

**“Hunger – effect of Corona Virus among the less Privileged”**

*Santimary Lyngdoh  
Central University of Punjab,  
Bathinda*

**Abstract-** The Corona virus pandemic has caused a lot of havoc and chaos around the world. Everyone are affected by it be it business or health or family. The more affected ones are the poor people whose means of livelihood is based on daily wages. Lockdown has been declared by Governments so that the citizens of that particular country are safe from the virus. This lockdown has however brought about certain difficulties that are rising and affecting people for the past weeks. The pandemic has not only affected the health of the people but also the economy widely, and the saddest part is that some people are dying not because of the virus but because of the lack of food due to no income source due to lockdown.

**Introduction** - Hunger is the state of not having enough food. Hunger affects every person, be it young or old, rich or poor. We feel hungry when we do not get food. The average person will feel hungry if he does not get lunch before his lunchtime. A new born baby will express his hunger by crying. Hunger is a necessity for every being to stay healthy and alive.

**Body** -Every day we work so that we earn enough money to feed ourselves and our family. We strive for better jobs, better salary, so that we have enough resource for survival. We go to school, colleges, universities so that we can get good jobs; and the cycle repeats.

But there are still many people who die hungry.....

If we introspect ourselves we will see that nobody likes to stay hungry. There is something about hunger that cries within us. Stay hungry for one day and you feel pain; not just physical pain but pain in your heart. You will feel like the main reason that is keeping you alive has been snatched away from you. We cannot live without food!

According to the data given by Global Hunger Facts, more than 820 million people are affected by hunger. The covid-19 pandemic has boosted this number by millions more. It has been estimated that around 265 million people in 2020 will be suffering because of hunger.

According to the Hindustantimes.com, nearly 80% of the Indian population have been affected by a decline in their earnings. The migrants in trying to overcome this loss are seen to be making efforts into returning to their villages but this has only worsen the negative impact since they face food shortages and with less money it has driven them to face starvation and hunger in their journey. The biggest challenge is hunger. India is a very big population. The country has been fighting hunger long before the pandemic, and the pandemic has caused the issue to fuel up creating more misery among the underprivileged.

India is ranked 102 out of the 117 countries in the Global Hunger Index. The Government has taken measures to combat the effects of the pandemic. It has provided stores where citizens

can have access to healthy food and essentials. The finance Ministry has also released rupees 18,000 crore in tax refunds to individuals and businesses. It has also provided financial support to over 2 crore construction workers and other funds to various sections of the society. But over the weeks there are still many people who suffer from hunger. Many migrant workers have been travelling by foot for long miles to reach their homes. There have also been deaths and accidents of many migrants while on their journey.

The only reason could be because of the fear of lack of food due to poor finance. This pandemic has aroused fear among the less privileged in addition to the fear of being infected, the fear of starvation. The migrant workers on being questioned said that they have not made the decisions as simple as it could be perceived. They did it because they have no choice.

The INDIAN EXPRESS as on May 27, 2020 wrote about the plight of the poor people. Several people have been questioned as to why they have chosen to walk rather than wait for governments help. The migrants shared their plights and reasons and said that this has not been done as wanted but because of the large number of people it has been difficult to reach out to all the help given. It's not like they have not tried, but because whatever they have tried was either unheard or it fell on deaf ears. This situation poor people are facing is not just here in India, but everywhere around the world, the homeless, the deprived are suffering. This is the point of time where we help each other and practice the word HUMANITY. There is only one religion when it comes to hunger and that is HUMANITY.

**Conclusion** -Some of us are privileged enough to have food at the table and safe water to drink. Here we are talking about the most basic means of survival, i.e. food and water. Putting blame on one another on this matter will not help. Everyone is blaming this or that, but instead of doing that I think we should be focussing more on how to help the ones suffering because time is limited, and while I'm writing this down many poor people might be dying somewhere out there. I appreciate some groups, individuals and organisations that are contributing funds to help the poor people. I think if we are blessed enough to help someone suffering then we should lend a helping hand because whether big or small, that help you are giving can fill somebody's hungry stomach, wipe off somebody's tears, remove the pain from somebody's heart and maybe save somebody's life today.

## REFERENCES

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