



Article Type: Research Article

Article Ref. No.: 20111700415IF

<https://doi.org/10.37948/ensemble-2021-sp1-a008>



## IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON STUDENTS' LIVELINESS AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS: AN E-SURVEY BASED ANALYSIS IN INDIA

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### Abstract:

COVID-19 infectious disease is now considered as the first major climacteric invasion on humankind of the twenty-first century since the 'Spanish flu' of the twentieth. The virus has not only alarmed the mental and physical health of humankind, but its direct impact has severely damaged the economy of maximum nations of the world, and India is no exception to that. Education also was not left out either from the impact. In India, educational institutions had to shut down to break the chain of virus transmission. Instead of offline, the digital mode of classes for colleges and universities has been organized by the Institutional Authorities by getting the direction from University Grants Commission (UGC) of India. However, the regional imbalances and inequalities in families' economic conditions hinder the successful implementation of that. As a result, the students having a standard level of awareness about the COVID-19 disease are affected by its various adverse impacts produced directly or indirectly. Anxiety, negative thoughts, boredom, and future academic uncertainty are engulfing them. This paper describes the students' awareness level about COVID-19. It focuses on the pandemic's impact on the students' academic swing and mental health and prescribes the possible ways to assuage the impact of the pandemic on students.

**Article History:** Submitted on 17 Nov 2020 | Accepted on 9 February 2021 | Published online on 8 April 2021

**Keywords:** Students Awareness, Lockdown, Mental health and studies, Family dependency, Career uncertainty

### 1.0 Introduction:

From the beginning of the 21st century, especially when the world has been plagued by nature and man-induced various problems like global warming, climatic instability, nature and human-made disasters, pollution, depleted natural reserves and dealt with their so many dreadful consequences, the sudden outbreak of a terrible disease on humankind called 'COVID-19' has besieged the normal motion of human civilization by its pestilential consequences. World Health Organization (WHO, Scientific brief-2020) mentioned that COVID-19 is an infectious disease caused by the coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2), which is a respiratory pathogen (Kumar et al., 2020). WHO China Country Office first observed and learned of this new virus from the cases in Wuhan of China on 31 December 2019 (WHO, Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) SITUATION REPORT – 1, 2020) and declared COVID-19 as a controllable pandemic on 12 March 2020 (WHO situation reports-52, 2020). As the outcome, the very existence of mankind today is in dire

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straits. The outbreak of COVID-19 is similar to the previous outbreaks of SARS and the Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) that emerged in 2003 and 2012 in China and Saudi Arabia, respectively (Smith, 2006; Mackay & Arden, 2015; & Peeri, 2020) but the economists have assumed that the impact of COVID-19 on the economy will be high and negative when compared with the SARS impact (Kumar et al., 2020). Each country continues to work according to its own capability and with the help of other countries to slow down this disease's negative magnitude. 'Country lockdown' in India has also been issued to protect mankind, but the direct loss of lockdown has affected the entire education system's usual pace and the decline of other important systems in the country. There is no doubt that the COVID-19 has created a huge blow to families' economy, especially of lower-middle-class working peasants, labourers, and small businessmen in India, and the students who belong to these families have really faced problems to cover the cost of their studies. According to the UNESCO (COVID-19 policy brief report of August 2020), "about 1.6 billion learners in more than 190 countries, 94% of the world's student population, were affected seriously by the shutting down of educational institutions at the peak of the crisis". In India, more than 32 crores of students have been affected by various restrictions and the nationwide lockdown for COVID-19. But in his paper related to the impact of COVID-19 on education in India, Jena (2020) has highlighted that the COVID-19 has created many opportunities to come out of the rigorous classroom teaching model to a new era of the digital model. However, the huge gap of accessibility of internet availability between urban and rural areas has thinned the successful implementation of online education programs. Thus, it has produced opportunities and has created some challenges for the educational institutes to strengthen their technical knowledge and infrastructure (Jena, 2020). The cost of running the internet, although it is lower than before, in developing and agricultural-based India, remote villages still have internet availability issues due to which rural students are lagging in online education. The stable power supply and high-speed internet are the biggest problems in India, and according to the world economic forum, only 15 percent of the households have access to the internet, and mobile broadband remains accessible to very few, i.e., only 5.5 subscriptions for every 100 people (Jindal, 2018). Poor connectivity of the internet results in bad online education experiences, which leads to the student community being engulfed with anxiety, negative thoughts, boredom, and future academic uncertainty.

Students are the backbone and future of society. The future responsibility of conducting the societal behaviour is on their shoulders. Any disturbance to the education system is an obstacle to developing their personal values, cognitive growth, and skills. Along with the study, the students are also now emphasizing extra-curricular activities, which gives society an enormous idea about their attitude and mental stuff. So, it is imperative to review the overall status of students at the heart of the education system whenever interruption to the educational process occurs. It sheds light on their perception and problems and helps to identify the positive and negative aspects of education and society, and accordingly, it is advantageous to adopt future action plans.

In these perspectives, the present paper seeks to answer some research questions such as:

- What is the level of awareness about the COVID-19 Pandemic in students?
- What are the significant challenges the students are presently facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Based on the above research questions, the key objectives of the study are

- To determine the level of awareness about COVID-19 disease in students

- To analyze the impact of COVID-19 on student's natural academic swing
- To suggest some fruitful policies, those need to be adopted to restrain the overall impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on students

## **2.0 Thought behind e-survey:**

Online survey or internet survey is one of the most popular data gathering sources, where a set of study questions is sent out to a target sample, and the members of this sample can act in response to the questions over World Wide Web (www). Moreover, from a research standpoint, the online survey is straightforward and convenient for respondents. Using online surveys significantly reduces the set-up and administration costs, saves time and effort, increases accessibility and scalability where the researcher can survey across the globe. The other advantages of online surveys are the objectivity to the respondent feedback, provides anonymity and accuracy to collect data where the participants feel more comfortable providing open and honest feedback. Lastly, the major benefit of using online surveys is the advantage of real-time results where the researcher can quickly analyze, tabulate and present the data in various report formats. In addition to the benefits described, this study also focuses on the researcher and the participants' health safety. Besides, since the educational institutions were closed, the internet was the main means of communication with the participants.

## **3.0 Significance of the study:**

The crisis caused by COVID-19 has posed an extreme challenge to every country globally, and India is no exception. As a result, the economic situation of India is facing extreme challenges (Chaudhary et al., 2020). India's mortality rate is lower than the western countries (Jain, 2020), but the various negative aspects of the health system have been exposed (Sharma et al., 2020). The Indian government announced a lockdown to protect the people of the country, and this hinders the overall pace of the country. Educational institutions are one of the major examples of that. The loss of overall mobility of educational institutions has a direct impact on the students. Problems with the appropriate network in online education (Jindal, 2018), complexity with examination date and guidelines, concerns about examination methods, problems with fees, and worries about the impact of future careers create negative thoughts about their own lives (Aristovnik et al., 2020). The present lesson, therefore, emphasizes the discussion on the extent to which the situation arising from COVID has affected the overall movement of the students and sheds light on how the COVID has aroused among the students by which the local and central government can take specific steps to protect the mental health of them and also can direct them to live with better opportunities.

## **4.0 Methodology:**

A cross-sectional, observational study carried out in India where the participant from all over the country was invited to participate in the survey study to ascertain the maximum participation in a certain time period. All the primary data and information presented in the current study have been collected through an online survey in the month of October-November, 2020. The survey data collection was initiated on 27 October and closed on 4 November 2020. The author has prepared a semi-structured (consisting of restricted and unrestricted questions) anonymous questionnaire on the online Google platform, and an easy web-based link was created and sent to the concerned participants via Social media applications (Especially through WhatsApp and Facebook) which are now the trendy online platform to share individual information. The questionnaire was prepared after literature review, focus group discussion, analyzing and consulting with all the secondary information concerning COVID-19 disease with

experts from various fields to check reliability and validity and make necessary changes according to the study objectives. Few necessary changes were made by conducting a pilot study on 20 people, and the understandability of questionnaire has also been checked during the pilot survey. As the study is only concerned with the students above higher secondary (10+2) classes, the non-probability purposive sampling technique has been used. The students have a Smartphone with internet access and currently studying in U.G (Undergraduate) or above than that has been included.

On the other hand, the students currently studying in H.S. (Higher secondary) or below than that and the students who are being qualified for the study criteria set out not willing to participate in the study have been excluded. The author made himself available to the willing participants via phone calls/messages to answer their queries related to the questionnaire. Hence, the data has been collected from 185 students who finally form the study population. Consent was taken from all the included participants prior to the survey by maintaining the research ethics. Analysis of data is carried out using SPSS software version 21.0 and also Microsoft excels. Secondary data was collected through various e-resources and articles. All the tables and diagrams are based on a primary survey.

## 5.0 Results:

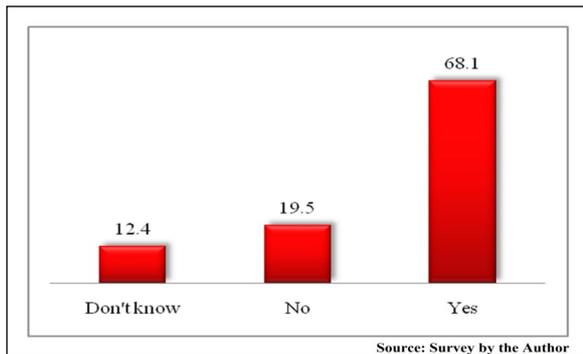
The table-1 has been prepared to check the status of awareness about COVID-19 pandemic among the respondents. The respondents have been asked to point out their most important source of knowledge about COVID-19, and the result revealed that about 51.4% of them had gained knowledge from various Newspaper, News channel, WhatsApp, Facebook, and from any other social media where about 31.4% of them were conscious by only News channels. By the perceived severity of COVID-19, nearly 40% of students have high perceived severity about the disease where about 29.7% has very high, and the remaining 30.27% has medium level perceive severity regarding the said pandemic. Results implied that about 15.1% are still unsure whether they avoid contact from the people with cough and sneeze, and 5.9% of them still not avoid themselves from the people with cough and sneezing. Here, 93% of respondents avoid large gatherings among the respondents, 100% of them wear masks correctly when they go anywhere outside of their home, and around 93% of students properly following the method of social distancing. By the use of sanitizer or any disinfectant, it was found that about 32.4% of respondents use it very often and around 30.3% of them use it often, but about 11.3% of the rare or infrequent use of disinfectant has been found in the study samples. About 54.1% of respondents have agreed that drinking hot water or bathing with hot water reduces the risk of transmission of the disease, where 36.2% of them were still not sure about this method, and 9% of respondents disagreed about this method. By the analysis of consumption pattern, it was found that about 45.4% of them does not think that consuming red meat, chicken, fish, or egg is responsible for increasing the risk of transmission of the disease where 44.9% of them were not well aware of it, but the remaining 9.7% has agreed and think that non-vegetarian are in a better place to reduce the risk of transmission. By investigating the respondents themselves about their awareness rate, it was found that respectively about 40% and 36.8% were high and very highly aware of the Corona pandemic, and the remaining percentage of respondents were medium aware of the disease.

**Table 1: Awareness about COVID-19**

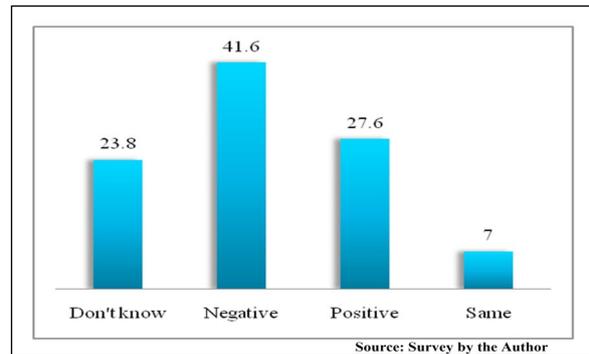
Related Questions to verify	N (%)
<p><b><i>Which is/are the most important source(s) to you about COVID-19?</i></b>                      Newspaper                      News channel                      WhatsApp                      Face book                      Other social media                      All the above</p>	<p>20 (10.8)                      58 (31.4)                      5 (2.7)                      3 (1.6)                      4 (2.2)                      95 (51.4)</p>
<p><b><i>What is your perceived severity about COVID-19?</i></b>                      Very low                      Low                      Medium                      High                      Very high</p>	<p>0 (0)                      0 (0)                      56 (30.27)                      74 (40)                      55 (29.7)</p>
<p><b><i>Do you avoid contact with people who cough or sneeze?</i></b>                      No                      Yes                      Not sure</p>	<p>11 (5.9)                      146 (78.9)                      28 (15.1)</p>
<p><b><i>Do you still avoid large gathering of people?</i></b>                      No                      Yes                      Maybe</p>	<p>4 (2.2)                      172 (93)                      9 (4.9)</p>
<p><b><i>Do you wear a mask properly when you go outside home?</i></b>                      No                      Yes                      Yes but not all the time</p>	<p>0 (0)                      185 (100)                      0 (0)</p>
<p><b><i>Do you follow the method of social distancing?</i></b>                      No                      Yes                      Not sure</p>	<p>2 (1.1)                      172 (93)                      11 (5.9)</p>
<p><b><i>How often you use sanitizer/ handwash/ any disinfectant at home/outside home?</i></b>                      Very rare                      Rare                      Sometimes                      Often                      Very Often</p>	<p>6 (3.2)                      15 (8.1)                      48 (25.9)                      56 (30.3)                      60 (32.4)</p>
<p><b><i>Do you think drinking hot water or bathing with hot water reduces the risk of COVID-19?</i></b>                      No                      Yes                      Not sure</p>	<p>18 (9.7)                      100 (54.1)                      67 (36.2)</p>
<p><b><i>Do you think that consuming Red meat/ chicken/ fish/ egg increases the risk of COVID-19?</i></b>                      No                      Yes                      Don't know</p>	<p>84 (45.4)                      18 (9.7)                      83 (44.9)</p>
<p><b><i>How do you rate your knowledge/awareness about Corona Pandemic?</i></b>                      Very less aware                      Less aware                      Medium                      High aware                      Very high aware</p>	<p>0 (0)                      0 (0)                      43 (23.2)                      74 (40)                      68 (36.8)</p>

Source: Survey by the Author

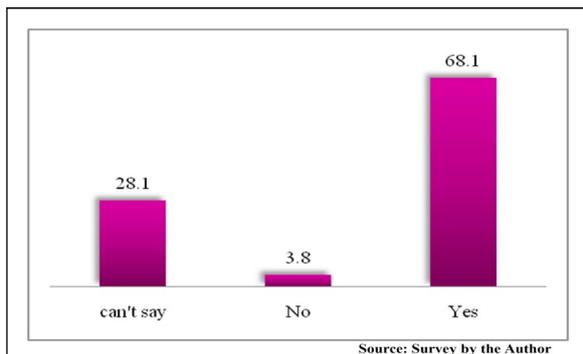




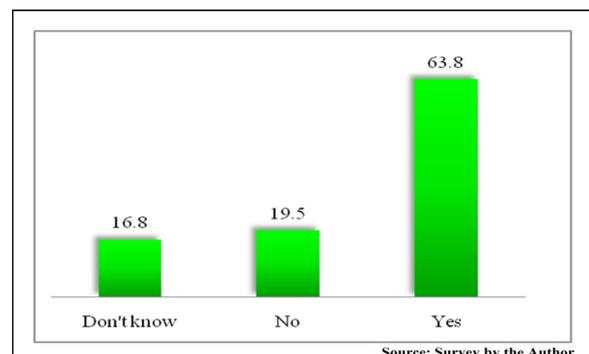
**Fig. 1: Do you think the Role of Police in raising the awareness about corona in your locality is commendable (in %)**



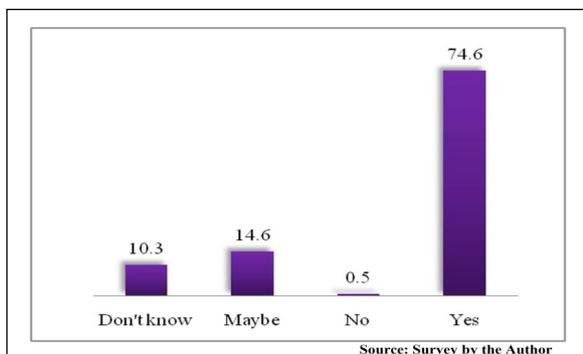
**Fig. 2: What do you think of the attitude of society towards the family of someone close to your home who is infected with Corona (in %)?**



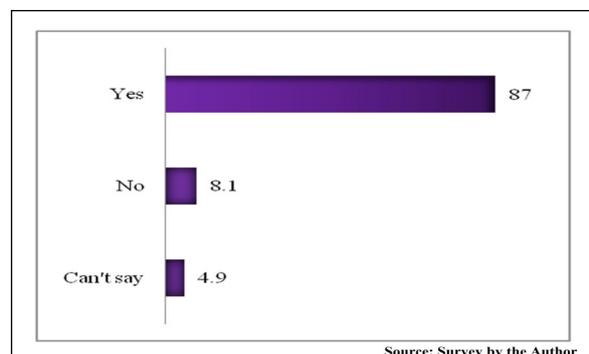
**Fig. 3: Do you think this pandemic will positively affect the future development of medical system (in %)?**



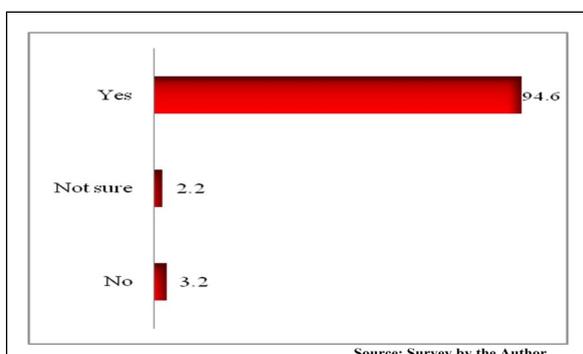
**Fig. 4: Do you think that people in our country (India) are not very much aware about Covid-19 (in %)?**



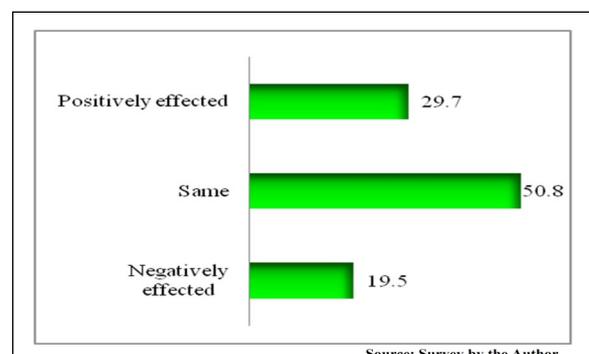
**Fig. 5: Do you think Overpopulation in India is the big factor to deal with corona (in %)?**



**Fig. 6: Are your family worried about employment or income generation after the immediate impact of Covid-19? (in %)**



**Fig. 7: Do you think this Covid-19 has had a profound effect on your studies? (in %)**



**Fig. 8: How much the lockdown period due to Covid-19 has affected your mental health? (in %)**

The expression of thoughts about the society and country in which some questions related to police's role and attitude in our society during the pandemic situation has been elicited in the study with some figures.

Fig. 1 depicts that about 68.% of the respondents agreed that police's role in raising the awareness about corona in their locality was commendable, where 19.5% were not agreed about the same. The case of society's attitude towards the corona virus-infected families (Fig. 2) shows that nearly 41.6% of the families have negative and only 27.6% have a positive attitude toward the infected families. Fig. 3 revealed that around 68.1% of the respondents have agreed about the fact that this pandemic will positively affect the future development of medical infrastructure, where about 28.1% of them were not sure about this. 63.8% of the respondents were marked their vote as 'yes' on the question that common people of India still are not very much aware of the terrible effect of Corona, but the remaining percentage of respondents have divided themselves into the category of "No' (19.5%) and 'Don't know' (16.8%) in response to the same (Fig. 4). Here, about 74.6% of the respondents expressed their negative thought about India's overpopulation and agreed that this would be the most significant factor to deal with the corona pandemic, where only 0.5% of them have disagreed about the said factor (Fig. 5).

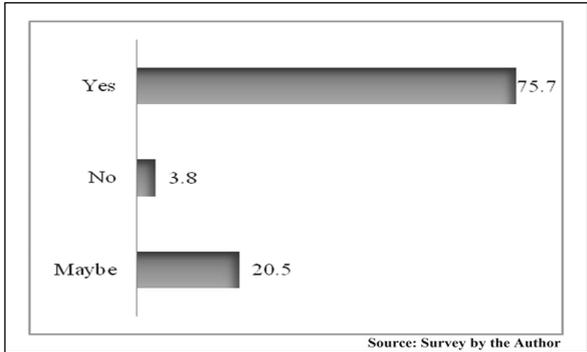


Fig. 9: Do you think your career will be affected (Negatively) due to this Pandemic? (in %)

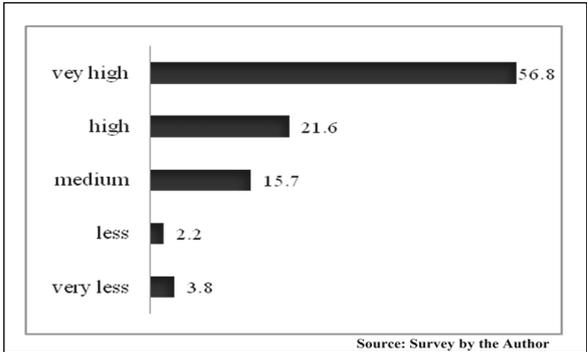


Fig. 10: How much does your family future depend on your career? (in %)



Fig. 11: Any changes (Positive/Negative) what you feel in yourself because of this Outbreak? (in %)

The direct impact of lockdown on respondents and their families has been analyzed and eradicated. Fig. 6 shows that about 87% of the respondents' families are still worried about income generation due to the immediate impact of COVID-19. By the effect on studies, around 94.6% of the respondents have agreed and shaken their heads to 'yes' to ask whether this COVID-19 has affected their studies or not (Fig. 7). By the analysis of the effect on mental health (Fig. 8), it was found that about 19.5% of them have been affected negatively, and 29.7% of them have positively affected by the lockdown, where the remaining percentage of respondents have not affected mentally. In the career context (Fig. 9), nearly 75.7% of them have agreed that their career will be affected negatively due to this pandemic, where only 3.8% of them have not thought so. Fig. 10 shows that about 56.8% of the families' future depends very highly on the respondent's career where respectively 21.6% and 15.7% of families' future were highly and moderately rely on the career of their son or daughter. During this pandemic, we all feel some changes inside of us. Hence, the author has asked a general question (Fig. 11) to the respondents about what they feel inside during this pandemic outbreak, and it was thus found that 45.3% of the students are feeling some negative changes and only 18.4% of them are feeling some positive changes inside of them where both some positive and negative changes have been found in 15.1 percent students.

This section analyzes the impact of lockdown and the overall COVID-19 outbreak on male and female students. Study shows (Fig. 12) that both male and female students have been affected negatively and positively, and the Pearson chi-square result (value 1.026,  $p = 0.599$ ) depicts that there has no statistically significant association between gender and effect on mental health due to the shutdown of educational institutions. Again, Fig. 13 depicts that both males and females have thought about their career negatively to a certain extent where the chi-square value (value 0.827,  $p = 0.661$ ) also revealed no statistically significant association between gender and negative thinking about a career. The association between gender and family future dependency status on career shows a statistically significant (chi-square value 0.827,  $p = 0.003^{***}$ ) association between the two and the family's future dependency level varying from significantly less to very high in males and females (Fig. 14).

The present section has been made to analyze and also to identify some significant variables and their causal relationship to understand the particular causes and effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Hence, the curve chart in Fig. 15 shows that especially the parents or guardians who were involved in farming (58.91% out of 64.31%), business (18.91% out of 20.53%), and private sector (1.62% out of the same) has faced a severe problem is related to employment and income generation where the government service holder, doctors, and government retired personal has not affected very less by that. The chi-square value (56.37,  $p = 0.001^{***}$ ) also revealed that statistically, there has a strong significant association between the variables.

The statistical relationship between parent's or guardian's occupation and family's future dependency rate on participant's career revealed (Fig. 16) a strong significant association (chi-square value 47.82,  $p = 0.000^{***}$ ) between the two. The line chart also highlighted that there has very high connection among cultivation (42.16% out of 56.75 for very high and 2.43% out of

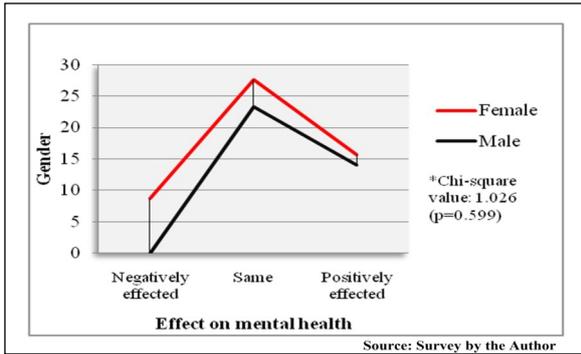


Fig. 12: Mental health condition due to the shutdown of Educational institutions (in %)

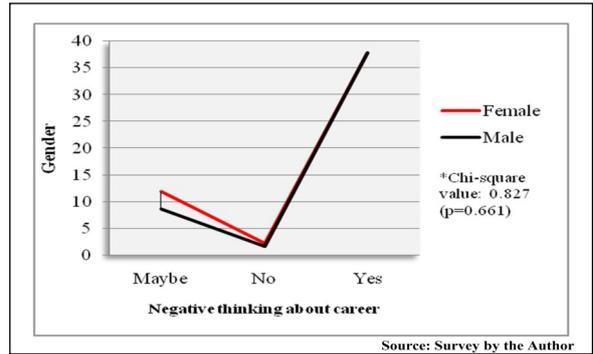


Fig. 13: Gender wise response of negative thoughts about career (in %)

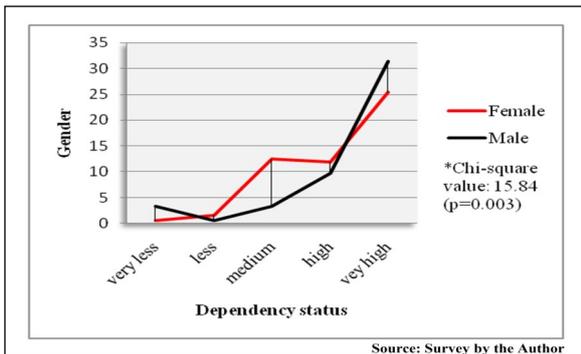


Fig. 14: Family future dependency status on career (in %)

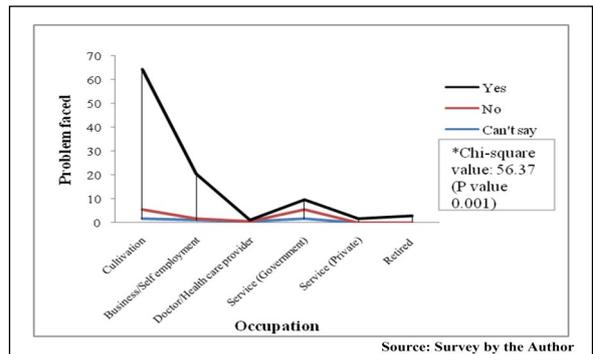


Fig. 15: Parent's/Guardian's occupation and problem faced in employment/income generation (in %)

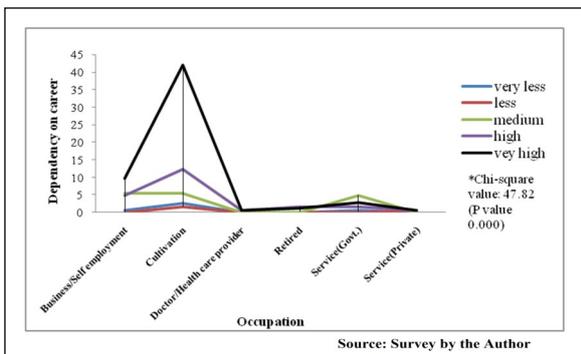


Fig. 16: Parent's/Guardian's occupation and status of family future dependency on participants' career (in %)

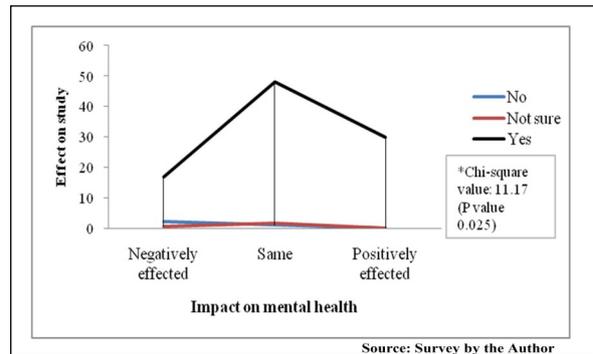


Fig. 17: Impact on mental health due to the effect on study (in %)

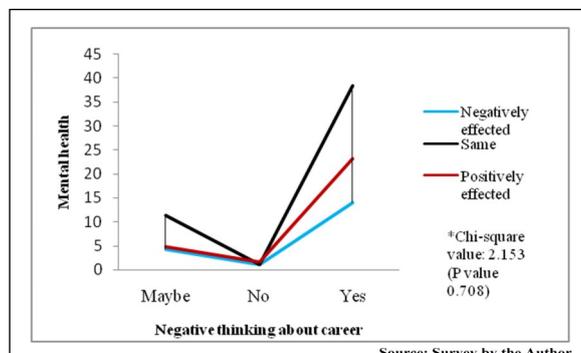


Fig. 18: Impact on mental health by thinking of career (in %)

21.61 for high class), business and family future dependency on student's career where the flat line has also depicted in the diagram which clarifies that the dependency on student's career is reduced in the families those have relied upon some permanent job.

Cross-tabulation between mental health and effect on studies has been made (Fig. 17), and the result revealed that the effect on their mental health has greatly influenced by their studies. The chi-square also highlighted that there has a significant association (value 11.17,  $p= 0.025^{**}$ ) between these variables. In Fig. 18, it can be taken into consideration that there has no significant association (chi-square value 2.153,  $p= 0.708$ ) between mental health and negative thinking about a career. Around 75.68% of the respondents have agreed that their career will be affected and out of which 23.24% thought that this has positively affected their mental health, where 14.05% of them thought this has led to affecting their mental health negatively.

## **6.0 Discussion:**

Since the occurrence of the Corona virus, different countries have been trying to invent effective vaccines to root out the negative functionality of the virus in their own way or through mutual cooperation. However, there has been no official announcement of the vaccine from WHO has published till 31 October 2020. Therefore, it is very important for us to follow WHO's guidelines until the vaccine comes. In the present study, therefore, the students' awareness about some important guidelines pointed out by WHO to restrict the transmission of the virus has been verified with the analysis of the impact of the pandemic on student's life.

It has been noticed that about half of the respondents (51.4%) have made themselves knowledgeable by gathering information from a newspaper, news channel, WhatsApp, Facebook, and from other social media which has existed. None of the respondents were less serious about the virus which was expected from the students with high educational qualifications. As a result of very high level perceived severity among most of the students they are very solemnly avoiding large gathering and contact to people with cough or sneezing, wearing mask properly whenever it needed and following the method of social distancing and also washing their hand and using disinfectant at home or outside home very often.

The role of police in raising awareness about the pandemic and protecting the citizens by applying rules and regulations in their locality was, to some extent, commendable. The present study shows that about 68.1% of the respondents agreed about the same. The question related to society's attitude towards the family with at least one corona positive case has been investigated to examine the social behaviour. It was revealed that about 41.6% of the respondents agreed that a negative attitude was seen. This is the area of serious concern which is needed to be improved by moral thoughts. In response to the Corona pandemic's immediate effect, the central and state government has tried to improve the medical infrastructure in India. The people of India are now optimistic about the future improvement of the medical system. This study revealed that about 68.1% of the respondents think that medical infrastructure may be improved in the future due to this pandemic. Overpopulation is an undesirable condition for any country where the existing human population exceeds the earth's actual carrying capacity. In India, overpopulation is a significant factor in achieving something good in a short time, and 74.6% of the respondents in this study also think so. 63.8% of the study participants who are students of college and universities and are well educated has agreed that people in India still are not very much aware of the terrible effect of the COVID-19 outbreak, which is a matter of concern because appropriate attitude and awareness is the most indispensable weapon to restrict the devastating impact of the disease.

By collecting and analyzing the data related to the impact of corona on employment and income generation of the respondents family, it has been noticed that about 87% of their family are worried about suitable employment and requisite income generation, where only 8.1% of the family are not worried about the serious outbreak, and that is because of the type of economic involvement. The parents and guardians with the involvement in cultivation and business have been more worried than those involved in government service. The present study has revealed one vital piece of information. The students are mostly affected mentally in a negative sense by thinking not about their career but by thinking about their effect in studies and not only harmful due to mental health, but positive changes have also been found in the respondents since lockdown. Positive and negative changes have been discussed during the focus group discussion, and open questionnaires have also collected information to gather the repercussion from the respondent's own natural thoughts. Over-thinking, annoyance, and anxiety about family health and income are the most negative thoughts, and things like increasing awareness about the pandemic situation in their locality and practicing hobbies are the most positive thoughts they have in their minds about this pandemic.

Future dependency rate of families on their son or daughter has been analyzed and result revealed that most of the parents or guardians who are self-employed, primarily engaged in cultivation and business are greatly depends on the career of their children to survive in future which is very common as their income is uncertain and as they do not have pension benefits like government jobholders, therefore, they are particularly dependent on their children in future as their physical capacity and strength also decreases with age.

Gender-wise analysis has also been made to identify the impact on male and female students during this outbreak. The study found that both male and female students have positively and negatively affected some of them in terms of mental state due to the shutdown of educational institutions. Statistically, the chi-square result (value 1.026,  $p=0.599$ ) has also eradicated the significant difference of impact between male and female students as far as the mental health concern. Again, the statistical result (chi-square value 0.827,  $p=0.661$ ) between gender and negative thinking about career indicates that both male and female students have an almost equivalent rate of negative thoughts about their career. It will bring some positive aspect about females in the present-day context because women empowerment does not only depend on the governmental initiatives, but women's perspective is also critical. It has been evident from the study that there has a statistically significant (Chi-square value 15.84,  $p= 0.003$ ) association between gender and family future dependency rate. A significant difference in the future dependency rate on males and females in every level has been identified where the future dependency on males compared to female students has also been unconcealed.

### **7.0 Policy implication and Conclusion:**

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the economy and the normal flow of people in most parts of the world and hampered the natural drift of societal functions, religious and traditional practices, and even educational exercises also. The educational institutions were not spared from the outbreak of infection. Its direct and indirect effects have ruined the liveliness of the students. The mishap in education, worry about family income, and uncertainty about an academic year and examination processes have been reflected in their responses. Step by step, the state governments have planned to open the institutions by formulating some specific and strict guidelines. However, in the present study, it is evident that the standard of awareness about COVID-19 among the students is very instrumental, but the negative perception about its effect is very present among the students. Therefore, emphasis should be placed on reducing the negative impact of COVID-19 on students rather than on awareness. Firstly, it is

indispensable for the government to form a special committee on education, which would evaluate the syllabus according to the academic year and outline the future examination system. The committee will also review the effect of online education on the children of unprivileged families of remote village areas where the internet connectivity system is still impoverished and will take the necessary steps to lower their problems. It is important to collect information from the teachers and the educational institutions who are practically involved at the online education system's execution end. Secondly, it is essential to identify economically backward students and provide them with scholarships irrespective of race and religion until the world becomes normal. In this regard, the Gram Panchayat can be involved in selecting economically backward students, and the rural administrative bodies may be involved to prevent any stalemate. Ultimately, according to their qualifications, those who are preparing for various government jobs need a crystal clear outline from the government to address career uncertainties, which will give them hope and encouragement for the future. Above all, in addition to thinking about improving students' learning, it is vital to take some solid steps to reduce the negative impact on students' mental health and show them accurate, clear, but realistic directions about the future during this uncertain juncture.

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