

**INFORMATION SEEKING BEHAVIOUR & LOCK DOWN 1.0 of Covid 19:
Survey of Connected Indians**

In order to understand Information Seeking Behaviour & Corona Lock Down, **SNDT Women's University** professor Mira K Desai designed a Survey on google form, link of which was shared on WhatsApp. The objective was to understand what is happening to people with reference to lock down and what are their sources of information and their trusted channels of communication.

Interestingly the survey shared at early morning of **29th March to 30th March evening** fetched **412 responses from all over India** and even few Indians abroad covering about **50 cities** and the Survey was closed on April 5 with total data of 563 people. The preliminary findings from 563 respondents in the age range of 15 to 81 years with proportion of male to female being 3:7 suggest educational background included school pass-outs to PhDs. Half of the people filling up the survey were service people with rest homemakers and business people besides students and retired people.

Only one third "did not go out at all", whereas **one third went to building terrace or compounds**, remaining had to go out to get things for others in the family. Nine out of ten said this is their first experience of 'being locked out' in their house and half of the total people are 'happy being locked out' whereas one fourth were 'not sure' being locked down! Half of them stated that their life has changed 'to some extent' but one third felt that 'their life has changed completely' because of the lock down.

In terms of words to express their emotions, they have said words or lines like 'life has stopped', 'initially interesting but now gradually its disappearing', 'imprisonment', 'relieved', 'happy to spend time with family', 'new experience' and so on. **More people are sad than those who are happy!** At the same time one third feel it's the 'best thing to have happened to them' but similar proportions are confused and said that 'they are still not able to understand what is happening'.

Most frequent activity they are doing in a day is '**spending time with phone**' or 'reading books or online editions of newspapers', 'cooking', 'house work' or 'talking to people in the house'. The least done thing is 'watching OTT', 'arguing with people in the house' or 'video calling people'. Interestingly four in ten 'want to get newspaper home' whereas little more are 'not waiting for newspapers'! Seven out of ten people said they **never wanted to get themselves tested for Corona virus** yet half of them accepted that they are 'worried and scared' about Corona virus 'some times'. All most all of them accepted that they are getting the 'same information from multiple sources' and 'government is doing its best'. **Half of them have doubt about quality of information they receive** and they felt that 'most information I receive is wrong'. Interestingly enough, **eight in ten people 'trust' 'government announcements'** followed by television little more than online editions of newspapers. Three out of four people said they verify before forwarding any information.

One third people responded by saying they have no idea how long lock down will continue yet most one fifth were hoping it will be over by April end and three out of ten think that it will continue till May end, information they have processed from sources they access! **Four in ten people accepted that 'for sure' they will be different people when lock down is over** and similar proportion said 'they have no idea'. For two in ten people nothing will change post lock down is over.