
COVID-19 Epidemic In Pakistan: Review On Precautionary Measures (Law Policy, Governance) And Impact On Pakistan

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Abstract:

The COVID-19 pandemic has ruined the worldwide economy. The study intended to evaluate the pandemic effects on the Pakistan economy, openly emphasizing economic growth and poverty alleviation and the efforts take to control pandemic in the country. The investigation discovered that the pandemic affects the financial development of the country, and the measure taken by the official though their policy law and good governance are the good initiatives to decrease pandemic effect in the country.

Keywords : Covid 19, Pandemic, Economy, Vaccinations,

1. Introduction

The global panic and alarming situation for the human started, when the first case was reported in the Wuhan Hubei Province of China December 2019 (Page et al., 2021). The consequences of this pandemic were so severe that they were felt in all over the world that was recently given the name of virus by world health organization (WHO), later it was called coronavirus disease (Covid-19) (Fauci et al., 2021). The coronavirus belongs from the family of single standard ribonucleic acid (RNA) Viruses. This family causes many sever diseases in the mammals family like human, animals family, and avian species, and it is not only serious threat for general community and financial losses but also for veterinary (Corman et al., 2018). In the family of human coronaviruses, seven viruses have been recognized so far, such as HCoV-229E, HCoV-OC43, HCoV-NL63, HCoV-HKU1, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (SARS-CoV), Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) and the newly detected novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) (Liu et al., 2021). The novel covid-19 causes common cold, fever, loss of taste and smell, fatigue in the body as primary symptoms, if not treated leads towards symptoms worse, such as acute chest pain, loss of breathings susceptible to death.

The multiculturalism has arisen as a way to guarantee financial and social development of peoples residing in the territory (Berlinguer 1999). The increase in the globalization facilitate common individual and suggest the urbanization in any country (Wu et al., 2019). Coronavirus in not only a health problem but also has a devastating effect on socio, economic and political life of people.

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The international monetary fund (IMF) senior economic chief Ruchir agarwal and Gita gopinath claimed that if the current situation of covid will come out constantly, we have to prepared for several million live lost and more than 5.3\$ trillion losses of GDP in the next five years (Saunders-Hastings & Krewski 2016). The literature validate that pandemic always spread more rapidly in the whole world due to two most significant aspects, travelling and trade (Agarwal & Gopinath 2021). Although the world-wide restriction on the travelling is kept by the officials, but preventing the trade is not feasible for the world. Pakistan being under-developed country imports US\$15.37 billion during 2020 from China. This brief report will explain the current situation and the negative impact of covid-19 and its variants on the economy of Pakistan and the measures taken by government.

2. Methodology

The Author used the quantitative method to and from statistical analyse data, the results and conclusion have been drawn. For that Purpose various website have been search, local news agencies have been contacted in Pakistan like PTV, ARY, GEO, and many other organization to collect the random figures. Based on the data obtained from control health centre in Pakistan, and the plate form og united health organization, results are presented.

3. Empirical Finding/ Results

The current status of covid 19 pandemic in Pakistan.

Fourteen days' more information on Omicron since our last analysis affirm that Omicron has a much higher part of asymptomatic diseases, a lower part of analysed cases requiring hospitalization, and a significantly lower demise rate among the people who have been hospitalized contrasted with Delta. The remarkably fast transmission and incredibly high local area pervasiveness of contamination have likewise been all around archived. The previous statics report predicts that that over half of the worldwide population will be contaminated with Omicron in the following 6 weeks (Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation. 2022).

Table 1. Estimated percent of circulating SARS-CoV-2 for primary variant families on January 3, 2022

Alpha Variant	0%
Beta Variant	0%
Delta Variant	1-9%
Gamma Variant	0%
Omicron Variant	90-100%

Table 1 indicates the rate of current infection in country. In the past waves, the speed of the infections are extremely fast that approach intercessions have little effect due to the control procedures and prevention taken by the government and hence lessen hospitalization and demise.

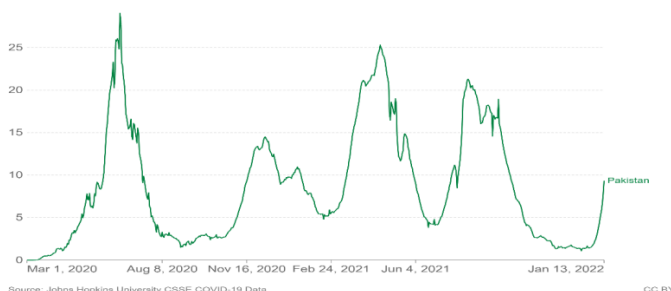


Figure 1. Daily New Confirmed Covid-19 cases per million people

Figure 1 indicate the current rise of omicron wave in the country which is going to reach nearly 10 million people in the next week as per statistic calculations . Table 2 indicates the current situation of covid-19 in Pakistan and the active cases with in last 24 hours. It also shows that number of cases in the capital city Islamabad and other provinces are increasing rapidly. This increase in the omicron wave is the major threat to country economic developments, health care professionals, trade, educational developments and industrial sectors. On 13 December 2021, the NCOCC confirmed the first case of omicron, a new variant of covid-19.

Table 2. The current updates of covid cases in the country Accessed, January 14.2022

Name	Confirmed infected cases	Expired cases	Active cases	Recovered Patients
Capital (Islamabad)	110,243	967	1,432	107,844
Punjab	450,686	13,085	7,343	430,258
Sindh	494,064	7,693	16,865	469,506
Baluchistan	33,682	367	49	33,266
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	181,996	5,952	687	175,357
Gilgit Baltistan	10,437	186	8	10,243
Azad Kashmir	34,726	749	44	33,933

Measurement taken by Government;

There are several measures, taken by governments.

1. The strict action has been suggested, if the person is not following covid SOPS. The National command and operation centre introduced a special hot line for violation of covid 19 .
2. The smart lock down is the world first and novel initiative to restrict the covid effected persons .
3. The resource management system which aid the patients for location based guidance to closest covid care for hospitals and quarantine centre.
4. Pak Neheyban app provide help in the emergency status, it also give information about available bed in the hospitals.

5. Integrated Disease Information Management System (IDIMS) developed by National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC), is working for the disease measurements and watch over the smart lock down locations.
6. Education Institutes Monitoring System (EIMS), deals with educational updates regarding covid 19. It also provide awareness for covid 19 to student and controlling million of schools and college over the entire country.
7. Covid 19 Tele health portal is one of excellent initiative, a hot line for the patients and voluntary service by the doctors across the country.
8. Sehat Tahaffuz launched by government for the information of immunization for public
9. July 2020 inaugurated Islamabad Isolation Hospital & Infectious Treatment Centre (IHITC) for the patients that are in intensive care and effected with virus
10. Community mobilization with fight against COVID-19 through awareness in public with the help of already developed system rural support program network (RSPN).
11. Prime minister's covid - 19 pandemic relief fund, aid the relief payment to people during pandemic
12. WE CARE programme was started to motivate the front line worker, and the goals was to provide adequate personal protective equipment (PPE) to the health workers
13. Relief Tiger Force to Assist Government on 1st Apr 2020. The unpaid assistant will dispense food to the poor and create awareness campaign
14. Ehsaas EmergencyCash program, for the poor and needy family who are severely affected by covid-19
15. Yaran e watan pakistan is collaboration between foreign health worker and national health worker during pandemic
16. Immunization programme which will be most difficult task and its statistics are under consideration.

Vaccination statistics.

According to tracking report by Centre for system science and engineering (CSSE), John Hopkins university, in this pandemic the global covid-19 cases crosses more than 350M confirmed positive cases and 5M confirmed deaths There are several measures taken by public health department in every country, but the most significant was that most of the biologists, virologist, researcher and world health organization (WHO) approves that is the “Global Push for Vaccination Plan Vaccination could be a big challenge for the world developed country and underdeveloped countries. Even in the one report by the World Bank's Vice President for Human Development, Mamta Murthi warns, when she was discussing about developed countries, that it is danger for all of us, and his statement “absolutely unacceptable vaccination rate in developing countries” was quiet famous. In this scenario if we consider Pakistan step for vaccination, although non-literacy rate, enormous un-employment, and low gross domestic product (GDP) **Figure 2** in this year less than -0.9 GDP rate. with 220.9 million population for 2020, which

quite vulnerable. **Figure 3** shows being a under-developed country Pakistan is highly effect economy in the covid 19 in the Asia continent. Pakistan is actively participating in the nCov.19 vaccination for its population. According to data show by national command and operation centre (NCOC) government of Pakistan, the vaccination is robust challenge for under-develop country. If we analyse Table 1, the statics of covid 19, it can be concluded that a poor and under-develop country Pakistan has vaccinated approximately 45.26 M population against covid 19. The low vaccination rate in the lower middle class country could be the reason for the mutation and formation of new variant, like delta variant in India and omicron variant in south Africa as well as others identified in the variants alpha, beta and gamma, which were first identified in the UK, South Africa and Brazil, respectively. it could be shocking threat to future world economy, if the world-wide vaccination would not be accepted. **Table 3** discussed about the latest updates regarding vaccination status in Pakistan.

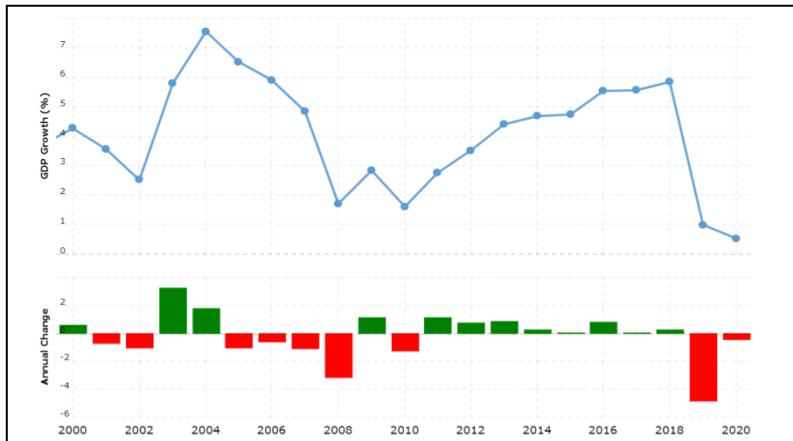


Figure 2. Pakistan GDP Rate 2000-2022

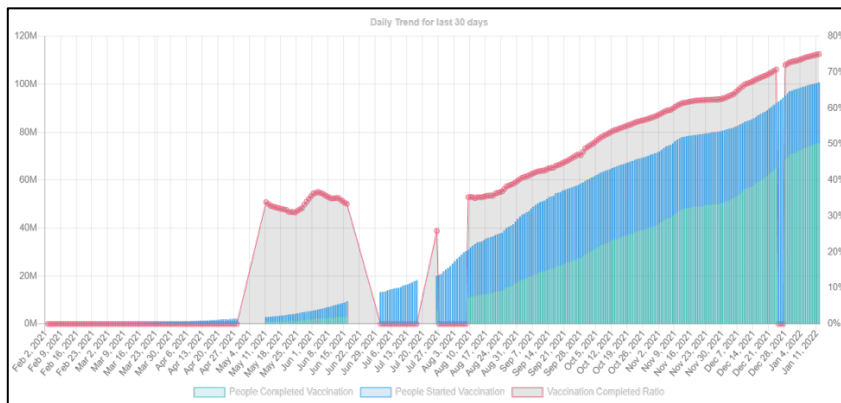


Figure 3. Approximation Graphical calculation for Vaccination

Table 3. Vaccine statistics

First Dose	Fully Vaccinated	Total Doses Administered
100,410,291	75,225,220	163,648,656
last 24 hours: 331,511	last 24 hours: 496,717	24 last 24 hours: 826,996

Impact of Covid 19 on Economic Statista of Pakistan:

According to the Asian development bank, Pakistan is the 4rth most covid affected country, whose economic losses and decline in GDP level was revealed than the past few decade. Although the geopolitics, internal political challenges, non-increase in the trade are preliminary factors that are playing major role in the economy of Pakistan. Covid-19 is not only a medical ailment, it is also as economic ailment for any country, especially for under-develop country.

Figure 4(a) reveals that, the current account balance for the Pakistan was -0.6%, which is quiet better than other Asian countries. While in case of GDP during covid-19, lock down highly effected Pakistan GDP rate, and it was lowest recorded GDP below -0.5%. When any country depend upon export, the inflation rate becomes high, but this pandemic elevated inevitable inflation rate to poor economic country, and people are still suffering from this increase

Figure 4(b) indicates, the severe effects of pandemic in the whole continent of Asia. The year 2021 is the highly inflated year for Pakistan while least effect the Maldives. The GDP growth rate for year 2021 was not good for every country but for Bhutan it was more vulnerable.

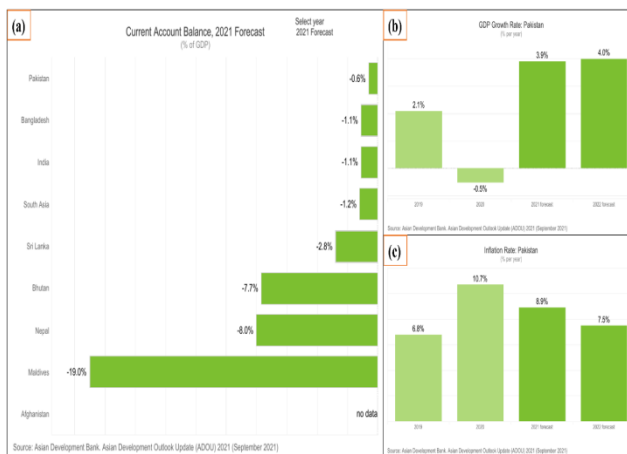


Figure 3. Economic Indicators for Pakistan

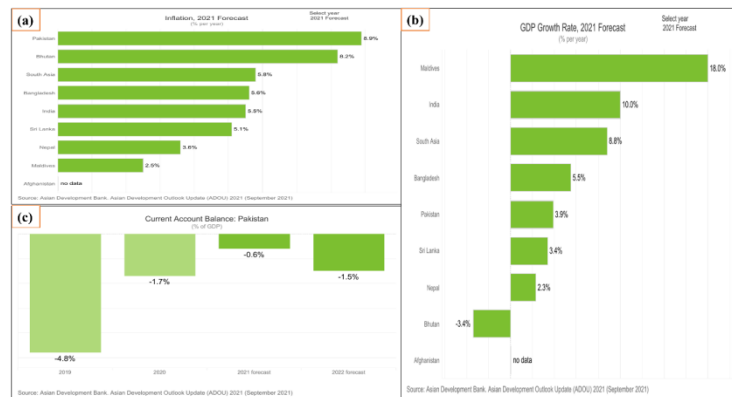


Figure 4. Economic Indicators for Pakistan and other Asian Countries

4. Conclusion

In the current review we have concluded that, inhabitants of Pakistan territory have been hit hard by COVID-19, with decrease in nearby administrations, troubles arriving at medical care offices and expanded expense of medications. The government has been taking several measure, to reduce the impact of covid, but other challenges of economy, are threaten to country. The latest updates are confirming, according to NCOC that omicron variant is increasingly with positivity ratio 12.93%. and its consequences will be further worst then the current scenario, if public will not be involve again covid prevention measurements.

Although companies are the engines of the economy, governments establish the atmosphere and structure in which businesses may thrive (see 'Government acts that help economic recovery'). How governments create and shape the environment for economic recovery, as well as the possibilities and difficulties they confront, will be determined by two choices they make regarding their strategy. Pakistan can overcome the situation by Increasing investment, Increasing revenue, encouraging entrepreneurship, reducing cost, supporting workforce readiness.

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