

COVID-19: INCREASING INDIVIDUALISM

BY. Vijayalaxmi Rachayya Hiremath, M.A, M.Phil.

Lecturer-in-Political Science

B. L. D. E. ASSOCIATION`s, A. B. SALLAKKI P. U. COLLEGE

DEVAR HIPPARAGI. Dt. VIJAYAPUR

KARNATAKA

ABSTRACT

Covid-19 left nothing in its behind. Even though it is a health issue disastrous effects of covid-19 touches almost all nooks and corners of the civil life. Now the topmost concern of the world is to rescue every individual by this disease. Thus authority has been given certain financial relaxations and individual autonomy prevails over obligations imposed by the society, religion and law. On the one hand covid-19 double ensures individual right to family life by work from home and by precautionary measure like stay home and stay safe. On the other hand social life has been ended. It creates a sense of individual responsibility that- it is only an individual who can buffer coronavirus than the efforts of the government. Hence there is a change in individual behaviour and priorities. Individual safety and individual interest is primary in concern community interest is second in command. Covid-19 changed the long established culture of shake hands changed in to joining hands, from hugging each other to physical isolation. There is a shift in the world politics nations are concentrating on domestic affairs than the foreign affairs, health policies are getting more important than the economic policies

KEY WORDS

Covid-19, individual, individual behaviour, individual responsibility, deglobalisation.

Covid-19 is changing the global social system and global culture it is against to the principals of `vasudev kutumbakam` that is, the world is one family and where there is unity there is always victory. Modernisation and industrialisation partially changed the social system and family system from joint family to nuclear family and single parent family. Yet hazardous multifaceted effect of covid -19 which overwhelm the every walk of the life it changed social life of the every individuals and kept in a isolation by others.

Covid -19 is a infectious high- risk disease caused by deadly virus corona. It creates respiratory problems till the day no vaccine or treatment is found. Treatment is giving only to improve immunity of the infected person. So the world is frightened. To slow-down the rapid spreading of covid-19 world deployed lock-down and social distancing to safeguard health of the individuals. Lock-down is putting many restrictions for routine life, social distancing is nothing but physically separating from one another.

In individualism an. individual is in a great concern and believed that every individual has unique identity and able to take care of himself and capable to flourish his life. So individualists considered as every individual is more important than society eventually state is necessary evil. Covid-19 is pushing the world to the individualism in order to protect the individual health and individual life by the dangerous pandemic disease that is covid-19. All social ceremonies which are performed by altogether are being avoided .Temple, church and mosques are temporarily closed. Laws are given certain relaxation especially in financial matters even during the economy of the state is in a phase of stagnation like relaxation and extension of time in paying back the lone. Compensation has announced for barbers, auto and taxi drivers , flower growers, washer men and others who faced financial difficulties during lock-down. Direct financial assistance and free food grains even to who don't have ration card.

All this is for the maintenance of better life and greatest happiness of every one. For all these efforts of the government individual is the main concern and individual autonomy prevails over obligations imposed by society and authority.

To defeat covid-19 government exercise its authority through police force and kept the individuals under surveillance of police force to maintain social distancing and lock-down to guard every one by hazardous effects of covi-19 and to maintain personal freedom of bodily integrity. Covid-19 double ensured individual right to family life. work from home culture has been started parents are staying in home with their children and elders and sparing valuable time with them. Community life got stagnated. Apart from the family individual had no other direct contacts with others like relatives and friends. No social relations, no direct communication with others, no faith on neighbours, no community mobility and treating others as enemy. Only social media is being more used by individual to be in touch with others. Everyone is trying to be more self-reliant therefore online business, online banking and online learning getting more importance. Health insurance policies are in a competition to extend its policy benefits to them who are diagnosed as positive case of covid-19.

Before the outbreak of covid-19 democratic countries were busy in to protest against government and its policies, society was busy in social movements and rallies to create pressure on government to make listen the voice of everyone. Yet this pandemic disease kept everybody in isolation and suspended all political activities except executive. Government came to the door step of every one to serve, to keep safe and to meet the basic needs.

Every individual perceived his individual responsibility in order to be a responsible there is change in individual behaviour, habits and routine. Even not affected by covid-19 ready to self-quarantining. No one is ready to take the risk of death challenge. There is a shift in behaviour from community interest to individual interest, individual safety is primary in concern community interest is second in command. Thinking of self-stability than the community stability. Thus shake hands changed in to joining hands, from hugging each other to physical isolation. Every individual is spreading awareness about pandemic through social media among friends, relatives and neighbours. If any gatherings are noticed it is the responsibility of everyone to make alert of necessity of social distancing.

U K prime minister said that- ` Boris Johnson government is trying to deflect responsibility for its coronavirus response on to the public-----U S president Donald Trump when he declared in response to a discussion about covid-19 testing failures- I don't take responsibility at all¹ in India also slogan like `stay home stay safe` is

establishing a individual responsibility to be aware of and alert of dangerous coronavirus. Even after certain relaxation on lock-down every individual is having maximum responsibility than earlier. It is the individual who can defeat the coronavirus than the government. In Brazel president is not serious about this pandemic disease. Thus it is none other than individual awareness and precaution to buffer the intensity of covid-19. Therefore every one should cultivate the changing culture that is use of sanitizer, frequent hand wash, use of mask, keeping safe distance and avoid public gathering.

Individualism also admits exercise of state authority for the right purpose. `That the only purpose for which power can be rightfully exercised over any member of a civilised community against his will is to prevent harm over others`². When individual neglect his responsibility government is on its war foot in moulding and correcting the behaviour who is violating safety measures, becoming barrier to the service of corona warriors and misbehave in this process of fighting against corona. Authority educates how to be with the system when the nation is insecure or facing emergency.

The concept of globalisation getting less importance. A pause has been given to inter-national affairs by temporarily postponing scheduled affairs . No international summits, no visits of the national leaders, no inter-national treaty and discussion on peace and progress, no inter-national sports. Regional associations are restrained. Nations are more concentrating health issue and to improve its economy rather than infrastructural development. Covid-19 swallowed job opportunities in every country and economic activities are stagnant. So creating new job opportunities for its own citizens than the migrants is need of hour to make them self-reliance and self- supportive. Consequently this tends to deglobalisation.

Hindrances

1. The economic priorities forcing to violate individual responsibility.
2. Every individual is in a state of insecurity and fear because of changing behaviour.
3. If social distancing became a part of usual life it destructs long established cultural.
4. Negatively it affects on future generation and will lose spirit of social being, community life, team spirit and co-existence .
5. It may tends to self-centred, selfish and egoistic which may cause for psychological disorders

- **suggestions**

1. Every one should be sensible in ones civil responsibility during hazardous time.
2. To improve economy of the individual as well as the nation except hot spot areas economic activities should be relaxed.
3. Certain relaxation should be given to socio-religious activities to develop community spirit among young generation.

- **Conclusion**

It is the responsibility of every individual to safeguard oneself and to serve nation at large when world is facing catastrophic event with the spirit of need for the speed to conquer covid-19. Without co-operation of every one no policy could be implemented and no policy can be fruitful. Hence to go back to previous life everyone should get committed with all liabilities.

- **Footnotes**

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- **E-Resources**

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