

***A STUDY OF THE IMPACT OF LOCKDOWN PERIOD OF CORONA***

***PANDEMICS ON TIME UTILIZATION***

***BY UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN BADLAPUR***

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**Abstract-**

The life of each citizen in India has changed since 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, 2020, as our Honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced 21 days lockdown for Corona Pandemics. It was a new experience for every Indian citizen. Actually the life of every person in the world has changed till today. The change is considerable. Almost all people in the world are sitting at home leaving behind each and every urgent work. They actually started living their life instead of passing it. No one had this lockdown experience in the lifetime. No one had taken the rest, they are doing in this period. The pandemic is worst as it has taken lakhs of lives in all over the world but it has some positive side also. Being a professor, I felt a need to study how it has impacted the college going students. The pandemics occurred in the middle of the college exams. Half of the way, the students had to leave the exams, studies and college. Suddenly they became free, they got free from studies, exams, submissions, practical, assignments and so many obligatory responsibilities. The next question comes in a mind how they are utilizing this free time? What exactly students are doing? By taking a sample of more than 200 hundred students from Badlapur area, from all streams I tried to research on the utilization of time by the students in this pandemic period, behavioral changes in the students during lockdown. After the primary research, there are mixed results. Some students are using the time with best practices, they got to know the positivity and negativity in them and they have tried to improve their behavior for the first time. The students got the time to think about the career, they got to know the importance of studies, colleges, lectures, friends and most importantly the importance of freedom is highlighted by them. I would also like to give some suggestions on the basis of the research so that students should not waste the time, instead use it in the best possible way.

**Keywords-** Pandemics, COVID-19, lockdown, quarantine

**Introduction –**

The whole world is fighting with an invisible, deadly virus named Corona or COVID 19. Corona virus pandemic has stretched around the world. Many of the countries are under lockdown and regular life seems to have ground to a halt. The lockdown is prolonged in India more than 30 days. Everyone has stopped, everything has paused. The whole world seemed to be taken a break from every small thing. The pandemic period is filled with uncertainty and pain and fear as well as small moments of hope and humanity. Prior to Corona pandemic, no one has time to do anything. There was only one constraint in every ones life and that was “TIME”. If anytime one get it , that also used to be spend in unwanted shopping’s or false outings. Everyone seemed to be running for everything. We had putted our life in the hands of a watch. We do things as per the schedules and we did so many things, those now felt to be really unwanted.

From 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2020 lockdown in India is announced by Honorable Prime minister for the whole country. From that day, every citizen in India needed to be at home, no one is allowed to go out unnecessarily . Every shop , every manufacturing, schools, colleges , malls, theaters and everything is closed. Some necessary shops and organizations are only allowed to remain open and give services. For the first time in Indian history, Indian railway along with air transport, road transport took a break. Everything is stopped. The virus is contemplating with the touch, sometimes in air. If anybody is affected of the virus and he is moving around we can become affected. The virus is so danger that it attacks the lungs and there are no fixed medicines known till in the world. Till now more than 25 lakhs people had been suffering from COVID 19 in the whole world. India is safe still from communal spread because Government has taken the right step of lockdown at the proper time. We all remain at home only with lots of ‘time’ with us. Giving shape to time is especially important now, when the future is so shapeless. We do not know whether the virus will continue to rage for weeks or months or, for years. We do not know when we will feel safe again. And so many of us remain largely captive to fear. We may stay this way if we do not create at least the illusion of movement in our lives, our long days spent with ourselves or partners or families.

**Statement of the problem:**

It is seen that there is a very bad impact of the current Corona pandemics on human lives. Till today more than 20 lakhs people all around the world has been affected because of this COVID 19. The economy of the world is in threat as all the production units and service industries have closed. Everyone is sitting at home in the fear of his own life. Everything is left on coming future. My concern for this research is students, the youth who got the maximum energy of the whole life. They do have more than 20 hours free and are left at home with nothing to do, what exactly they are doing. How the students are spending the time. Now they have more than 16 hours with them if we left 8 hours of sleep from 24 hours clock. How exactly the time is utilized specially by youth is the main research of this paper. The exams have not completed, the course is remained half, somewhere practical, portions are also in the half way, so what exactly is the behavioral change in the minds of college students. With this thought by taking a sample of more than 200 college students, I form a questionnaire and circulated through Google form. Through this questionnaire my aim is to understand the student's utilization of time and whether there is any new idea or there is any change in the behavior before and after lockdown. The problem is that the college students have a lot of energy. They are prone to go out and have a lots of things in day to day life. Staying at home, sitting ideal is a day dream for them suddenly the pandemics has created the situation when the students has to spend a whole day sitting at home with the families. Neither the families nor the students have habit of being together for so many hours. So as such also there are so many problems but my research is limited to the time utilization by undergraduates , behavioral change and suggestions there on.

**Objective of the study:**

1. To study the impact of lockdown on behavior of the students.
2. To study the use of time by students in lockdown period.
3. To suggest measures for better time utilization among undergraduate students.

**Justification of the objective:**

Lockdown is started on 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, 2020. All the exams are either postponed or cancelled till the further notifications all colleges are closed down. So how it had impacted the time utilization or time spending factor on students. The research will work on the behavioral changes before and after lockdown on students. For that I have taken a questions of the time spending of students on hobbies or help to the home mates and behavior changes. The questions are also framed like how much time they used to spend on studies or social media before and after lockdown. From these answers I will be able to analyze the use of time by the students during lockdown and comparison will be easy. The research will suggest some online courses for the students which will be beneficial in their self as well as professional developments. The research is narrowed down only to the undergraduate students in Badlapur area so that we can work on the betterment of the students. We also can observe the suggestions are applied as per the situations or not. The students through their comments also has suggested many options other than assumed in the research.

**Statement of Hypothesis-**

**Hypothesis 1 -**

H0- The Students do not utilize the lockdown period in the best possible way.

H1- The Students utilize the lockdown period in the best possible way.

**Hypothesis 2 -**

H0- The Students are not aware about the online courses.

H1- The Students are aware about the online courses.

**Analysis of Primary data-**

A survey of about total 200 students were conducted in Badlapur through Google Forms from local students. 53% female and 47% male have responded to the survey. The survey was conducted from the college students in Badlapur from all streams Bcom, BA, B.SC and self

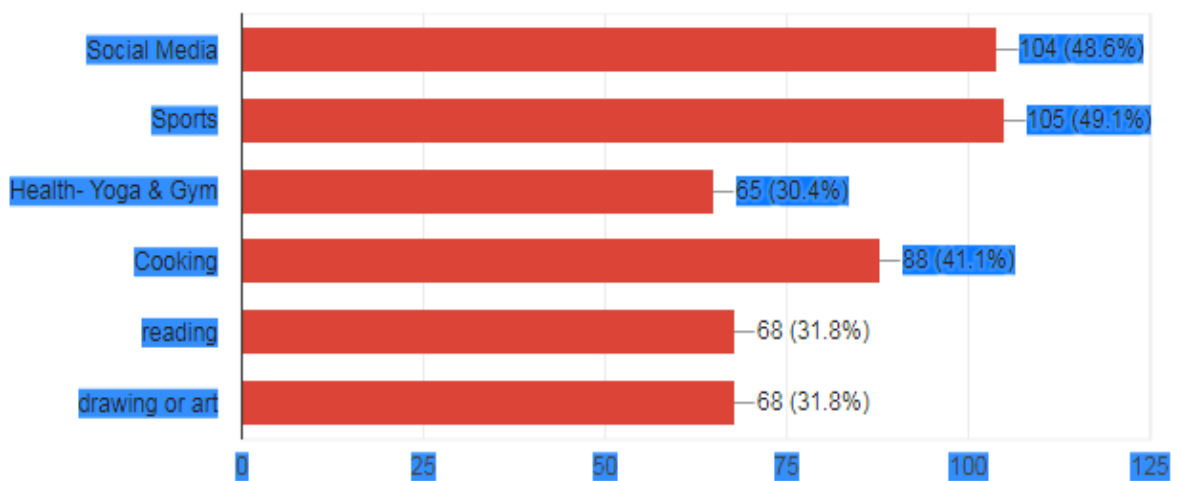
financing courses. Total 15 questions through a Google form were asked to more than 200 numbers of respondents from Badlapur.

### Findings & Suggestion-

#### Finding no 1

##### Hobbies-

214 responses



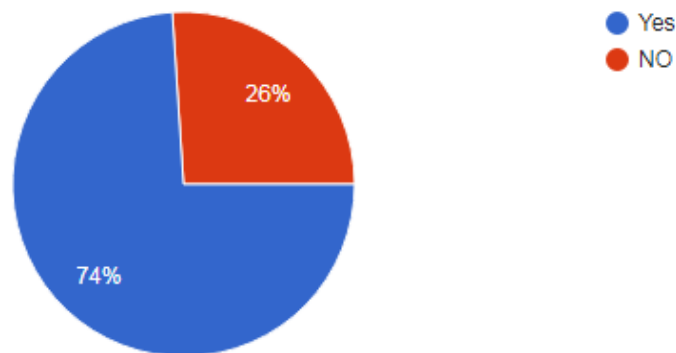
#### Suggestions-

Students were asked for the hobbies they have and how do they spend their time on hobbies. Maximum that is 49% have responded sports as their hobbies. 48% responded Social media as the hobby followed by Gym, Cooking, reading and other hobbies. It should not be the hobby. Reading has got only 31% which is also a big problem with the youth now days. I would suggest that student should shift their timings from social media to reading.

**Finding no 2**

Do you find any change in your behaviour after lock down?

215 responses



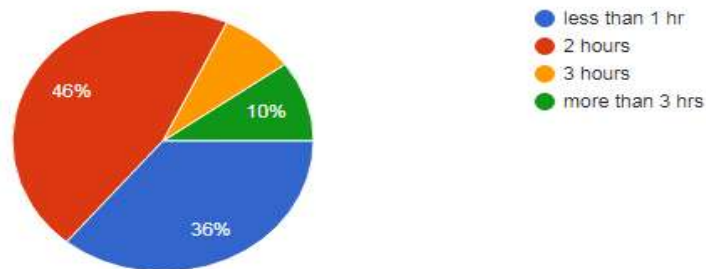
**Suggestions-**

74% students found a change in their behavior after lockdown. More than 80% students thought that the change is good while 20% thought that the change is bad. They further stated the positive and negative changes in their behavior. The positive changes mentioned by the students are helping to parents, fitness, ;earning new things, spending time for own self, they are able to give time to their hobbies. The negative changes mentioned by the students are laziness, irritation , anger, un necessary eating's, sleeping more, watching more televisions, loneliness. When student do mention such changes that means they have thought about themselves, they have thought about the time spend by them. The students also bifurcated the behavior in positive and negative aspects. They could think the negative changes and work on it.

### Finding 3

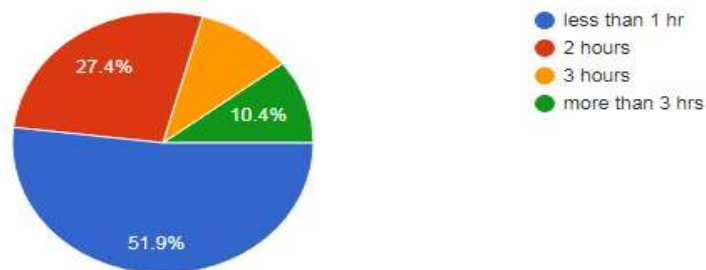
No of hours spend on studies before lockdown -

211 responses



No of hours spend on studies after lockdown -

212 responses



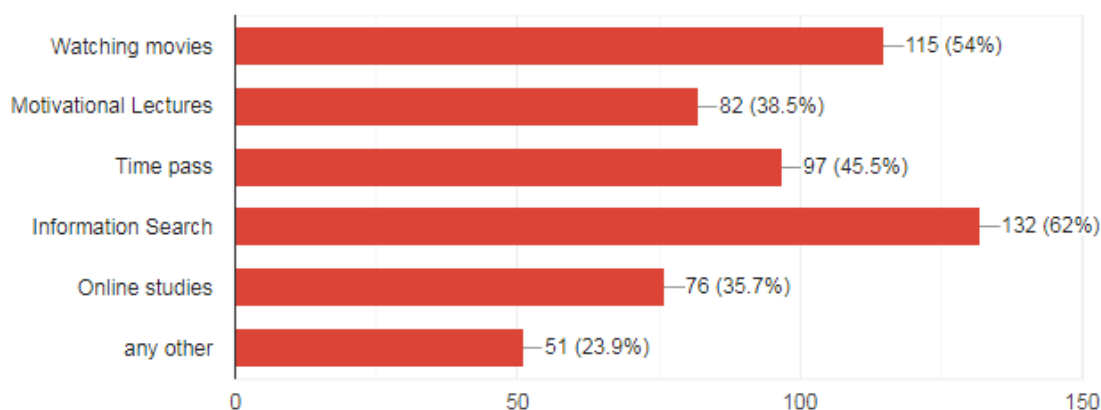
### Suggestions-

From the survey and results it is clearly seen that students have minimized the hours of the studies after lockdown. The students who studied more than 3 hours remain same but the students studying more than 2 hours are minimized after lockdown . Less than 1 hours studies has increased during lock down. Actually the studies hours should have been increased as there were no college and classes to the students. But the results are surprising. Then the question arise, if students are spending less time on studies what how they are spending the time?

#### Finding 4

The purpose of using social media-

213 responses



#### Suggestions-

The number of hours spend on social media has increased from less than 1 hour to more than 5 hours a day. 86% students are using Whats up followed by Instragram and Facebook. The purpose of using social media is mainly information search, then watching movies followed by motivational lectures and time pass. Online studies are done by less than 40 % students. They too don't know much about it. Just for a fun and time pass they are doing the courses but the numbers are less. I wanted to suggest some online courses which will help the students in their career and profession.

Following are the online courses for the students-

**TATA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCE**

NPTEL courses

UCMAS INDIA

Data science from Unacademy

Guitar sessions online lectures

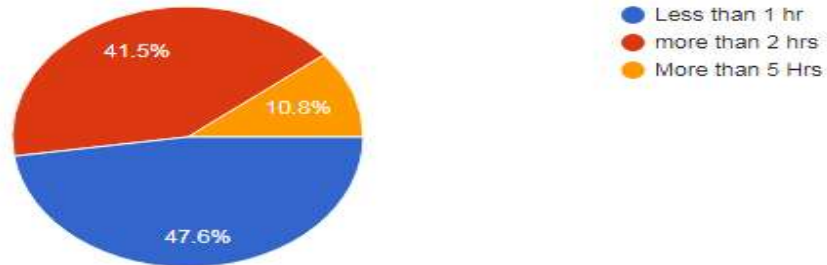
Financial Literacy Awareness Program (FLAP)



**Finding 5-**

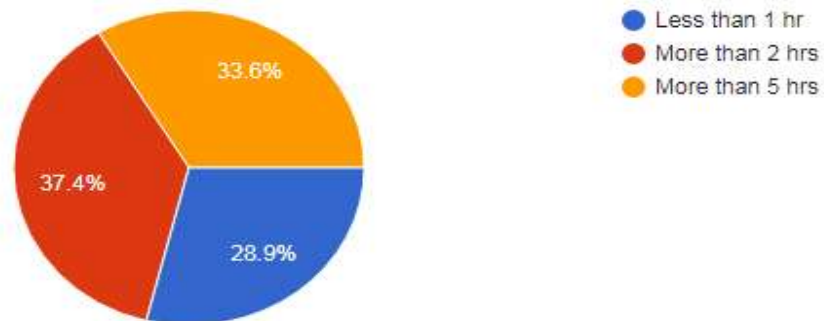
No of hours you spend on social media before lock down-

212 responses



No of hours you spend on social media during lock down-

211 responses



**Suggestions-**

The students were spending time on social media before and after lockdown is a big difference. Almost the students have started spending double time on social media. But very few of them are utilizing this time for information search or online courses. Much big part is wasting the time as a time pass on social media. They should use the time at its maximum for the learning and grooming up the personality and nurturing values. They should take the steps ahead towards the career.

**Conclusion-**

Covid 19 came in India almost in March-2020. The lockdown is announced from 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2020. From that day the whole country sit at home with nothing to do with. No one was allowed to go out instead of necessities. Ladies spend their time in housework, where as kids plays and adults can also spend their time by finding different ways. The big question is about the young students, who left with the mobile and internet. The young children have the lot of strength, they have a good power and capacity. They should use these capacities at the full. In my primary research I found that most of the students are not utilizing the time in a proper way. They are not guided properly. They are just passing the time in unwanted things or unwanted ways. Some of them are really positive about the situation and doing online courses at their end. It is also observed that students are unaware about the online courses available for them. Students don't want to spend their time in their developments and wellbeing. I have suggested some online courses which will be helpful for the students. It is observed that students are confused about the curriculum and the exams. They are not spending much time on the studies and not utilizing the time in the best possible ways. But most of the students have taken the advantage of this lockdown by helping the parents in their work and giving time to their hobbies. Many of the male students are more interested in health and gym. They are using the time to make their body. Some students have also realized the family values as they have accepted it in the answering sessions. This lockdown also made the students sit with the family, in the house was a different experience for them as well as their family members. The students agreed that because of the questionnaire of this research they have started thinking of utilizing the time in the better ways. They are agreed to go for some online sessions and also will help the parents and will start the studies. I further wanted to suggest that this lockdown period should be used by the students to identify their future objectives, to think about the career options and to set the objectives for the future. We as parents, teachers and guide can help the students to make the facts realize and should suggest them to work on it.

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