

https://www.seedsindia.org/covid19/ #COVID19 RESPONSE

**UPDATE III** 

22 APRIL 2020

## **TEMPERATURE CHECK**

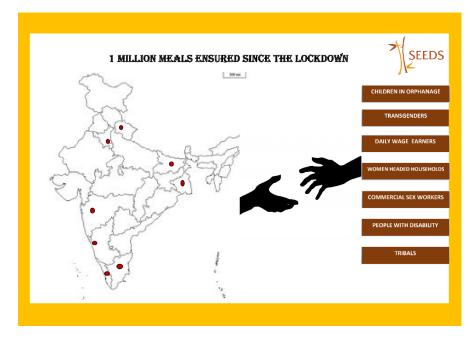
After a National lockdown was imposed due to the Novel Corona Virus (COVID-19) migrant laborers from states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, who worked in areas like Mumbai, Delhi and the National Capital, found themselves in the literal deep end of affairs. Left with no means to earn a living, they tried to return to their villages or towns- undertaking long journeys on foot in the absence of any means of transport-violating lockdown orders. Most of them had to walk hundreds of kilometers to reach their home and village and some were forced to turn back and stay in the cities from where they had started. At Saharsa districts many migrant laborers have arrived by train, bus and other means. Some are still walking all the way and reaching their village. Besides these, the urban poor were badly affected as they lost their livelihoods and did not have the means to access food items.

Local people were wary of Migrant Laborers coming back from Metropolitan cities and townships after the corona break up and hesitant to help them, since they were afraid that these migrants might have been exposed to infection. Thus these migrants faced a crisis in terms of accessing food and items of Day to day needs. Closed shops, scarcity of things and need of money added to their problems, and inability to obtain items for personal hygiene, hence exposed them to the greater risk of disease.

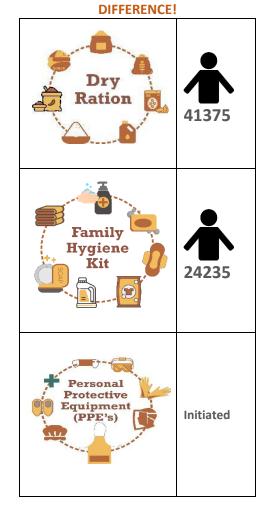
In the above backdrop therefore, food and hygiene items emerged as the primary needs of migrant workers both in cities and villages, and the urban poor as well inhabiting the slums of the city

## **SEEDS IN ACTION**

We have about 10 staff members and 40 key volunteers working in the field and contributing towards the mission.



## REACHING OUT AND MAKING A



SEEDS Covid-19 Response Update |22 April 2020



Distribution of hygiene kits under the supervision of Arrapatti sarpanch Smt. Shanti Lakshmi Choudhary



In Kerala, a total of 1400 dry ration kits and 1400 hygiene kits have been distributed. Distribution was done in coordination with the Residents Association with special focus on daily wage workers, households with aged people, families run solely by women and the tribal communities.

In Delhi, there are various areas where sex workers dwell. For them, this lockdown has attacked on their earnings like never before. With lack of any earning sources, they are struggling with extreme paucity of money hence are unable to pay their rents and have no money for food either. Additionally, they are struggling with other challenges such as social stigma and discrimination by the society around. The team has managed to distribute ration kits to them as well. In areas like Kishan Vihar where majority of the community members are sex workers, it is comparatively a challenge for them to come out and ask for either money or food.

## A delivery of happiness!



"My house is located in the district of Calicut. I came here at Sugandhagiri, Kerala for daily wage construction works. I got stuck here as inter district transportation was restricted post the country wide lock down as part of Covid-19 outbreak. I have no work presently and was finding hard to earn my living. SEEDS has provided me a ration kit having all necessary food items for a month's meal. I'm so grateful to all of you for this selfless service and pray to God that you will be able to help more people who are in need."

- Shibu (Daily wage laborer, Sugandhagiri)



"With the lockdown, my children and I are at the mercy of other people's donation. It is a challenging situation as I haven't earned a single rupee from past many days. I have no investments or food in stock. I had been earning hand to mouth."

-Anonymous, Sex Worker, Ration Kit receiver

SEEDS needs your kind support for reaching out to 1 million persons in underprivileged communities across India

SEEDS COVID-19 HELPLINE IS NOW AVAILABLE TO ADDRESS GENERAL PUBLIC QUERIES +91-9821746747

9:00 AM - 7:00 PM ALL 7 DAYS