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# Challenges Many : Opportunities Galore

The Coronavirus pandemic which has engulfed the entire globe today and is threatening the very survival of humanity on this planet stands before us with many challenges which we are forced to encounter. Already about 5 lakh people have lost their lives and around one crore people have been reported to be infected. The tragic graph is showing no sign of flattening; instead there is a continuous spiralling upward.

Nobody knows where things will ultimately stop. The economies of most of the countries already stand shattered, foreboding even a more serious scenario. The cycle of industrial activity stands baulked rendering a sizable population around the world jobless. We shudder to think of the miseries of the families of those who have lost their livelihoods.

Social activities across the entire spectrum of life stand badly affected. Religious gatherings, marriage functions, celebratory events have practically stopped. Even political activities like election rallies, canvassing for votes, reaching out to the electorate in various ways seem to be coming to full stop. People are communicating with one another through video conferencing. But this will not work indefinitely. Normal functioning of all gamuts of life need to be restored at the earliest possible.

Things have taken a more serious turn as far as international activities are concerned. Most of the domestic flights as well as international flights are yet to be brought to normalcy. International conferences, diplomatic engagements, meeting of leaders of different countries for bilateral and multilateral cooperation for bettering

the lot of their people are held in a abeyance for an indefinite period of time.

All this has generated a sense of pessimism all around, an atmosphere of uncertainty every where and an inexplicable and disconcerting gloom all over.

## Opportunities

But this is only one side of the picture, the dark side. There is another side of the picture too, the bright side. The pandemic has thrown before us opportunities galore. While the challenges are many, opportunities are very many. The present undesirable situation has given us time to introspect as to where we have gone wrong and what have been the aberrations on our part. We have to chart out a new course of action, and make amendments wherever necessary.