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# A study the effects of COVID-19 lockdown on farm activities of farmer in Surguja district of Chhattisgarh

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**Abstract**
The present study conduct in village namely Sakalo, Sargwan, Ara, Amatoli which comes under block Ambikapur and Sitapur, where selected purposively, both these blocks come under Surguja district which is in state Chhattisgarh, from each village twenty respondents were selected purposively. The study "effects of COVID-19 lockdown on farm activities of farmer in Surguja district Chhattisgarh" The data were collected by personal interview method with the help of structured interview schedule. The data were tabulated, analyzed and interpreted. Distribution of respondents according to the effects of COVID-19 lockdown on farm activities. I included 17 agricultural activities from transplanting to marketing in my study, Each agricultural activities is divided into three categories and how many farmers have been affected in each of the activities, it has been expressed in percentage. in which 51.25% farmers were partially affected, 33% were fully affected and 15% farmers did not face any kind of problem in agricultural activities.

**Keywords:** COVID-19, lockdown, agriculture, farm activities, effects

## Introduction
Agriculture Plays a vital role in the Indian economy. Over 70 per cent of the rural households depend on Agriculture. Agriculture is an important sector of Indian economy as it contributes about 17% to the total GDP and provides employment to over 60% of the population. Indian agriculture has registered impressive growth over last few decades. The food grain production has increased from 51 million tones (MT) in 1950- 51 to 250MT during 2011-12 highest ever since independence. Indian agriculture has been the source of supply of raw material to leading industries in India. Cotton, Jute, Sugar, Vanaspati industries and plantations depend on agriculture directly and also the cottage industries like handloom weaving, oil crushing, rice husking and such depend upon Agriculture for raw materials, Agriculture plays vital role in generating employment reducing poverty and sustaining growth in India Source of food security to the expanding population Total production of rice during 2019-20 is estimated at record 117.47 million tones. Total Pulses production is estimated at 23.02 million tones, Total Oilseeds production in the country is estimated at 34.19 million tones, In the year 2020 from Wuhan city of China the corona virus spread rapidly all over the world, due to which the governments took appropriate steps and announced a lock-down, due to the COVID-19 lockdown there were many types of problems in different areas as well as agricultural activities were also affected, (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Rome 2020)- The COVID-19-induced pandemic affects the entire food system. It exerts a symmetric, but asynchronous shock on global and national food systems. Its impacts will affect both supply and demand channels, but they will be felt at different points in time. They will affect all elements of the food system, from primary supply, to processing, to trade as well as national and international logistics systems, (Deepa Maggo 2020) [5]. The lockdown created both a shortage of labor and equipment - migrant laborers in India usually move to rural areas during harvesting of crop and smallholder farmers often rent harvesting equipment as this is cheaper than purchasing it Consequently, farmers have not been able to harvest their bumper crops of cereal and oilseed harvest this season, I have chosen this topic to know about the problems caused by agricultural activities "A study the effects of COVID-19 lockdown on farm activities of farmer in surguja district" based on the following objectives, socio-economic profile of respondents, the effects of COVID-19 lockdown on farm activities.

## Materials and Methods

The present study was carried out in Northern Hill region Chhattisgarh State during the year 2020-21 The Chhattisgarh state is divided into 29 districts with three regions. Among this Northern hill region was selected for present study. The present investigation was carried out in Northern hill region comprise of out of 4 districts. Out of 4 districts for the present study one district is selected randomly, i.e. Surguja. In Surguja district comprise of 7 blocks, out of which two blocks selected purposively i.e. Ambikapur and Sitapur. In selected blocks two villages were purposively selected, thus total four villages were selected for the present investigation. From each selected village, twenty (20) Farmers were selected purposively. That members who are involved in agriculture and allied activities was selected as a respondent. Thus, 80 (Total 20 × 4 = 80) total respondents for the present study, The data were collected by using a well-structured interview schedule technique. frequency, percentage, standard deviation, Average as statistical tool are used to analyzed the data.

## Result and Discussion

On the basis of the problems being faced in agricultural activities, the farmers have been divided into three categories which are shown in Table 1. and table 2. Using the mean and standard deviation the total number of affected farmers has been divided into low, medium and high category on the basis of the score obtained by the farmers.

**Table 1:** Effects of COVID-19 lock down on farm activities

| | Aspects | Never effects | | Partially effects | | Completely effects | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | F | % | F | % | F | % |
| 1 | What was the problem in plaguing land for cultivation in lockdown? | 10 | 12.5 | 54 | 67.5 | 16 | 20.00 |
| 2 | How was the availability of seeds for preparing the crop? | 24 | 30.00 | 42 | 52.5 | 9 | 11.25 |
| 3 | Did you see any effects of lockdown in sowing of crop in your field? | 18 | 22.5 | 50 | 62.5 | 12 | 15.00 |
| 4 | How you lack to reduce the area of yours crops due to lock down? | 29 | 36.5 | 30 | 37.5 | 21 | 26.25 |
| 5 | Did you get enough fertilizer and manures for your crop? | 10 | 12.5 | 50 | 62.5 | 20 | 25.00 |
| 6 | Have you any problem in irrigation in your crop during lockdown? | 32 | 40 | 30 | 37.5 | 18 | 22.5 |
| 7 | Was there any problem in weeding- hearing during lockdown? | 18 | 22.5 | 46 | 57.5 | 16 | 20.00 |
| 8 | How was the availability of essential things in enough quantities your the protection of your crop during lockdown? | 20 | 25.00 | 40 | 50.00 | 20 | 25.00 |
| 9 | What was the problem in spraying of insecticide, weedicide, etc in crop | 5 | 6.25 | 43 | 53.75 | 32 | 40.00 |
| 10 | Did lockdown effected harvesting or cutting of crop? | 8 | 10.00 | 44 | 55.00 | 28 | 35.00 |
| 11 | Did you have trouble in mixing, grading, or processing of your crop in during lockdown? | 9 | 11.25 | 33 | 41.25 | 38 | 47.5 |
| 12 | How was the yield of your crop during lockdown? | 26 | 32.5 | 38 | 47.5 | 16 | 20.00 |
| 13 | Is there any problem in storage of crops at the time of lockdown? | 11 | 20.00 | 51 | 63.75 | 18 | 22.5 |
| 14 | Did you had any problem in the transporting of your crop from field to market during lockdown | 16 | 20.00 | 47 | 58.75 | 17 | 21.25 |
| 15 | Did you had any problem in selling of your crop in market during lockdown? | 9 | 11.25 | 48 | 60.00 | 23 | 28.75 |
| 16 | At the time of lockdown, you had a problem in the maintenance of your animals? | 19 | 23.75 | 39 | 48.75 | 22 | 27.5 |
| 17 | How was the influence of lockdown in the products obtained from dairy? | 27 | 33.75 | 27 | 33.75 | 36 | 45.00 |

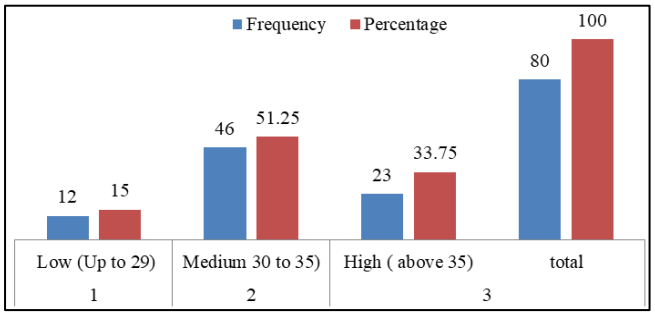
## F-Frequency

Agricultural activities in which most of the respondents have been partially affected such as plaguing of land(67.5%, availability of seeds (52.5%), sowing of crop (67.75%), reduce the area of crop (37.5%), spraying fertilizer and manures (62.5%), insecticide, weedicide (53.75%), weeding or inter culture operation (57.5%), harvesting of crop (55%), yield of crop (47.5%), storage of crop (63.5%), transporting of agriculture goods (58.75%), selling (60%), maintenance of animals (48.75%), Those agricultural activities in which Most of the respondent has been completely affected such as mixing, grading, or processing (47.%), products obtained from dairy (45%). Agricultural activities in which of the respondents have not been affected such as irrigation (40%).

**Table 2:** Distribution of respondents according to their effects of lockdown on farm activities

| S.no | category | Frequency | Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Low (Up to 29) | 12 | 15.00 |
| 2 | Medium 30 to 35) | 46 | 51.25 |
| 3 | High ( above 35) | 23 | 33.75 |
| | total | 80 | 100 |

It is being shown in table number 2. that the respondent is divided into three categories low, medium and high on the basis of their obtained score, (Mean 32.9 % S.D 3.31) out of the total number of 80 respondent there are 12 (15%) Respondent such who have not faced any problem in any agricultural activities, 46(51.25%) Respondents who have partially faced problems in agricultural activities, and 23(33.75%) Respondents who have faced more problems in carrying out agricultural activities are also shown with the help of graphs.




Respondent Effect of farming activities

## Conclusion

The data is showing that due to COVID-19 Lockdown the respondent has to take agricultural activities such as plaguing of land, availability of seeds, sowing of crop, reduce the area of crop, spraying fertilizer and manures, insecticide, weedicide, and weeding or inter culture operation, harvesting

of crop, yield of crop, storage of crop, transporting of agricultural goods, selling, maintenance of animals have been partially affected in doing these activities, because of the transportation shutdown those agricultural activities in which the respondent was completely affected They are in the processing of crops and obtaining and producing dairy products, the agricultural activity in which the respondent is not affected is irrigation.

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