Restarting Economies and COVID-19 Control: Letting Loose without Letting Up

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SARS-CoV-2 virus is **highly transmissible**

– very infectious in the absence of control measures

Many **undetected** infections

– **asymptomatic** and **mildly symptomatic** individuals

60% imported cases went undetected in the early phase – Many of these undetected imported cases could have generated extensive chains of local transmission in regions outside China

Test-trace-isolate strategy & social distancing

A sustainable “new normal”; many are still susceptible

Return to lockdown: Why 5 cities, regional states have re-imposed tighter COVID-19 measures

Which is more disruptive?

Ongoing social distancing and working from home arrangements

VS.

Regular reactive local lockdowns or larger scale border closures

Police stop people travelling to Bangalore and direct them to undergo COVID-19 screening as the Indian IT hub imposes a fresh lockdown in an attempt to contain a surge of infections.

(Photograph: AFP/Manjunath Kiran)

Thank you!