



Introduction

- The coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) first emerged in Wuhan, China in December 2019. However, the World Health Organization (WHO) officially announced that this coronavirus was responsible for the deadly disease COVID-19 on 9th January 2020.
- It eventually caused a pandemic, threatening human life. So, the WHO suggested “Lockdown” as the solution.
- Majority of Students (89.4%) were unable to attend schools and colleges (UNESCO).
- Maritime Education and Industry were also affected both positively and negatively.
- This study helps to trace the changing economy of the shipping industry and maritime education institutions, and also visualize the post-pandemic reality of this sector.

Review of Related Literature

- 59% of education institutions closed during COVID-19.
- 80% reported less enrolment in both local and international admissions.
- Successive waves of the pandemic disturbed the supply chain economy and caused a deeper decline.
- Literature review shows that the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the maritime industry in many ways.
- This study provides empirical evidence of the impact.

Significance of the Study

- By the end of 2019, many countries closed their gates to China due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Later, borders were closed for all operations.
- The Lockdown caused economic slowdown, medical emergencies and food scarcity, less productivity, and reduced liner schedules.
- Studies on the effect of COVID-19 on maritime education and institutions are rather limited.

Objectives of the Study

- To study the impact of COVID-19 on the maritime industry;
- To understand the economic issues faced by the maritime industry;
- To analyze the psychological issues and challenges faced by people in the maritime industry; and
- To suggest suitable measures to the maritime industry for handling the pandemic situation.

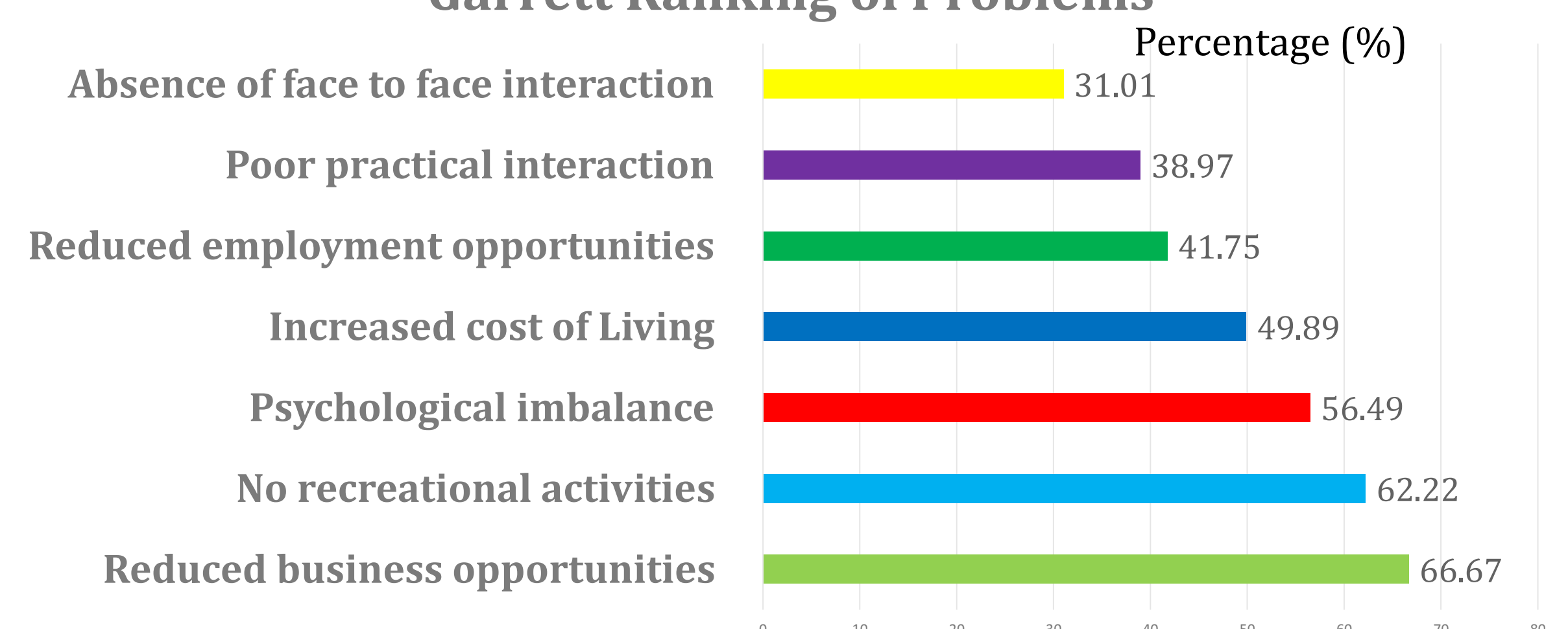
Methodology of the Study

- Descriptive cum analytical in nature.
- Purposive sampling method employed.
- Data obtained from 857 respondents from 16 countries through telephonic interviews.
- Descriptive statistics, Garrett’s Ranking, Chi-Square test, and factor analysis were used.

Results and Discussion

- 74% reported that they have less opportunities now as compared to the past.
- 84% Maritime students and 92% Maritime educators reported that the practical exposure of students reduced and the absence of physical interaction is a major problem.

Garrett Ranking of Problems



Factor loadings for opinion on the impact of COVID-19 Lockdown on the Livelihood of Maritime Practitioners

Opinion	Factor Loadings
Factor I (Economic Factor)	
Reduced salary	0.909
Increased medical expenses	0.896
Increased cost of Living	0.865
Factor II (Employment factor)	
Reduced employment opportunities	0.841
Job insecurity	0.723
Factor III (Psychological factors)	
Bound inside the home	0.697
Afraid about the future	0.602
Addicted to gadgets	0.509
Factor IV (Ship operations)	
Less ship operations	0.736
Increased cost of shipment	0.702
Factor V (Procedures)	
Protocol for Onboarding	0.759
Delay in online procedure	0.547
Changes in the customs procedure	0.518
Factor VI (interaction)	
Recreation and interaction	0.855

Recommendations

- Modernize the Maritime Education Sector.
- Adopt IT intervention in Maritime practices.
- Develop virtual mode of practical aspects.
- Ensure job security and psychological counselling.

Conclusion

Both positive and negative aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in reduced possibilities in the economy of maritime business ventures.

In future, economic prosperity will purely depend on the maritime industry that is expected to contribute much to the sustainability of the world.