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My Lockdown Diary

The Covid-19 pandemic started spreading in Mumbai from the second week of March. On the 24th of March our Prime Minister addressed the nation at 8pm. We heard that there would be a lockdown for 21 days. I had no idea about the lockdown. I came to know that everything will remain closed. I will not be able to go to school and meet my teachers and friends. I saw from my balcony the roads were empty. There were no cars taxis or people. I could see only some hungry dogs and policemen roaming in their jeeps. All shops were closed we got home delivery for fruits vegetables and medicines. The newspaper was stopped so I read news on the net. Daddy's office was closed. He worked from home. Initially I was sad but I enjoyed the family time. In the evening I watched Ramayana And Mahabharata with my grandmother and parents. My favourite book is Mahabharata. I sometimes spoke to my friends on the phone. My father says that this type of pandemic broke out in 1918. It was the Spanish Flu. My maid did not come during the lockdown. I helped my mother in mopping Grandmother taught me to make tea. On 5th April Sunday at 9 pm we switched off all the lights and fans and candles were lit. I heard the people of my locality shouting. Go Corona Go. They were not wearing mask and there was no social distancing. From the 15th of April the lockdown was again extended. I was very upset. Our teachers called us over the phone. I was very excited and happy to see them. There was a quiz competition arranged by the teachers. I was very happy to meet my friends during the virtual quiz competition. We also celebrated Priyanshu's birthday on zoom meet. I sang a song for Priyanshu that my mother had taught.

The lockdown entered the third phase and then the fourth phase. I hoped and prayed that the lockdown would end and life would be normal again. From 8th June unlock 1 started but it continued in Maharashtra with some relaxations. I would watch news related to coronavirus. Suddenly my old television broke down. We had to wait for shops to open. My parents brought home a new tv. My father installed the tv since we did not want an outsider to come home. My laptop keyboard also got spoilt when dad cleaned it with a wet cloth. An on screen keyboard had to be inserted. Later my father bought a new Lenovo ideapad for me. I love watching food shows on the TV and net.

My online classes started from 10th June. I was very excited about the classes starting. I had no idea what it would be like. I am happy to get a chance to learn from home. My classes are from 9:30 to 12:30pm. I like it. I can rest after lunch and complete my assignments in the evening. In life skills we learnt about the immunity system. Our teachers say that if the immune system is strong we can stay healthy. She has given us a list of immunity boosting food. I also enjoy the class on travel, evs and mathematics. Every year during the summer holidays I used to go for swimming. This year I could not go because of the covid 19 pandemic and the lockdown. Therefore I am doing pranayama, yoga and jogging to stay fit and healthy. I feel very happy when my yoga teacher says that I have improved myself, during the yoga classes. I have improved my Vrikshasan, Dhanurasan and Surya Namaskar by practicing it in every evening. Our teachers take tests and post all the notes on the google classroom. We are very lucky to have internet. We also enjoy our dance classes and sports classes on the net. Our sports teacher is teaching us different exercises to strengthen our lungs.

We have stopped eating any food from outside during these days of the coronavirus pandemic. My mother prepares food of my choice at home including pizzas, burgers, brownies, vada pav and my favourite chocolate chip cookies. I try to eat healthy and have fruit oatmeal smoothies for breakfast.

Turmeric also boosts our immunity so I have it with milk these days. Just hope that these difficult times pass smoothly and we do not become sick. Sometimes we share food with our watchmen who live far from home. Many people are distributing food packets to the needy during the lockdown days.

Another activity that our teacher has started for us during these lockdown days is the concept of earning and saving money in the personal bank-the piggy bank. Every day I fold and arrange clothes or help mother and earn Rs.10. when the situation becomes normal I will deposit money in my bank account. I have already collected Rs.400 in my piggy bank. Since I get a lot of time I listen to music. I have started singing the classical songs that I had stopped practising after my music teacher had left. Now I enjoy it. Sometimes I cook pasta and noodles for myself. In our recreation class on Fridays we prepared a sweet potato chat and hung curd sandwich which were both healthy and tasty.

Everyday I thank God for giving me a good and comfortable life. The covid 19 pandemic has affected people all over the world. Many people have died. Many have lost their jobs. I pray for everyone's well being. During the early lockdown days, I could see on tv the migrant labourers returning home barefoot. I felt very sad to see them. Now with the unlock many are getting back their jobs. Many doctors, nurses and policemen lost their lives due to this pandemic. They have sacrificed their lives for the well being of the society. From July unlock 2 started. Parlours, hotels, and small shops opened. Though unlock 3 is starting, Maharashtra has extended lockdown till 31st August. Even during the strict lockdown when nobody went out I saw the BMC people clean the roads and collect the garbage. I want to thank them also.

As a part of the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Campaign many people are making face masks and selling them. Immunity boosters in Ayurvedic medicine like Coronil have been launched. Many people are taking homeopathy medicines to boost their immunity. Covaccine is being launched by Bharat Biotech. Trials have started. We are waiting for the vaccine to come out.

Because of the lockdown we have less pollution now a days. From my balcony I can see the ships clouds and clear sky. There is no smog now. The trees look fresh and green. I am more careful and aware now. When the lockdown started I did not use the air conditioner because I was afraid of getting the coronavirus. However I use it now when I need it. I use handwash very often these days. I don't touch anything that is not disinfected. I can see my parents using Dettol and disinfectant sprays all the time. These days we leave our shoes outside. Only after disinfecting we put it on the shoe rack. If I touch anything that comes from outside I wash my hands. The money that I collect in my piggy bank is also sanitized. Handwash, face masks and hand sanitizers have become very important these days. One day our teacher had taught us how to make face mask at home. Sometimes I can see many people on the roads not using face mask. This is dangerous. I have my grandmother at home. I have to be careful so that she is safe in this situation.

Everybody is doing some work in their spare time these days. My father has sorted his personal papers. My mother has connected with her school and college friends over Facebook. I see her very happy to chat with them after so many years.

I have now realised that life is very important. We cannot take anything for granted. Every day I ask mother when will coronavirus go away. She has no answer. I watch the news everyday. I hope there will be a vaccine soon. My mother says we cannot do anything till the vaccine comes out. Though I am enjoying my virtual schooling I am waiting to go back to SPJ Sadhana. Every year I enjoy Ganesh Utsav, Durga Puja and Diwali with my family and friends. This year I cannot go out during Durga Puja. I feel sad and upset. It is true that I am enjoying the family time but this pandemic and the lockdown is taking too long to go away. Due to this pandemic and lockdown I am learning new words like

quarantine, self isolation. Many people say that we have to learn to live with this pandemic. But I am still hopeful. One day when I wake up in the morning maybe I will get to hear that a new vaccine has been launched for covid 19. People's lives can be saved now. Till then I know we have to 'stay home', 'stay safe'.