

Introduction

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. Older people, and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness. The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is be well informed about the COVID-19 virus, the disease it causes and how it spreads. The COVID-19 virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes. At this time, there are no specific vaccines or treatments for COVID-19. However, there are many ongoing clinical trials evaluating potential treatments. The most common symptoms include fever, dry cough, sore throat and tiredness.

Statistics

According to the statistics of WHO, until April 1st 2020 there are 8,23,626 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and total death cases are 40,598 in 206 countries, areas or territories worldwide. In India, 2094 confirmed cases were recorded with total death of 57 and recovered 8.1 per cent of total confirmed cases. In the last two days since 2nd April, the confirmed cases in Tamil Nadu has become double fold and the state reached third spot in the most number of corona cases among the Indian states.

As on 2nd April 2020, Madurai city is in 8th place with 15 confirmed cases. On 1st April 2020 itself there are nine cases registered in Madurai. Madurai city is one of the biggest cities in the country wherein people from several states migrate in search of livelihood. The public was advised to stay safe at homes, to wear facemasks, to maintain social distance and to come out of the house only in times of needy and emergency situations. Despite the efforts of the police department and administration, people aren't following the rules of the lockdown. They aren't maintaining social distancing while buying groceries at the stores and in the absence of the police official, people in the market area are avoiding the social distancing as well not wearing the masks. This will definitely constitute to further rise in the confirmed cases in the near future.

Consistent Increase and the reasons

According to census 2011, Madurai city's population density is 819 sq.km, wherein the houses in the city area are very much congested in almost all the places. The behaviour and response of the public against the imposed lockdown is one of the prime reasons the percentage of increase in the confirmed cases isn't decreasing.

Public who has been habituated to a life style for many years have been following the same during the lockdown period. Social distance became a pipe dream even during lockdown, wherein the people gathering at grocery stores, market places, medicals and other shops

are standing without maintain social distancing. People who habituated to stay and work outside throughout the day are finding utterly difficult to contain themselves among four walls, hence they are coming out of their house for no reason. People habituated to alcohol and smoking are coming out of their houses to check the availability of stores and shops; trying in black markets. To avail the free ration supplies, eligible people have been given token and public queuing to avail the tokens are failing to maintain social distancing in the absence of police officials. Corona virus awareness among Illiterate families seems to be pretty much minimal, where they were getting the information about the symptoms through their educated neighbors, and even if normal cough and cold they are taking medicines.

Potential Move

Urban space created a chain of small shops wherein almost every street will be having many a number of shops. It is impossible for the police department to guard every street, wherein the friends of police can come into picture, whom with proper personal protective equipment can be administered to guard few streets. Behavior change communication is the need of the hour in a situation like corona. Measures like these can be useful to curb the spread to some extent by keeping the public to their homes.

Conclusion

To controlling the corona spread government and community should work together. This quarantine

announced by the central government is a good decision to cut the chain of spreading. Every decision will have its own consequences. As such the consequences of the sudden lockdown is people can't able to stay at their homes for more than a week and those who are worked as a daily wage labourers are struggling to meet their daily needs. However, to stop corona spreading and to keep it under control community's cooperation is needed for the government. Health workers are working day and night to control the disease so in addition to praising them for their priceless work we should stay in our home to stop the chain of spreading.

References

1. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>
2. https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus#tab=tab_3
3. <https://www.covid19india.org/>