BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

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ABSTRACT

At the end of 2019 a new virus emerged in Wuhan China, Reports showed that the COVID-19 infection caused clusters of onset similar to severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) coronavirus. Corona virus has now effected almost every single country in the world the number of people affected by this virus has rose to 70 million and the number of deaths that have been confirmed by worldometer.info is more than 1.5 million. The region which is most affected from this virus is America, a fifth of all the recorded cases are from America. According to worldometer.info we can see that corona virus has peeked during the months of April and May but it is expected that the cases would again rise in the upcoming months if proper measures of prevention is not taken. Countries like China and Italy are some examples where corona virus have affected multiple times. The virus has a routine of affecting countries in forms of waves. The virus has raised world concern because of its high transmission capability as well as high mobility and mortality (Chiew CJ, 2020).

In the study we investigate the impact of covid-19 all over the world and how has it affected different sectors of the world. The outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has severely affected the global economy, major victims of the COVID-19 outbreak are micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). The education sector has also been terribly affected by covid-19, many students have delayed their graduation due to corona virus and the number of people who were employed within the educational sector are now facing serious deployment problems. Many schools and universities are opting to continue their normal classes on online platforms but these methods are not as effective as the physical classes. This disruption in the

regular routine of the students is found to be ineffective in the field of education. Many countries implemented different levels of containment in order to control the spread of corona virus, or COVID-19. The paper examines the views of different schools of different levels and how they are affected by corona virus.

Covid-19 has destroyed the economy of all the countries and this outbreak acts as a reminder for us that outbreaks like these can occur every ten to fifty years. Scientists predicts that the impact of corona virus can be even worse than the great depression and some researches shows that this virus might stay with us for another 8 to 10 years. COVID-19 brought the global economy to a sudden stop, causing shocks to supply and demand. According to the forecasts of international monetary fund and World Bank they have predicted that the total GDP of most of the countries for the year 2021 would be lesser than the GDP of 2019 (Cartelli, 2010).

The impact of corona virus on trade and travel will also be discussed in this paper, trade and travel have been recognized as significant determinants of the spread of disease. The rapid rise in urban globalization have also played a key role in spreading this disease.

The food industry is an important sector which is also been affected by corona virus. The industry have experienced difficulties in maintaining profits due to the government closures and nationwide lockdowns globally. This has resulted in laying off the workforce and loss of income of the government owners. It has also impacted the retail groceries as the customers have bought multiple months of supplies after the lockdowns (Chadde, 2020).

The paper will also highlight the measures taken by large scale food industries and what these dining in restaurants are doing in order to prevent the spread of the virus the new policies

which should be implemented by these companies are outlined in this paper and how these companies are improvising their service in order to keep their business running and provide job opportunities to their workers. In this research an average food industry will be examined and how can it affect the system.

The paper will also shed light on the hospitality industries and the changes involved in the attitudes of the people who are associated with this sector will be discussed. The paper will provide the overall impact of corona virus on the policies these firms have developed to keep their companies in business, by changing the nature of work. The report will highlight the effects of this virus on the American based restaurant chain Fleming's steakhouse and how has the restaurant improvised their service and kept their business running by following the government policies.

BACKGROUND OF THE DISEASE

According to WHO coronavirus is a large family of virus and the different members of this family causes different illness in animals and humans. In humans this illness ranges from minor illness to sever acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) coronavirus (SARS CoV). The SARS-CoV-2 epidemic started in late December 2019 in Wuhan, China, and has since affected a large portion of China in the late 2019 since then it has spread all around the globe. This virus is naturally hosted by bats and evolved after the bat dies, several teams have recently confirmed the genetic similarity between SARS-CoV-2 and a bat beta coronavirus of the subgenus Sarbecovirus. The main reason behind the rapid spread of the virus was that it can spread in minutes as it can be transmitted through tiny droplets of water through the medium

of air. The virus is transmitted in the human body through the respiratory openings and due to this reason wearing a mask to prevent the spread of the virus is necessary (Fateh, 2020).

Comparing the total number of deaths to the people affected by corona virus we can conclude that the virus is lethal as the mortality rate of the virus is more than 2 percent of the total affected patients. According to worldometer info the mortality rate of the virus in elders and infants is much higher as the immune system of these people is weaker in comparison to an average human being.

A research suggests that (SARS CoV) was accidently created by the Wuhan institute of Virology. These theories suggest that the virus was either intentionally or accidentally released into the surrounding community. The lab was researching the potential of the virus when it reacted with a human host.

IMPACT OF CORONA VIRUS ON FOOD INDUSTRY

The covid-19 pandemic has resulted in bottlenecks in farm labor processing, transport and logistics. Most of these disruptions are a result of policies adopted to contain the spread of the virus. In many places there was panic buy which resulted in shortage of supplies. In any sort of outbreak the sector which is most affected is the food industry as it is one of the most basic need of human. Many supply chains were disturbed as no import and exports were possible due to the nationwide lockdowns everywhere. Panic buy had caused empty shelves everywhere. The overall consumption of consumer food and products were disturbed as there was a disruption in the supply chain of the products and the demands of the products were also

high. All types of food can potentially be contaminated though contact with any contaminated equipment, surfaces or environment. Due to this proper cleaning was required for the product.

The overall impact in the food industry was very different as the demand of grocery products

was increased and the demand for preprocessed food was considerably lower than usual worldwide. The food traffic in America alone had declined by 75 percent where as in Middle East and Europe the decline in the number of people was noted to be 90 percent. The number of buyers who were dependent on online grocery and supplies was increased, due to the high demand numerous different small scale online markets were formed. Small scale farmers were also embracing digital solutions to directly sell their products to the customers (Chadde, 2020).

Corona virus has disrupted the overall food processing industries due to the different rules of social distancing, lockdowns and labor shortages. Limits on the mobility of food products have further affected the food processing and harvesting, in confined spaces of processing and packing of food products maintaining social distancing between the employees and the food product is also very important so the virus cannot easily transmit. COVID-19 clusters have been found in meat processing plants in various countries. Employees often work in close proximity to each other, making it more difficult to respect physical distancing requirements. Firms have also reported high number of absentees and the available staff was reduced up to 30 percent in many food processing industries of the world. The meat processing industry is found to be most sensitive than any other food industry due to the labor intensive nature of operations. In contrast grain handling and processing is highly automated and manual labor is less required and it has not experienced the same number of disruptions as the meat processing sector.

EFFECTS OF CORONA VIRUS ON MEAT PROCESSING FACTORIES AND

POULTRY

Many meat processing sectors have shut down and are forced to operate at reduced capacities. In United States alone the bacon and steak processing factories fell by about 40 percent, the revenue generated from these industries were also lower in contrast with 2019. The North American region was most affected by corona virus as the number of people relying on meat is considerably higher than any other region, the whole region was relying on 15 plants as many small scale plants were forced to close. (: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2020) Livestock and particularly pig and poultry in the industrial world had to increase their productions and decrease the cost of their products as the buying power of the customers had declined and the customer demand for cheap foods had increased. Farms were forced to keep fewer number of animals in closed environments in order to prevent the disease from spreading, more automation was required in this sector as the whole industry was relying on manual labor, and the shortage of manual labor forced the industries to improvise. The immediate impact of corona virus and the stock piling of food products by the customers also affected this industry as the high demand of livestock was much difficult to meet. The meals were being prepared in homes rather than offices and restaurants and due to this reason there was an increase in the demand of livestock and poultry.

There are reports of clusters of COVID-19 cases in processing plants in several countries, including Canada, Brazil, U.S., Ireland, U.K., Spain, Australia, Denmark, and Germany. In Germany corona virus has affected more than 1500 workers in one of the largest meat

processing factories in the European Union. However US was the hardest to hit country where more than 40000 cases were reported among the people who were working in this industry. Forty nine plants were closed for various time and nearly 200 food inspectors were tested positive for corona virus. A study was conducted in US in which data was gathered from 23 states, different meat processing factories were involved in this research. On random testing of these employees the percentage of employees who were found positive was more than 9.1 percent. The study was conducted when the virus peaked during the years of April and May. During the outbreak of the virus many processing plants were forced to shut down, many workers were facing troubles financially. Workers who were indirectly connected to the supply chain were also deeply affected like the people who were employed for the transport of the products, the quality assurance team. The plants which were still in operation were forced to work with a smaller workforce, the workload was increased on each worker. Processing plant closures affected some farmers who, faced with nowhere to send animals for slaughter, had to prepare for and carry out mass depopulation of surplus animals. The effect in the rural areas were found to be more impactful as no funds were distributed to the farmers.

Corona virus has also affected the livestock and poultry sector as in many cases there was a great increase in the demand of meat and poultry, the high demand in this sector and meeting the demand became a big problem. In some regions the demand of livestock was declined and due to this the quantity of livestock became surplus to a point where no proper shelter for the increasing number of livestock was available, due to this reason a large number of carcass was disposed to the meat processing plant. The thin workforce and the large number of livestock needed to be slaughtered became a reason for this problem. The intensive pig and poultry

production system the system was forced to maximize their number of chickens and pig per square area. The fast rate of growth of the poultry animals and livestock was also a big reason behind the overcrowding. The countries which exported livestock to other countries were also facing the problem of overcrowding of livestock and the countries which relied on the imports from other countries to meet their meat consumptions were facing difficulties in supplying the meat and poultry to the customers.

EFFECTS OF CORONAVIRUS ON RESTAURANTS

Covid-19 has become a major crises for the restaurant and hospitality business. The restaurants were forced to close down in the early part of the year 2020 because of the lockdown policy. Hotels around the world have suffered from more than 150 billion dollars due to the booking cancellation. In addition consumers also showed tendency to avoid public places. Even after reopening the government had implemented policies which focused on the services while maintaining social distancing. Experts believe that many restaurants won't be able to function after the latter half of the year as they would face financial crisis if the lockdown is not lifted. The full service of restaurant traffic has been dropped by 89 percent globally. According to a survey conducted in U.S 49 percent of the American households live paycheck to paycheck and have no other means of finance, an average food worker can earn up to 10 dollars per hour and could lose up to 400 dollars weekly (Auman-Bauer, 2020). The closing of restaurants have impacted more than 15 million households in America alone. Since the advent of coronavirus the restaurant sector has lost more than 26 billion dollars in market cap. The U.S dining has lost more than 63 percent of the total market cap in less than a month. The Chinese-American

business are most affected by corona virus as the people are avoiding Chinese oriented restaurants as the virus which is believed to have originated from Wuhan China, the restaurant sales are down by more than 50 percent in comparison to the last Lunar year.

The fast pace of this crisis has led to the transformation of the markets as the restaurants have figured ways to keep themselves in business by providing service in ways minimal human contact is required. Many restaurants have started home delivery systems and online booking systems of orders. Some restaurants have even made arrangements for dining that does not bounds the customer to sit in a confined space rather than open atmosphere (Jungkeun Kima, 2020).

FLEMINGS STEAKHOUSE

Flemings Prime Steakhouse and Wine bar is an American based steakhouse restaurant which originally is from Florida but is now serving in more than 65 different locations in America, the chain of restaurant was founded in 1998 and since then it has become one of the biggest restaurant chain in America. The steakhouse is originally a chain of bloomin brands group of companies with more than 900 workers in Southwestern Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana.

POLICIES OF FLEMING STEAKHOUSE TO PREVENT CORONA VIRUS

Like other similar restaurants coronavirus has affected Flemings steakhouse too. The dining experience of the customers have been affected due to corona virus. After an interview with the CEO of bloomin brands group of companies David Deno, he explained how the government has allowed the restaurants to open some dining rooms to the public. He further stated that

the company wanted to serve food in a safer environment either in restaurants with complete government implemented SOPs or at homes. The main reason behind keeping the business running was to keep the employees on payrolls during the lockdown period.

The standard operation of procedures for restaurant was strictly observed by the restaurant, the employees must observe RSOP1- RSOP7 and the equipment and utensils must be cleaned and sanitized after each use, with the help of machines.

In order to keep track of the booking in an effective way the regional teams came up with the idea of automation of bookings as well as for employees to minimize the interaction between the customers and employees. The frequent dine in companies like pharmaceutical and financial account services wanted a frictionless experience due to this reason automation of booking for all the orders was necessary (Bloomin Brands, 2020).

A limit on the number of people in each gathering was placed if the customer wanted to go for dine-in. Due to this implementation many orders were cancelled. The company was facing pressure as the Bloomin Brands suffered from a loss of 92.4 million dollars and in the later quadrant of the year 2020. The share price of the stock was down to 32 cents which was at 1.05 dollars a year back. The sales were down by 56.3 percent in comparison from 2019. The total revenue of the company fell 43 percent from 1 billion to 578 million in one year.

A domestic grill option was implemented by the company in order to facilitate the customers who wanted steak experience while maintaining social distancing with others. A standalone Grill was also launched by the company with drive-thru during the month of September this year.

The investments made in the prior years to enhance the customer experience by the company was used to deliver food in an environment safe for the customers and the employees. During the month of March when dining rooms were forced to close the off premises sales allowed them to keep their restaurants open during that time. This continued till the later April and starting from May when states began the process of partially opening the economies, dining rooms were open for several customers while following complete policies in a safe and efficient manner. By the last weekend of June 2020, fifty six of the sixty five Fleming steakhouses were opened for dining, the average sales volume of the company was recorded to be around 81000 that weekend. The significant increase in the number of coronavirus cases have forced the restaurants to close and by the end of July there were only 17 steakhouses opened for dine-in, pulling in an average sales of 49000 every day of the weekend (Ruggless, 2020).

EFFECTS OF CORONAVIRUS ON ECONOMY

Covid-19 has brought the world economy to a sudden stop, causing shocks to the supply and demands of the products. The brutal drawdown in the global finance market indicates that the world's economy is on a path to recession. Coronavirus is recognized as the biggest downfall in the human history after the Second World War, the spread of coronavirus has brought the global economy down to its knees. The first reason behind the global economic crisis is that the virus required a maintenance of social distancing which led to the shutdown of the financial markets and corporate offices. Second reason is that the uncertainty of the situation on how worse the virus can become is still unknown due to which investors are scared to take risks in the international trades (CANUTO, 2020).

In 2019 IMF had predicted growth in the global economy of up to 3.4 percent but due to the advent of coronavirus global stock markets have erased more than 6 trillion U.S dollars in the first week of the global pandemic. The sales and production have lost more than 5 trillion dollars' worth of stock points in the first week. Since then there is no progress in the global economy and the trend in the economy of most of the first world countries have declined. On the contrary the third world countries which had agricultural products as their main exports have experienced significant growth in their GDP as to overcome the increasing demands of food in the countries large amounts of food items have been imported in the countries. Due to the nationwide lockdowns in countries like US and Italy they were forced to import food items and livestock from countries which have agriculture as their main profession. Many countries imported their essential commodities from major exporting countries like China, India and Japan, and depend largely on these countries for the consumption of essential commodities. The reduction in global supply chain and the reliance from china for the import products led to the shortage of supplies in the import dependent countries when Chinese market was forced to shut down. Due to this there was a significant increase in the prices of the remaining stock in those import dependent countries which further suffered from inflation in the prices of those products. Surgical equipment like masks and hand sanitizers are examples of the products which were delivered by china to the whole world.

Due to the global crises and the shortage of funds the rise in nonprofit loans in the banking sector became a trend. Private sector banks had the highest risk of credit exposure during the outbreak. The fewer fees collected by the banks on each transactions and the nonprofit loans provided to the customers negatively affected the banks profit and this led in the significant

decrease in the bank points in the global market. On the other hand due to the lockdowns people were mostly utilizing online funds and transactions because of the higher demands for some sorts of online services such as online shopping.

EFFECTS OF CORONAVIRUS ON EDUCATION SECTOR

Many students are experiencing difficulties in completing their education, as many number of educational institutions are forced to close and shift to inline mode of education. The shift from physical to online is smart and innovative but many students are facing difficulties in completing their education as the online mode of education is ineffective due to connectivity issues and the lack of proper environment. Because of the corona virus the number of internship programs have been reduced all around the world. A survey conducted in USA showed that more than 30 percent of the students have delayed their graduations and more than 60 percent of the people agreed that the online mode of education was ineffective.

On the other hand the switch from physical to online was proven useful in scouting newer talents from other parts of the world for an internship. This resulted in high competition in the people applying for internships. The online mode of education was proven useful in conveying education to the third world countries (Giorgio Marinoni, 2020).

CONCLUSION

From the analysis it is evident that coronavirus has affected almost every sector in one way or another. We can analyze that coronavirus outbreak has triggered the spillover in many different sectors globally and due to this the global economy is on a road to rapid decline in 2020. Policy makers are facing pressure in designing policies which would help in responding against the coronavirus outbreak. As a result many countries have implemented those policies which has impacted the economy both positively and negatively. Social distancing policies and lockdowns have imposed in countries to fight against this virus. The findings suggest that a 30 days complete lockdown might hurt the economy and it would affect the stock prices terribly but it would be necessary for the country. Lawmakers I many countries suggests that a policy of complete lockdown is the only logical option although it might hurt the economy badly. On the bright side coronavirus reforms has given the opportunity to many countries to fix their public health sector. Countries like Spain and UK have repaired their public health sector and fixed other infrastructures such as transition from physical to online education was smoother. Some governments also used the crisis as an opportunity to fix the economic system and the

Students have also faced difficulties due to this pandemic, many students have delayed their graduation and many of them have even dropped their courses as the shift from physical to online can be hard for students. Corona virus have also restricted many students in applying for any sort of internship, which could be an obvious boost to their careers. The online internships are not much efficient as the students have no one to seek for help when facing a problem, not

financial system with the planned packages.

everyone has a work friendly environment at home due to which work from home can be difficult.

The meat industries is also facing problems in keeping up with the demands as only a fraction of workers can be allowed at a time, those workers are assigned to maintain the food supply.

Implementation of enhanced cleaning and disinfection and the source control in meat and poultry processing facilities is necessary to reduce the risks of covid-19 among the workers and the customers.



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