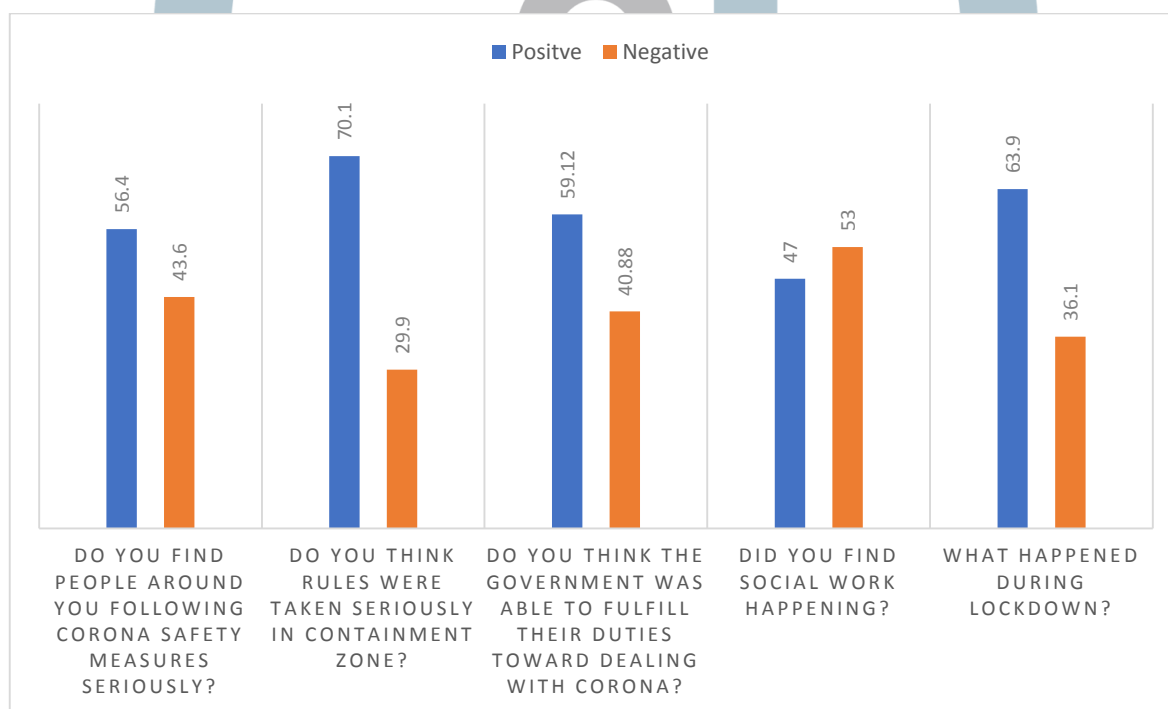
III. Survey Method-

We used Google Forms, a survey administration app to build our survey form and shared the link via WhatsApp, LinkedIn and other social media platforms. We also got our survey filled manually by the domestic help coming to our and other people's home and offices. The survey responses were then recorded in a CSV file, for further analysis.

The survey was answered by more than 600 people of different age, occupation, gender, regions and background, whomsoever was affected by COVID19 directly, economically, work-oriented or mentally.

Our main goal was to know the mindset of people about the virus and its effect on day to day activities.

IV. Survey Previews-



These questions are an accumulation of our different sections in the survey.

1. The first section of the bar chart represents the observation of respondents of their surroundings, in their area and how safety measures were being followed.
2. The second section was particularly dedicated to the respondents from a containment zone, and how much at ease they were.
3. The third section focuses on the fulfilment of basic needs by the government.
4. The fourth section was dedicated to people who did some kind of social work during the lockdown.
5. The last section was for getting to know if the experience of people during lockdown was positive or not.

V. Conclusion

By looking at the presented cumulated survey data, it is safe to say that India is ready to reopen but only under the condition that it understands the seriousness of this disease and follow government advised as well as other safety measures, as there was not much of a contrast in the positive and negative responses. It is also noted that there was a very little social work performed. We also

recommend people to do more social work, as this pandemic has very evidently kicked on many people's stomachs and have had a very dreadful effect on the economy.

This is just a basic conclusion as our dataset is expanding regularly and new trends are being generated.

References

- [1] WHO.int
- [2] HT Correspondent, Hindustan Times New Delhi
- [3] Guleria R. (AIIMS director); The Hindu
- [4] Times of India
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