



# COVID-19

## ITS GLOBAL IMPACT

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Editor  
Dr. Annapurna Dixit

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## Impact of Covid-19 on Indian Economy and Employment

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*Kalplata Dimri*

### Introduction

Since first being recorded late last 2019 in Wuhan City of China, the Covid-19 has spread around the world, and been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization. Till 10<sup>th</sup> July 2020, there are over 120 lakh confirmed cases worldwide, with over 6 lakh deaths (Worldometer, 2020). It is clearly the biggest crisis in anyone's living memory, and there is no clarity how all of this would end.

The first Covid-19 case in India was reported on 30th January 2020, and since then it has reached approximately 750,000 cases and fast rising. In order to reduce the transmission of the virus, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced successive lockdowns from 25<sup>th</sup> March to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020. These unprecedented lockdowns gave the Government ample breathing space to improve healthcare infrastructure, which was abysmally poor to deal with the virus. However, the lockdowns have come at a heavy price, with multiple sectors of the economy reeling on the verge of a close down. With a vaccine still months away and no other prevention against the virus, lockdowns appear to be a new normal for all countries, including India.