

ASSESEMENT OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT OF LUCKDOWN AIMED TO CURB THE SPREAD CORONA VIRUS ON RESIDENTS OF OSUN STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT: *The paper assess the impact of total lockdown in Osun Sate, South-West region of Nigeria to reduce the rate of spread of COVID-19 on the Socio-Economic lifestyle of its residents. Date were collected during the luck down by sending out randomly throughout the 3 senatorial district of the State structured questionnaire using goggle form. Information obtained was analysis using SPSS. The study revealed that the socio-economic life style of Osun resident was significantly impaired with secondary impact of possibly reduction in National GDP of the nation.*

KEYWORDS: *Economic impact, Corona virus, residents*

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

A novel Coronavirus Disease-19 denoted as COVID-19 was reported to have began in 2019 at a wild animal market of Wuhan in Hubei province of China [1] causing an outbreak of an Acute Respiratory Syndrome, SARS-like illness [2]. The outbreak was reported officially to the World Health Organization (WHO) on December 31, 2019 [3][4]. Since then, the infection has been ravaging the entire globe, and as at 4th of April, 2020 over 1.1 million cases has be reported globally and the figure keeps rising. The novel COVID-19 infection was first reported in Nigeria and Osun State on 27th February 2020 and 25th March 2020 respectively with sources majorly been imported cases from abroad returnees to Nigeria [5].

The disease has high pathogenicity and transmissibility, judging from how it spreads rapidly to over 100 countries in less than three months [6]. It is transmitted by air from person to person through droplets directly or indirectly in contact with uninfected persons when an infected individual coughs or sneeze. Therefore, the transmission occurs in two (2) ways: direct inhalation of droplets or aerosol generated by the coughs and sneezes of infected people and indirect by hand transfer of contaminated secretions that drop on common surfaces to nose, eyes, mouth and face.

COVID-19 has an incubation period of approximately 5 days after which symptoms begin to appear. It has been estimated that the time between the onset of symptoms and death in infected people is between 6 to 41 days and 14 days on the average [7]. This however, depends on other host factors such as the age of the patient at infection and the immune status, as people above 70 years of age tend to have a more fatal outcome compared to those younger. The most frequent presenting symptoms in COVID-19 patients at the onset include fever, dry cough, shortness of breath, myalgia, fatigue and others such as sputum production, headache, pharyngaglia and diarrhoea in few patients [8]. Patients with severe outcomes developed acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) and most of them required transfer to an intensive care unit (ICU). Deaths occurred due to multiple organ failure [9].

There is currently no specific effective antiviral treatment or vaccine for COVID-19. However, the disease can be prevented by means of regular and thorough washing of hands with soap in running water, regular use of hand sanitizers, cover mouth during coughing, cover nose when sneezing, avoid touching the face, nose and eyes, avoiding touching surfaces, staying at least one meters (3 feet) away from other people, avoid handshake and large crowd/gatherings (i.e. social distancing). Social distancing which is putting physical spaces between people so that transmission of COVID-19 from person to person will be difficult as one of the major strategies of preventing the pandemic [10][11].

On 1st of April 2020, Osun State government followed ordered steps of the Federal government Nigeria by pronouncing total lockdown in the State for 14 days. This was set in place to curb the spread of pandemic in the State. As a results of this precautionary measure, concerns have now partially shifted from the virus to a decrease in business activities in the State (small and medium sized enterprise). Small Scale Enterprises are as important to the economy of the state and Nigeria as a whole.

1.2 Statement of the problem

So far, the government of Osun State in line with the advice of the WHO to curb the spread of COVID-19 among her populace came up initially with social distancing and then two weeks lockdown of the entire State. A recent study on An Appraisal of Small and Medium Scale Enterprises in Osogbo Metropolis of Osun State, Nigeria **Error! Reference source not found.** revealed that majority of the entrepreneur in Osun State are self-employed (businessmen and women) who go out on daily basis to make ends meet. Their findings and the pronouncement of Osun State government Lockdown Policy will have impacts on the economy (small and medium sized enterprise) of the State and possibly if the lockdown should be extended beyond the stipulated time what are the expectation of residents of the State from government. Thus, a need for this study to investigate the socioeconomic impact of COVID-19 compulsory lockdown on residents in Osun State.

1.3 Aim and Objectives

The aim of this research is to examine the socio-economic impact of two weeks compulsory lockdown to curb the spread of COVID-19 on Osun State residents.

The specific objectives of this research work include:

- To determine the knowledge status of residents of Osun State on Coronavirus and its mode of transmission
- To determine an average household income and expenditure before and during the lockdown
- To determine the socio-economic impact of government policy towards curbing of COVID-19 spread in the State.
- To predict what may likely happen to economy (small and medium enterprise) of Osun State if the lockdown extended beyond the stipulated time.
- To recommend modifications in the policies of the government towards curbing of COVID-19 spread in the State in respect to the result of the present findings

1.4 Research Questions

- I. What is the level of knowledge of residents of Osun State on Coronavirus and its mode of transmission?
- II. What is the average household income and amount spent per household during lockdown in the State?
- III. What are the socio-economic impact of the lockdown on residents of Osun State?
- IV. What are the likely expectation on economy (small and medium sized enterprise) of Osun State if the lockdown is extended beyond the stipulated time?

1.5 Significance of the study

This study provides information on Knowledge of residents of Osun State on coronavirus especially on its mode of transmission. The findings also revealed average household income and expenditure of residents as well as investigating socio-economic impact of COVID-19 lockdown on residents of the State. This information will guide any government or NGO interventions programme during lockdown and sustainability of small and medium scale sized enterprise after the lockdown period.

1.6 Scope of the study

The study covered the three senatorial districts of Osun State; a representation of economic structure in South West, Nigeria . The target population for the study are residents of the State who are in Urban, Semi-urban and Rural areas of Osun State. Due to the lockdown in the State at the time of conducting the research, data were collected online through google form.

1.7 Limitation

The major limitation of this study has to do with the method used to obtain the needed information. Since there are restrictions to movements in the state during this findings, researcher can't go out to collect needed data from residents physically, thus we emulate the best alternatives which is by using online google forms to get the needed data via online social media and mails. This method may exclude residents who are illiterate who don't know how to use internet facility. Although the method will definitely avoid interviewer bias.

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study employed descriptive survey design to investigate the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 lockdown on residents of Osun State.

Respondents are randomly selected from the three senatorial districts of Osun State. Osun There are three federal senatorial districts in Osun State, they are Osun I, Osun II and Ife/Ijesa.

2.1 Model Specification

The model specification to evaluate the relationship that exist between lockdown and its impacts on economy in the State are:

$$AE = a + \beta AI + U_1 \quad (1)$$

$$CL = a + \beta MI + U_2 \quad (2)$$

Where:

AE = Average expenditure of residents during lockdown (dependent variable)

AI = Average income of residents during lockdown (independent variable)

CL = Coping of residents during the lockdown (dependent variable)

MI = Monthly income of residents before the lockdown (Independent variable)

U = error term

2.3 Sample size and selection

Sample size of one hundred and twenty-five (125) respondents who first responded to the online questionnaire before compiling these findings were used to represent the total population for this study. Since situation in the State while compiling this research does not warrant movement of people, data cannot be collected by meeting residents, thus random sample selection was only done online as people responded to the link supplied to complete questionnaire.

2.4 Research Instrument

Self-administered questionnaire designed via online google form was used for the purpose of collecting needed data for this study. Respondent's identity was excluded and participation of majority of the respondents was through a link sent to them via different social media platforms (WhatsApp, Facebook, etc). Detailed instructions were put on the questionnaire such that people who filled the questionnaire are residents of Osun State.

2.5 Methods of data analysis

Statistical data analysis was conducted using Statistical Package for Social Sciences software (SPSS). For the purpose of examining and analyzing research variables, descriptive statistics, Simple Linear Regression and Pearson Correlation method of analysis were used to measure the outcome variables at 0.05 level of significant.

3. DATA ANALYSIS AND RESULTS PRESENTATION

3.1 Personal data of residents in the state

Table 1: Socio-demographic information of respondents

Socio-demographic information	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Age		
Less than 20 years	6	4.9
20 – 39 years	86	70.5
40 – 59 years	29	23.8
60 years and above	1	0.8
Total	122	100
Marital status		
Single	51	41.1
Married	72	58.1
Divorced/Separated/Widowed	1	0.8
Total	124	100
Sex		
Male	92	74.2
Female	32	25.8
Total	124	100

Socio-demographic information	Frequency	Percentages (%)
Occupation		
Student	36	29.3
Unemployed	12	9.8
Self-employed	45	36.6
Civil-servant	37	30.1
Total	123	100
Monthly income		
Less than ₦10,000	25	20.5
₦10,000 – ₦50,000	65	53.3
₦50,000 – ₦100,000	15	12.3
Above ₦100,000	18	14.8
Total	122	100
Highest Level of Education		
Primary	0	0
Secondary	7	5.6
Tertiary	117	94.4
No formal education	0	0
Total	124	100
Religion		
Christianity	99	79
Islam	25	25
Traditional	0.8	1
Total	124	100
Family Size		
Less than 4 people	31	25.2
4 – 6 people	73	59.3
7 people and above	21	17.1
Total	123	100
Location		
Urban	77	62.1
Semi-urban	37	29.8
Rural	11	8.9
Total	124	100
Senatorial District of resident		
Osun Central	80	65.6
Osun East	19	15.6
Osun West	23	18.9
Total	122	100

Table 1 above displayed socio-demographic information of residents interviewed for this research. It was discovered that majority 72(58.1%) of these residents are married with 4-6 members per household (59.3%). The Occupational status of them revealed it that larger percentages 45(36.6%) of the residents are self-employed that must go out on daily basis for business transactions so as to meet up with the needs of their various household. By implication, the 14 days' lockdown pronouncement in the State will definitely affect these part of the residents because they may not get income during lockdown compared with their other counterparts that are civil servants who will be paid for the period of staying at home.

3.2 Respondents' knowledge on covid-19 and its mode of transmission

Every participant interviewed for the research responded that they have heard about COVID-19 and diagram 1 above shown it that majority 89(71.2%) of the them heard about the virus through the internet, close to half 57(45.6%) of them said its via television

and 52(41.6%) of them also said they heard about the virus through radio. By implication, best medium by which information can be put across to residents in the State on any matters are Radio, Television and Internet.

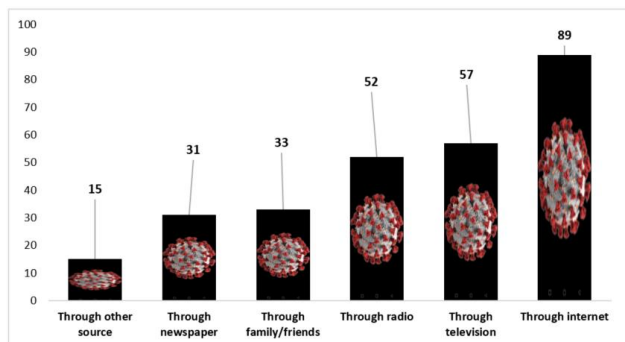


Diagram 1: Response on source of information of residents about COVID-19

Table 2: Levels of knowledge of respondents on COVID-19 and its mode of transmission

Variables	Yes n(%)	No n(%)	Don't know n(%)
Coronavirus is a new disease	102(82.3)	20(16.1)	2(1.6)
Coronavirus is a deadly disease	115(92.7)	8(6.5)	1(0.8)
Coronavirus is preventable	122(98.4)	1(0.8)	2(1.6)
Coronavirus can be transmitted by standing beside infected person	107(86.3)	16(12.9)	2(1.6)
Coronavirus can be transmitted by breathing-in same air with an infected person	88(70.4)	35(28)	3(2.4)
Coronavirus can be transmitted through sexual intercourse	69(55.6)	41(33.1)	14(11.3)
Coronavirus can be transmitted through mosquito bite or contact with some animals	23(18.7)	81(65.9)	22(17.8)
Coronavirus can be transmitted through bad water	21(16.9)	73(58.9)	31(25.0)
If however I get contacted with an infected person of coronavirus during this lockdown period, am willing to submit myself to the health authority in the State for next action	110(92.4)	4(3.4)	5(4.2)
Taking chloroquine drug dose per day prevents contacting coronavirus	6(4.9)	80(65.0)	38(30.9)

Table 2 above revealed level of knowledge of residents on COVID-19 and its mode of transmission.

It was revealed that majority 102(82.3%) of the respondents said coronavirus is a new disease and its deadly 115(92.7%). On whether coronavirus is preventable or not, most 122(98.4%) of the residents said its preventable. Also, most 88(70.4%) of the respondents confirmed it that coronavirus can be transmitted by breathing-in same air with an infected person and that it can be transmitted through sexual intercourse 69(65.6%). Meanwhile, most 110(92.4%) of the respondents said they will submit themselves to the health authority in the State for next action If however, they get in contact with an infected person of coronavirus during this lockdown period. By implication, this response shows that residents in the State have good knowledge of coronavirus and its mode of transmission.

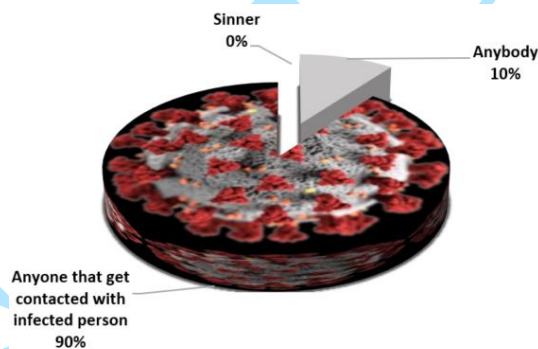


Diagram 2: Response on who respondent thinks can have coronavirus despite the lockdown pronouncement in the State

Diagram 2 above also displayed response of residents as to who they still think can contract coronavirus despite the lockdown in the State. It was discovered that 90% of them believed that anyone that get in contact with an infected person will definitely have coronavirus while around 10% of them said anybody can contract the pandemic.

3.3 Socio-economic impact of covid-19 lockdown on residents of the state

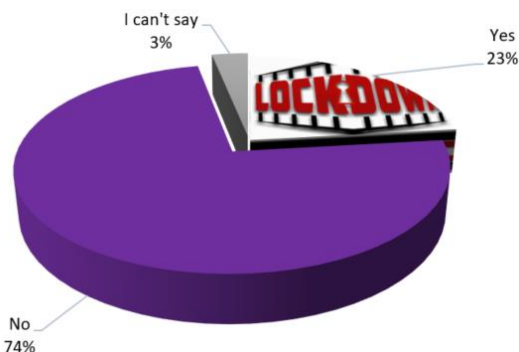


Diagram 3: Response on whether respondents are fully prepared for the COVID-19 lockdown as pronounced by the State government or not

On whether respondents are fully prepared for the COVID-19 lockdown as announced by the government or not, diagram 3 above shown it that larger representative of them (74%) are not fully prepared for the lockdown while less than a quarter (23%) of them said they are. However, very few (3%) of them can't even say whether they are prepared for the lockdown or not. By implication, larger representative of the residents of the State are not fully prepared for the lockdown.

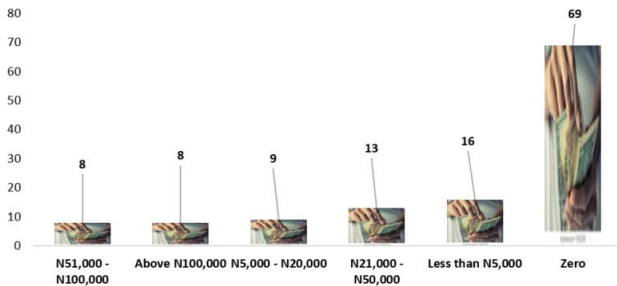


Diagram 4: Response on household income since the commencement of lockdown in the State

On household level of income in the state since the commencement of lockdown, as displayed in diagram 4 above, it was discovered that majority 69(56.1%) of the household have zero level of income in the State, while few 16(13%) of them earn less than N5,000, 13(10.6%) of them said they have between N21,000 – N50,000 and very few 8(6.5%) of them have above N100,000. By implication, the lockdown had successfully affected the income of majority of residents in the State.

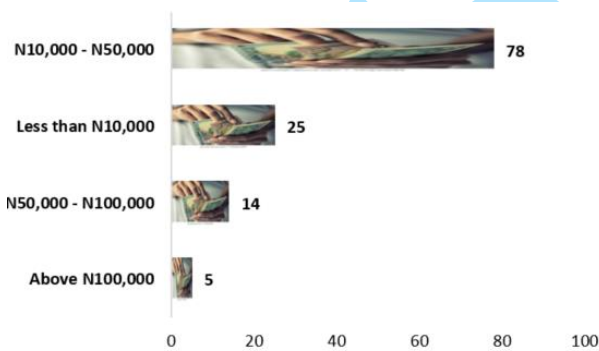


Diagram 5: Response on how much respondents have spent on food stuffs and other needs since beginning of lockdown in the State.

On how much respondents have spent on food items since the commencement of lockdown in the State, it was discovered from diagram 5 that majority 78(63.9%) of the respondents spent between N10,000 – N50,000 only on food items, while close to a quarter 25(20.5%) of them spent less than N10,000 to stock for food during lockdown. By implication, majority of the household who are currently earning zero income, and have use such amount of money to stock for food may not be able to buy more foodstuffs in the

future provided the lockdown is extended beyond the stipulated time.

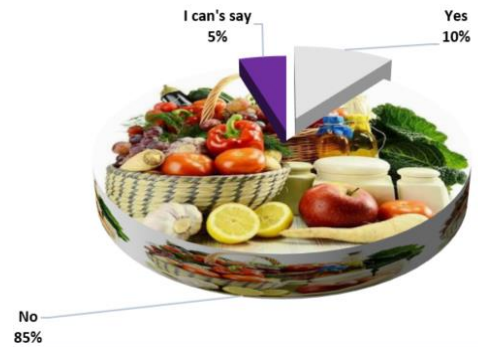


Diagram 6: Response on whether respondents have kept some amount of money to buy food stuffs if lockdown is extended beyond two weeks

Diagram 6 displayed response on whether respondents have kept some amount of money to buy foodstuffs provided lockdown continue in the State or not. It was discovered that most 105(84.7%) of the residents don't have any amount kept to buy food provided the lockdown is extended beyond the stipulated time while very few 13(10%) of them said they are fully prepared.

Table 3: Response on socio-economic impact of COVID-19 lockdown on residents

Variables	Yes n(%)	No n(%)	I can't say n(%)
My household have enough food stuffs that can last beyond the lockdown period	17(13.7)	92(74.2)	16(12.9)
With this lockdown period, I can still operate my business online while still staying at home	18(14.9)	95(78.8)	9(7.4)
As a staff in an organization or civil servant, I still carry out office work while at home during the lockdown	28(23.5)	85(71.4)	6(5)
My household can still cope with the lockdown situation if it is extended beyond 2 weeks	16(12.8)	90(72.0)	21(16.8)
My household will need government or NGO interventions to provide food stuffs if this lockdown is extended beyond the stipulated time of 2 weeks	111(88.1)	10(7.9)	6(4.8)
Am thinking the end of the world has come, so I have stopped sinning	70(57.4)	30(24.6)	23(18.9)
Am happy that some of our leaders/politicians are also infected with coronavirus	45(36.0)	56(44.8)	21(19.2%)

Results obtained in table 3 above revealed it that majority 92(74.2%) of the respondents don't have

enough food that can last them beyond lockdown period and they cannot operate their business from home (78.8%). Also, most 90(72%) of the residents said their household can no longer cope with the lockdown situation if it is extended beyond 14 days and larger percentages (88.1%) of them revealed it that their household will need government or NGO interventions to provide food stuffs for them if the lockdown is extended beyond the stipulated time of 2 weeks.

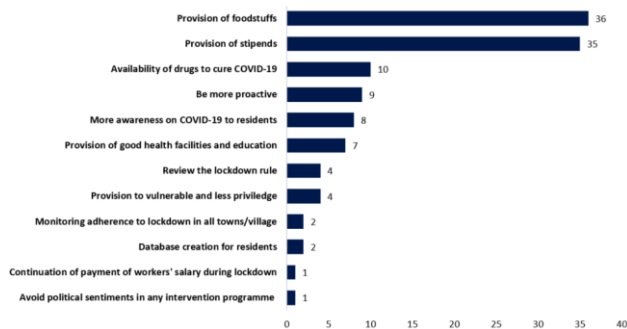


Diagram 7: Residents suggestions to the State/Federal government during and after 14 days' lockdown

Diagram 7 above displayed various suggestions by the residents of Osun State to the government during the lockdown and beyond. It was gathered that larger percentages 36(30.2%) of the residents required for the provision of food items during the lockdown while 35(29.4%) of them required for the provision of stipends during the lockdown period. Some 10(8.4%) want the government to provide a cure for COVID-19, while around 9(7.6%) of them want the government to be more proactive. In addition, around 4(3.7%) of the respondents want the government to review the lockdown rule in such a way that it will allow movement of people for some hours per day instead of total lockdown and 2(1.7%) of the respondents advised the government to work in creation of database of her residents.

4. TEST OF SIGNIFICANT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF RESIDENTS BEFORE AND DURING LOCKDOWN

H₀₁: There is no significant relationship between residents' household income during lockdown and amount spent on food stuffs during lockdown

Table 4: Test statistic between income and expenditure of residents during lockdown

Model	Unstandardized coefficients		Sig	Correlations
	B	Std. error		
(Constant)	1.255	0.073	0.000	
Household income during lockdown	0.353	0.029	0.000	0.0746

As shown in the table above, the p-value of 0.000 which is less than the significant level 0.05 revealed it that there is significant relationship between level of income of residents since lockdown and amount spent on food stuffs during lockdown. By implication, since residents have zero or small income during lockdown, this will definitely reduce the next quantity of foodstuffs to buy.

H₀₂: There is no significant relationship between monthly income of residents and whether they will cope if lockdown is extended

Table 5: Test statistics between residents' monthly income and whether they will cope if lockdown is extended beyond 2 weeks or not

Model	Unstandardized coefficients		Sig	Correlations
	B	Std. Error		
(Constant)	0.979	0.067	0.000	
Household income during lockdown	0.465	0.028	0.000	0.835

The P-value of 0.000 that is lesser than the significant value 0.05 with correlation coefficient value of 0.835 in the table above revealed it that there is significant and positive relationship between residents' monthly income and how they will cope with lockdown situation. By implication, for residents to cope with the lockdown, there must be either payment of salary to workers and stipends to others; self-employed, students, unemployed and vulnerable residents.

5. DISCUSSION

The present research was designed to investigate the impact of lockdown initiated by the government to slow down the spread of COVID-19 on Socio-economic life style of Osun State residents. The study revealed that majority of residents in the State are self-employed (small and medium sized enterprise) who go out daily for business to make ends meet. This is in line with the reports of **Error! Reference source not found.**[12] who suggested majority of small and medium entrepreneur in Osun/Nigeria works to cater for their household only daily basis. The 14 days total lockdown to curb the spread of COVID-19 in Osun State, majority of business have been affected grossly (Figure 4) and if business owners are not assisted after the lockdown, many residents will find it difficult to provide for the needs of their respective household (Figure 7) as aligned with the report of [14]. Furthermore, knowledge of respondents towards COVID-19 in the State (Figure 1; Table 2) revealed it that most of the respondents have heard about COVID-19. While others, major source of

information about the pandemic are radio, television and internet. Thus, there is still knowledge gap in the public. If further information will be passed across to residents in the future the best medium to reach them are radio, television and internet. On mode of transmission of the virus, majority of the residents have good knowledge of the pandemic as they confirmed it that coronavirus can be transmitted by breathing-in same air with an infected person and that it can be transmitted through sexual intercourse. Meanwhile, most of the residents agreed that they will submit themselves to the health authority in the State for next action. If however, they get in contact with an infected person of coronavirus during and after the lockdown period.

Moreover, this finding revealed it that majority of residents in the State are not fully prepared for the COVID-19 total lockdown and the level of income of the most of residents since the commencement of lockdown is zero, with this findings, residents may soon find it difficult to cater for their families if the lockdown is extended beyond the stipulated time of 14 days. On how much respondents have spent on food items since the commencement of lockdown in the State, majority of them have spent between ₦10,000 – ₦50,000. By implication, majority of the household who are currently on zero income may find it difficult to stock their store for food items if at all the lockdown is extended beyond the stipulated time of two weeks.

In addition, it was discovered from the study that most of the residents did not keep money to buy more foodstuffs if at all the lockdown is extended beyond the stipulated time and even though most of the residents confirmed it that they don't have enough food that can last them for the 14 days' total lockdown. The study shown it that majority of the household cannot cope again with the present situation talk less of extending it beyond 14 weeks. However, larger percentages (88.1%) of the residents said their household will definitely need the government or NGO interventions in providing food items during the lockdown or if the lockdown will be extended beyond stipulated time.

In the meantime, residents were given chance to make various suggestion and request from government during and after the total lockdown. Most of the residents requested for provision of food items if the lockdown will be extended. Also larger percentages of them also requested for stipends during the lockdown period. Some of them want government to provide a cure for the COVID-19 and some said they needs government to be more proactive.

In addition, few of the respondents want government to review the lockdown rule such that it will allow movement for hours per days and some want provision of residential database.

Furthermore, test of relationship between average income and expenditure during lockdown revealed it that there is positive significant relationship between average income and expenditure of the residents during lockdown and since residents are having zero or small income during lockdown, it will affect and reduce what to buy during lockdown with foodstuffs inclusive. Thus, larger part of the residents will depend on stipends from government so as to cope with the lockdown situation.

Lastly, the report of [15] recognised SMEs as source of economic growth in Nigeria. MSMEs are great contributors to economic growth in Osun and Nigeria as a whole. The government decision on lock down with little or no palliative for entrepreneur in the State will definitely in no small measure adversely affect the Nigeria GDP with second recession within the last ten years in view.

CONCLUSION AND RECONMENDATION

Without doubt, the total lockdown will be most effective in curbing COVID-19 pandemic if carried out not only in accordance with the law, but also hand-in-hand with the fulfillment of the government's obligation to provide relief materials and service such as food, water and health services to her citizen. The following recommendation were made to both the State and Federal government of Nigeria if the lockdown is extended beyond 2 weeks;

- Government should ensure the provision of essential goods and services to her residents. Special arrangements should be made to protect the right of vulnerable groups who may not have access to basic goods, including food and health care without discrimination.
- Government should ensure access to essential medication and support services for older people, people living with tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS provided the lockdown extended.
- Public awareness campaign should be made to address residents on strict adherence to lockdown and against violence if lockdown period is extended.
- Government should appeal to Landlords/Landlady to reasons along with residents whom house rent may be due for payment during the lockdown period.

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