



ECONOMIC POLICY

**SOCIAL POLICY
INTEGRATION**

REGIONAL

GOVERNANCE

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PUBLIC HEALTH

Amid the current coronavirus crisis the importance of public health system cannot be understated but what is public health? Public health systems are commonly defined as “all public, private, and voluntary entities that contribute to the delivery of essential public health services within a jurisdiction.” This concept ensures that all entities’ contributions to the health and well-being of the community or state are recognized in assessing the provision of public health services. This means public health system is interconnection between community, doctors, government law enforcement and general public. In public health, the focus is on health promotion and disease/injury prevention, in contrast to the medical model of care, which focuses more heavily upon diagnosing and treating illnesses and conditions after they occur. The public health system includes Public health agencies at state and local level Healthcare providers Public safety agencies Human service and charity organizations Education and youth development organizations Recreation and arts-related organizations Economic and philanthropic organizations Environmental agencies and organizations.

The Essential Public Health Services describe the public health activities that all communities should undertake Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems, Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues, Mobilize community partnerships and action to identify and solve health problems, Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts ,Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable, Assure competent public and personal health care workforce Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems. public health experts play a key role in emergency preparedness and response. This may be why public health has become such a growing field in recent years Change can only happen if we make healthy choices as a society. This means improving everything that impacts health — from housing, education and income to community design, transportation and our environment. Together, we can all be the generation that changes the course of health in America. Public health is something that people often ignore or don't pay attention to but it becomes of immense importance during pandemic like COVID- 19 According the Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention (CDC)Trusted Source, there are very distinct differences between an outbreak, epidemic, and pandemic.



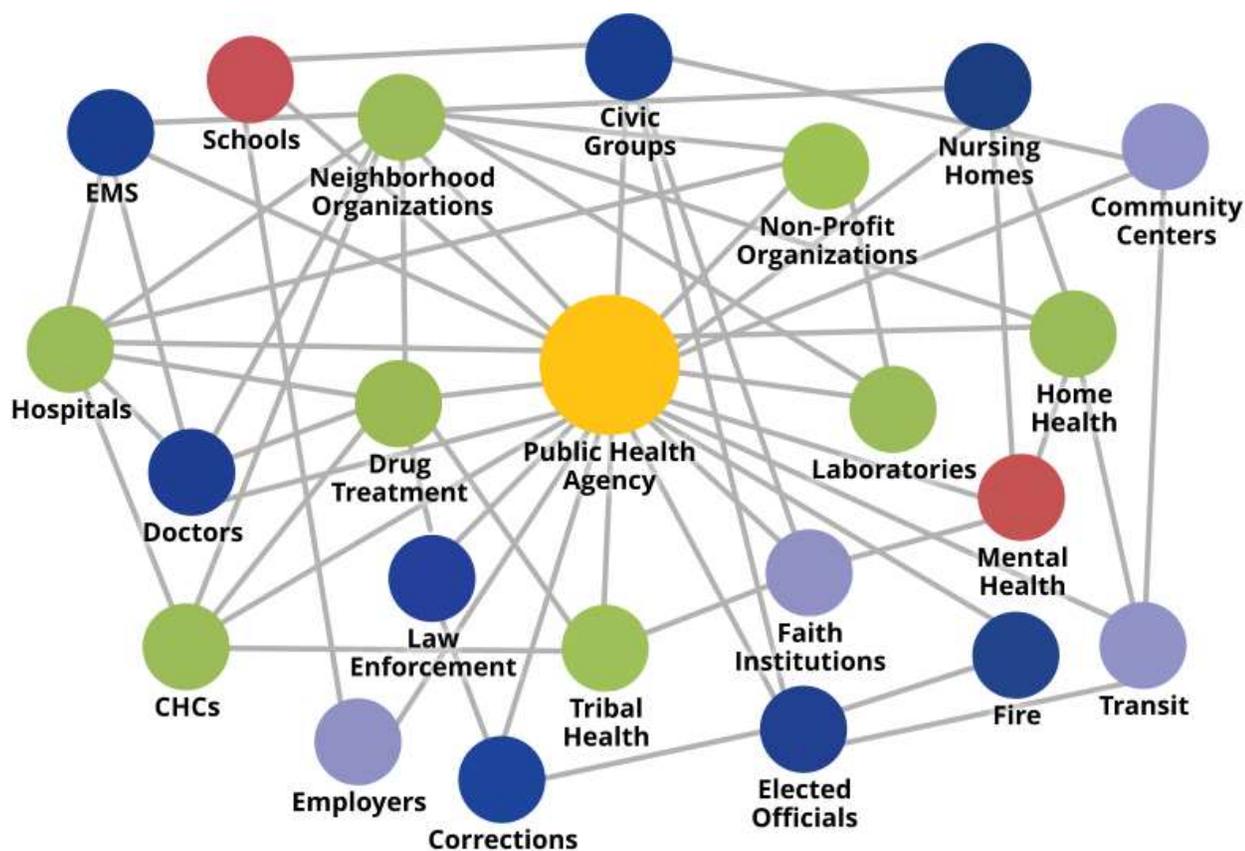
The CDC explains that an outbreak is an increase in cases of a disease above what's normally expected in a certain area. The increase is often sudden. An epidemic is much like an outbreak, but for people within a larger region. The two terms differ only in degree. A pandemic is an epidemic that's spread over several countries or continents and affects a large percent of the population. It's important to note that this isn't used to indicate the severity of a disease, only the degree to which it's spreading. The last time a pandemic was declared was 11 years ago. In June 2009, the WHO declared Trusted Source H1N1 (swine) flu a pandemic. By August 2010, it was announced a "post-pandemic period." "It's important for the public to understand that the declaration is not necessarily connected to a

specific event that increased the overall risk to the population," said Jennifer A. Horney, PhD, professor and founding director of the epidemiology program at College of Health Sciences at the University of Delaware. "It's an action that allows for the expansion of administrative capacity of national and global public health agencies that can contribute to the response," she said.

Common individuals play a key role in public health since mostly they form the part of the community but people as a part of community don't recognize their responsibility but instead focus on what's good for them, which in the long run is not beneficial for anyone. In South Korea a single person was responsible for making it the country with the largest number of cases outside China, within weeks it went from dealing with one or two patients to thousands of people. It is a story that is slowly clarifying: A single "super-spreader" known as "patient 31" - a member of a fringe church called Shincheonji - is thought to have caused the rapid rise in cases. Now, the Seoul Metropolitan Government has filed a formal complaint against the congregation, accusing it of murder. At least 29 people have died in the outbreak and more than 4,800 people formally diagnosed with the virus as of March 3.

"The situation here was not really serious until mid-February. It began to get very serious starting with patient 31," said Hwang Seung-sik, a spatio-temporal epidemiologist at Seoul National University.

"Before patient 31, our strategies to contain the virus were working. But after countless people were infected by patient 31, it became very difficult to control."



THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

On March 11 2020, the World Health organization declared the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) outbreak to be a pandemic and has called for the global community to tackle it through necessary measures. On Addressing the SAARC nations, Prime Minster Narendra Modi called for finding effective mitigations to the escalating problem by the tackling it through joint strategy and building a fund for the same. Pakistan's support to India's initiative showed the importance of coming together in the face of common threat and how cohesion is our best chance to fight this advancing pandemic.

INDIA'S COVID-19 BATTLE IN NUMBERS

Updated @10:30 | 19/3/2020

NAME OF STATE/UT	CONFIRMED CASES	CURED CASES	DEATH
Delhi	12	2	1
Haryana	17	0	0
Kerala	27	3	0
Rajasthan	7	3	0
Uttar Pradesh	17	5	0
Ladakh	8	0	0
Tamil Nadu	2	1	0
Jammu & Kashmir	4	0	0
Punjab	1	0	0
Karnataka	14	0	1
Maharashtra	45	0	1
Andhra Pradesh	1	0	0
Telangana	6	1	0
Uttarakhand	1	0	0
Odisha	1	0	0
West Bengal	1	0	0
Pondicherry	1	0	0
Chandigarh	1	0	0
Total	166	15	3



As of March 17 2020, the total number of cases reported in India is 141 with 119 Indian nationals and 22 foreigners; the death toll for the same has been reported at 3. The highest numbers of cases have been reported in Maharashtra (41) and Kerala (26).

India has been taking several measures to counter the spread of the epidemic. Foreign travel restrictions have been imposed on airlines, educational institutions have been closed indefinitely, and information campaigns have been launched to curb the growing spread of the virus.

Delhi Government has declared the virus to be an epidemic and has instructed all schools, colleges and cinema halls to be shut down till 31 March 2020. All

educational institutions, sport clubs and stadiums in Srinagar have been closed until further notice as an 'unavoidable decision' to allow the state to clean and sterilize public spaces. Odisha has put together a team to evaluate the emerging situation and implement necessary steps to control it and has directed Rs 200 Crore as a public response fund to combat the virus.

However, India's unique demographic poses problems that cannot be tackled by such initiatives alone. The large population of the country provides gaps for failure even in meticulously planned actions. This is due to densely populated poverty stricken areas, over crowded public spaces and exposure to extraordinarily poor quality of air. Adding to the problem is the spread of misinformation through social media platforms like WhatsApp causing panic beyond precaution and loss of citizen confidence in the state.



Corona virus- Mapped

Such unfortunate times call for cooperation among institutions and civic support of government measures. India being a country with a sizeable and diverse has the best chance to fight the pandemic by coming together in this time of crisis. Central and state governments have to support and encourage each other against the problems at hand and win public support and confidence which are essential to ensure effective implementation of protocols to control the virus.

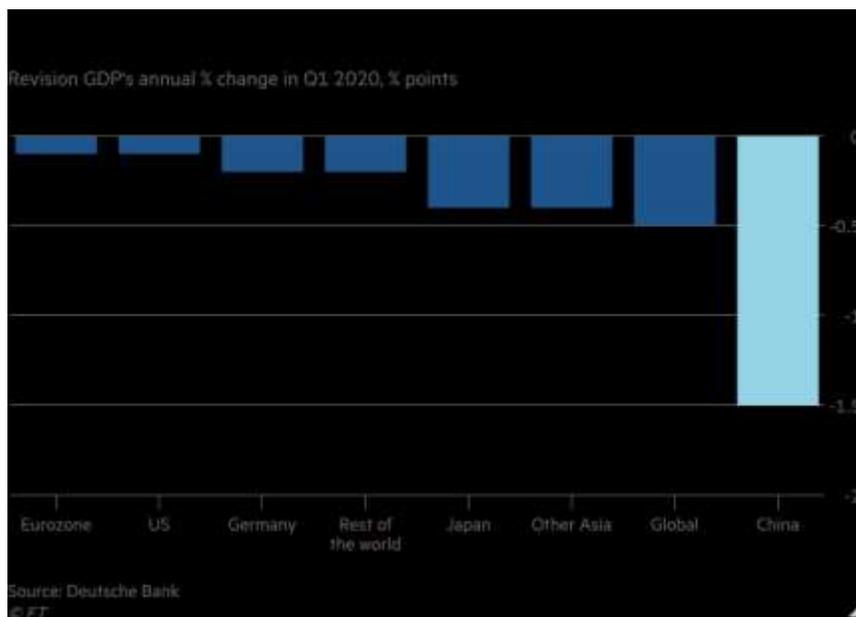
IMPACT OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) ON THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

The COVID outbreak that started from the Chinese city of Wuhan has now become a great threat to the global economy which was under stress from before with the US-China trade war. Many global institutions and international banks have taken heed of these downward trends and cut their earlier forecasts by a significant percentage, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development being a prominent one which has downgraded its 2020 growth forecasts for almost all economies. An important aspect is that of the expenditure put in by the national governments for efforts of containment and mitigation causing disruptions in the national economies.

China which is the centre of the outbreak performs a major role in the global supply chain. It serves as a manufacturing hub for many international conglomerates. Thus, china being crippled by the outbreak brings down

not only its national economy but also international growth. Especially countries of the Asia Pacific region such as Vietnam, Singapore and South Korea that have close economic links to China will experience a slowdown.

The virus outbreak in China has also hit the country's services industry. Reduced consumer spending all over the world for fears of a lockdown and increase in prices because of a shortage of essential supplies has hurt retail stores. Restaurants have faced the music with fewer people venturing out of their homes and a shutdown of malls. Aviation sector among others is the hardest hit with fewer people choosing to travel and governments closing borders for foreign passengers fearing that they would bring the virus with them. Outside China, the virus has taken hold of many western countries too, impacting their economies. The U.S. services have contracted due to a reduction in new business from abroad as customers held back from placing orders amid global economic uncertainty and the coronavirus outbreak.



COVID 19 has led to an overall reduction in economic activity, transactions and trade. This reduction in global economic activity has lowered the demand for oil, taking oil prices to multi-year lows. That is accompanied by a rift between OPEC on a disagreement on production cuts between Saudi Arabia and Russia, causing the latest plunge in oil prices. Fear surrounding the impact of COVID-19 on the global economy has hurt investor sentiment and brought down stock prices in major markets. Many investors have decided to withdraw from the markets, causing them

to turn bearish causing a trend of fall of national indicators such as Sensex in an unprecedented manner. This brutal drawdown in global financial markets might seem to indicate that the world economy is on a path to recession.

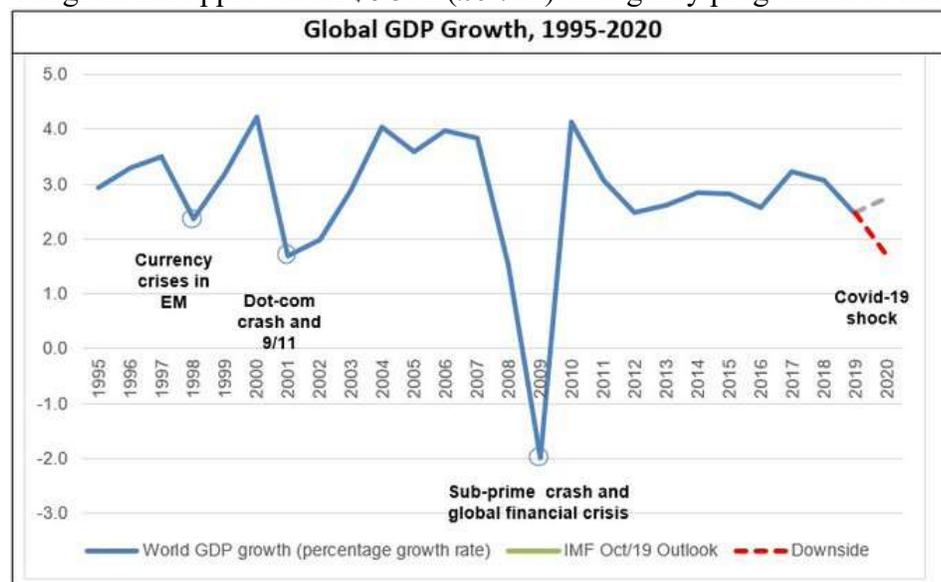
Many are apprehensive of the long term impacts Corona Virus can have on the global economy due to the potential economic ripple effects of the virus. It has the ability to make the well-oiled machine of global economic trade to come to a near-complete stop across many countries whose economies are well-integrated in the era of globalisation, for an indeterminate period of time.

Governments all around the world have taken measures that though are necessary for controlling the spread of the deadly virus but impact the economic sector a lot. The five sectors experiencing the most direct and immediate collapse in demand due to fewer consumers and spending or facing government-mandated shutdowns to contain the virus are-

1. Air transportation;
2. Performing arts and sports;
3. Gambling and recreation;
4. Hotels and other lodgings; and
5. Restaurants and bars.

But it is a wrong perception to think that all sectors are facing this crunch. There are some positive and offsetting effects — more food bought from grocery stores and greater health care spending. People will spend more on keeping themselves safe so there is some spending after all. But the net result is evidently negative. These small purchases cannot make up for the vast sectors as aviation that employ millions of people directly and indirectly.

Some countries have taken strict measures to ensure safety that have severe implications for the economy. With its health system overwhelmed, the Italian government ordered shutting down the retail economy and quarantining the entire country. Meanwhile, although Germany has had very few coronavirus deaths so far, the number of infections is now skyrocketing. In response to the crisis, the German government has introduced a short-time work allowance and granted generous credit assistance, guarantees or tax deferrals for distressed companies. The US president, Donald Trump, has declared a national state of emergency. Congress has approved an \$8.3bn (£6.7bn) emergency programme to fund efforts to contain the epidemic.



SOURCE-

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1059011> Accessed on 18 March 2020

Some economists are already calling for governments to introduce measures to shore up aggregate demand. But measures targeting the demand side could even be counterproductive, because they would encourage interpersonal contact, thus undermining the effort to limit transmission of the virus. Apart from the tragic human consequences of the COVID-19 coronavirus epidemic, the economic uncertainty it has sparked will likely cost the global the economy \$1 trillion in 2020, the UN's trade and development agency, UNCTAD. Thus, fiscal measures are needed urgently to save companies and banks from bankruptcy, so that they can recover quickly once the pandemic is over. Policymakers should be considering various forms of tax relief and public guarantees to help firms borrow if necessary.

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The Centre of Policy Research and Governance (CPRG), India strongly believes that in the 21st century an India deprived of gainful opportunities, necessary for the flourishing of a young and emergent India, will prove to be an impediment in the development of human capital and preservation of global security. CPRG thus works towards providing gainful opportunities in an effort to promote the involvement of young people in policy making and politics.



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