



**MAD- 2020**  
**SOCIAL ISSUES**  
**Day - 52**

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### **Question:**

The world after Corona pandemic may reverse the cycle of globalization to localization. In the light of the above statement discuss the social issues and the implications that may arise in the post-pandemic world.

### **Inputs -**

The directive in the above question is DISCUSS, so we have to give our viewpoint basically that whether the recent corona pandemic will give rise to localization and why not, one thing to note here is that although the question is not asking whether it can boost globalization also but you have to discuss both the sides of the story, so as to balance your answer and earn that extra mark.

### **Structure -**

1. Introduction by giving various examples which support the questions statement.
2. In body -
  - a. Reasons why globalization may be reversed
  - i. Then write the social implications that may arise out of it
  - b. Reasons why globalization will not be reversed and it may get even a further push, telling both the sides.
3. You can conclude on any side of the story of how you think the situation will be, but it is always advisable to project the positive side of the future in your conclusion – this gives a better psychological edge to your answer.

### **Answer:**

India imposing huge anti-dumping duty on foreign nations, News of America and other European nations suspending the inflow of migrants for the next few years, ongoing trade wars between the ongoing economic super powers of the world, this may be the starting process where the cycle of globalization may possibly begin to reverse towards the process of localization -

#### **1. Fore looming Economic depression -**

This will be one of the main reasons which will: -

- Compel companies to stop outsourcing of job to foreigners
- Increase inflow of migrants and the people of own nation (reverse migration)
- Own region and own ethnicity being getting favored one over the other.
- “**America First**” is the biggest example of the above scenario.

#### **2. Changing working/administration process -**

Corona has given us the hands-on practice to work from home in sectors such as IT and this will possibly change the working process around the world, limiting the need to travel which was the main driver of globalization.

#### **3. Protection against invasive diseases -**

Since corona is believed to be spread from China to the whole world, once the world economies

become stable, travel restriction would be the first thing that would be on the cards.

4. **Psychological Trauma** was being experienced by people all around being not able to reach their native places the world due to travel restrictions, images of laborer's, migrants walking thousands of kilometers to reach their native places and with just one thought in their mind that they will never return is the sufficient example.

The **social implications** that may arise out of it are –

**1. Social distancing to social prejudice –**

- a. Xenophobia and racism may be/ has been triggered, post pandemic world may witness increased discrimination and violence.
- b. Extremely vulnerable groups like elderly, disabled, migrants etc are being isolated, this trend might increase.

**2. Increasing disparity –**

- a. Rural Urban Divide – Pandemic has caused distressful reverse migration from urban to rural areas, post pandemic there might be a surge of social exclusion of migrants in urban areas and distrust among rural working class.
- b. Regional disparities – India's 40% of migrants are from 4 states– UP, Bihar, MP, Chhattisgarh. Post pandemic these states might have increased burden of health and food security.

**3. Increase in Poverty –**

According to ILO almost 25 million people might lose their job post pandemic and this has been evident since the day 1, thus pushing millions into poverty.

**4. Localized Cultures –**

In the phase of retreating globalization, free movement of people, tourism, people to people contact will be severely impacted, thus resulting into more isolated cultures.

**5. Affecting Mental health –**

Pandemic has resulted into blurred boundaries between workplaces and physical spaces, this phase of reduced interaction might lead to increased stress level and the mental health status might take a center stage in post pandemic situation.

**6. Indigenous communities –**

These communities are at the high risk during pandemic due to the isolated lifestyle and low immunity, post pandemic might require a special attention to this section of population, otherwise tribal issues might aggravate.

However, **on the opposite side**, the process of globalization may not be hindered that much as predicted and come back to normal in a while because –

**Reversing the cycle may be Impossible-** since world today is more interconnected than before. While there may be re-adjustments, the pandemic may not be able to break the chain of interconnectedness or globalization.

This is because of the following:

1. **Concentration of energy resources in few countries** such as oil etc. And with demand gradually coming back to normal, will only restore the process of globalization.
2. Just to **shift the production and other processes** back to one's own nation or region will incur huge

monetary burden, and at this time of economic recession fore looming, this might not be the best idea.

3. **Historical evidences** – World has seen many such events, disasters and evidences in the past where globalization processes may have halted for a while but they have come out even stronger. Example – 9/11 attacks, trade wars, outbreak of various other diseases etc.
4. Today economy is the main driver – people will move out and economies will let in as and when there would be greater economic opportunities around the world, it's just a matter of time.

While the pandemic has **exposed a lot of weaknesses** of the existing systems and ways of life including globalisation, it has **also highlighted how global trust and collaboration can help** tackle global issues like Covid-19, such as the one highlighted by the issue of sharing of development of the **vaccine** or by sharing of the **information** on the disease (how deadly or virulent is it).

Such a colossal issue and **others like Climate Change** can only be tackled by **jointness of effort on a global scale**, requiring more trust-based globalization.