



## THE COVID-19, POLITICS AND MANKIND: FACTS, FICTION AND PERCEPTIONS

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### **Abstract**

*For preventing corona virus there is a need of taking care. As the central and state government advice stay home. The federal government and the state governments have taken some steps to contain the fatal virus. The Disaster Management Act, and other relevant Acts have been invoked. Are we helping the government to help us or are we creating unnecessary, undesirable, unexpected hurdles, obstacles, impediments for ourselves? We need some pro-active approach for consideration by all the stakeholders to fight against Corona. We will be able to eliminate the covid-19.*

**Keywords:** Covid-19, Government, Management.

### **Introduction**

Unfortunately the COVID-19 is causing unimaginable havoc across the globe. India is equally badly affected. The federal government and the state governments have taken some (adequate?) steps to contain the fatal virus. We have been observing "lockdown" since 22 March 2020. The obstinate virus infected people have been (properly?) isolated and quarantined and are being treated as per the WHO guidelines. Advisories have been issued. Steps have been taken to keep the supply chain of food, etc moving. Steps have been taken to keep the people well informed by way of asking the media, celebrities, etc to educate the people for taking the recommended protection measures against the Corona virus. Some efforts have been made to boost their (public) morale, increase their level of understanding the notorious move of the virus, and to enhance their mental toughness for keeping depression, anxiety, negativity, stress, etc away in a systematic, psychological manner. The Disaster Management Act, and other relevant Acts have been invoked. Law and Order is being (properly!) maintained.

### **Covid-19 disaster**

It may be an academic (of course, a relevant point or) issue to objectively discuss what else could and should have been done in time or should not have been done. What has been (wrongly!) done cannot be undone now. Have Governments across the world not committed mistakes/ blunders (knowingly or unknowingly) in handling the COVID-19? Our governments (federal and states) may have also done so.

Genuine criticism is and should always be welcome. Criticism for the sake of criticism is very unfortunate and uncalled for. Prejudice and bias is not desired. COVID-19 should be beyond party politics and (political, social, cultural, etc) ideology. It's a national disaster, a medical issue, an issue of death and life of all the people. Is a prejudiced and biased view really practically going to eradicate the fatal virus from the globe? Is the government approach to dealing with the deadly virus fully rational, methodical and professional? Should we not question the actions of the government?

Constructive criticism is the need of the hour. Pragmatic, concrete suggestions are urgently required at this juncture.

### **What should be done with COVID-19**

However, it is essential to ask the following pertinent (uncomfortable!) questions for the more/ effective management of the COVID-19:

1. Are these steps scientific and adequate?
2. Are these measures fully effective?



3. Has the DM Act been properly enforced ?
4. What other more effective, essential, pragmatic measures can, should the govt. take to fight COVID-19 ?
5. Have we ever offered any concrete suggestions to the government ? Are we being really honest in this case ? Are we doing what we morally, ethically loudly preach,? Are we just surmonising ? Are we being hypocrite ? Are we free from prejudice, bias , fear, anxiety, and questionable / so- called ideology ? Is any ideology full proof ? Are we playing our role as true citizens/ netizens ? Is it the right time to fight between and among ourselves? Are we humans or barbarians? Are we civilized or uncivilized ? Should we beat doctors, medical staff, abuse police, violate the enforced law ? Why should anybody adopt a hostile approach? Is it right to ridicule every action of the govt ? Are we so honest, perfect, sacrosanct and pious ? Are we what we claim to be and try to show? Do our actions not display, reveal, unfold, uncover our true ideas/ intentions?

Are we helping the government to help us or are we creating unnecessary , undesirable, unexpected hurdles, obstacles, impediments for ourselves ? Is it not easy to write FB posts , tweets, etc in air conditioning rooms by watching the cocophonous media and joining them to assault the system ( which may not be right all the time) without virtually working on the ground -zero?

Some viral videos show that some misguided elements are beating doctors, spitting on police, misbehaving with the lady medical- staff , abusing, applying their infected saliva on fruits, vegetables, eatables for public consumption so that COVID-19 spreads everywhere. Are these not criminal acts ? Why are the so called intellectuals, educated people keeping mum on it ? Why don't they speak up against the unforeseen barbarism? Is it not terrorism?

6. Are we making a meaningful use of Facebook, WhatsApp, Tweeter, etc at this critical juncture ? Or are we just producing/ emitting/ spitting poison/ venom, hatred, prejudice, bias , irrationality , outburst, frustration, jealousy, envy ,etc etc ?

7. Both the government ( Federal as well as the States ) have got their Rights and Duties . The people too have got their own Rights and Duties. Are we both ( the government and the people ) properly using our Rights and rightly performing our Duties ? Should we not reflect on it ? Should everybody ( including the Federal Government , State Governments, public, media, etc) not rise above the dirty, petty party politics if any ? Is it the time to settle the political scores? " Is politics not a weapon of the weak at the moment ?"

Is it wise, prudent and sagacious of us to ruthlessly criticize the government agencies without offering appropriate remedial measures for dealing with the current monster (COVID-19) ?

In my considered view, both the federal govt and the State Government are doing their best in the current situations with some lacunae, goofs, mismanagement withstanding.

### **Pro-active approach for COVID-19**

I would like to humbly suggest the following pro-active approach for consideration by all the stakeholders:

1. Mass testing (nobody must be left understand)
2. Isolation and quarantine (Effective administration of medicine and treatment)
3. Mass public education through the mass media. (Strict action against the violation by the media, the vested interests, etc.)
4. Total effective shutdown.(Effective enforcement of the DM Act in the light of the constitution)
5. Home delivery of the essential items/goods through mobile vans, medicine through mobile vans, mobile clinic) for survival until the complete eradication of the corona virus from the country. ( Besides the Govt. Agencies, NGOs, Molalla committee etc may be suitably involved)
6. Continue a blanket ban on the international flights until the corona virus is eliminated from the globe.



7. Objective consideration of the more effective, better ideas offered by the stakeholders including the opposition parties.
8. Any other suitable action.  
Should we not reflect on the above mentioned scenario, and think afresh, think big, thinks is best interest of the human kind/humanity, and thinks globally and act locally to rid of the deadly virus ?  
I am sure and hope that with a joint venture, we will be able to eliminate the covid-19. There no doubt about it. Its just a matter of time when the corona virus dies.  
Let's not be corona positive.  
Let us be corona negative.  
Is anyone listing.

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