THE IMPACTS OF INCREASING NUMBER OF COVID-19 CASES

by:
Aleli O. Regalario

COVID-19 may be a sort of coronavirus disease belonging to the family Coronaviridae which directly affect the respiratory tract of humans. Because of its spread in the country brought by the increasing human to human transmission which put the nation on high alert. The government of the Philippines respond by declaring of state of calamity in the whole country for six months starting on March 17, 2020.

In a survey conducted within the Philippines in February 2020, about 65 percent of respondents expected the economy to be significantly suffering from the Covid19 pandemic. Nationwide lockdowns imposed by the government have adversely impacted people's livelihood published by Martha Jean, (November 18, 2020).

The country’s first death was of 44 year old Chinese national, who was the relative of the first patient diagnosed with Covid19. The patient developed severe pneumonia. A total of 78 death have been reported in the country.

Due to the country’s location which is within proximity to China, the Philippines is put at high risk of witnessing an alarming increase in cases of infection caused by the novel coronavirus compared to the other countries. In the South East Asia region, the Philippines is one of the countries that has been affected the most by the covid19 pandemic.

In the first three months of 2020, the effects of the infection started to felt by the economy, its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) shrank drastically, which is for first time in two decades according to secretary Sonny Dominguez of the Department of Finance (DOF). However, given the rising number of positive Covid19 cases in the country, it’s
most likely that the succeeding economic quarters will not be promising, as the Philippine economy tries to bounce back.

Philippines witnessed a slower economic process within the half of 2019, compared to 2018. The country saw a sustained economic process of 6.3% between 2010 and 2018 while the expansion bogged down to five .5% in H2 2019. The World Bank estimates Philippines to witness full year 2019 economic process of 5.8%.

The ongoing coronavirus impact is expected to result in a subdued growth for the economy in 2019. The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the world. Due to the character of virus, particularly how it’s transmitted, it's altered human behaviors, relations and lifestyle, and had profound impacts on the economic, political, cultural landscapes of societies across the world.

By May of the year 2020, the total number of covid19 infection reported and tallied within the Philippines by the Department of Health (DOH) was 10,343 with 685 deaths and 1,680 recovered with these figures, the Philippines rank third, after Singapore and Indonesia, in the number of covid19 cases in South East Asia.

With people confined at their homes for nearly two months, the foremost vulnerable residents particularly the daily wage earners covered by the "no work, no pay" policy, and people employed in the informal economy, have borne the brunt of those measures. The loss of their income has forced for this employees to believe whatever assistance and social amelioration programs that the national government, government units and personal sector extend to them.

The Philippine economy is expected to adapt and rebound in 2021 as the outbreak is contained and vaccines are continuously being administered, the economy will further opened, and more government’s stimulus measures are implemented. Downside risk next year include a slower than expected global recovery that could heavily on trade, investment, and overseas workers remittance. The development has prompted the
Department of Health (DOH) to renew its call to the general public to be stricter in following health protocols.

The increased number of cases has prompted the DOH to order all hospitals to ensure they prepare a mandatory 30% of facilities to treat covid19 patients, and to allocate 20% more in case of a surge. People started venturing outside of their homes after being lockdown for weeks as the government's coronavirus task force said it needed to restart the economy and get people back to work. Up researcher studying the outbreaks number said the trend showed an increase of 50% of fresh cases reported per day from one quarantine period to the next.

References:


In the first quarter of 2020, its GDP shrunk by two-tenths of one percent for the first time in two decades according to Secretary Sonny Dominguez of the Department of Finance (DOF). However, given the rising number of positive COVID-19. Retrieved from: https://www.coursehero.com/file/p5sto2co/Real-GDP-will-shrink-by-more-than-4-in-2020-owing-to-the-preventivemeasures/