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Letter to the editor in response to: COVID-19 pandemic and challenges for socio-economic issues, healthcare and national programs in India (Gopalan and Misra)

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ABSTRACT

Article by Gopalan and Misra is very informative and covers the current challenges arising due to COVID-19. Further, authors has attempted to explore the various socioeconomic and medical aspects affected during this COVID-19 pandemic. It starts with the economic issues, social impacts, cultural influences, and the health related national programs which are regularly getting impacted owing to the ongoing epidemic. The paper throws light on how the pandemic has strongly affected the jobs, businesses transportation, travel, and other sectors which ultimately influence the social-economic balance of the society. This has further led to the decrease in the GDP of the country. The daily wagers and the local business personnel are the most affected ones during this period.

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Dear editor

Article by Gopalan and Misra (1) is very informative and covers the current challenges arising due to COVID-19. Further, authors has attempted to explore the various socio-economic and medical aspects affected during this COVID-19 pandemic. It starts with the economic issues, social impacts, cultural influences, and the health related national programs which are regularly getting impacted owing to the ongoing epidemic. The paper throws light on how the pandemic has strongly affected the jobs, businesses, transportation, travel, and other sectors which ultimately influence the social-economic balance of the society. This has further led to the decrease in the GDP of the country. The daily wagers and the local business personnel are the most affected ones during this period [1].

The loss of social relationships and emotional attachments have also evolved as a vital social impacts due to this COVID-19 pandemic. The lockdown and the social distancing factors have secluded individuals. This has also led to the psychological issues among the human beings. The lack of traveling arrangements has

also been observed as the poor migrant workers had to walk thousands of kilometers. Introduction of internet connected devices in the medical field during this COVID-19 pandemic has helped to disseminate proper information [2]. Various clinical considerations for patients with diabetes during the COVID-19 epidemic have also been discussed [3].

The persons with the diseases and the earlier illness are also getting impacted under this lockdown and pandemic terms due to lack of proper interaction with the physicians. The cases of diabetes, hypertension, etc. are some of the few who have been affected during this time. The bad impacts of this lockdown has also been seen in terms of the increased body weight due to the unbalanced life style, over eating, no outdoor activities, over sleep, etc. which have further deteriorated the health conditions. The daily exercise and the walking habits of the individuals have also got affected. As reported around 19% have gained weight and around 42% of the persons are not performing their routine exercises [1]. In related researches, some more latest and digital technologies have also been employed for confronting this pandemic [4–7].

With the growing concepts in science, and technology domain, we can expect to get relief soon in this tougher time of COVID-19. While research is needed to arrive at a proper vaccine, more research is needed to address the related sectors affected badly by the pandemic.

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Declaration of competing interest

On the behalf of all the authors in paper, I **corresponding author** hereby accept that there is no conflicts of interest.

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