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Are health problems leading to Economic loss in various countries?

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ABSTRACT

Yes! Healthcare does result in economic loss. If the health issues are snubbed in their early stages, curbing them is next to impossible. We have seen the onslaught of COVID- 19. Since timely measures weren't taken throughout the globe, everyone had to undergo a lockdown, thanks to late action. Lockdown is nothing but economic loss from the monetary aspect. Poverty results in ignorance of a disease which results in its meteoric spread. At this level, a locality may visit a doctor resulting in personal economic loss. The disease, if neglected at this stage, may spread in numerous states increasing the need of many hospitals for the government, more equipment and doctors. Furthermore, many people will not visit their workplace leading to more economic loss. Inter-state and international travel will transmit the diseases to many more countries and states. So, more hospitals, doctors and healthcare facilities would have to be imported. During the later stage, Tourism, Entertainment and Transportation industry will suffer a huge setback thanks to unprecedented disease spread. The government will have to set up free aid for the poor, the core of the pandemic. At the national and global level, the result is more expenditure than income leading to national and international recession. The need is to reform and strengthen the medical sector and its economic allocation. To convert it from a 'late bloomer' to a quick solver of diseases. There is also a requisition to educate the poorer public. So that, we can heal the world- make it a better place, for you and for me and the entire human race.

Keywords: Health care, Economic loss, Pollution, Diseases

Are health problems leading to Economic loss in various countries?

Healthcare's a priority for individuals. If they fail to defend themselves from diseases, their consequences could be far-fetched and could affect the economy of the country. Recent victims have been Africa, Poland, US and my home-country India.

Health problems occur mainly for LEDCs lacking clean water and food supply. 783 million people around the globe are under threat of dying due to lack of clean water. Water related diseases claim over 2.6 million deaths per year! This worries me! This information's by UN in 2012. Upon surveys in poor countries, locals said that poverty and limited attention to healthcare lead to economic loss. I think this is a mess for the poorer countries. The surveyors were David Waugh and Tony Bushell. They've written multiple books and have been backed by the OUP. However, the information could be bias since they are writing as proponents that health problems result in economy loss. (Waugh et al., n.d.)

Africa – victim of health problems from years. Africa allocates 3% of taxes and 6% of total public budget after health. Hospitals built by government cover 30% of population. I think this is inadequate to support the population. Malnutrition is a snag as the calories consumed by an individual is 1500 calories. It's below average calories necessary to consume. (Waugh et al., n.d.) This piece of information is written by David and Tony, who could be bias but are backed by OUP. According to WHO, due to health issues, government spends \$96 per capita in Sudan. The overall economic increase should have increased by 1.25% but due to funds behind healthcare, the economic decrease has been up to 1.25%. (Nber.org, n.d.)

US stated that according to surveys taken on 2017, there were 1700 active hospitals in the country. (Moriarty, 2019) USA was fulfilling its aim of providing healthcare to its citizens. However, this is otherwise. In very recent 2018 healthcare check, it was seen that 45% of Americans were victims of chronic diseases. This worries me! The life expectancy of Americans in 2016 was 78.7 years. In a year, this dropped down to 78.6 years. (Santhanam and Santhanam, 2019) If this goes on, then I think that this would lead to a crisis for the country. The country allocates \$5300 per person for healthcare so the consequences are- economic loss.

Reports claim that government expenditure behind health has doubled to 46% of total GDP from 2002. Welfare health schemes like 'Medicaid' have led to disasters. Reports claim that American government spends the highest amount of money behind healthcare in the world. The total economic decrease is 5.4%. (ASPE, 2019). The information above is non-bias, reputable since it's published by ASPE, a trustworthy organization.

My home-country India also has health problems. Pollution's been a major reason for this. Most of the deaths i.e., 6.7 lakh and 4.8 lakh are caused by particulates and household pollution respectively. The information above is unbiased, reliable since it was published in reputable newspaper in 2018. I'm petrified for my country. Smoking's also a snag. (The Economic Times, 2019) According to WHO, there are 1200000 smokers in India. India contributes to 12% of world smoking. More than 1000000 Indians die each year due to smoking. Such information worries me. To curb health problems, the government of India spent 65.5% of its GDP behind non-profit schemes like Ayushman Bharat. Still awareness is crucial. (En.wikipedia.org, n.d.) Total stunt in India's economy- 10%, a nightmarishly high number as 802000 infants died in 2017, most of them due to malnutrition, said UN. The information above can be linked to Lancet Paper; world document of health. (Yadaver and Yadavar, 2019)

Any disease, for instance, HIV in may LEDC countries began with poverty. Poverty led to no sanitation facilities like 422000000 people in Africa. These contagious viruses then attacked others, especially children. Example- 370,000 African children. LEDC citizens have poor immunity as they have cheap food. Most of the Africans live on less than \$1/day with little food. Lack of doctors encouraged the crisis. In Africa, 3 doctors cater to 10,000 people. Soon there is a Pandemic across the country. Instance- 1.8 million HIV cases in Africa. Since this problem was ignored by all, including the corrupt governments, the LEDC governments have to borrow funds like Africa's GND of 106964.89 USD Million from 2002 until 2020. Finally, Fatal consequences! HIV led to many deaths. With the loss of skilled workers, economy suffered a setback. An example could be Africa's extended loan of 33262 Million USD issued in 2003! A pandemic results in other investments too. Example- African orphanages for 14.8 million AIDS orphans. With the rise of these consequences, the government expenditure has to while away its limited profits on debt and other resources. There is no considerable profit and the normality does not resurface. This is observed mainly in LEDCs. Like, in Africa, HIV was followed by the Ebola in 2007. (Interests, n.d.)

With such fatal diseases prevalent, course of actions needed. I'll persuade my friends to join me in rallies to tell people about a healthy life by maintaining a healthy diet, playing and spending quality time with family can keep one physically and mentally fit. As per my research, prevention paradox can be useful to overcome impact of diseases at initial stage (prevention paradox, 2016). Together we can make our country health problem-free.

Due to economic hitches, health issues aren't solved at initial stage, which grows destroying the country's economy. This's the reply to my question. The African government created various reforms but they lead to great international debt. India is also planning greatly for the prevention of drugs but the execution is poor. Conversely, US is showing no intent at all. From the past 40 years, US allocation on health is high but not like investment on defence, tourism and Education. Therefore, I believe that in India and Africa, the government should fire corrupt officials whereas US government should look upon healthcare rather than wars.

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