

Positive effects of COVID- 19 on the world: a brief discussion

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Abstract

After Second World War COVID-19 is the biggest threat in front of this world, which affect the day to day life. But it has its positive side also like earth is healing herself because of low carbon emission. Due to corona virus lockdown the P.M 2.5 level has decline which is the sign of good and healthy envornement that leads to lowering respiratory diseases, heart attacks or pre mature deaths.

Key words: COVID-19, pandemic, environment, carbon emission

Introduction

In late 2019, a novel infectious disease with human to human transmission (COVID-19) was identified in Wuhan China, which now has turned into a global pandemic. Countries all over the world have implemented some sort of lockdown to slow down its infection and mitigate it. Lockdown due to COVID-19 has drastic effects on social and economic fronts. However, this lockdown also has some positive effect on natural environment (Sulaman Muhammad et al., 2020). The current COVID-19 pandemic is causing widespread concern, depression and anxiety among the people all over the world (Bilal Ahmad Bhat et al., 2020). More than half of the global population is currently under strict forms of social distancing, with more than 90 countries in lockdown (Laura Di Domenico et al., 2020).

The 2019–2020 corona virus disease (COVID-19) is a public health issue. Lockdown is among options suggested to reduce spread of the virus (Sarra Jribi et al., 2020). Improving epidemiological surveillance may help stakeholders make decisions in a timely manner, enabling the use of more effective and specific social isolation strategies with less economic and social impact. The results demonstrate that the lockdown was effective in reducing incidence and mortality rates in Hubei and in adjacent regions like Guangdong. Thus, it can

be used as a strategy to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 epidemic (Alexandre Medeiros de Figueiredo et al., 2020). As we know that every coin has two sides, coronavirus has also positive and negative side. On one side it is declared as the pandemic and alarming situation but on the other hand it has some positive impacts on the world which is experienced after a long period of time. The air we breathe the water we drink seems to be so clean and also the mortality due to the inhalation of harmful gases has been decreased.

Methods

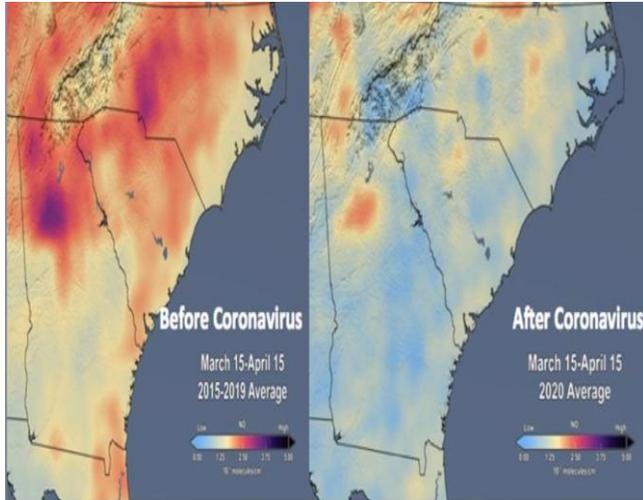
The present study was done only through the secondary source of data, where news papers and social media are mostly used.

Brief discussion

Nitrogen dioxide NO_2 is that toxic gas which is eject from road vehicle and from factories. WHO said that if this gas has concentration of more than 200 micro grams per cubic metre then it will effect our breathing, which cause asthma. Particulate matter or P.M 2.5 is the most harm full form of air pollution, it was fall in group one coarsen, which is so much tiny it enter into lungs where from they mix with our blood which cause respiratory problems, heart attack or pre mature death etc. WHO estimated that due to P.M 2.5, 4 million deaths has to be happened through out the world every year.

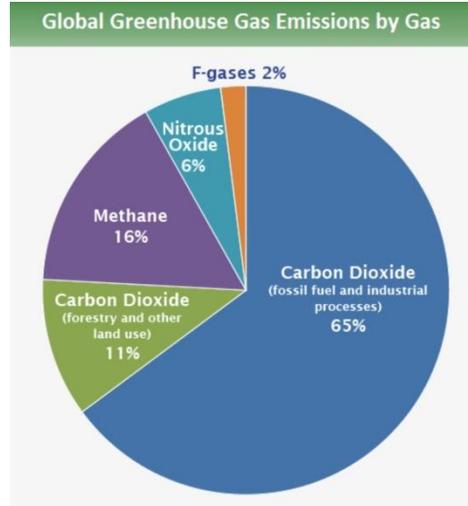
Polluation level dramatically fall (BBC News). Coronavirus pandemic leading to huge drop in air pollution (The Guardian) these are some postive points which has been observed during the coronavirus lock down. Due to lock down all the transport has blocked, factories has been shut down by which in the whole world the concentration of nitrogen dioxide has been decreased, and the P.M 2.5 level has decline. People now observe the bio diversity around them. Corona virus could trigger biggest fall in carbon emission since world war two approximately 5% of fall said by experts (Reuters). The responsible agent for Climate change is carbon dioxide CO_2 emission, the big emitter of carbon dioxide CO_2 is transport sector, due to lockdown this sector was completely shut down which become the big reason for less concentration of carbon dioxide CO_2 in air and we breathe fresh and clean air.

Fig: 1.1 before and after corona virus



Source: NASA

Fig: 1.2 carbon emission sectors



Source: IPCC 2014

Lock down has big impact on water bodies the like, Yamuna rivers water looking cleaner amid lockdown (delhi jal board) India. Ganga flows cleaner in Haridwar, Varanasi as industrial discharge remains low amid lockdown (live mint). These two rivers has been listed among the dirtiest river of the world, but due to lock down the purity of water has to be improved.

Is clean air save the lives? Coronavirus lockdown likely save 77,000 lives in china just by reducing pollution (Forbes). Corona virus leads to sharp fall in Chinas carbon emissions (financial times). But by the end of March when the lock down ends the pollution level touches again the same apex.

Another positive impact of COVID-19 lockdown is on education system, here we see the burden of students has been reduced due to the online studies, various education application has been developed which lead us towards the innovation in education sector also students interact diversified teachers by which they express themselves very well. Also crude oil prices fall down which has been seen first time in the history, if it harm oil exporting countries but on the other hand it is so favourable for oil importing countries. Apart from this it has also its ill effects.

Economy and envornement has been seen inversely properation always why? It has been observed in the history of world whenever there are any crises it effect environment positively like, global financial crises (2007-08), Asian financial crises (1997), fall of USSR (1991), first oil crises (1973) and second oil crises (1979). Crises always show that when

economy is crushed down the environment was improved inversely. Which means carbon emission increase (economy increases) environment was drastically affected. Why so? It is because world economy is mostly depending upon fossil fuels. Like transport, factories, electricity where fuel is used as primary source. When lockdown ends the carbon emission which is falling sharply due to corona virus, will increase instantly.

Conclusion

So to maintain the clean environment it is a golden chance in the hands of Government that they should focus on renewable energy. And let that industries closed down who use large fuel consumption which are responsible for cause of carbon emission, also educate them to use renewable energy or new technology which emit low carbon dioxide CO₂. Government should also made strong rules and regulation for industries and companies that they treat their waste them self like sewage treatment plants, so it is possible that we will see such type of environment in near future as we see during lockdown.

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