



AN INVESTIGATION IN TO THE COVID-19 INSTITUTIONAL QUARANTINE CENTRES INMATES OF CHURACHANDPUR DISTRICT IN MANIPUR

Dr. Jangkholum Mate

Assistant Professor

Department of Education

Churachandpur College, Churachandpur, Manipur – 795128

Abstract: The study focused to evaluate facilities and services of Covid-19 Institutional Quarantine centres (IQCs) in Churachandpur district and the problems faced by the IQCs inmates. The study used descriptive statistics analytical method. The population of the study consisted of all IQC in the district of Churachandpur. The sample of the study consisted of 165 inmates in the district from different IQCs. The tool of study included a self-developed online questionnaire which was used for collecting pertinent data from the inmates. The conclusions of the study were that IQCs in the district were under prepared and ill equipped in mitigating the issues on health of inmates, infrastructure amenities to achieve the objectives Covid 19 containment. The impact of Covid 19 pandemic effected teaching and learning teachers training and professional development and the value of examination.

Index Terms - Covid-19, Institutional Quarantine centres, Problems, Facilities and Services.

1. Introduction

“Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Most people infected with the virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. However, some will become seriously ill and require medical attention. Older people and those with underlying medical conditions like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, or cancer are more likely to develop serious illness. Anyone can get sick with COVID-19 and become seriously ill or die at any age. (WHO)”

The virus can spread from an infected person’s mouth or nose in small liquid particles when they cough, sneeze, speak, sing or breathe. These particles range from larger respiratory droplets to smaller aerosols. It is important to practice respiratory etiquette, for example by coughing into a flexed elbow, and to stay home and self-isolate until you recover if you feel unwell.

The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is to be well informed about the disease and how the virus spreads. Protect yourself and others from infection by staying at least 1 metre apart from others, wearing a properly fitted mask, and washing your hands or using an alcohol-based rub frequently.

Institutional Quarantine Centre (IQC) is a facility meant for quarantining persons who have arrived from affected countries and other states in India. Objective of these centres is to enable successful isolation and management of asymptomatic cases especially when room quarantine at their homes was not possible due to lack of facilities. Standard Operating procedures for functioning of Institutional quarantine centres was issued by Government of Manipur for effective functioning of these centres.

The sub-text of the study is to study how effective is this Covid-19 IQCs.

2. Objectives:

- 2.1 The study aim to evaluate facilities and services provided in the Institutional Quarantine centres in Churachandpur district.
- 2.2 To study the problems faced by the IQCs inmates in relation to health care, sanitation, food and lodging, water, etc.
- 2.3 To find out the impact of Covid 19 pandemic on the education system of Churachandpur district.

3. Research Questions:

- 3.1. What are the available facilities and services in IQCs of Churachandpur district in order to contain Covid 19 pandemic?
- 3.2. What are the problems are faced by inmates of IQCs in Churachandpur district?
- 3.3. What are the impact of Covid 19 pandemic on education system in Churachandpur district?

4. Design and Methodology of the Study

4.1 Method of the Study

The researcher used simple descriptive statistics analytical method.

4.2 Population of the Study

The population of the study consisted of all IQC in the district of Churachandpur.

4.3 Sample of the Study

The sample of the study consisted of 165 inmates in the district from different IQCs.

4.4 Study Tool

A self-developed online questionnaire was used to collect pertinent data from the inmates.

4.5 Source of Data:

The data were collected from the IQs inmates directly. Thus, primary data were collected. The data were collected through online by using google-form for a period of 8 moths from March to October 2020.

5. Major Findings:

The main findings of the study is presented hereunder.

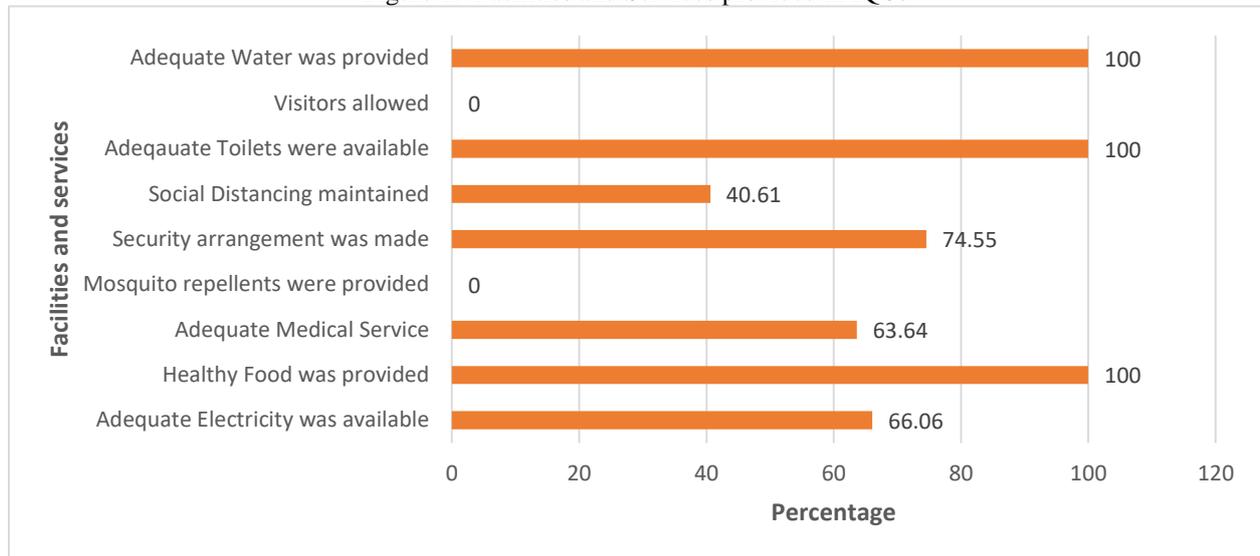
5.1 Main findings in relation to research question “What are the available facilities and services in IQCs of Churachandpur district in order to contain Covid 19 pandemic?”

The following table and figure clearly showed the facilities and services provided in the IQCs in Churachandpur.

Table 1: Facilities and Services provided in IQCs

Facilities	F	%
Social Distancing arrangement	67	40.61
Medical Service was provided	105	63.64
Food was provided	165	100.00
Water was provided	165	100.00
Toilets were available	165	100.00
Security arrangement was made	123	74.55
Beds were provided	25	15.15
Mosquito repellents were provided	0	0.00
Mosquito net	0	0.00
Electricity was available	109	66.06
Visitors allowed	0	0.00

Figure 1: Facilities and Services provided in IQCs

**Inferences:**

In-depth Analysis of table 1 and figure 1 the following interpretation or inferences might be concluded as below.

1. Adequate water, toilet & food were provided.
2. Inmates were not at all (0.00%) were allowed to meet the inmates. This indicated that covid 19 SOP in this regard was followed in majority of the IQCs.
3. Though SOP was maintained between the inmates and visitors (from outside IQCs), however social distancing apparently was blatantly ignored among the inmates.
4. Ironically, medical service was supposed to be sufficiently provided under the seriousness of the pandemic as 36.36% of the respondents disclosed that proper and adequate medical service was provided
5. SOP was grossly violated 59.39% of the respondents disclosed that social distancing was not maintained among the inmates

The above table 1 clearly the various facilities provided in all the IQCs in the district under study. The facilities and services available in majority of IQCs were security, electricity, medical services, water, and toilets. While in some IQCs facilities like visitors, mosquito net/repellents, beds, and proper social distancing were not provided

Keeping in mind the seriousness of the situation, inadequate preparedness may be inferred which might have compounded the problem scenarios.

5.2 Main findings in relation to research question “What are the problems are faced by inmates of IQCs in Churachandpur district?”

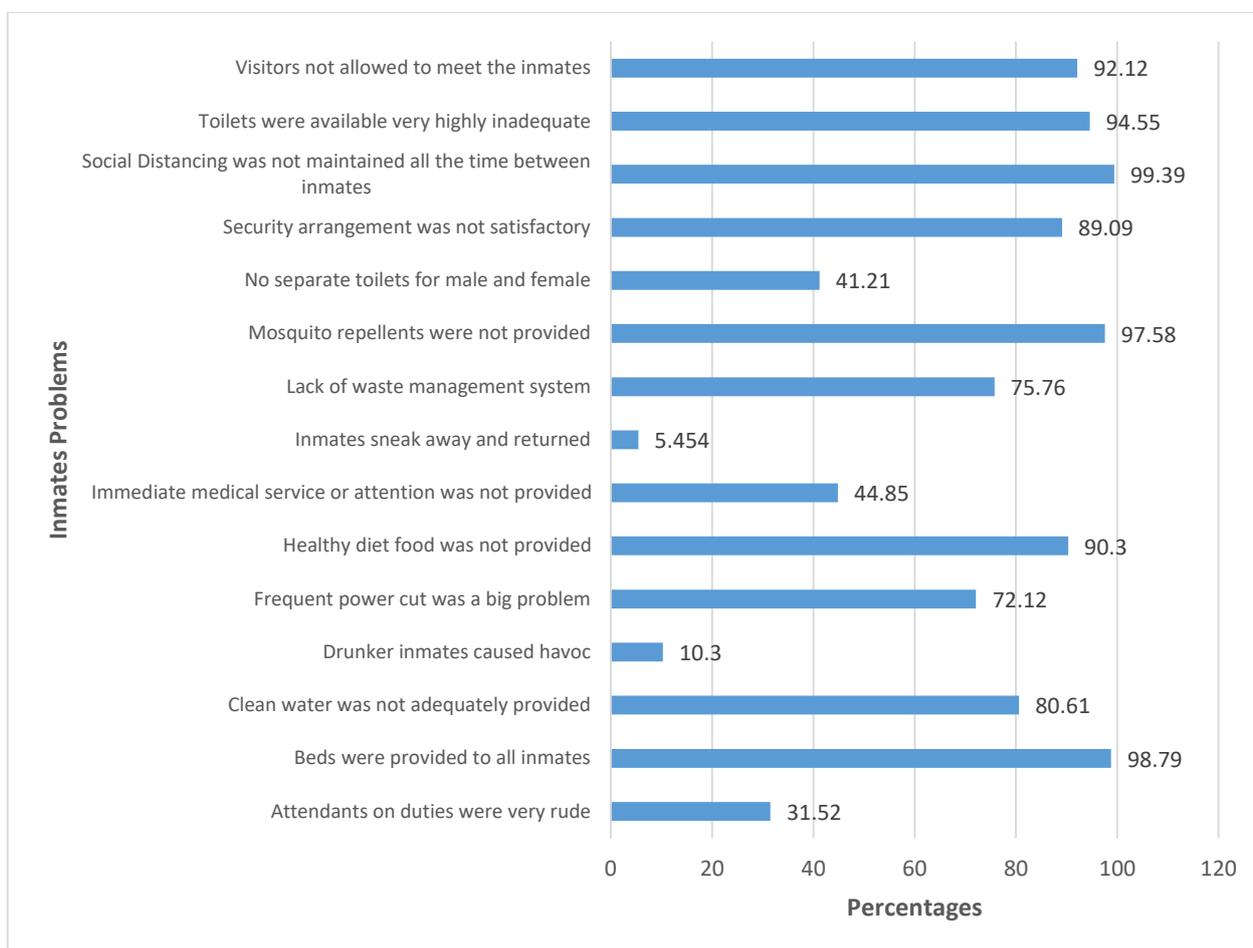
The following table and figure clearly showed the facilities and services provided in the IQCs in Churachandpur

Table 2: Inmates problems in IQCs

Inmates Problems	F	%
Social Distancing was not maintained all the time between inmates	164	99.39
Immediate medical service or attention was not provided	74	44.85
Healthy diet food was not provided	149	90.30
Clean water was not adequately provided	133	80.61
Toilets were available very highly inadequate	156	94.55
No separate toilets for male and female	68	41.21
Security arrangement was not satisfactory	147	89.09
Beds were provided to all inmates	163	98.79
Mosquito repellents were not provided	161	97.58
Frequent power cut was a big problem	119	72.12

Visitors not allowed to meet the inmates	152	92.12
Attendants on duties were very rude	52	31.52
Inmates slipping away and returned	9	5.45
Drunker inmates caused havoc	17	10.30
Lack of waste management system	125	75.76

Figure 2: Problems faced by the inmates

**Inferences:**

Analysis of table 2 and figure 2 revealed that IQCs of Covid-19 were poorly equipped to address the problems of inmates. The major problems faced by the inmates were

- (i) Social Distancing was not maintained all the time between inmates
- (ii) Beds were provided to all inmates
- (iii) Mosquito repellents were not provided
- (iv) Toilets were available very highly inadequate and there was no provision for male and female toilet.
- (v) Visitors not allowed to meet the inmates
- (vi) Healthy diet food was not provided
- (vii) Security arrangement was not satisfactory
- (viii) Clean water was not adequately provided
- (ix) Lack of waste management system
- (x) Frequent power cut was a big problem.
- (xi) Immediate medical service or attention was not provided.
- (xii) Attendants on duties were very rude.

However, minority of the respondents had disclosed certain inappropriate behavior of few inmates the following matters raised a serious concern and attention. No separate toilets for male and female

- (i) Inmates go access to alcohol and create havoc in the IQCs and being not notice by the concerned authorities called for proper monitoring system
- (ii) Keeping in view the seriousness of the pandemic, few inmates were able to sneak away from the IQCs which had posed a huge risk of further serious outbreak..

5.3 Main findings in relation to research question “What are the impact of Covid 19 pandemic on education system in Churachandpur district?”

An abrupt shut down had detrimental impact on the educational system of the entire district in particular and the entire world in general. The following were few of the impact of Covid 19 pandemic on the education system within Churachandpur district.

Negatives Impact:

- (i) The teaching learning process was incredibly effected as there was sudden shift in the teaching methods- from traditional four walls class to online class which totally new way of teaching and learning system. This created tremendous difficulties to the teachers and students to adjust to the new system of teaching and learning.
- (ii) All training and professional development programmes of teachers were badly disrupted which caused knowledge upgradation gaps.
- (iii) Students were exempted to appear tests and examinations. This has devalued tests and examination system. Students' were simply promoted with test or exam. This had promote lack of industriousness, lack skill development, lack of creativity, etc.
- (iv) Increasing learning inequality among children between poor and rich; rural and urban due to lack of access to smart phone and internet facilities & Lack of technical support and internet facility in rural and remote areas.
- (v) Performance of the students could not be ascertained on the ground of novelty and validity.
- (vi) Students interaction was limited to the family only so the socialized learning environment was limited.
- (vii) As students were automatically promoted without systematic and proper evaluation, students interest in studies have declined drastically.
- (viii) Online classes restricted learning discipline on students as teachers were interacting to students virtually.

Positive Impact:

- (i) Novel method of teaching learning was introduced which have boosted self-learning.
- (ii) Education system especially internet related courses became priority.
- (iii) The true spirit of life long learning was happening as students could learn at own convenience.
- (iv) The technology required for providing education revolutionized and it created new opportunities for new professionals.
- (v) Free knowledge abundantly available.

6. Conclusions:

The purpose of IQCs were to enable successful isolation and management of asymptomatic cases especially when room quarantine at their homes was not possible due to lack of facilities. This is best way to prevent and slow down transmission the virus. However, the findings of the study revealed that the IQCs in the districts had failed its purposes on many grounds. In contrast to some of the findings where proper security was provided, potentially there was security laps in some IQCs as 5.45% respondent disclosed, though few, that few inmates sneak away and returned unnoticed. Such incidents might have occurred in many IQCs within the district. Based on this conclusive evidences it could be concluded that the outbreak the local level (district) was due lack local based SOP and local condition understanding.

The IQCs were underprepared as inmate could sneak out of the centres and returned unnoticed, there were lack of clean water, healthy food, and medical services. This indicates the futility of inmates, time, and money in running the IQCs. The carelessness of authorities for the containment of Covid 19 was exposed as alcohol could be smuggled in the IQCs which in turn showed the need for adequate and proper security arrangement. Thus the failure of IQCs may be attributed to it's under preparedness, lack of commitment, dedication and diligence on the part of all stakeholders in the concerned issue and this could have been the reason of inmate agitations in many IQCs across the Churachandpur district.

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